



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

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Rock Island High School Orchestra Ensemble Entertains

Eight members of the Rock Island High School Orchestra, along with their new director, Katie Benson, entertained and added a touch of culture to today's Rotary meeting. Mrs. Benson, wife of fellow Rotarian, James Benson, is in her first year as director of the Rock Island High School Orchestra program and also travels to teach in five district elementary school. Members of the ensemble, Sara Stockdale, Emily Jansen, Iesha Eggleston, Kathryn Calhoun, Sophie Taylor, Ashley Hanson, Michaela Nash, and Chandler Steele presented a mixed menu of classical, contemporary, and rock music including

February - March Calendar

Jan 26 - Katie Benson - RI High School Orchestra
Feb 2 - Scott Mullen, Exec. Dir. IWireless Center
Feb 2 - Rotary Blood Drive
Feb 9 - Matt Splittgerber - Iowa Interstate Railroad
Feb 16 - Jeff VenHuizen - Rock Island Police Chief and Tour of new station.
Feb 23 - Rock Island H.S. Entrepreneur Class
Mar. 1 - Dan Logan - Earl Hanson Principal
Mar. 8 - TBA



Katie Benson, Rock Island Orchestra Director

classical selections by George Frideric Handel and Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky; the contemporary "*Iowa Spring*" by Paul Seitz; and closed their performance with a popular rock holiday medley made famous by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. The group received several rousing rounds of applause from an appreciative and impressed Rotary audience. One Rotarian however was missing. James Benson, husband of the orchestra leader will undoubtedly be paying a fine for his absence (event thought it was a work related absence!).



Director Katie Benson joins members of the Rock Island High School Orchestra as they entertain Rock Island Rotary today.



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Officers

John Phillips, President
Steve Morenz, 1st VP
Bruce Peterson, 2nd VP
Anne McGlynn, Secretary
Carrie Crossen, Treasurer
Mike Locander, Past President

Board Members

Angela Campbell
Sue Cassatt
John Daly
Lawrence Davis
Jeff Eder
Mark Mayeski
Carrie O'Neill
Billy Puckett

Co-Sergeant At Arms
Vic Boblett & Bob Swanson

Program Chairs 2015-16

Dec.- Jan: John Wetzel
Feb – March: Bob Swanson
April – May: Kevin Koski
June – July: Diane Koster

RAFFLE SUPPORTS FOUNDATION

The foundation raffle featured Lo Milani wine, cash, and a beautiful boxelder wooden bowl hand-crafted by Dr. Larry Tadlock. Jeff Dismar won the cash and kindly passed it on to exchange daughter, Camila Velasco. Chuck Austin won the Tadlock bowl, and Al Metz took home the wine.

THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED!!

Club Notes & Announcements!

□ Welcome Guests!

Alleman Student Guests Jordan Polito and Ally Zahringer; Rock Island High Student Guests, Adam Cady and Maggie Flowers. Hilde Wray, guest of husband Sam Wray. Virginia Houlton, guest of husband Fred Houlton. Cecilia Nache', guest of Steve Morenz. Our exchange daughter, Velasco Camila from Peru. Plus, the Rock Island High Orchestra Ensemble named in our front page story.

□ **Rotary Blood Drive ...** Don't forget our Rotary Blood Drive, NEXT TUESDAY, February 2nd from 10:30am until 1pm. If you didn't sign up, just show up! They need volunteer donors and our numbers are down! Non-Rotarians are welcome too, so invite and encourage co-workers and family members to join the crowd and give the gift of life.

□ **Plan Ahead ...** Jeff VenHuizen, Rock Island Chief of Police will present our program on February 16th. Our meeting will adjourn after his comments AND WILL RECONVENE at 1:30 for all who can attend at the new Rock Island Police Station/Jail. Jeff will then conduct a tour of the new facility. Adjust your schedule so you don't miss seeing Rock Island's newest facility.

□ **Rotary Fun Committee** The Fun Committee will meet at 11:15 a.m. on Tuesday, February 9th. Let Chairman Ruth Lee know if you will not attend.

□ **Have Items for our Newsletter?** For February publication send to Holly Sparkman at hksparkman@gmail.com. For March publication send newsletter items to Bob Swanson at bobdebswanson@att.net

Our Newest Member

Karla Thies, Assistant principal at Rock Island High School was formally inducted by President John Phillips. Karla was sponsored by Rotarian David Parker. Welcome Karla!





A LITTLE OFF KEY

a dueling pianos event

hosted by Rock Island Rotary & Twin Rivers Rotary After Hours

Thursday
March 3rd

River Music Experience
129 N. Main St., Davenport

7:30pm
doors open @ 6
\$45
includes heavy hors d'oeuvres

Come be entertained for the evening by FunPianos, a traveling dueling pianos group.



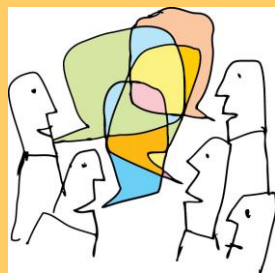
Tickets can be purchased online at [Eventbrite](#) or contact Sue Lerschen-Cassatt at 309-644-0101, SLerschen-Cassatt@FirstStatell.com

Money raised from the event will go to support local youth programs and other Rotary projects!

Rotary 

INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF WINING ROTARIANS!

Please join your fellow Rotarians (and guests) at the first meeting of the Quad Cities Area Fellowship of Wining Rotarians. We have a unique opportunity to meet and sip at The Grape Life Wine Store and Lounge in Davenport, corner of Kimberly and Elmore. Recently purchased by Rock Island Rotarian Diane Koster and her husband Kevin Koster, The Grape Life offers an ideal spot for our group to gather. Diane and Kevin will close the store to the public on **Monday, February 15th at 5:30 p.m.**, and we can mix and mingle until 7:30 p.m. There is no charge to attend, but it is expected that each of us will purchase at least one glass of wine or other liquor/beer. Just a little heads up, there is no corkage fee so you might consider purchasing a bottle to share, or take home your partially consumed bottle. The Grape Life offers munchies for purchase, but you are welcome to bring your own food/snacks. If you have a small group, for instance you might want to purchase a fruit or meat/cheese tray before you come. Your choice. Diane and Kevin will be available to answer wine questions. If we have sufficient interest, we would like to make this an ongoing Fellowship opportunity. We can discuss future planning on the 15th. So we have an idea of numbers, please email Ruth Lee at rotarianruth@gmail.com if you plan to attend. Include total number if you are bringing guests/spouses. We're anticipating a great time, and hope you will be part of it!



FEBRUARY 3rd SOCIAL

Join members from Rotary Clubs throughout the Quad Cities area, for a social on February 3rd at 5:30pm at the River House in Moline. The evening will be an opportunity to meet and interact with members from the surrounding clubs.

There is no cost to attend. Please contact Kyle Viетtti in person or via email (Kyle@1103marketing.com) if you plan to attend.



AWARDS LUNCHEON

Awards Committee member Jim Moran made his "first" plea to Rotarians asking all of us to be thinking of deserving individuals to nominate for Rotary awards. The club presents awards to two top senior students from Augustana College, Rock Island High School, and Alleman Catholic High School. All members of the community are eligible for the "Excellence Award", and "Community Service Award". Rock Island Rotary members are eligible for the A. T. Peara Award. See page 5 for the nomination form.

Bud Phillis presents two Paul Harris PLUS ONE Awards.

Foundation Committee Chairman presented Paul Harris Plus One Awards to Sam Wray and Anne McGlynn at today's Rock Island Rotary Meeting. Rotarians earn Paul Harris Fellow status by donating \$1,000 to the Rotary International Foundation. Currently our club provides a \$400 match to any member who donates \$600 so that the member achieves the \$1,000 level and receives the award. The Paul Harris Plus One Award signifies that the member has earned the Paul Harris Award and has donated an additional \$1,000 to the foundation.



Sam Wray says "It's A Wonderful Life" and urges other so donate



Anne McGlynn thanks the Club and says "It's Easy To Do!"

The nice thing about achieving the Paul Harris Fellow status is that members don't have to do it all in one "chunk". Members can become Paul Harris *Sustaining Members* by agreeing to donate a minimum of \$100 per year to the Rotary International Foundation. This also qualifies the member as achieving the Rotary goal of "Every Rotarian – Every Year". Our Foundation Committee keeps track of your annual Foundation contributions and whenever the \$600 threshold is reached, the Club makes its matching contribution and you will receive Paul Harris Fellow status. If you haven't become a sustaining member, there is no better time to begin than now. Just write a check for \$100 payable to the Rotary International Foundation and get it to Bud Phillis and tell him you want to start a Sustaining Membership. If you've already earned your Paul Harris Fellow, keep in mind that hunger, unclean water, severe poverty, polio, and numerous other health maladies didn't end when you hit \$1,000. The need remains critical. Please consider starting a sustaining membership in honor of a family member or other loved one; or start work on your Paul Harris Plus One, or Two, or Three, or More! THANKS SAM and ANNE FOR YOUR DEDICATED GENEROSITY!

Tammy Turns Blue!

When a new member joins Rock Island Rotary they are presented with a red name badge to wear at meetings. The red color is to alert all that the wearer is a new member who should be greeted and shown every courtesy to ensure that their Rotary experience is a great one. New members are also provided with an orientation check list, including among other things, attend an orientation meeting, serve as a greeter at a club meeting, attend a Club board of directors meeting, etc. Once the new member has successfully completed all the items on the orientation list, they turn in their red badge and are presented with a Rotary Blue Badge, which signifies familiarity with Rotary and our club. Congratulations to Tammy for making the move from red to blue in a relatively short span of time. We're happy to have you aboard!



Tammy Weikert with mentor Anne McGlynn gets "Blue"

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CLUB

2016 Awards Committee



Rock Island Rotary's annual Awards Luncheon is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 19th**. The Awards Committee seeks nominations for the following awards:

1. **Excellence:** Recognizes distinction or superiority in a field of endeavor. This can be for a single accomplishment or for achieving high standards of achievement or performance over as sustained period of time.
2. **Community Service:** Recognizes individuals or organizations who have worked effectively for the betterment of our community.
3. **A.T. Peara Award for Service Above Self:** Recognizes the Rock Island Rotary member who has exhibited the dedicated service and faithful commitment to the ideals of Rotary that were personified by A.T. Peara, for whom the award is named after.

The first two awards are open to any individual or organization that has demonstrated excellence or worked for the betterment of the Rock Island community. The excellence award applies to all lines of work and to all ages.

The A.T. Peara Award is limited to current members of Rock Island Rotary.

To ensure that our committee has adequate time to evaluate, consider, make the selections, and have awards prepared, the deadline for nominations is March 22nd. Please consider making one or more nominations using the lower portion of this form. Additional copies are available if you need them. We greatly appreciate your participation and assistance.

Submit Nomination to: Billy Puckett or by e-mail to billy@callmebilly.com

NOMINEE NAME: _____ **Your Name:** _____

Nominated for (be sure to indicate):

___ Excellence ___ Community Service ___ A.T. Peara Award

Reasons in support of your nomination:
