



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

March 29, 2016 : Volume XXIII, Issue 39



## Rotarian Has Memorable Cruise P. J. Foley Tells of USS Nimitz Adventure



Through photos and videos, fellow Rotarian P.J. Foley took the club on an amazing adventure aboard the USS Nimitz, recounting his experience on the ship in 2015 at today's meeting of Rock Island Rotary. The Nimitz is a supercarrier of the United States Navy, and the lead ship of her class. One of the largest warships in the world, she is designated CVN 68 (nuclear-powered multi-mission aircraft carrier) and was commissioned on June 30, 1975. The ship was named for World War II Pacific fleet commander Chester W. Nimitz, who was the Navy's third fleet admiral. P.J. was taking part in a program designed to provide government officials and political/community leaders with a greater appreciation of America's military forces. The "by invitation only" program caused Foley to fly to San Diego and board a Navy transport plane at NAS North Island in San Diego, which flew PJ and others in the group to the Nimitz cruising 150 miles out in the Pacific. The Nimitz was ordered in March of 1967 and was built by Newport News Shipbuilding at a cost of \$1.0 billion (1975 dollars). Its home base is Naval Base Kitsap in Washington state. The ship is huge, displacing 110,250 tons. It is 1,092 feet long and 252 ft across the beam. Even at that huge size the Nimitz' two Westinghouse A4W nuclear reactors propel it through the water at over 37 miles per hour. Its range is unlimited and it's atomic fuel is expected to last 20–25 years. Onboard is a ship's company of 3,200 and an air wing of 2,480.

P.J. told of experiencing landing aboard the Nimitz and equated it to "running into a brick wall". Taking off, he advised that holding the head firmly against the seat back is critical to avoid the whiplash than can be caused when catapulted off the ship going from a dead stop to several hundred miles per hour in just seconds. Having a personal friend who was also a personal friend of the Nimitz' Captain lead to P.J. being invited to dine with the Captain in the Captain's quarters the first evening on board. He said the food that night was "awesome". Subsequent meals were served with the QuarterMasters, where the food was "very good". P.J. said he requested dining with the everyday sailors, but that didn't occur. He thought the "mess" there might be another level lower, but couldn't say for sure. Overall his visit was exciting and one of the most memorable experiences of his life. In addition to being up close to some of the Navy's top supersonic fighter jets, transport planes, and helicopters, P.J. also got to meet and become friends with several State Department officials who were his roommates for the cruise. Since returning home he has had the opportunity to maintain those friendship during his frequent trips to Washington, D.C. on behalf of St. Ambrose University.

### March – May Calendar

- Mar. 29 - PJ Foley – Aircraft Carrier Experience
- Apr. 5 - Bert Blood Scholarship
- April 12 - Chinese Culture / Shen Yun – Dr. Feng
- April 19 - Awards Luncheon
- April 26 - Earl Hanson Inspire Choir
- May 3 - Rock Island Public Library – Angela Campbell
- May 10 - Privies to Plumbing: A Short History of the Bathroom – Ann Koski
- May 17 - Rotary Foundation – Bud Phillis
- May 24 - Financial Scams – Andrew Guzzo
- May 31 - Kiwanis Joint Meeting



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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  
Joh  
Lav  
Jefi  
Ma  
Car  
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 wine from Lo Milani's cellar and cash. The cash was won by Howard Beck who then donated his winnings to the Rotary Foundation. Once again, Tammy Weikert won the wine, adding to her own cellar. That's one lucky lady!

**THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED!!**

# Club Notes & Announcements!

## □ Welcome Guests!

New Rock Island High School Student Guests Katie McCullough and Haley Sigel. Merrill Morris and Bill DeVrieze representing Rock Island Girls Softball, and frequent guest Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Club rounded out today's guests.

## □ Roses for Your Sweetie – STILL TIME!

Through an arrangement with the Noon Kiwanis Club, Rotarians can order beautiful roses at just \$16 per dozen and you can do it in the Botanical Center Lobby as you come to next week's meeting. Kiwanis will share a portion of the profits with our club so you can thrill your special person AND help our club. Roses will be available for pick up on April 27 which also happens to be Administrative Assistants (formerly "Secretary's") Day. Super gift at a very reasonable price!

## □ Run – Walk for Great Causes

Several Rotary related events are scheduled for April. On April 9<sup>th</sup> the "Lids For Kids" Run/Walk benefiting the Spring Forward Learning Center will be held. Contact Rotarian Dan McNeil, 309-269-7136 for details. On April 30<sup>th</sup> Steve's Old Time Chaser in support of the Red Cross will take off at 9am. Contact Rotarian Holly Sparkman, 309-749-7280 for details. Also on April 30<sup>th</sup> the Purple Dash supporting the Epilepsy Foundation kicks off at 10am. Contact Rotarian Monta Ponseto, 309-781-0660 for details.

## □ Don't Care to Run/Walk? Then EAT!

4-H Pork Chops and Hot Dogs

The Rock Island County 4-H and Extension programs will host a Pork Chop Dinner & Pie Auction fundraiser on Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Milan American Legion from 4 to 7pm. The Pork Chop dinner is \$8 and a hot dog meal is also available for \$5. Dinners include sandwich, chips, baked beans, applesauce, dessert & drink. Money raised will help fund Rock Island Rotary's Bert Blood Scholarships. Stop in and help the cause!

## □ Have Items for our Newsletter?

For April publication send items to Holly Sparkman at [hksparkman@gmail.com](mailto:hksparkman@gmail.com). For May publication send to Bob Swanson at [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net).

Bill DeVrieze and Merrill Morris accept a \$1,500 Rotary donation for a scoreboard at the new Rock Island Girls Softball field.



**Board of Directors votes to reimburse registration costs for any club member wishing to attend the 2016 District Conference. Here are the details ...**

### **We're All Invited ---**

#### **To the Rotary District 6420 Conference:**

**Event:** District Conference

**Date:** Apr 30, 2016 at 07:30 AM - May 01, 2016 at 12:00 PM

**Fee:** \$125.00

**Location:** Clocktower Resort

[View](#) 7801 E. State St  
[Map](#) Rockford, IL 61108  
United States

To register for our District Conference, click on the event for registration and hotel information at [www.rotary6420.org](http://www.rotary6420.org) home page.

For Room Discount make reservations by March 28th.

Separate registration required for Pre-Conference Foundation Dinner.

#### **AND -- District 6420 Rotary Foundation Dinner**

**Event:** Foundation Dinner

**Date:** Apr 29, 2016 at 05:00 PM - 09:00 PM

**Fee:** \$40.00

**Location:** Hoffman House

[View](#) 7550 E. State St.  
[Map](#) Rockford, IL 61108  
United States

**Details:** To register for this event, click on the event at [www.rotary6420.org](http://www.rotary6420.org) under Upcoming Events on the home page. You can also book family and friends.

Northwest Illinois  
**Rotary**  
District 6420



### **IMMEDIATELY AFTER NEXT WEEK'S MEETING GO TO THE LIBRARY!**

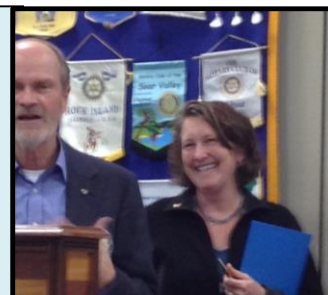
Our adopted school, Earl Hanson Elementary, has a great library with lots and lots of books, many donated by our Club. Unfortunately, they no longer have a full-time librarian so many of the books have yet to be cataloged and placed on the shelves. Not long ago our Rotarian liaisons to the school asked, "Can we help?" "YES!!" was the answer.

So, immediately after our April 5<sup>th</sup> Rotary meeting, we're asking club members who can to deviate from your normal drive home or back to work. Instead, we're going to drive to Earl Hanson School for a quick bit of instruction on what needs to be done, and how to do it.

Then we'll determine when and how to approach the problem. Want to be part of the solution? Mark April 5<sup>th</sup> on your calendar!

### **Welcome our Newest Member**

President John Phillips was able to perform his favorite executive function at today's meeting when he inducted Kathy Lelonek as the newest member of Rock Island Rotary. Kathy is Director of the Rock Island Library Foundation. Kathy and husband Bob live in Rock Island. Kathy enjoys gardening, reading, and hiking





## RUTH LEE HONORED

Rock Island Rotarian, Ruth Lee, our Past President and Past 6420 District Governor, was recently bestowed with Lifetime Honorary Membership in the Rotary After Hours (RAH) Club in recognition of her leadership and dedication in helping to organize and found the RAH Club. Our Rock Island Rotary Club was the sponsoring club for establishing RAH. Here RAH president Tiffany Stott presents Ruth with her Lifetime Member Certificate. Ruth has been a tireless mentor for the new club, and was the catalyst to ensure that our Club actively supported the birth and growth of RAH. Thank you RAH Club for recognizing what we've known for many years; Ruth is a super person and great Rotarian. Congratulations Ruth! An honor well deserved.



## RAH CELEBRATES 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY

See the benefits of sponsoring a new club. All of these folks were recognized as new inductees to Rotary at the RAH Club's first Anniversary. Great to see so many new and young Rotarians! Our Rock Island Rotary has supported RAH both morally, financially, and by our members personally attending RAH events.

# PRINT AND FILL OUT THIS PAGE. RETURN TO STEVE MORENZ AT NEXT WEEK'S MEETING

Rotary Committee Preferences: 2016 - 2017									
Please choose three committees that you would like to participate in during the upcoming 2016 - 2017 Rotary Year. Please check the column labeled "Interested" if that committee is of interest to you, and please check the column labeled "Chair" if you are interested in leading that committee. Please sign the form and return it to Steve Morenz. Thank you for your service in the Rotary Club of Rock Island.									
			Interested	Chair				Interested	Chair
<b>Program Committee:</b>					<b>Nominating Committee:</b>				
	August-September								
	October-November				<b>Public Image Committee:</b>				
	December-January					Newsletter:			
	February-March					Website:			
	April-May					Press Releases:			
	June-July					Social Media:			
<b>Membership Committee:</b>					<b>Interact/RILA:</b>				
	Chair - Bruce Peterson								
	Recruiting				<b>Rotaract:</b>				
	Mentoring								
	Orientation				<b>Earlyact:</b>				
<b>Budget Priorities:</b>					<b>Ambassadorial Scholars:</b>				
	Chair - Frank Lambert								
<b>Salvation Army Bell Ringing:</b>					<b>Blood Drive:</b>				
<b>Bert Blood Scholarships:</b>					<b>Awards Luncheon:</b>				
<b>Invocations Committee:</b>					<b>"Fun" Committee:</b>				
<b>Fundraising Committee:</b>					<b>Rotary International Foundation:</b>				
						Chair - Bud Phillis			
<b>Youth Exchange:</b>					<b>RI Rotary Club Foundation:</b>				
						Dvlpmnt Committee			
<b>Literacy Committee:</b>						Grants Committee			
<b>Rotary Member:</b> _____									