

Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

ROTARI O AMERINATIONS

June 21, 2016: Volume XXIII, Issue 51

Rotary Service Project

The Rock Island Rotary Board of Directors agreed to participate in the Ambucs Tryke project as a new Club service project. Ambucs is a

national organization that provides specially built three wheeled bikes for disabled vets and children with disabilities.

The local affiliate of the group is the Mississippi Bend Tryke organization. They have purchased Trykes that will be donated to Quad City disabled children; however, before they can be donated the Trykes needs to be assembled. This is where Rock Island Rotary enters the picture! The Mississippi Bend Tryke organization doesn't need any



money, just manpower to assemble the Trykes! The time commitment is 3 hours from 1pm to 4pm on Saturday July 16^{th} at the Davenport Mills Chevrolet dealership located at 5401 Elmore Avenue in Davenport.



June/July Calendar

June 7 - Shelly Wells Cain – Girls Scouts

June 14 - Sam Wray - Oak Ridge – The Town the Bomb Built

June 21 - Gail Brooks – RI Housing Authority Foundation Tuesday

June 28 - Retiring President, John Phillips

July 5 - New President, Steve Morenz

July 12 - Kirk Marske - Career Cruising

July 19 – Club Assembly & Foundation Tuesday

July 26 - Jacqueline Holm – Quad Cities River Bandits

Rotary Night at Modern Woodmen Park Friday, August 19!

Tickets available at the Sergeant at Arms table!



P.O. Box 4514 Rock Island, IL 61204 www.rirotary.com

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 2016-17

July/Aug – Kyle Vietti Sep/Oct – Dave Geenan Nov Dec – Gary Rowe Jan/Feb – John Wetzel Mar/Apr – Julie Gelaude May Jun – Bob Swanson

Club Notes & Announcements!

- Welcome Guests! Mark McQuate (Kyle Vietti); Dianne Phillis (wife of Bud Phillis); Duncan Cameron (Naples, FL Rotary Club); and Mark Zimmerman (Davenport, IA Rotary Club). A very special guest was introduced by Tom Hammar. Former Youth Exchange Son, Felipe Ortega from Chile returned to renew old friendships formed when he spent a year with us 6 years ago. Felipe has now finished school studying psychology, and after spending a month in this area visiting, will return to Chile to enter the job market! It was great to see our "son" doing so well!
- Rotary Night at the Ballpark August 19! The Night At the Ballpark Tickets! Be sure to get your tickets for our Rotary Night at the Ball Park on August 19th. Seats are reserved box seats normally sold for \$11. We have them for just \$10! And, after the game you'll be treated to one of the area's finest fireworks displays. There's also a pre-game social on the River Bandit's new patio. So what are you waiting for? Bob has the tickets at the Sergeant's Table.
- **Raffle Results!** Howard Beck was the lucky winner of the \$58 cash, which he donated back to the Club Foundation. His generosity was rewarded when a totally different ticket puller drew his name again as the winner of the Lo Milani wine.
- New Member Proposed! John R. "Jay" McEvoy III was proposed for Rock Island Rotary Club membership. Feedback can be directed to 1st VP Steve Morenz or President John Phillips.
- **THE FUN COMMITTEE!** The Fun Committee has a meeting next Tuesday at 11:30 a.m. before the regular meeting. Since RI Rotary is the #1 Fun Club this makes sense to be a part of the Fun Committee!



1st VP Steve Morenz, President John Phillips, Felipe Ortega, Past President Tom Hammar.

Housing Authority Priorities: Safe Havens and Self-Sufficiency

Today's speaker was Gail Brooks, Public Relations officer for the Rock Island Housing Authority. Gale gave a brief history of the Authority, which was established in 1939. The Housing Authority's first project was constructing Arsenal Courts as affordable housing for people brought in to work at the Rock Island Arsenal during World War II. At the time, the average wage of the employees was \$700-\$1,000 PER YEAR. Rental for the housing units was \$15 a month.

Over the years the role of the Rock Island Housing Authority has changed. Funded by the Federal Housing and Urban Development program, plus grants, and rent received. Since 2005, the Agency has demolished 57- units of obsolete public housing at Valley Homes, twelve units at Lincoln Homes and 102 units at Manor Homes. However, RIHA is not just about eliminating old, obsolete public housing. It's also about developing new safe housing environments that promote the theme

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of upward mobility by providing opportunities for overcoming barriers to education and employment. Between 2004 and 2015, RIHA and its non-profit affiliate, Community Housing Services (CHS), have constructed 186 units of new mixed-income for sale and rental homes and invested over \$46 million in new construction and development within the City of Rock Island. Ms. Brooks stated that the old scenario of multi-generation public housing is gone. Residents now receive help and assistance to obtain education and job training, assistance in buying their own home, and are taught important lessons about being part of a community and being a good neighbor. The Authority has established a Self-Sufficiency Program with the goal of moving less fortunate citizens up and out of public housing. Many of RIHA's residents are elderly needing affordable housing, disabled citizens, veterans, and refugees. Unfortunately, there is much more need than the Authority can afford to provide. Currently

there is a waiting list of 700 families for housing assistance and funding only for 280.

Rotary Global Grant Keeps Growing in Korea

If you can teach children to garden, you teach them life skills. That's the basic philosophy behind a global grant project in Korea, where Rotary members built a greenhouse and train more than three dozen students with special needs the fundamentals of growing lettuce, packaging and transporting crops, and selling vegetables to nearby businesses.

Read more about the project on the Rotary.org web site >>



Photo courtesy of Rotary International