



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

August 16, 2016: Volume XXIV, Issue 7



## MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA



Rock Island Rotary welcomed, Kenny Massey, President and CEO of Modern Woodmen of America as our guest speaker at today's meeting. Mr. Massey has been with Modern Woodmen for 34 years starting in Mississippi, then moving to Louisiana, and finally being asked to come to the Home Headquarters of the organization here in

Rock Island. He noted that Modern Woodmen now has over \$15 billion in assets and is A+ rated by AM Best. Giving a brief history of the organization, Massey said in 1883, Joseph Cullen Root, the founder of the organization selected the name "Modern Woodmen" in deference to the reputation of the woodmen of the 19<sup>th</sup> century who cleared the way for American expansion to the west. The thought was that his new fraternal organization was the "Modern" woodmen clearing the financial way for the families and orphans following the death of a breadwinner. "Of America" was added to emphasize patriotism. Modern Woodman began in Lyons, Iowa but moved its headquarters to Rock Island 120 years ago. Massey explained that Modern Woodmen is not just an insurance company. They are a not for profit organization and have no stockholders. The company is owned by its member policy owners. He emphasized that he works solely for the benefit of their members and their employees. Modern Woodmen is a fraternal organization and by assets is the third largest such organization in the nation. In addition to life insurance, Modern Woodmen offers retirement investments programs, general insurance, annuity products, and banking services and products. They have nearly 2000 employees nationwide with 500 based in Rock Island. Mr. Massey spoke with great pride of the benevolent side of Modern Woodmen. He pointed out that there are 2,791 Modern Woodmen Chapters nationally, 750 Modern Woodmen Youth Clubs, and 275 Modern Woodmen Senior Chapters. These organizations meet for fellowship and community service. He noted that in the first 6 months of this year these chapters raised over \$12 million for service projects and donated nearly half a million hours of volunteer time. The youth clubs alone raised \$455,000 and provided 142,000 hours of community volunteer service. In addition, Modern Woodmen provides \$450,000 in college scholarships and conducts various literacy, health, and patriotism programs. Massey stated the poor economic conditions of the past decade have made it more challenging to meet their goals, but the organization has adapted and continues to be highly successful and financially strong. He emphasized a strong belief that the organization must give back to the community and said that one enriches their own life by enriching the lives of others. In closing he recited the Modern Woodmen Creed: "There is a destiny that makes us brothers; None goes his way alone; All that we send into the lives of others Comes back into our own."

Rock Island is indeed fortunate to have Modern Woodmen in our community. Thank you Kenny for an outstanding program!

### August – October Calendar

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Aug 16  | - Kenny Massey, CEO of Modern Woodmen                             |
| Aug 23  | - Rene Gellerman, Quad Cities Chamber                             |
| Aug 30  | - Mark McQuate - 1 Marine 1 Life Foundation                       |
| Sept 6  | - Dr. Mike Oberhaus, State of the Schools                         |
| Sept 13 | - District Gov. Scott Shore                                       |
| Sept 20 | - Rick Miers, RI High Historian                                   |
| Sept 27 | - Paul Fessler, Community Caring Conference                       |
| Oct 4   | - Dr. Allison Haskill, Augustana Speech, Language, Hearing Clinic |
| Oct 11  | - Leslie Kilganno, Quad Cities Interfaith                         |
| Oct 18  | - Jodie Kavensky, Norma Leah Ovarian Cancer Initiative            |
| Oct 25  | - Alan Ross, Jewish Federation of the Quad Cities                 |
| Nov 1   | - Angie Peterson, Children's Therapy Center                       |



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## Officers

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

## Board Members

Dave Geenen  
Jim Nordquist  
Molly Shattuck  
Al Metz  
Tricia Barron  
Angela Campbell  
James Benson  
Billy Puckett

Co-Sergeant At Arms  
Bob Swanson & Vic Boblett

## Program Chairs 2016-17

July – Aug: Kyle Vietti  
Sept – Oct: Dave Geenen  
Nov – Dec: Gary Rowe  
Jan – Feb: John Wetzel  
Mar – Apr: Julie Gelaude  
May – June: Bob Swanson

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Rotary's annual **Trivia Night** is set for Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Get your team organized and ready to compete!  
Silent Auction items are needed and can be donated individually or in the name of your company/business.  
See Kathy Trone

## Club Notes & Announcements!

- **Welcome Guests!** Rock Island Rotary welcomed ten guests at today's meeting! Prospective members Mel Rambo from Modern Woodmen and Rick Emery from the America Bank were guests of Stan Coin. Also a guest of Stan Coin was Jim Jannes of East Moline. Katie Benson was a guest of hubby James Benson and Martha Dismar was a guest of her husband Jeff Dismar. Former exchange son from Germany, Leander Selter attended prior to leaving for home on Thursday. New Exchange Daughter, Agata Burzynska was in attendance as was special guest Jamie Buckley of the Easton, Maryland Rotary Club. Rounding out our visitor list were Duncan Cameron, from the Naples, Florida Club and Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport, Iowa Club. Guests are always welcome, particularly prospective members! Invite a friend next week!!
- **Rotary Prepares for Labor Day!** Our President, exchange daughter Agata, and club officers will be in this year's Labor Day Parade. All Rotarians are invited to walk or bike along with the Rotary vehicles.
- **Youth Exchange Committee will meet** at 11AM next Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> prior to our regular club meeting.
- **Fundraising Committee will meet** at 1PM on Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> just after our regular meeting. Committee members please attend.
- **District Governor Scott Shore** will meet with our Board of Directors at 11am, Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. Board Members - Mark Your Calendar!
- **Pumpkin Palooza is coming!** Rotarians needed to meet the Earl Hanson 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Classes at the Pumpkin Patch. The date is Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. Time frame is 9am to 1:30pm. See Mike Locander for details.
- **Have Items for our Newsletter?** For August publication send items to Bob Swanson at [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net).



### RAFFLE SUPPORTS ROTARY FOUNDATION!

Today's Foundation Raffle offered cash and a bottle of fine wine from the Lo Milani Cellar. The first name drawn was Florida guest, Duncan Cameron who took the cash and donated it in total to our Club Foundation. Past District Governor Fred Luckenbill was the second lucky winner and he took home the Wine! Thanks to all who Participated!!



**DON'T FORGET – Rotary Night at the Ballpark**  
**Modern Woodman Park – This Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**Social on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Base Side Patio at 6pm**  
**President Steve Morenz Throws Out the First Pitch**  
**Bandits Game at 7pm**  
**Fireworks Following the Game**

**SEE YOU AT THE BALL PARK!**

## DINING BOOKS ARE BACK!



Once again Rotary offers you the Quad Cities Dining Tour book with over 330 money saving coupons good at over 140 local restaurants! Best of all each book contains a two

for one Circa 21 Coupon you can use for our Rotary Holiday Party. That one use will save you more than the entire cost of the book! Each book sells for \$35 and Rotary receives \$10 for each sale. See Fred Luckenbill and get your 2016-2017 Quad Cities Dining Tour Book today!

## ROCK ISLAND ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY

**Circa 21**

**Wednesday, December 7th**



**Salon Party 5pm – 6pm**

**Buffet 5:45 – 7pm**

**Bootlegger Show – 7:15**

**Holly Jolly Christmas 7:45**

**Don't be a Scrooge!!**

**Make your reservation!**

**RESERVE NOW –**

**PAY LATER**

**See Bob Swanson**

**\$59.13 FOR 2 WITH**

**DINING BOOK COUPON**

## 50 Things Every Rotarian Should Know About Rotary

Taken from an article by Steve Garret, District Governor 1994-1995

### 3 – ROTARY'S WHEEL EMBLEM



A Wheel has been the symbol of Rotary since our earliest days. The first design was made by Chicago Rotarian, Montague Bear, an engraver who drew a simple wagon wheel, with a few lines to show dust and motion. The wheel was said to illustrate "Civilization and Movement." Most of the early clubs had some form of wagon wheel on their publications and letterheads. Finally, in 1922, it was decided that all Rotary clubs should adopt a single design as the exclusive emblem of Rotarians. Thus, in 1923, the present gear wheel, with 24 cogs and six spokes was adopted by the "Rotary International Association." A group of engineers advised that the geared wheel was mechanically unsound and would not work without a "keyway" in the center of the gear to attach it to a power shaft. So, in 1923 the keyway was added and the design which we now know was formally adopted as the official Rotary International emblem. The six spokes in the wheel represented the six Objects of Rotary at the time.

*We'll follow up with more of the 50 Things Every Rotarian Should Know About Rotary in future issues.*

## HELP WANTED!



School is back in session and that means Rotarians are needed for our **Birthday Book Program!**

On Thursday, August 25<sup>th</sup> our Rotary Club will present books to Earl Hanson students whose birthdays occurred in July and August. Come join the fun as Rotarian Fred Houlton entertains with his harmonica, snacks are served, and each student receives a new book autographed by a Rotarian!

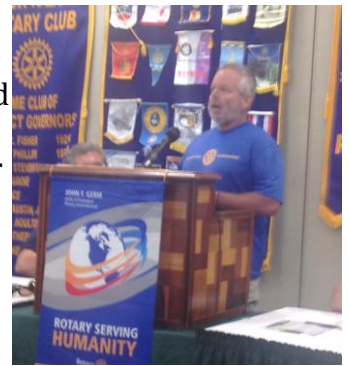
Rotarians with July and August birthdays are particularly encouraged to participate, but all club members are welcome! The time commitment is very minimal. Just arrive at Earl Hanson by 2:20 and you'll be done and on your way by 3





## SPECIAL GUEST JAMIE BUCKLEY VISITS ROCK ISLAND ROTARY

This summer Jamie Buckley, of Maryland's Eastern Shore, is paddling his kayak from the start of the Mississippi River to the Gulf of Mexico, all 2,300 miles of it! Beginning his trip on Jun 25<sup>th</sup> Jamie pulled ashore in Rock Island today and was our special guest at Rock Island Rotary. A member of the Rotary Club in Easton, Maryland, the self-proclaimed Goodwill Ambassador will be visiting many Rotary Clubs along the Mississippi River raising funds and awareness for Rotary's "End Polio Now" campaign.



"We're this close," he says, using his index finger and thumb measuring off about an inch. Adding, "It's kind of like the mouth of the Mississippi on my map." Rotary International is expecting to declare and certify the world Polio free in 2019. But \$1.5 billion in new funding is needed. Jamie's voyage is a way to bring both awareness of the End Polio Now campaign to the public and through his website, provides a way supporters can donate to the cause. Above Jamie gives the "we're this close" sign along with Club president Steve Morenz, Dan McNeil, Bruce Peterson, Sue Cassatt, Agata Burzynska, Bud Phillis, and Fred Luckenbill.

### CARLA TURNS BLUE!



Carla Thies, one of our newer members, completed all of her orientation tasks and today turned in her "new member" red badge for her regular blue club badge. Great job Carla! It's been a pleasure getting to know you and we look forward to many Rotary experiences with you.

### MENTORS & COACHES NEEDED

The Entrepreneur Class at Rock Island High School is in need of mentors and coaches for the new school year. Rock Island Rotary donated \$10,000 to get this program underway and it enjoyed tremendous success and received statewide recognition last year. Several Rotarians served as Mentors and Coaches last year and more are needed this year with a growing program. See Mike Locander or Carla Thies for details. NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!

### Chairman Kevin Koski Gives Final Birdies Report



With the John Deere Classic PGA Tournament now successfully completed, Kevin Koski gave the final details on this year's Birdies for Charity drive.

Last year our club had 36 donors pledging a combined total of 89 cents for each birdie scored in the tournament. That amounted to Rotarians donating over \$1,700.

This year our club had 42 donors pledging a combined total of \$1.37 for each birdie scored in the tournament. That will amount to Rock Island Rotarians donating over \$2,700! Along with the matching funds we will receive from the John Deere Foundation, that will bring in over \$3,000 for our Club Foundation. Thank you Rotarians and thanks to Kevin for leading the way!