



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

August 30, 2016; Volume XXIV, Issue 9



Mark McQuate founder of the **1 Marine 1 Life Foundation** was the featured speaker at today's meeting of the Rock Island Rotary Club. Mr. McQuate told a brief life's story to explain how he got to where he is today. Raised in an affluent area of St. Louis and attending some of the finest schools in the area, McQuate came out of high school looking for a new challenge. He joined the Marines, "Because they were the best", he said, and subsequently found himself in Beirut, Lebanon and was based there when the US Marine barracks was bombed by terrorists. 241 of his fellow Marines died in the attack. Mark noted that this was a life changing moment, as was seeing 241

flag draped coffins lined up in a Washington airport hangar and watching then President and Mrs. Reagan touch and offer a prayer over each coffin. After his duties in Lebanon, McQuate's unit was sent to Honduras as part of the effort to liberate Nicaragua. Spending time in Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, he was shocked at the amount and the extreme level of poverty in those countries. He also was amazed that the people seemed to hate Americans and the American soldiers. He noted that as second life changing experience. After the service McQuate went to college and eventually settled in Green Bay, Wisconsin, working as a firefighter. He got interested in politics first working for a school board candidate, then a candidate for congress, and eventually was asked to work on the Al Gore presidential campaign. These experiences developed his interest in positive change and a desire to help people. As a firefighter he saw people at their worst and often in total devastation. Mark also had a keen interest in Motorcycles and decided to join a motorcycle club. He married, relocated to the Quad Cities, and the couple had a daughter, which he noted was a third life changing event. Subsequently, after the marriage failed, Mark decided to stay in the Quad Cities to be near his daughter. He met and fell in love with his 2nd wife. They were married in 2009 and honeymooned in Florida, however tragedy struck a devastating blow. On the way back from their honeymoon, the couple's car was hit by a drunk driver and Mark's new bride, Kelly, was killed. Needless to say, another life changing moment. The tragedy sent Mark into serious depression and alcoholism. While battling the alcohol addiction, Mark nearly gave up. Riding his cycle, he passed a bar and decided to go in and just drink. He went to the next turnaround and as he turned he said directly in front of him was a farm silo with a cross mounted on top. Somehow that message got to him and he experienced another major life event. Seeking counseling he met Reverend Becky David. She had great impact and influence on Mark and lead to his helping to found the "Ride with Kelly Foundation", a motorcycle club effort to raise money for children grieving from the loss of a parent or loved one. After several years working on the Board of that foundation, Mark went on to form "1 Marine 1 Life", a foundation with the mission to inspire 1 person at a time to serve their community 1 project at a time. The goal is to support with manpower and money various projects in our local area to help alleviate suffering in any form. Their first project was "Bikers for Book Packs. Now in its second year the group has provided more than 7,600 book packs to low income students in the Rock Island-Milan school district. They also started "Haircuts for Kids" which provides free haircuts once a month to Head Start students in our school district. Future projects include "Wrestle a Hog for a Cause"; a school supply project with the River Bandits; a "Low Riders for School Supplies" project; a "Ride for Rocco" to provide funds for veterinary care of pets with owners who lack the money to provide needed treatment; and, a Big Ed Memorial Golf outing to honor Ed McCarthy and raise funds for Jordan, Alleman, or St. Pious. Overall Mark is looking to serve the community as much and in as many ways as possible. Thanks for an inspiring program!

August – October Calendar

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| Sept 6 | - Dr. Mike Oberhaus, State of the Schools |
| Sept 13 | - District Gov. Scott Shore |
| Sept 20 | - Rick Miers, RI High School 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 11th. 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!** At today's meeting Rock Island Rotary welcomed Kathy Kwiat-Hess, our District Governor elect and a guest of Ruth Lee; Mel Rambo and Rick Emery, both guests of Stan Coin, Dustin Kimbell, a guest of Frank Lambert; Melissa McQuate spouse of our guest speaker; and Rev. Becky David, a guest of Kyle Vietti. Our new exchange daughter, Agata Burzynska was in attendance and greeted appropriately. 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 next Monday. Line-up is at the American Bank Parking lot on the corner of 18th Avenue & 38th Street. Please be there before 9:30 a.m.
- **District Governor Scott Shore** will meet with our Board of Directors at 11am, Tuesday, September 13th. Board Members - Mark Your Calendar!
- **Pumpkin Palooza is coming!** Rotarians needed to meet the Earl Hanson 1st and 2nd Grade Classes at the Pumpkin Patch. The date is Wednesday, October 5th. 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.

BIG RAFFLE BUILDS ROTARY FOUNDATION COFFERS!



Today's Foundation Raffle featured a bottle of fine wine from the Lo Milani Cellar and cash. The first ticket drawn was held by Lucky Frank Lambert. He not only donated the money to the Rotary Foundation, he added out of pocket to help build the Foundation's coffers. The second lucky winner, was Jeff Dismar, who took home the wine.



Thanks to all who Participated!!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE -- 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, Carla Thies, or Monta Ponsetto for details. **NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED!**

EDITOR'S NOTE:

I'll be fishing in Ontario with some fellow Rotarians next week. If you have something that needs to be in next week's newsletter, please direct it to co-editor, Holly Sparkman at hksparkman@gmail.com.

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

5 – ROTARY MOTTOES

The first motto of Rotary International, “He Profits Most Who Serves Best,” was approved at the second Rotary Convention, held in Portland, Oregon, in August 1911. The phrase was first stated by a Chicago Rotarian, Art Sheldon, who made a speech in 1910 which included the remark “He profits most who serves his fellows best.” At about the same time, Ben Collins, president of the Rotary club of Minneapolis, Minnesota, commented that the proper way to organize a Rotary Club was through the principle his club had adopted – “Service, Not Self.” These two slogans, slightly modified, were formally approved to be the official mottoes of Rotary at the 1950 Convention in Detroit – “He Profits Most Who Serve Best” and “Service Above Self.” The 1989 Council on Legislation established “Service Above Self” as the principal motto of Rotary, since it best explains the philosophy of unselfish volunteer service.

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

ROTARY CONTINUES SUPPORT OF MISSISSIPPI BEND TRYKS

In July Rock Island Rotary joined with the Mississippi Bend Tryke Organization and help build specially designed “Trykes” for disabled children. Mississippi Bend Tryke is an affiliate of the national Ambucs organization. Mississippi Bend Tryke had purchased several of the Trykes but lacked the manpower to assemble the bikes. Rock Island



Rotarians built Trykes in July

Rotary stepped to the plate and several members met at the Mill's Chevrolet dealership in Davenport and built Trykes.

Today our Budget Priorities Chairman, Frank Lambert presented a \$1000 donation from Rock Island Rotary to Mississippi Bend Trykes. This will allow the group to purchase more Trykes and will go a long way in helping them fulfill the wish list of more than 35 disabled children. For many, the Trykes provide their first opportunity for mobility on their own.



Frank Lambert presents a \$1,000 donation to Dustin Kimball, treasurer of Mississippi Bend Trykes.