



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

November 22, 2016: Volume XXIV, Issue 20



Rock Solid. Rock Island.

November - December Calendar

- Nov 29 - Linda Rowe, Oral Health
- Dec 3 - Salvation Army Bell Ringing
- Dec 6 - Rock Island Chamber Choir
- Dec 7 - Rotary Circa 21 Party
- Dec 13 - Thomas M. Anderson, Pres. IL State Medical Society
- Dec 20 - Don Wooten, Broadcaster, Columnist
- Dec 27 - Linda Cook – Film Critic



Todd Winter, Assistant Director of Rock Island Parks and Recreation Department was our Featured speaker at today's Rock Island Rotary meeting. Todd received his Bachelor's Degree of Science, Recreation, Sport, and Tourism Management from the University of Illinois in 2004 with a Focus in Sport Management. He is a Certified Parks & Recreation Professional by the National Recreation and Park Association. He earned a Masters of Business Administration,

with a focus in Finance in 2012. Winter served as a Seasonal Clubhouse Assistant from May 1999 – July 2000 at Highland Springs Golf Course. In 2004 he became Athletics Coordinator for the Urbana Park District, a position he held until March 2007. Todd then returned to Rock Island as Sports & Recreation Manager for the City of Rock Island and held that position until March of 2013 when he was promoted to Golf Services Manager for the City of Rock Island overseeing all operations of Rock Island's two municipal golf courses including staffing, budgeting, and purchasing. He had responsibility for planning and implementing an efficient business model in which to operate golf services for the department. He managed and trained a staff of clubhouse attendants, learning program providers, course rangers, and driving range attendants. He worked closely with Golf Maintenance Superintendent to ensure courses maintain high quality. Todd also created and implemented programs and events for the golf courses including outings, leagues, and comprehensive learning programs. This past June Todd was promoted to Assistant Director of the Parks and Recreation Department where he, along with new Park Department Director, John Gripp, undertook the task of reorganizing the Department. Their efforts have so far resulted in a savings of \$300,000 in salaries and benefits from consolidation of duties and elimination of some staff positions. They also initiated a complete review of all Rock Island Parks analyzing costs and maintenance needs. They held a series of community meetings seeing citizen input on the use and opinion of park facilities and programs and the hopes and expectations of the community for future park use and development. Ultimately the discussions lead to identifying parks by "type". Type 1 are the highly visible and high maintenance parks such as Schwiebert and Longview Parks. This type of park is capable of hosting special events and generating income. Type 2 are the typical parks with playground equipment and picnic facilities. They require less maintenance and the primary concern is keeping the equipment and facilities in good shape and safe. Type 3 parks are the open space, natural areas requiring only basic mowing and trimming. Once categorized the Department was able to develop a comprehensive maintenance plan utilizing both municipal and privately contracted maintenance. The goal is to improve efficiency and cost savings while maintaining high quality facilities and programs. Winters also noted that partnerships have been developed with groups such as Rock Island Girls Softball and Friends of Hauberg, and numerous others, where some maintenance and improve costs are shared. He stated that such partnerships have been critical to the goal of providing facilities and programs while staying within a limited budget. Lastly Mr. Winter stated that the Department is currently in a reviewing process where all facilities and programs are being analyzed, Including the revenue generating facilities (Saukie and Highland Springs Golf Courses, Whitewater Junction, and the Fitness and Activity Center. The review includes all special events and all recreational programming. The review involves looking at costs, participation, use of facilities, and determining what programs should be kept, what new programs should be added, and what if any changes can be made to improve facilities and programs within the Department's budget capabilities. Mr. Winter's program was well presented and well received! Thanks, Todd for a thorough update on our Parks and Recreation programs.



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

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

Club Notes & Announcements!

□ **Welcome Guests!** At today's meeting Rock Island Rotary welcomed Alleman High Jr. Rotarian, Noah Kelly accompanied by Principal David Hobin; and, Rock Island High Jr. Rotarians, Lauren Bell and Emilie Heggen accompanied by Charles Butler. Entrepreneur Class teacher Patricia Matson brought students Jerry Hacker, Donovan Ferrel, Lexi Schomer, and Rashawn Overton. Meena Brandt was a guest of Sarah Gorham and Leo McNeil was a guest of his dad, Dan McNeil. Kevin Koster was a guest of wife Diane and Ruth Lee. Visiting Rotarians were Duncan Cameron from Naples Florida and Mark Zimmerman from Davenport, Iowa. A special guest was Myah Ackerland our newly selected out-bound exchange student. Our exchange daughter, Agata Burzinska rounded out our guest list. Rock Island Rotary always welcomes guests, particularly prospective members! Invite a friend next week!!

□ **Reindeer Ramble** – Sunday, December 4th starting at 9am from the IBEW Hall just across the street on the South side of South Park Mall. Rotarians are needed to run, walk, or just help and learn what goes on. Next year our Club will become the sponsors of the Run. Entry Forms available from Mike Locander and at the Sergeant at Arms table.

□ **Angel Tree** in just our second week of signups is sold out! Thanks to the generosity of Rotarians, the Christmas for dozes on need children will be merry! Thanks to all who became an Angel!!

□ **STILL HUNTING** we are still hunting for the Rotarians who took the Angels for **Dillyn Lynch** and **Ciin Ngaih Lun**. Just need to know who has them to insure they are covered. Contact Anne McGlynn if you have them.

□ **Foundation Committee** will meet December 6th at 11:15. Members Chuck Austin, Clarence Darrow, Gary Rowe, Bill Green, Don Peterson, and Carrie Crossen please try to attend.

□ **Have Items for our Newsletter?** Email items for publication to Bob Swanson at bobdebswanson@att.net.

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



SIGN-UPS ARE AT 57 – NEXT TUESDAY IS YOUR FINAL CHANCE TO SIGN UP!!!

50 Things Every Rotarian Should Know About Rotary

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

16 - TOLERANCE OF DIFFERENCES

Occasionally there is a temptation to criticize the laws, customs and traditions of another country which may seem strange or contrary to our own. In some instances, illegal practices or customs of one nation are completely lawful and acceptable in another.

As members of an international organization dedicated to world understanding and peace, it behooves Rotarians to exercise restraint in judging our Rotary friends and citizens from other countries when their behavior seems unusual to us. A Rotary policy has existed for more than half a century relating to this dilemma of international relationships. The statement, adopted in 1933, says that because it is recognized that some activities and local customs may be legal and customary in some countries and not in others, Rotarians should be guided by this admonition of tolerance:

"Rotarians in all countries should recognize these facts and there should be a thoughtful avoidance of criticism of the laws and customs of one country by the Rotarians of another country."

The policy also cautions against "any effort on the part of Rotarians of one country to interfere with the laws or customs of another country."

As we strive to strengthen the bonds of understanding, goodwill and friendship, these policies still provide good advice and guidance.

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

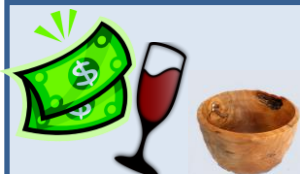
GOT YOUR DINING BOOK?



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!

RINGING THE BELLS!

On Saturday, December 3rd, our Rotary club will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army! We reserved both doors at the Hy-Vee in Rock Island on 18th Avenue from 10am to 4pm and have Rotary volunteers for 2 people at each door for every shift! Thanks to those who volunteered!! If anything comes up that will prevent you from keeping your assigned time, be sure to let Mark Mayeski know. If you can be a "backup" in case someone cancels, email Mark at mark@rockislandrotary.org



FOUNDATION RAFFLE WINNERS!

Today's Foundation Raffle featured a bottle of fine wine from the Lo Milani Cellar, a Larry Tadlock hickory bowl and cash. Kathy Lelonek won the bowl, student guest Emilie Heggen took the cash and Dan McNeil was the lucky winner of the Milani wine.

Thanks again to all who participated!

Foundation Minute

Saginaw Street, paved with 116-year-old bricks and lined with restaurants, runs through the heart of downtown Flint, Mich. Around the corner you'll find a farmer's market, a row of museums, a craft brewery, and three campuses: In many ways, Flint fits right in with other quaint and trendy towns in America.

But while parts of the city are experiencing a renaissance, 40 percent of Flint residents live below the poverty line. And although the murder rate dropped nearly in half between 2013 and 2014, there were still 48 homicides in 2015 (in a city of fewer than 100,000 people). Then, two years ago, news broke that lead was leaching into the city's water.

Two pediatricians were instrumental in pushing the city and state governments to admit that the lead problem was real and then in leading the cleanup efforts. One of them is Amy Krug, 2015-16 President of the Rotary Club of Flint. Donations have come from various Rotary clubs including one in Dexter, Michigan, which had its own disaster in 2012 when a tornado ripped through its town and another from Nashville, Tennessee whose club president traveled to Flint to present the funds in person. "Rotary and other local organizations," states Flint Rotarian Jamie Gaskin who heads the United Way of Genesee County, "took donations giving grants to services that will support those in need ensuring accountability."

Gaskin states, "Rotary represents a group of thoughtful folks who already understood water in a lot of different ways. "Although until this crisis hit Flint, members of his club had always talked about water issues happening somewhere else, never in their own community. As the data revealed the severity of the problem, Rotarians in churches, civic organizations and professions began to encourage all those institutions to respond.

This is another example how Rotarians once again join together to use their skills and passion to make a difference in their community and the world. We should be proud to be a Rotarian.

ATLANTA - 2017 Rotary International Convention PLANS CHANGE!

Finding limited interest in an 8 day/7-night trip to Atlanta, plans have changed. The new plan is to forego the bus and convention goes to make their own arrangements for travel to Atlanta. Some may choose to drive, others may fly, still others may join together for a rental van trip. Regardless, all will meet in Atlanta where rooms are being held for us at the Crown Plaza Ravinia Hotel. Convention Opening ceremonies are Sunday June 11th, Closing Ceremonies are Wednesday June 14th. If you would like one of the reserved rooms contact Steve Morenz. 3 nights of hotel @ \$150/night = \$450.00 (single or double), 4 nights of Hotel = \$170/night = \$680.00 (single or double).



BizTown Volunteers Needed

Anne McGlynn is signing up volunteers to serve as BizTown advisors on March 3rd. However, all advisors must attend a 1 hour training session. There is one training sessions left on **February 9th at 5pm**. Training is at BizTown in Davenport. If you can help. Contact Anne. Once trained you will assist Earl Hanson students on March 3rd as they learn about business and money.

Newest Paul Harris Fellow

Past President and former District Governor Ruth Lee honored Lindsay Thul, with Paul Harris Fellow status. Lindsay is the daughter of past president, Diane Koster. Lindsay is currently battling invasive breast cancer.



Diane Koster and daughter, Lindsay



WE ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE FUN!!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1 at 5:30PM – 8:30 PM

Details

Come join the RAH Club and jaunt through Downtown Moline wearing your Ugly Christmas Sweater! Each stop will be movie-themed and we'll be playing some holiday theme minute-to-win-it games with chances to win some great prizes! Appetizers will be provided!!

Tickets are \$15 in advance (via tickets or Eventbrite) or \$20 at the door.

There are 4 stops that you're welcome to come to at any point throughout the night.

Barrel House from 5:30-6:30

Bierstube from 6:30-7:30

Bad Boyz 7:30-8:30

Steel Head Tavern for the After party!

The proceeds are benefiting the QC Homeless Veterans Outreach Center! If you really want to be extra nice, we'll be collecting toys for Operation Toy Solider that will be donated to local military families!

GIVING TUESDAY

The Tuesday after Thanksgiving has been designated as "Giving Tuesday". This is a good time to review one's end of year giving and consider the Rotary Foundation or our Rock Island Rotary Club Foundation. Both are tax deductible charitable entities.

ROTARY NIGHT AT AUGUSTANA COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Augustana College is hosting a Rotary Night at their men's basketball game on Wednesday, December 7th. All area Rotarians are invited to attend the game. Rotary members and their families will be admitted free of charge. Just tell the ticket taker, "I'm a Rotarian". The Vikings are currently ranked 18th in the nation and recently defeated the team ranked 14th. So, expectation is that Augie's ranking will be rising quickly. If you enjoy basketball you'll love Augustana's style of team play, in your face defense, and exciting fast paced action.

WE'RE NOT A CHECK WRITING CLUB!

President Steve Morenz reported on a discussion that took place at yesterday's Board of Director's meeting. Concern was expressed that with pleas for the Rotary International Foundation, our Club Foundation, our upcoming international water project, and club fundraisers. some members might feel a bit intimidated and concerned that Rotary may be too expensive for their current situation. Yes, all of Rotary's causes are worthy and required financial support, but Steve did a great job of explaining that we don't expect any member to do more than is within their comfort zone. Do what you can, when you can, but don't feel obligated. Our Club endeavors to provide service opportunities other than writing checks. In fact, we're always on the lookout for such projects. If you know of one, be sure to let President Steve know. Your attendance, support, and ideas are the most meaningful contribution you can make!