



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

January 24, 2017: Volume XXIV, Issue 29



Rock Island Rotary Water Project

Today Rock Island Rotarians Bud Phillis and Bob Swanson presented the program they are making to clubs throughout our District and adjacent Iowa District to detail and seek partner support for our club's new clean water project. The project was born in answer to our Club's 2012 Vision Session, wherein a goal was set for Rock Island Rotary to develop our own international clean water project. After years of investigating potential projects in Uganda, Nigeria, and Nicaragua, our club's International Projects Committee selected a project to purchase water filtration units for schools in rural areas near Nairobi, Kenya. The project got off the ground with a generous donation by Rotarian Sam and Hilde Wray which financed the first 34 filtration units. LifeStraw® Community filters were selected based on their proven reliability, superior purification success, and an established delivery system through Replenish Water® based in Texas. Bob led the club through a colorful slide show presentation which illustrated why our committee developed a filtration project, why LifeStraw was selected, and why Replenish Water was selected as our affiliate distributor.



It was noted that the filters are easily maintained and remove a minimum of 99.99% of protozoan parasites, 99.999% of viruses, 99.9999% of bacteria and that they reduce turbidity (muddiness) by filtering particulate matter larger than 0.02 microns. The filters also meet the standard for the "highly protective" category of household water treatment options by the World Health Organization and comply fully with US EPA guidelines for micro-biological water purifiers. The LifeStraw Community filtration unit is chemical-free and prevents waterborne disease such as diarrhea, typhoid, cholera, worms, and cryptosporidiosis. To bring the

issue close to home, the Wrays purchased an additional filter and donated it for use when our club members make presentations about our project. Dr. Phillis continued the presentation with a detailed demonstration of the filtration unit and an informative explanation of the relationship between clean water, sanitation, and disease. Prior to the meeting, Bud mixed up a batch of nasty, muddy water, and poured it into the filter at the start of the program. By the end of the program club members could sample the clean, safe water the filter had processed. Bud, Bob, and other club members will be making this presentation to Rotary Clubs throughout the area in hopes that others will join our club's effort to provide children in third world countries clean, safe water. To date, East Moline and Geneseo Rotary Clubs are on board! Units purchased by our club are already serving children in Kenya! Bob asked club members to critique the presentation to ensure we tell the story as effectively as possible. Several very helpful comments were received and will be implemented in future presentations. SEE ALSO PAGE 3 ...

November - December Calendar

- Jan 28 - Rotary Mobile Food Panty Project
- Jan 31 - Kathy Wine – River Action "Raise the Grade – Multi-State Project."
- Feb 7 - Just 4 Fun String Band and Rotary Blood Drive
- Feb 14 - Agata Burzinska - Poland
- Feb 21 - TBA
- Feb 28 - TBA



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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 Jr. Rotarians from Alleman High School, Ryan Hodge and Mallory Hillman. Hilde Wray was a guest of hubby Sam Wray. A visiting Rotarian guest was Mark Zimmerman, a member of the Davenport Rotary Club. Our exchange daughter from Poland, Agata Burzinska was in attendance. Last, but certainly not least, a prospective member, Charles Butler attended as a guest of Bob Swanson. Rotary always welcomes guests, particularly prospective members! Invite a friend next week!!
- **BIZ TOWN** – The final training for Biz Town volunteers will be at 5pm on February 9th in the Biz Town Center in Davenport. The Biz Town Rotary event will be on March 3rd. To help you must attend training.
- **MOBILE FOOD PANTRY** – This Saturday January 28th is the date of our service project. Rotarians are needed at the 2nd Baptist Church in Rock Island from 10:00 until about 1:30pm. If you can't give the entire time, come for what you can! Our job will be to help patrons get food parcels to their cars. Rotary is the sponsor of the Mobile Food Pantry, so the ball is in our court. 40 volunteers will be needed so make it a family affair and bring your spouse, family members, and friends. The only requirement is the strength to carry groceries or pull a wagon from the Church to cars.
- **DUELING PIANOS** is back! Mark your calendar, Thursday, March 9th 6-10pm at the River Music Experience. Food, fun, and fellowship will be in abundance at our 2nd Annual major event fundraiser. Tickets are available now on EVENTBRITE.COM, \$45 standing and \$60 for guaranteed seating.
- **NEXT FELLOWSHIP OF WINING ROTARIANS** social event will be in early April. More details will follow in the future. Thanks to all who attended on January 5th.
- **Have Items for our Newsletter?** Email items for publication to Bob Swanson at bobdebswanson@att.net.

Foundation Minute for Week of January 23

Over 122 million children in the world are illiterate. After decades of investing in literacy projects, experts around the world have come to realize that simply getting children into the classroom – either by removing attendance barriers or providing supplies - isn't enough to solve illiteracy. According to Carolyn Johnson who designed the Guatemala Literacy Project, the teachers need to be taught how to teach children to read – the quality of teaching in the classroom needs to improve.

Rotary along with the United Nations, USAID and other organizations are shifting their focus to helping teachers plan lessons that ensure that students will actually learn. The Guatemala Literacy Project still supplies textbooks, but also equips two computer centers where students get hands-on experience using standard business software like Windows, Word, and Excel for an hour a week. Fees collected by school administrators and managed by CoEd are used to replace books and equipment when they wear out.

Each year, a new global grant from The Rotary Foundation extends the effort to another 40 or so primary schools and a dozen middle schools selected after meetings with community leaders, parents, teachers, and administrators. More than 480 clubs in Guatemala, the United States, Canada, Cayman Islands, England, and Japan have provided financial support. Every year, about 50 Rotary volunteers take part by delivering materials and visiting classrooms.

Your contribution to The Rotary Foundation enables this to happen. Thank you.

50 Things Every Rotarian Should Know About Rotary

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

25 - THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Most Rotarians have never attended a Rotary district conference. They have not experienced one of the most enjoyable and rewarding privileges of Rotary membership.

A district conference is for all club members and their spouses, not just for club officers and committee members. The purpose of a district conference is for fellowship, good fun, inspirational speakers and discussion of matters which make one's Rotary membership more meaningful. Every person who attends a district conference finds that being a Rotarian becomes even more rewarding because of the new experiences, insights and acquaintances developed at the conference. Those who attend a conference enjoy going back, year after year.

Every one of Rotary's more than 500 districts has a conference annually. These meetings are considered so important that the Rotary International president selects a knowledgeable Rotarian as his personal representative to attend and address each conference. The program always includes several outstanding entertainment features, interesting discussions and inspirational programs.

One of the unexpected benefits of attending a district conference is the opportunity to become better acquainted with members of one's own club in an informal setting. Lasting friendships grow from the fellowship hours at the district conference.

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



FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today our raffle featured cash, Lo Milani's finest wine, and the coveted Dr. Larry Tadlock hand-turned wooden bowl! John Wetzel was our first winner and he took the walnut bowl. Bud Phillis had the 2nd ticket and he grabbed the cash and donated it to our water project. Jeff Dismar held the 3rd winner and he took home wine!



HANSON BIRTHDAY BOOKS THURSDAY!

Our next date for handing out books to Hanson's January birthday kids is **Thursday, January 26th at 2:30**. Help is needed!! Join Tammy, Anne, Fred and others helping the kids celebrate and furthering the Rotary literacy goals. Stop by and have a fun 30 minutes with the kids!

HELP IS NEEDED

The Entrepreneur Class at Rocky has two teams with great products but neither has a Mentor or a Coach. HELP IS NEEDED quickly. Both positions are essentially to provide advice, act as a sounding board, and generally help the kids develop their product, prepare a plan to finance its production, and a marketing plan to make it fly! The coach is more "hands on", Mentor is like a senior advisor. See Monta Ponsetto or Mike Oberhaus if you are willing to help!

FROM PAGE 1 - ROCK ISLAND ROTARY IS NUMBER "1"

In conjunction with today's program, Rock Island Rotarians were advised that a bowl had been placed on the corner of the head table and any member that felt inclined to do so was welcome to drop a donation in the bowl for our water project. By the time the last member cleared the room \$163 in cash and checks was in the bowl, along with two pledges to fund the entire price of a filtration unit. Many others mentioned that they didn't have a check with them, but would be donating. So, in those few minutes the generosity of member funded almost 2.5 filtration units giving more than 150 children clean, safe water!

Rock Island Rotarian Tom Showalter sent this in and I thought it was well worth passing on to the entire club, although it's a message we need to get to non-club members!



[Dominick Bonny](#) Follow

@MorrowCollege & @WSUPullman alumn. Digital media journalist, brand manager, #Coug, #Rotary member and all-around wiseacre.

Dec 15, 2016

I'm Young. I'm in Rotary. Here's Why.

Rotary is weird. Rotarians are old, mostly. They sing songs like "*America The Beautiful*" and pray and say the pledge of allegiance before meetings. They tell lame jokes. They organize highway trash cleanups, blood drives and literacy fairs. They raise money for students to study abroad and open their homes to foreign students studying here. They are fixated on eradicating Polio. Yes, [Polio is still a thing](#).

Rotary's old fashioned. It's not the hippest of scenes.

But it's authentic. It offers a regular opportunity to accomplish real and lasting good in my community as well as abroad.

In this age of political divisiveness and social discord in the US and around the world, Rotary offers a neutral space where people can gather together regularly and focus on what really matters: making the world a better place.

Politically I might not see eye to eye with everyone in my club. I'm not Facebook friends with most of them. In fact—many of the folks in my club don't even have social media accounts.

But too often we use social media to create echo chambers of our own opinion. We weed out those who disagree with our chosen worldview. We spend so much time trying to create an online experience that doesn't challenge the way we think that we refuse to look at the world as it is.

Online petitions change little. Strongly-worded comments on Facebook, Twitter or Reddit never filled a hungry belly or sheltered a shivering child.

In reality, change isn't accomplished by working independently from those who disagree with us. We cannot create a real, effective path forward without first building consensus.

Under the auspices of Rotary's [Four Way Test](#) the table is set to have a real, face-to-face dialogue about how we can come together and benefit our community and our world in real ways.

Now more than ever organizations like Rotary International are integral to the maintenance of the very fabric of civilized society. Social media is good for a lot of things, but it's not good for breaking down the walls we build up between us.

If we forget how or refuse to engage in real-life conversations, we run the risk of forgetting that those who disagree with us are real people—not just adversaries lurking among the ether of the internet.

So, if you care about your community and the world in which we live, I encourage you to join a service club like Rotary or to volunteer in your community in some real, concrete way. You'll get as much or more out of it as the people you help, and it will remind you that there's more that connects us than separates us.

I'm a proud member of [Wenatchee North Rotary](#) and serve as secretary for that club, which is located in [District 5060](#) in the Pacific Northwest and B.C. Learn more about Rotary International at [rotary.org](#).

[TravelStudy AbroadRotaryRotary International](#)



A LITTLE OFF KEY

a dueling pianos event

hosted by Rock Island Rotary & Twin Rivers Rotary After Hours

Thursday
**March
9th**

**River
Music
Experience**
129 N. Main St., Davenport

7:30pm
doors open @ 6
\$45 – standing only
\$60 – guaranteed seating
both include heavy hors d'oeuvres

Come be entertained for the evening by FunPianos, a traveling dueling pianos group.



Tickets can be purchased online at **Eventbrite**
or
contact Sue Lerschen-Cassatt at 309-644-0101,
SLerschen-Cassatt@FirstStateIL.com

Money raised from the event will go to support local youth programs and other Rotary projects!

