



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

February 14, 2017: Volume XXIV, Issue 32



## ***Daughter - Agata***



Like proud parents, members of Rock Island Rotary beamed with joy as our Rotary Exchange daughter from Poland, Agata Burzinska, presented a program teaching us about her homeland and telling about her experiences to date as our 2016-17 Rotary Exchange daughter. Agata's hometown is Bydgoszcz, Poland, a city of 470,000 in Northern Poland less than 2 hours from the Baltic Seaport of Gdansk. Temperatures there range from an average low of 20°(f) in January to a high average of 71°(f) in July and August. Agata told the history of Poland saying that the Polish state can be traced back to 966, when present-day Poland converted to Christianity. The Kingdom of

Poland was founded in 1025, and in 1569 it cemented a longstanding political association with the Grand Duchy of Lithuania by signing the Union of Lublin.

This union formed the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, one of the largest and most populous countries of 16th and 17th century Europe. Once a leading European power with a uniquely progressive political system, the Commonwealth ceased to exist as an independent state, following several territorial partitions among Prussia, the Russian Empire, and Austria from 1772 to 1795. Poland regained its independence in 1918 at the end of World War I, reconstituting much of its historical territory as the Second Polish Republic. In 1939, World War II started with the invasion of Poland by Nazi Germany, followed shortly thereafter by invasion by the Soviet Union, both in accordance with the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact. More than six million Polish citizens died in the war. 90% of the city of Warsaw was destroyed. After the war, Poland's borders were shifted westwards under the terms of the Potsdam Conference. With the backing of the Soviet Union, a communist puppet government was formed, and after a falsified referendum in 1946, the People's Republic of Poland was established as a Soviet satellite state. During the Revolutions of 1989 Poland's Communist government was overthrown and Poland adopted a new constitution establishing itself as a democracy. Despite the large number of casualties and destruction the country experienced during World War II, Poland has managed to preserve much of its rich cultural wealth. Warsaw had been rebuilt with attention to restoring the historic city to its pre-war appearance. Agata noted that school in Poland is much different than in America. There classes are longer and are divided by 20 minute breaks during which students may leave school for food, or other errands. Teachers also are much stricter (several described by Agata as "mean") and creativity appears to be discouraged. Students are regimented to do things the way their instructor shows as opposed to inserting any individual style or creativity. Students are not allowed to wear brightly colored clothing or to color their hair. Failure to comply can result in expulsion. Agata also noted that 97% of the people in Poland are "Polish", there is very little cultural diversity. "Foreign" visitors are somewhat of a special event. Agata also said sports are not a part of their schools and are considered of little importance. She identified the things she likes most about America as her school, mentioning that teachers are extremely friendly and helpful; ice cream; sports; and the great mix of cultures living and getting along together (perhaps a major bragging point for Rocky!). Things she misses the most are the Polish eating schedule, consisting of a light breakfast, large dinner at 3pm, and light supper at 7pm. She also said she misses the respect shown to teachers in Poland. One fun note was that Agata's mother became interested in Rotary and wanted to join the club in her home town only to be told they do not admit women. She then organized and chartered her own Rotary club made up entirely of women – and her club accepts men and several have joined! Thanks, Agata for a great program! (See photos page 4)

### **February – April Calendar**

- Feb 21 - TBA
- Feb 28 - Joe Taylor – Quad Cities Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Mar 7 - Dan Coyne Logan, Earl Hanson Principal
- Mar 14 - Glenda Nicke - Adult Ed, ESL and GED
- Mar 21 - Pam Hawman—Christian Care
- Mar 28 - Anita Zemba-Schadt - Dementia
- Apr 4 - Bert Blood Scholarship
- Apr 11 - Chris Britton - Poetry
- Apr 18 - Rotary Awards Program
- Apr 25 - Wes Llewellyn – Restaurant and Hospitality



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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



## Club Notes & Announcements!

□ **WELCOME GUESTS!** At today's meeting Rock Island Rotary welcomed Jr. Rotarian from Alleman High School, Abby Just; and from Rock Island High School, Griffin Evans. Virginia Houlton attended as a guest of hubby Fred. Grandma Sue Hammar, Scott Shattuck and his 1 year old daughter, Nora, attended as guests of grandpa, Tom Hammar. Ametra Carrol-Castaneda, a newly proposed member, attended as a guest of the club. Chelsey Hohensee visited as a guest of Jennifer Garrity, and visiting Rotarian, Andrew Iverson, a member of the Moline Club was a guest of Bill Groh. Our exchange daughter, Agata Burzinska, not only attended today, she also provided a great program! Rotary always welcomes guests, particularly prospective members! Invite a friend next week!!

□ **NOMINATIONS ARE NEEDED OUR 2017 AWARDS.** See the attached nomination form.

□ **BUDGET PRIORITIES COMMITTEE** – Will meet next Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:15 just prior to our next regular club meeting. Chairman Frank Lambert urges all committee members to attend.

□ **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 5<sup>th</sup>.

□ **JORDAN EARLYACT CLUB** new book drive continues for the University of Iowa Children's Hospital. So far, we have collected \$124. With two weeks to go, let's see if we can reach \$200! The donation box will be available at meetings at our next two meetings.

□ **Have Items for our Newsletter?** Email items for publication to Bob Swanson at [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net).

### FOUNDATION RAFFLE



Today our raffle featured cash and wine from the Lo Milani cellar. Lucky Tammy Weikert won the cash and donated it to the Rotary Foundation. PDG Ruth Lee held the second lucky ticket and took home the wine!

Thanks to all who participated!

**NEW NEWS!** Early bird registration for our District Conference has been extended to Feb 19th to encourage Rotarians to cash in on savings of \$50 to \$100 when registering!

**FUN is guaranteed for all who can attend!** Rock Island Rotary will be presenting our water project at the Friday evening dinner. The support of fellow Rock Island Rotarians will be greatly appreciated.

### Highlights:

**Friday: Golf, Dixieland Jazz & Foundation Dinner!**

**Saturday: Literacy Breakfast, Youth Program, Presidents' Dinner & Zydeco entertainment!**

**Sunday: Future Vision, Resolutions & Young Professionals Summit!**

For a lot more info including the registration link, **CLICK HERE!** [www.rotary6420.org](http://www.rotary6420.org) !

## FOUNDATION MINUTE

Rotary International is honoring twenty projects funded through its Global Grant program with special recognition to celebrate its 100 years of giving.

Here are several:

The Rotary Club of Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake in District 7190 along with a partnership from the Rotary Club of Luanshya in Zambia provided equipment and created educational materials for families of children with cleft, craniofacial and congenital anomalies in Albany, NY.

Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Abomey-Calavi in Benin along with their International Sponsor – District 2080 in Italy provided a well water tower, the construction of ten new fountains, repaired seven old foundations and provided hygiene training to the village of Paouignan in Benin.

Training was provided to twenty rural Ugandan healthcare practitioners, mainly midwives in the use of ultrasound scanning devices to diagnose abnormalities in pregnancies and other life-threatening conditions. The Rotary Club of Kiwatule in Uganda and its International Sponsor District 5500 in Arizona received this global grant.

Your contribution to The Rotary Foundation helped make this happen.

## 50 Things Every Rotarian Should Know About Rotary

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

### 28 - WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE

World Community Service is the Rotary program by which a club or district in one country provides humanitarian assistance to a club in another country. Typically, the aid goes to a developing community where the Rotary project will help raise the standard of living and the quality of life. The ultimate object of World Community Service is to build goodwill and understanding among peoples of the world.

One important way to find a club in some other part of the world which needs help on a worthy project is to use the WCS Projects Exchange, a list of dozens of worthy activities in developing areas. The exchange list is maintained in the RI Secretariat in Evanston and is readily available upon request. It outlines projects, provides estimated costs and gives names of the appropriate contacts.

Clubs which need assistance, or are seeking another club to help with a humanitarian project, such as building a clinic, school, hospital, community water well, library or other beneficial activity, may register their needs. Clubs seeking a desirable World Community Service project may easily review the list of needs registered in the Projects Exchange. Thus, the exchange provides a practical way to link needs with resources.

Every Rotary club is urged to undertake a new World Community Service project each year. The WCS Projects Exchange list is an excellent tool to find a real need, a project description and cooperating club in a developing area. The job then is to "go to work" to complete the project, and at the same time build bridges of friendship and world understanding.

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

**DON'T FORGET, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EARLYBIRD REGISTRATION FOR OUR DISTRICT 6420 CONFERENCE AT STARVED ROCK STATE PARK AND SAVE BIG \$\$\$\$.** YOU CAN SIGN UP TO ATTEND THE ENTIRE CONFERENCE OR JUST SELECT EVENTS ON ONE OR TWO DAYS. ROCK ISLAND ROTARY'S WATER PROJECT PRESENTATION IS DURING THE FRIDAY EVENING FOUNDATION DINNER.



Exchange Daughter, Agata, has shown a particular talent for art. Below are examples of some of her work done in art class at Rock Island High School. Agata mentioned that she loves the class at Rocky because they allow and encourage her to show her own style and creativity. In Poland, her art instructors discourage any personal style and restrict student art work to nature stills and portrait models. Agata won an award for her art at this year's Festival of Trees.



Although claiming to be “stressed out” and nervous about her presentation, Agata, as you can see below seemed relaxed and in total control as she took Rock Island Rotary on an informative and imaginative tour of Poland, Polish schools, and experiences of a visiting exchange daughter in America.



Seem stressed to you? Here a perfectly poised Agata handles the mic and computer as she treated Club members to a 25-minute tour of Poland.

We will truly hate to see this young lady leave us when her exchange year ends in June.





# 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**<sup>™</sup>  
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!

**Rotary**



ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CLUB  
2017 Awards Committee



Rock Island Rotary's annual Awards Luncheon is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 18th**. The Awards Committee seeks nominations for the following awards:

1. **Excellence:** Recognizes distinction or superiority in a field of endeavor. This can be for a single accomplishment or for achieving high standards of achievement or performance over as sustained period of time.
2. **Community Service:** Recognizes individuals or organizations who have worked effectively for the betterment of our community.
3. **A.T. Peara Award for Service Above Self:** Recognizes the Rock Island Rotary member who has exhibited the dedicated service and faithful commitment to the ideals of Rotary that were personified by A.T. Peara, for whom the award is named after.

The first two awards are open to any individual or organization that has demonstrated excellence or worked for the betterment of the Rock Island community. The excellence award applies to all lines of work and to all ages.

The A.T. Peara Award is limited to current members of Rock Island Rotary.

To ensure that our committee has adequate time to evaluate, consider, make the selections, and have awards prepared, the deadline for nominations is March 21st. Please consider making one or more nominations using the lower portion of this form. Additional copies are available if you need them. We greatly appreciate your participation and assistance.

Submit Nomination to: Carrie Crossen or by e-mail to [ccrossen@choosethechief.com](mailto:ccrossen@choosethechief.com)

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**NOMINEE NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated for (be sure to indicate):

\_\_\_\_\_ Excellence      \_\_\_\_\_ Community Service      \_\_\_\_\_ A.T. Peara Award

Reasons in support of your nomination:

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