



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

February 7, 2017: Volume XXIV, Issue 31



## ***Just 4 Fun String Band***



Our program today had the club tapping their toes, singing along, and slapping their knees to the Southern Appalachia sound of the **Just 4 Fun String Band**. The band, made up entirely of ladies -- shall we say "senior lovelies", burst on the scene with their

banjos, guitars, violins, mandolins, and string bass as the providers of the musical soundtrack for the Emmy nominated PBS Documentary program, *COUNTRY SCHOOL One Room – One Nation*. The show aired locally on WQPT-PBS on September 11, 2016 and has been aired on PBS stations throughout the nation. The Band also performed their music live at the World Premier of the movie, at the Iowa State Historical Building in Des Moines. An invitation was also extended to Rotarians to join the band for a romantic Valentines' Day moonlight and luminary lit hike along selected trails at Black Hawk State Park on February 14<sup>th</sup>. The fun begins at 6:30pm with the hike and then everyone moves into the lodge before a roaring fire to enjoy the music of the **Just 4 Fun Band**. Fresh doughnuts, made on the spot and a cup of cocoa or hot apple cider will finish off the celebration. Best of all the event is FREE, sponsored by the Citizens to Preserve Black Hawk Park Foundation. The band consisting of Sandy Koester, Linda Slack, and Jean Duncan mixed jokes with Southern Appalachia "fiddle" selections, civil war era songs, Irish tunes, and a few just for fun selections including recitation of the "Bib Overalls Song" by Sandy Koester. Unfortunately, the band's 80+ year old male dancer who usually wears the garb for the song was unable to attend today so Sandy just displayed his "costume" as she recited the lyrics. Their Civil War medley included the melodic love song *Aura Lea*, a tune the ladies reported was frequently banned by military commanders because after hearing the tune, soldiers often deserted and headed home (a fact confirmed by Kevin Koski our resident Civil War historian and reenactor). The band provided about a 45-minute concert, staying after our normal adjourning time to perform for those members and guest who chose to stay. The performance for Rock Island Rotary marked the 17<sup>th</sup> year for the band who have been entertaining audiences throughout Iowa and Illinois in addition to their PBS documentary performance. Although they didn't mention it, the band released a CD entitled "*Both Sides of The River*", unfortunately all copies sold out and when asked if they will be making more, spokesperson Sandy Koester said, "We're old. There are no more CDs!" Sorry about that, but if you want to hear more, keep in mind next Tuesday at Blackhawk State Park!

### February – April Calendar

- Feb 14 - Agata Burzinska - Poland
- 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

**FUNDRAISING  
COMMITTEE MEETS  
TOMORROW A 5:30PM  
AT RME, DAVENPORT**

## Club Notes & Announcements!

- **WELCOME GUESTS!** At today's meeting Rock Island Rotary welcomed Jr. Rotarians from Alleman High School: Maris Boelens and Abby Just; and from Rock Island High School: Asrielle Allen and Griffin Evans. Several member's spouses including Chris Boblett, Hilde Wray, and Dianne Phillis were guests of their husbands. Ametra Carrol-Castaneda, a newly proposed member, attended as a guest of Dave Geenen. Visiting Rotarian guest was Mark Zimmerman, a member of the Davenport Rotary Club. Our exchange daughter, Agata Burzinska was also in attendance. 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 this Thursday in the Biz Town Center in Davenport. Our Biz Town Rotary event will be on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. To help you must attend the training.
- **NEW MEMBER PROPOSED** – **Ametra Carrol-Castaneda** has been proposed for membership by Dave Geenen. Ametra is heading up Community Organizing Activities for the Community Caring Conference in Rock Island.
- **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 for University of Iowa Children's Hospital is underway. We collected \$92 at today's meeting. The donation box will be available at meetings for the next few weeks.
- **Have Items for our Newsletter?** Email items for publication to Bob Swanson at [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net).

## CONGRATULATIONS FEBRUARY ROTARY BIRTHDAYS!

Ardo Holmgrain	February	4
David Geenen	February	5
Mel Rambo	February	9
Tom Hammar	February	27
Christy Filby	February	29



## FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today our raffle featured cash and wine from the Lo Milani cellar. PDG Ruth Lee was our first winner and she took the cash and handed it to our exchange daughter, Agata Burzinska. John Wetzel held the second lucky ticket and took home the wine! Thanks to all who participated!

## Annual Rock Island Rotary Blood Drive



PDG Ruth Lee takes a turn donating

This morning club members, spouses, and friends of Rock Island Rotary gave the gift of life by donating blood. Chaired by Chris Lemon, our Blood Drive committee made arrangements with the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center for a mobile blood drive center in the room adjacent to our meeting room. 18 units were donated. Thanks to all who gave!



Al Metz does his part donating blood

## 50 Things Every Rotarian Should Know About Rotary

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

### 27 - "EVERY ROTARIAN AN EXAMPLE TO YOUTH"

In much of the official literature of Rotary International relating to service to young people, a special slogan will be found - "Every Rotarian an Example to Youth." These words were adopted in 1949 by the Rotary International Board of Directors as an expression of commitment to children and youth in each community in which Rotary clubs exist. Serving young people has long been an important part of the Rotary program.

Youth service projects take many forms around the world. Rotarian sponsor Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, athletic teams, handicapped children's centers, school safety patrols, summer camps, recreation areas, safe driving clinics, county fairs, child care centers and children's hospitals. Many clubs provide vocational counseling, establish youth employment program and promote use of The 4 -Way Test. Increasingly, drug and alcohol abuse prevention projects are being supported by Rotarians.

In every instance, Rotarians have an opportunity to be role model for the young men and women of their community. One learns to serve by observing others. As our youth grow to become adult leaders, it is hoped each will achieve that same desire and spirit to serve future generations of children and youth.

The slogan accepted over 40 years ago, is just as vital today. It is a very thoughtful challenge, "Every Rotarian an Example to Youth."

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

## FOUNDATION MINUTE

Forty-five years ago, Tulsī R. Maharjan came to America from Nepal with hope and a chance for an opportunity. Now and for the past 25 years he along with his son Anil are giving back in the form of humanitarian projects. His club – the Rotary Club of Branchburg and District 7510 in Pennsylvania and New Jersey provides scholarship funds, micro-credit loans and training programs through international grants. These projects partner with many community organizations to create a new network of hope.

In response to the April 2015 earthquake in Nepal they traveled to Nepal with the goal of rebuilding homes. He realized that house building was not enough. For a country that has spent decades dealing with political turmoil and economic instability, they recognized that simply resetting life to what it was, like prior to the earthquake, was only a beginning.

In response, they created The Asha Project; which builds homes to help create stronger families, creates microcredit loans to provide individuals with a prosperous future and provides scholarships for under-represented ethnic groups.

With collaboration from other organizations, they sent eight Rotaract students to volunteer in Nepal and recently welcomed a student from Nepal to complete his master's program in health management funded by a global grant scholarship. They are presently working on several digital divide computer projects to connect students with the outside world.

Patience and persistence have enabled Dr. Maharjan, his son, their clubs and their district to complete many humanitarian projects in Nepal. With such support, hard work and dedication, many children in Nepal will have the opportunity to be what they wish.

Your contribution to The Rotary Foundation provides hope and opportunities for millions of people around the world. Thank you.





# 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@FirstStatell.com

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

