



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



June 27, 2017: Volume XXIV, Issue 51
MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER

PRES. STEVE

Today was the final meeting under the leadership of President, Steve Morenz. President Steve can look back on a very successful and event filled year, in which he moved the Club into new service areas along with enhancing some of our long standing activities. President Steve described the year as "It's been a great year". He also added, "It's a humbling and fulfilling job". He first thanked his wife, Dawn VandeMoortel, and called her the smartest women he has ever known. (Was that because of who she chose to marry?) In his final address to the club Steve thanked his fellow officers, the Board, and all the committees that worked so diligently during his term. He also stated his appreciation to past presidents, John Phillips, Ruth Lee, and Fred Luckenbill for their help and advice during the year. Morenz then elaborated on the contributions made by a long list of club members including Bud Phillis, Bob Swanson, Sam Wray, Lo Milani, Larry Tadlock, Molly Shattuck, Mary Fislar, Dave Geenen, the raffle ticket sellers, and ultimately noted that the success of the club was due to all the members who work diligently toward the goals and principals of Rotary. Steve then provided a month by month review of club highlights during his year as president. Starting in July of 2016 he noted the club's taking on a service project building Trykes for the Mississippi Trykes Foundation and seeing the joy in the faces of the children with disabilities who were given the finished trykes. We also welcomed our exchange daughter, Agata Burzinska, from Poland in July. July and August saw the Rotary Pool Party at the Fislar home and Rotary Night at the Ball Park. In September, the club participated in the Labor Day Parade, with cars carrying our officers, past district governors, and Agata. Current district governor, Scott Shore visited our club in September and held a seminar for our board and officers. In October the Club took over 100 children from Early Hanson School to the pumpkin patch for our annual Pumpkin Palooza. October also saw club members participate in an interclub service project packing meals for the Kids Against Hunger program. A major October highlight was a \$10,000 donation from Sam and Hilde Wray to kick start our international water project. In November Ruth Lee was recognized as a Level III Donor by the International Rotary Foundation. Our November Trivia Night brought in over \$2,200 to the club coffers. December saw our club take the reins of the Reindeer Ramble 5K race, which will now be an annual "Rotary Ramble". Club members rang the bells for the Salvation Army, participated with the RAH Club in a "pub crawl", and celebrated the holidays with a trip to Circa 21 dinner theater. January saw our club participate in the Big Brothers-Big Sisters Putt Around and we also obtained a district grant and hosted a Mobile Food Pantry at the 2nd Baptist Church. In February the club held our annual Blood Drive with Chris Lemon leading the way. We also donated over \$300 to the Jordan School EarlyAct Club for books to be sent to the University of Iowa Children's Hospital. March saw us host our second Dueling Pianos fundraiser which added \$1,200 to the treasury and provided a great evening of fun. We also provided volunteers for the JA BizTown and spent the day with Hanson Elementary students. We presented our annual Bert Blood Scholarships in March; and, began our support of the Heart of Hope Food Pantry. April saw the club win 5 awards at the Rotary District Conference. The Wrays donated another \$10,000 toward our water project, and we hosted our annual Awards Luncheon. In May the high school Incubator entrepreneur program made their final presentations to the club and in June five of our officers/members attended the Rotary International Convention. Yes, Steve, it was a great year! Thank you for an outstanding job!!!



June - July Calendar

June 27 - Steve Morenz – A look at the past year
INSTALLATION of 2017-18 Officers and directors.
July 4 - NO MEETING
July 11 - President Bruce Peterson Looking Forward
July 18 - TBA
July 25 - Lee Vasquez, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce



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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!** Rock Island Rotary was pleased to welcome the following guests at today's meeting: Assistant District Governor and member of the Milan Rotary, Cathy Edwards; Margot Day, a guest of Frank Lambert and the Budget Priorities Committee; Agata Burzinska, our lovely exchange daughter; and visiting Rotarians, Duncan Cameron, from Naples, Florida and Mark Zimmerman from Davenport, Iowa. Rock Island Rotary thanks guests for joining us and hope you enjoyed your visit!

□ **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY #1** – Our Club is partnering with the Heart of Hope Food Pantry. Volunteers are needed Thursdays 6 to 7:30pm just once a month. If evening is a problem a Thursday morning opportunity is also available! Contact Al Metz or Steve Morenz to join our team of volunteers! Used but sound plastic bags are needed too. Don't throw them away, bring them to Rotary!

□ **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY #2** – Rock Island Rotary will be providing manpower for a Mobile Food Pantry at the 2nd Baptist Church in Rock Island. Rotarians are needed from 9:30 until about 1:00pm. 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. As many as 40 volunteers will be needed. Make it a family affair and bring your spouse, family members, and friends.

□ **ROTARY NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK** – On Thursday, July 6th. Rotarians will be treated to a pre-game social, and our newly installed President, Bruce Peterson will throw out the first ball at Modern Woodman Park!! The River Bandits have promised plenty of promotion for Rotary, plus a beautiful evening of baseball, hotdogs, and your favorite outdoor beverages!! I'm told it is \$2 beer night. In all, over fifty Rock Island Rotarians and their families will be in attendance.

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

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY SUPPORTS QUAD CITY ARTS

Rock Island Rotary made a \$500 donation to Quad City Arts in support of their Visiting Artists Program. The Visiting Artist Series is a unique arts residency program that brings professional artists to the Midwest, offering the community the opportunity to see world-class acts representing diverse disciplines at minimal cost. Artists are chosen for their quality and/or educational ability.



Rotary budget priorities chairman, Frank Lambert presents \$500 donation to Margot Day of Quad City Arts.

Outreach performances during the one- or two-week residencies take place mostly in schools. We serve school district in a six-county service region including the Quad Cities. Residencies are designed to reach students of all ages, from preschool to college.

Visiting Artists also perform at business locations, social service organizations, and public facilities. Each residency concludes with a public performance.

The objectives of the series are to provide extended interactions between the artists and the community, to expose and educate student and adult audiences by broadening their understandings of the arts, and to make arts accessible to a wide variety of people

AGATA HEADS HOME!

A few tears were shed as our exchange daughter, Agata Burzinska, said good bye to the club and thanked us for what she described as the “greatest thing that has happened in my life”. After a full year with us, Agata will return to Poland on Saturday. We will miss her broad smile, adorable accent, and bubbly personality. Agata was a real treasure and we hope that her year with us will be an indelible memory for her. Rotarians signed a farewell card and donated over \$160 to make her trip home a bit more memorable. Here’s a few memories of Agata’s time with us:



BIRDIES FOR CHARITY CAMPAIGN ENDS!



Birdies Chairman, Kevin Koski was on hand today and give us the “good” and “bad” news regarding our Birdies. The good news was that we far surpassed the club goal for the amount of funds we hoped to raise. The bad news was that out of our nearly 100 members, less than half made pledges. Our successful dollar total was due to a few members who made substantial contributions. Next year Kevin hopes we will be able to get more members to participate in the annual campaign. He reminded us that a 1¢ per birdie pledge typically ends up being about a \$20 donation which will go to our own Club’s local Foundation. PLUS, the John Deere Foundation adds matching funds (last year a 10% match) so the \$20 becomes \$22! So, if you missed it this year, be sure to join the campaign next year! Thank you, Kevin for chairing a great campaign!



FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's raffle featured a bottle of wine from the Lo Milani Cellar, a beautiful wooden oak bowl made by Dr. Larry Tadlock, and \$50 cash. Assistant Sergeant at Arms, Sam Wray won the cash and gave it to Agata. Rick Devinney won the oak bowl; and Howard Beck had the lucky ticket for the wine.

Thanks to all who participated!

50 Things Every Rotarian Should Know About Rotary

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

47 - SPECIAL ROTARY OBSERVANCES

In the annual Rotary calendar, several months are designated to emphasize major programs of Rotary International.

January is Rotary Awareness Month. This is a time to expand knowledge of Rotary and its activities among our membership and throughout the community.

February is designated as World Understanding Month. This month was chosen because it includes the birthday of Rotary International, February 23. During the month, Rotary clubs are urged to present programs which promote international understanding and goodwill, as well as launch World Community Service projects in other parts of the world.

World Rotaract Week is the week in which March 13 falls. It's a time when Rotary clubs and districts highlight Rotaract by joining in projects with their Rotaract clubs.

April is set aside as Rotary's Magazine Month. Throughout the month, clubs arrange programs and activities which promote the reading and use of THE ROTARIAN magazine and the official regional magazines of Rotary.

August is Membership and Extension Month, a time to focus on Rotary's continuing need for growth, to seek new members and form new clubs.

September is Youth Activities Month. Rotary clubs of the world give special emphasis to the many Rotary-sponsored programs which serve children and young people. During this month, many clubs give increased attention to youth exchange activities.

October is Vocational Service Month. During this period, clubs highlight the importance of the business and professional life of each Rotarian. Special activities promote the vocational avenue of service.

November is selected to be Rotary Foundation Month. Clubs and districts call attention to the programs of The Rotary Foundation and frequently cultivate additional financial support for the Foundation by promoting contributions for Paul Harris Fellows and Sustaining Members.

Each of these special months serves to elevate the awareness among Rotarians of some of the excellent programs of service which occur within the world of Rotary.

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

BUD AND JOHN CELEBRATE THEIR ANNIVERSARY!!

Well, that's not exactly right – Bud Phillis and John Wetzel were married on the same date. Bud to Diane and John to Marcia. Since the two long time Rotarians share the same anniversary date, a number of years ago they began donating a dollar for every year each had been married. The anniversary date occurred this week, so, true to form, both gentlemen ponied up a nice donation to the Rotary Foundation. Thanks guys and we all hope for many more years of marital bliss --- and donations! Thanks!

