



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



July 25, 2017: Volume XXV, Issue 3

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Today's guest speaker was Lee Vasquez, Executive Director of the Greater Quad Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. The first official meeting of Hispanic Chamber took place on Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2008 at Stern Beverage Inc. in Milan. Hispanic owned businesses were invited to play active roles in the creation of the first steps to be taken by the Greater Quad Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. The GQCHCC chairperson, Bob Ontiveros (GroupO founder),



Lee Vasquez

welcomed the guests and shared examples of how he benefited and succeeded in his own business by joining the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He also shared with participants, the wonderful benefits of becoming a member of the GQCHCC. The mission of the organization is to support, promote and enhance the growth and success of local Hispanic businesses and to leverage the community's assets, contributions and unique Hispanic Cultural identity to generate new business. Mr. Vasquez proudly noted that the Quad Cities Hispanic Chamber was the recipient of the 2012 Small Hispanic Chamber of the Year national award. He then provided statistics showing that currently the hispanic population makes up 17% of the US population and is projected to rise to 30% by 2050. He noted that in 1970 the US population was 84% white, and less than one percent latino. By 2050 the projection is that whites will be 46% of the US population, hispanics will be 30%, with african and asians making up the remaining 24%. Vasquez also noted that the average age of the hispanic population is just 27. Locally he said our hispanic population has increased by 33.8% in the period of 2000 to 2010. He noted that a recent poll revealed that in order of importance, hispanics listed 1) Jobs 2) Economy 3) Education 4) Health Care and 5) Immigration, as the most important issues they face. In reviewing the accomplishment of the Hispanic Chamber, Mr. Vasquez mentioned the development of a multi-cultural speaker series co-sponsored with Black Hawk College, Eastern Iowa Community College, and WQPT television. He said the group also sponsors an annual multi-culture networking event that has been highly successful. The principal fundraiser and social event of the group is their annual Holiday Fiesta. The GQCHCC also hosts small business development workshops, programs geared specifically to the female hispanic population and assisting them in creating businesses. The association also provides scholarships and has been experience growth both within the Quad Cities and across the region. Currently there are 200 members of the Hispanic Chamber some as far away at Mt. Pleasant, Muscatine, and Iowa City in Iowa; and, Monmouth and Galesburg in Illinois. He said approximately 50% of their members are small businesses with the other half being large corporations. Thanks to Mr. Vasquez for a very interesting, and to some degree, an eye opening presentation.

July - August Calendar

- July 25 - Lee Vasquez, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Aug 1 - Ben Hammer – Rocky Football
- Aug 8 - LEAD – National Champion Company
- Aug 15 - TBA
- Aug 22 - Board meeting with District Governor. 11am.
- Aug 22 - Dist. Gov. Steven Kuhn
- Aug 29 - TBA
- Sept 5 - TBA
- Sept 12- Jeff Hancks – The WPA
- Sept 12- TBA



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Officers

Bruce Peterson, President
Sue Cassatt, 1st VP
Mark Mayeski, 2nd VP
Anne McGlynn, Secretary
Carrie Crossen, Treasurer
Steve Morenz, Past President

Board Members

Dave Geenen
Jim Nordquist
Molly Shattuck
Al Metz
Tammy Weikert
Sarah Gorham
Justin Peterson
Sara Cross
Co-Sergeant at Arms
Bob Swanson & Vic Boblett

Program Chairs 2017-18

Aug – Sept: Fred Luckenbill
Oct – Nov: Tom Hammar
Dec – Jan: John Wetzell
Feb – Mar: Gary Rowe
Apr – May: Dave Geenen
June – July: Justin Peterson/
Bill Groh

Club Notes & Announcements!

□ **WELCOME GUESTS!** Rock Island Rotary was pleased to welcome visiting Rotarian Duncan Cameron from the Naples Florida Rotary Club and Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport, Iowa Club. Rock Island Rotary thanks guests for joining us and hope you enjoyed your visit!

□ **ON GOING SERVICE OPPORTUNITY** – In Rotary, some members are able to give money, others can give time. Service Above Self can manifest itself in many ways. 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!

□ **NEW ROSTER BOOKS AVAILABLE** – Our 2017-18 Club Roster Book is now available. Members can pick up a copy at the Sergeant At Arms table. One free to each member.

□ **MEETING WITH DISTRICT GOVERNOR** – All Board members will meet with our District Governor at 11am, just prior to our regular meeting on August 22nd. Mark your calendar!

□ **BOARD DONATIONS** - Your Board of Directors authorized a \$100 donation to the Charles O. Austin Scholarship at Rock Island High School in honor of the passing of fellow Rotarian, Chuck Austin; and, a \$100 donation to the Capt. Stephen R. Phillis Scholarship at Alleman High School in honor of the passing of fellow Rotarian, John Neary.

□ **PUMPKIN PALOOZA** – Save October 4th for our annual trip to the Pumpkin Patch with the 1st and 2nd graders from Earl Hanson School. Sponsors are needed. \$100 to be a sponsor. Contact Angela Campbell.

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

Foundation Minute

For the past several weeks the Foundation Minute has presented several global grant recipients within the United States. According to The Rotary Foundation, there were forty last year! And here are several more that deserve recognition:

With the help of The Rotary Club of Pune-Kothrud in India, The Rotary Club of Bridgeport was able to provide Smart Boards to engage 250 students in classroom learning in Bridgeport, Ct.

The Rotary Club of West Hartford Connecticut with the help of The Rotary of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands provided the American School for the Deaf a studio with equipment curriculum materials, and professional development activities for teachers in order to improve literacy to 222 students in West Hartford.

And the Westchester Rotary Club in Los Angeles provided rehabilitation and improvements to the Safe Place for Youth homeless outreach center in order to administer job training and counseling to homeless youth in Los Angeles, California with the financial help of the Rotary Club of Guaynabo, Puerto Rico.

Our Rotary Foundation which turned 100 last year continues to improve the lives and communities all over the world and stands in the forefront of humanitarian service.

Thank you for your support.



FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's raffle featured a hand-turned Dr. Larry Tadlock wood bowl; fine wine from the Lo Milani Collection and CASH! Guest Mark Zimmerman was the first one drawn and he took the bowl. Sara Cross held the second lucky ticket earning her the wine. Mike Locander held the final winner putting the cash in his pocket!

Thanks to all who participated!



SARA TURNS BLUE!

Congratulations to Sara Cross who joined us just this past February and has already completed her new member orientation duties and turned in her new member red badge and received her regular club member blue badge at today's meeting. If you haven't had a chance to meet and chat with Sara be sure to do so at an upcoming meeting!

DON'T FORGET

It's not how much or how often you give. It's being part of the effort!

Your Support Is Needed
International Foundation
Club Foundation
Kenya Water Project
Even a little goes a long way!

50 Things Every Rotarian Should Know About Rotary

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

50 - Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST. The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND. High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH. The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

This completes the 50 Things Every Rotarian Should Know About Rotary. We hope you found it interesting and informative. Perhaps after a break, we'll go back and start through the list again!

ANOTHER TRAGIC LOSS!!

Rotarians were saddened to hear of the passing of our fellow member, John Neary. John joined our club in 1998 and served as our president for the 2002-03 Rotary year. He "mentored" future club presidents, Bob Swanson and Mary Fislar as his 1st and 2nd vice-presidents. John also served on numerous club committees. Tragically, John suffered the passing of his wife, Diane, just two months ago. Funeral services for John will be held at noon tomorrow, Wednesday, July 26th, at Edgewood Baptist Church, Rock Island with visitation 10am until service time.



GIVING MONEY NOT YOUR BAG?

We're very aware that Rotary often seems to be constantly asking for money - and we are. Unfortunately, many of the world's needs can only be solved through the raising and expenditure of many resources. However, we also know that many members have limited resources or may be on fixed incomes that impact our ability to donate as much as we might like. Therefore, Rotary also tries very hard to offer service opportunities that don't require any financial commitment. Here are a few upcoming opportunities our club offers:

1. **On-going food pantry help** – Thursday evenings – requires less than 2 hours. You can help anywhere from once a week to once a year! See Al Metz for details and to volunteer.
2. **Birthday Books** – Once each month we take books to Earl Hanson students celebrating birthdays. This requires less than an hour of time and occurs just once each month. See Anne McGlynn or Molly Shattuck for details and to volunteer.
3. **Pumpkin Palooza** – Help chaperone Earl Hanson kids at the Pumpkin Patch near Alpha, Illinois. Requires 3-4 hours of time and a love of kids, petting zoo animals, and outdoor fun. See Tricia Barron for details and to volunteer.
4. **Trivia Night Committee** – Help plan our Trivia Night, solicit silent auction items, decorate, etc. It's coming up in November. See Kathy Trone for details and to volunteer.
5. **Rotary Ramble** – We will be hosting our first Rotary Ramble 5K run this December as we take over the highly successful Reindeer Ramble previously run by Rotarian Mary Fislar and her Kiwanian spouse. Join the committee for planning or just volunteer to help on race day. See Mike Locander or Jay McEvoy for details and to volunteer.
6. **Salvation Army Bell Ringing** – Just one day in December we will man the Salvation Army kettles and ring the bells. Just a couple of hours required to cover a shift. See Mark Mayeski for details and to volunteer.
7. **Dueling Pianos Fundraiser** – Our major annual fundraiser. Help is needed on the committee to plan the event and to encourage attendance. It is our big March event! See Steve Morenz for details and to volunteer.
8. **FUN Committee** – This committee is charged with planning and hosting periodic fun activities for the club. We need creative people who understand how to have FUN. Sound like you? Contact Steve Morenz to join the committee.
9. **Public Image Committee** – We think we have a good newsletter and website, but we need help with press releases (photos and descriptions of our monthly Jr. Rotarians, promoting our events, and publicizing our good work and accomplishments.) Like to write or have a camera? Want to help? See Bob Swanson for details and to volunteer.

These are just some of the opportunities available to Rotarians for service that doesn't cost anything but a bit of your time and a commitment to serve others.

Find inspiration around every corner at
the 2018 Rotary Convention in Toronto!



June 23-27, 2018

WHEN DID YOU LAST INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN ROTARY?

Our members are the lifeblood of our club. Unfortunately, through job transfers, family relocation, ill health, and death, members are lost every year. It is important for each of us to be on the lookout for new members.

Consider these sources for new members:

- Friends and family members
- Business and professional acquaintances
- Younger community leaders who are already connected to Rotary through Rotaract, RYLA, peace fellowships, Youth Exchange, and other programs

The keys are – ASK and INVITE!!