



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



December 12, 2017: Volume XXV, Issue 24  
MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER

## Dr. Nestor A. Ramirez. President Illinois State Medical Society

Rock Island Rotary had the privilege of hosting Dr. Nestor A. Ramirez. President of the Illinois State Medical Society as our guest speaker. Dr. Ramirez is board certified in pediatrics. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and has an academic appointment as a clinical assistant professor of pediatrics and obstetrics/gynecology at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Urbana-Champaign. Active in ISMS since 1986, Dr. Ramirez serves on its Executive



Committee, previously chaired the International Medical Graduate Section Governing Council, the Council on Economics and the Governmental Affairs Committee. He also served as a member of the Council on Education and Health Workforce. He is a member of the American Medical Association and represents ISMS to the AMA as an Illinois delegate. He is also an active member of the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Champaign County Medical Society. Dr. Ramirez earned his medical degree from Pontifical Xavierian University in Bogotá, Colombia. He completed his internship at Saint Ignatius University Hospital in Bogotá, Colombia and his residency at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and University of Tennessee/Le Bonheur Children's Medical Center in Memphis, Tennessee. Dr. Ramirez chose to concentrate his comments on what he labeled as the most serious medical crisis of our time, that being the Opiate epidemic. He noted that opiates are among the most effective pain killers and fulfill a needed medical purpose, but they are also among the most addictive of all drugs. Opiates come in many forms and under many names, including Heroin. Morphine. OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, Lortab, Codeine, and Fentanyl. Ramirez stated that the Illinois State Medical Society pushed and obtained new legislation entitled the Prescription Monitoring Program, that requires all prescribers, including doctors, dentists, and veterinarians, to complete an online registration of every patient receiving an Opiate prescription. Each time a patient receives such a prescription the date, quantity, and name of the prescribed drug is entered. This will allow doctors to know if a patient has already received opiates from another source and hopefully will help ensure that patients are not prescription shopping and amassing quantities to feed their addiction. Dr. Ramirez said that treatment programs need to be more accessible and that insurance companies need to cover the effective addiction treatment medications that are available, but are also expensive. He noted that other ways of combating the epidemic are available. CVS Pharmacies for instance are limiting dispensing of opiates to a seven day supply, regardless of what the doctor's prescription may say. Individuals can join the fight by properly disposing of old medications that can be used by youngsters hoping for a "high" and inadvertently become a addict. He noted that Illinois has "Take Back" days when old drugs can be turned in. Last year 43,000 pounds of old drugs were turned in, just in Illinois. He also said that insurance companies need to update their directories and include new formularies to ensure that needed addiction fighting drugs are available and covered by health insurance. Finally in questions and answers Dr. Ramirez urged everyone to obtain the influenza vaccine, warning that the disease can be debilitating and even deadly. He also said everyone over 50 should get the shingles vaccine and everyone over 65 should have the pneumonia vaccine, both of which he said are highly effective.

### Dec. - Jan. Calendar

- Dec 19 - "Better Business Bureau of the Quad Cities: Seasonal scams to be aware of."
- Dec 26 - Club Assembly - Led by President Bruce
- Jan 2 - Christian Care, Pam Hauman
- Jan 8 - **MONDAY, JINT MEETING WITH KIWANIS**, Mayor Mike Thoms, Annual "State of the City" address
- Jan 16 - TBA
- Jan 23 - TBA
- Jan 30 - 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 Wetzel  
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 Rotarians Duncan Cameron of the Naples, FL Club, Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Club, and Dougal Nelszn of the Moline Club. Alleman Jr. Rotarian, Emma Williams and Ryan O'Hern attended, as did Rock Island High School Jr. Rotarians, Morgan Janes and Mykeisha Wells. Shelly Wells Cain of the Girls Scouts was a guest of the Club and our Budget Priorities Committee. Danny Miner was a guest of Bill Green; and Carlo Milani was a guest of Lo Milani. Dave DeJaegher, Alleman High School Comptroller was a guest of Fr. Mirabelli. Guests are always welcome at Rock Island Rotary. Prospective members are our favorites!

□ **BUD PHILLIS** is still missing his coat mistakenly taken by another Rotarian a couple of weeks ago. It is a London Fog style coat and has his name inside the right lapel. Please check what you took home!

□ **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY** – 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. The food pantry goes through 160 bags each night!

□ **ANGEL TREE GIFTS WERE** collected today. If you forgot or were unable to bring yours today, you may drop them off at Tom Hammar's Office, 2300 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rock Island, during regular business hours from now until Friday at 4pm. That is the absolute DEADLINE!

□ **BIRTHDAY BOOKS WILL BE A WEEK EARLY THIS MONTH** due to the holidays. We need help THIS THURSDAY, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:15pm! Come hand out books, eat cookies, and enjoy Fred Houlton's harmonica playing. You only need to donate about 30 minutes!

□ **Have Items for our Newsletter?** Email to [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net). If you attend a Rotary event and take pictures, please also email or text them to Bob. The newsletter is much better with lots of photos!

## FOUNDATION MINUTE

**More than 775 million people in the world over the age of 15 are illiterate. That's 17% of the world's adult population. Rotary's goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to support basic education and literacy, to reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy. It accomplishes this by taking action to empower educators to inspire learning at all ages. It supports education through scholarships, donations, and service projects, and it shares its knowledge and experience with educators and other professionals who work with vulnerable populations.**

**Rotarians make amazing things happen by opening girls' schools in Afghanistan to break the cycle of poverty and social imbalance. In the US Rotarians partnered with ProLiteracy Detroit to recruit and train tutors to help the functionally illiterate. And in South Africa, Puerto Rico and the US, educators are taught how to improve literacy by teaching children how to recognize letters by sounds rather than names, and in Lebanon it provided clean water to public schools, so students can be healthier and get a better education.**

**When you teach somebody to read, they have that for a lifetime. It ripples through the community one by one. Your contribution to the Rotary Foundation enables that to happen. Thank you.**

## ROTARY RAMBLE RAISES \$2,400!

Chairman Mike Locander reported that our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Rotary Ramble raised \$2,400.00. Not bad for a first-time effort in a new venture. Mike and his committee did a phenomenal job and it will only get better next year! Not only did we bring in money, but it was FUN too! Be sure to join in next year!





## FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's raffle featured cash, a bottle of fine wine from the Lo Milani Collection, and Girl Scout goodies. The first ticket drawn belonged to Larry Tadlock who selected the wine. Frank Lambert held the second drawn ticket and he took the cash. The final ticket, winning a bag full of Girl Scout Cookies and Candies belonged to Howard Beck. All proceeds from our raffle go to the Rotary Foundation to help carry on Rotary's good work worldwide. A special thanks to the Girl Scouts for donating their bag of holiday treats!

Thanks to all who participated!

## ROTARY SUPPORTS GIRL SCOUTS



Frank Lambert, Budget Priorities Chairman presents our \$500 donation to Shelly Wells Cain representing the local Girl Scouts. The money will be used for their "Outreach" program which serves 500 local girls. Outreach provides an alternative for girls who are unable to attend regular troop meetings or who are unable to afford regular Girls Scout dues. The program comes to the girls at their local schools and includes teaching life skills, leadership, and entrepreneurship. Our funds will help cover the fees to ensure the girls are fully members of the Girls Scouts.

## ROTARY RINGS THE BELL!!

*Rock Island Rotarians took over the Salvation Bells and Kettles this past Saturday at the Rock Island HyVee. Mark Mayeski chaired the project and Rotarians took turns handling the cold, the bells and the kettles. A big "Thanks" to our many volunteers who helped make the holiday season a bit merrier for those less fortunate!*



## ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY 2017

It was good food, good company, a great show, and generally just a wonderful evening as Rotarians and Kiwanis members joined together to celebrate the Holidays at Circa 21 Dinner Playhouse last Wednesday. The group numbered eighty in total, with Kiwanis providing 16 and Rotary accounting for 64. The evening began with a private party in the Salon with complimentary hoers devours of King Shrimp with cocktail sauce, an expansive Vegetable Tray with dip, Crab Rangoon, and Meat Balls in barbeque sauce. Then followed a delicious buffet dinner, the Bootleggers Warm-up Show, and the main stage show, *Elf The Musical*, the story of an infant that crawled into Santa Claus' bag one Christmas eve and was inadvertently taken to the North Pole where he was raised by Santa's elves and didn't discover that he himself was not an elf himself until he was 30 years old. By that time, he towered over all the other residents at the North Pole and wasn't a very good toy maker. Once "Buddy" knew the truth, Santa decided it was in his best interest to return him to his human family in New York City. There the fun began as Buddy's childish antics virtually destroyed Macy's "North Pole" and then his father's office. One by one however he won over and convinces his brother, step-mother, his "strictly business" father and ultimately many residents of New York that Santa Claus is real! The music was fantastic, and the cast did a magnificent job of presenting this light-hearted comedy to an appreciative audience.



### ANGEL TREE GIFTS ON THEIR WAY!

Thanks to the hard work of Molly Shattuck Rotary Angel Tree Gifts were loaded up and on their way to delivery at Earl Hanson Elementary School. Rotary volunteers donated Christmas gifts For 40 deserving youngsters identified by their teachers.

