



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



May 29, 2018: Volume XXV, Issue 48
MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER

“PAT” A DAUGHTER WE’LL NEVER FORGET!



Each Year Rock Island Rotary welcomes a Rotary Exchange son or daughter. For the past nine months it has been our pleasure to host “Pat” (Pitchayapa Rungrueng) as our daughter from Thailand. From the day we met Pat with her broad smile, to seeing her playing the base drum with the Alleman band in the Labor Day Parade, to watching her grow in confidence and poise each week at Rotary, Pat has been a delight for our

entire club. Today it was her turn to take the rostrum and tell us about her year in Rock Island, and her family and life in Thailand. Pat started her presentation holding up a small fan, several shirts, and a pair of pants. She offered them as prizes. First to anyone that noticed what she was wearing. Tom Showalter correctly identified that she was wearing her school uniform from Thailand. Two more prizes were won by Mike Locander and Monta Ponsetto for successfully learning and demonstrating the traditional Tai greeting, folded hands and a quick bow. Pat showed a mixture of photos and videos that gave us a whirlwind tour of Thailand and views of their many temples, beautiful cities, and smiling people. She noted that her home is in Teat, Thailand and that she found attending Alleman High School similar in one respect, uniforms are worn as in Thailand, and much more “liberal” in other respects. In the Tai schools they not only wear uniforms every day, but they also must have their hair tied back in a pony tail, must wear specified socks, skirts must be below the knee, and they may not wear any jewelry. Ear rings and bracelets are not allowed! She displayed photos of the Tai monarchy, including present King Maha Vajiralongkorn Bodindradebayavarangkun (called Rama X) and his father, King Bhumibol Adulyadej also known as Rama IX and “Bhumibol the Great”. Bhumibol reigned for over 70 years prior to his death in 2016 and is considered by the Tai people as the father of their country. Pat noted that both Bhumibol and Vajiralongkorn are loved by the people. Thailand is a founding member of ASEAN and SEATO and remains a major ally of the US. Thailand is considered a regional power in Southeast Asia and a middle power in global affairs. Pat stated that the predominant religion in Thailand is Budism with over 93% of the population. Muslims account for 4% and Christains are about 1%. Pat mentioned that the climate of Thailand is very hot. Common dress for women is a long 1 foot wide strip of silk wrapped around and around the body, often with nothing worn under it. Because of the heat a popular celebration is going to the rivers and streams and splashing water on one another. She also noted that the dress differs in various parts of the country, making it somewhat easy to identify where people are from. Traditional foods in Thailand are pork, rice, fish, and fruits.

Apr – July Calendar

- June 5 - Sarah Stevens – Executive Director, Lead(h)er
- June 12 - Amy Leichsenring – Camp Kesem at Augustana
- June 19 - Liz Nino – Director of International Recruitment and Asst. Director of Admissions, Augustana
- June 26 - President Bruce Peterson
- July 3 - New President – Sue Cassatt
- July 10 - TBD
- July 17 - Cindy Duncan – Ottawa Rotary Club



[continued – Pat – page 3 and 5]



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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 our Exchange daughter Pat Rungrueng as today’s guest speaker. We also welcomed members of her host family, Mike and Samuel Maynard Other visitors included Virginia Houlton, wife of our Fred Houlton; Marvel Green, wife of Bill Green, and Hilde Wray, wife of Sam Wray. Also, a guest at today’s meeting was Amanda Murray our 2918-19 outgoing exchange student Visiting Rotarian Mark Zimmerman a member of the Davenport, Iowa Club also joined us. Guests are always welcome at Rock Island Rotary. Have you invited a prospective member to be your guest? Membership recruitment is a responsibility of all Rotarians!
- NEXT WEEK’S PROGRAM** – Don’t miss next week’s meeting. Amy Leichsenring will be guest speaker talking about Camp Kesem at Augustana College. Don’t know what that is? Be sure to attend to find out!
- SERVICE OPPORTUNITY** – Help is still needed with the Heart of Hope Food Pantry. We help every Thursdays from 6 to 7:30pm. It’s easy duty and is truly Service Above Self at its most basic definition. Contact Al Metz or Steve Morenz to join our team of volunteers! Used but sound plastic bags are needed too.
- ROTARYFEST CARNIVAL ON HOLD**, Unfortunately, we are waiting to find out if A&A Amusements, our carnival provider, will be able to get here for our planned August event. Difficulties hiring drivers caused the company to alert us that our event may be in jeopardy. Keep fingers crossed!
- NEXT WEEK** – Members with June Birthdays will be celebrated.
- Have Items for our Newsletter?** Email to 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 RAFFLE REPORT

Today’s raffle featured fine wine from the Lo Milani Collection a 50/50 cash drawing, and a set of hand turned Elm Candle Holders made by Larry Tadlock. The first ticket drawn was held by Sarah Gorham who took the cash and donated it to exchange daughter Pat. The second winner was Kathy Trone who won the wine. Ruth Lee held the final winner, earning her the Tadlock candle holders. All raffle proceeds go to the Rotary Foundation, for humanitarian work throughout the world. Thank you for participating!

COMMITTEE SIGN-UP FOR NEXT YEAR

President-elect, Sue Cassatt again distributed signup sheets for club committees for the 2018 – 2019 Rotary Year. If you didn’t get one, you can use the form included in this newsletter. Every member is asked to serve on one or more club committees. The signup sheet allows you to pick where you want to serve. Those that don’t turn in sheets will be “assigned” where help is needed. If you want a choice – **FILL OUT AND RETURN YOUR SHEET!**

ROSTER BOOK PHOTOS

Photos for our 2018-2019 Roster Book will be taken before and after next week’s Rotary meeting. There will be one more opportunity for new photos on Tuesday, June 12th. After that everything goes to the printer so that we can have our new books ready for distribution at our July 3rd meeting. If you are a new member or if you have requested a new photo, please have your hair and attire just “just perfect” next week or the following week. See Bob Swanson to get your photo starting at 11:30am each week.

IT'S BIRDIES TIME! - Our Number is 937

Chairman Kevin Koski gave us an update on our Birdies for Charity Drive for 2018. Our club goal this year is 45 pledges for a total of \$2 per birdie. So far 19 Rotarians have made pledges for a total of \$1.15 per birdie. It is time to step it up! You can pledge as little as 1¢ a birdie or just a set amount (\$5, \$10, etc.) Donations to Rotary made through the Birdies program will receive matching funds from the John Deere Foundation. Last year Deere added a 10% bonus to all donations. Every cent you donate comes back to Rock Island Rotary. Get and return pledge forms from Kevin or from the Sergeant at Arms. A \$50 prize will be awarded to the member making the closest Birdie guess!



Foundation Minute

Turkey is home to more than 2.7 million Syrian refugees, according to the United Nations. To promote understanding among Syrian and Turkish schoolchildren, the Rotaract Club of Izmir Ekonomi trained young students to become partners in peace. Working with the Council of Europe, European Law Students' Association, the UN, and child psychologists, the Rotaractors hosted two workshops, asking the children to express their feelings through painting. The artwork revealed that the students had a lot in common. Club members also taught the children conflict resolution skills.

For establishing peaceful relationships in the community, the Izmir Ekonomi club received the 2016-17 Rotaract Outstanding Project Award for Europe, the Middle East and Central Asia.

This is Rotary at work – its mission is to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, good will and PEACE through its fellowship of business, professional and community leaders.

PAT – continued

She said one of the big favorites is Tom Yum Goong, a shrimp soup, which is served spicy and sour. Pat said she has really enjoyed her year in Rock Island and the United States. She has had an opportunity to visit Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis, and Washington, D.C. with her host family. Soon she will embark on the Rotary Youth Exchange West Coast Trip allowing her to see another very different part of our country. While living in Rock Island, Pat found a number of things that she loves to do. She has competed in storytelling, using various “voices” for each character, and has a championship award for her abilities! She also joined the band and learned to play the base drum, snare, drum, xylophone, and her favorite, the cow bell. She had never played any instrument prior to coming here. She played tennis, which she had not tried since being very young and joined the Alleman tennis team. She said she competed in meets, and although she never won, she said it was great fun. In questions following her prepared comments she said that upon returning home she would be attending college and eventually would be working in her family's business, which is operating a fishing vessel. When asked what if anything surprised her about the USA, Pat chuckled and said, “How much we eat!” She said that the day she arrived she was taken to Whitey's for ice cream at 10pm. She had never before eaten anything at night. She also said she loved all our American food and couldn't single out anything as her favorite. Pat said that Lemon Grass Cafe in Moline has very authentic Tai food. Pat was a delight to have with us all year. Next Tuesday will be her last meeting with us. So please be sure to attend and bid her a safe and happy trip home. To make her West Coast trip a bit more enjoyable, President Bruce presented Pat with just over \$225.00 donated by Rock Island Rotarians. We will miss you Pat! *(Rotarians gather around Pat to celebrate her year with us)*



COMMITTEE PREFERENCE SIGNUP FOR 2018-19

We need YOU!

In the 2018-2019 Rotary Year we will have committee meetings

during the regular meeting time once a month

Pick your passion! Enjoy the year! Please complete and return to Sue Cassatt.

Deadline May 29, 2018 in order to accommodate our club directory

Choose as many as like-Tag team with another individual to make it more fun

Name: _____

Program Committee-set up speakers for regular meetings

August-September

October-November

December-January

February-March

April-May

June-July

Blood Drive Committee

Chair-

Committee member-

Membership Committee

Chair-Mark Mayeski

Committee member-

Invocation Committee

Chair-

Committee member-

Awards Luncheon

Chair-

Committee member-

Literacy Committee

Chair-

Committee member-

Rotaract-College students

Chair-

Committee member-

Community Grants Committee

Chair-

Committee member-

Youth Exchange Committee

Chair-

Committee member-

Rotary International Foundation

Chair-Bud Phillis

Committee member-

Rotary International Scholarship

Chair-

Committee member-

Interact/RYLA-High School

Chair-

Committee member-

Earlyact-elementary students

Chair-

Committee member-

Rotary Ramble

Chair-Mike Locander
Committee member-

Earl Hanson Partnership

Chair-
Committee member-

Food Pantry-Heart of Hope

Chair-
Committee member-

Pumpkin Patch Committee

Chair-
Committee member-

Global Projects

Chair-
Committee member-

Rock Island Club Foundation

Chair Development-
Chair Projects/Grant-
Committee member-

Bert Blood Scholarship

Chair-
Committee member-

Nominating Committee

Chair-
Committee member-

Public Image Committee

Chair-
Committee member-

Fun Committee (Socials)

Chair-
Committee member-

RIHS Entrepreneurship

Chair-
Committee member-

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Chair-
Committee member-

Dining Books

Chair-
Committee member-

Trivia Night

Chair-
Committee member

Dueling Pianos

Chair-
Committee member-

Carnival

Chair-Bob Swanson
Committee member-

Birdies for Charity

Chair-Kevin Koski
Committee member-

Service Projects Committee

Chair-
Committee member-

GETTING DOWN TO YOUR LAST CHANCE TO PICK YOUR OWN COMMITTEE(S) OF INTEREST!

BONUS PHOTOS!



Pat with our 2018-19 Rotary Exchange outbound student Amanda Murray and host family brother, Sam Maynard. Note the length of Pat's Tai uniform skirt as compared with Amanda's Alleman skirt.

Pat with Rock Island Rotary Club Exchange Committee member, Molly Shattuck



Pat and Amanda strike a pose as each head off on their new adventures; Pat to the US West Coast and then home to Thailand. Then in August, it will be Amanda's turn to leave her Rock Island home and head to Poland for her Exchange year in Krakow.

