



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



May 8, 2018: Volume XXV, Issue 45

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER

RISE UP!



Immigrants and refugees in trouble with the juvenile court system may be sentenced to gardening. Guest speaker today was Jana Haskins, Rock Island County's chief juvenile officer. In 2016 she noticed the immigrant/refugee surge after recently receiving a promotion to management. There were no such teens in the system about three or four years ago, she said. She couldn't explain why that number

dramatically jumped. Ms. Haskins started looking for a new program to help them. She started reaching out to community organizations, from which the idea to grow a unique "Refugee/Immigrant Services for Empowerment, Unity and Progress" -- or "R.I.S.E. U.P." community garden project sprouted. RiseUP is a 10-week program held at Rock Island plots over the past two years, according to Ms. Haskins. For this year the program has moved to plots at Arrowhead Ranch. In 2016 the program accepted 10 young immigrants/refugees, referred by probation officers, she said. That group had a 60% graduation rate and produced 900 pounds of produce that was donated to Café on Vine meal site. In 2017 the program accepted 11 youth including some non-immigrant/refugees. That group had a 91% graduation rate and produced 1,550 pounds of produce. They expanded their donations to include Youth Hope and R.I. Country Residents through a one day farmer's market held at the County Court House. Youth fulfilling attendance requirements and completing the program will qualify for reduced sentences, Ms. Haskins said. Judges pledged their support. Participants also earn \$10 a day and are given a daily meal as part of the program. "The bulk of the program is supervised and monitored by staff from Broadway Presbyterian Church, 15th Avenue Christian Church and Juvenile Court Services, all of Rock Island". Representatives from a variety of local organizations provide "life-skills" classes every Friday, Ms. Haskins said. The program has a list of 27 different community partners. Class topics range from money management to healthy living. About 90 percent of the produce grown is given to Cafe on Vine, Davenport, which operates a daily meal site in Davenport. Remaining produce is given to other local meal sites, Ms. Haskins said. A flower garden also planted by program participants provides flowers to local churches and nursing homes. The program is presented in six phases: 1) Application and interview; 2) Plot Preparation and Planting; 3) Employment Training; 4) Career Exploration; 5) Leadership Skill Building; and, 6) Business Basics. Does the program work? So far participants improved both school attendance and grade point average. A majority of those that have completed the program have obtained full or part-time employment. Of the initial 10 participants 1 earned their GED, 6 graduated from high school, and 3 went on to college. However; the best statistic is that to date, no youth that has gone through the program has had any further contact with crime! RiseUP is looking for volunteers and/or donations. After getting the land tilled, the next step will require volunteers willing to help plant. Community support was gained from Valley Construction, of Rock Island, who provides water to each site using 300-gallon, portable water tanks, and Rockridge High School's FFA Club donated hundreds of plant. Ms. Haskins is excited to see the program going and growing. She said it gives participants an increased sense of dignity, and plenty of agricultural, life, and employment skills. "The whole idea," she said, "is to show these young people that the community does care for them, and wants to give them the skills to move ahead in life."

Apr – July Calendar

- May 8 - Jana Haskins – RiseUP
- May 15 - Jenni Swanson – Wellness in the work place
- May 19 - Rotary Visioning Session R.I. Police Dept. Community Room, 8am to Noon
- May 22 - Kai Swanson – Rock Island county Forest Preserve
- May 29 - Rotary Exchange Student, Pat Rungrueng
- 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



P.O. Box 4514
 Rock Island, IL 61204
www.rirotary.com

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 to today's meeting Alleman Jr. Rotarians Hunter Love and Will Mihm, along with our Exchange daughter Pat Rungrueng. Rocky Jr. Rotarians present were Jilil Gay, Grace Potratz, and Mackenzie Munday. Our final visitor was soon to be member, Eric Westphall who will be taking over for Kathi Allison as our corporate member representative for Mid American Energy. Kathi's new position with Mid American made it difficult to attend noon meetings, however she has promised to visit us when she can. 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!
- CLUB VISIONING** is scheduled for Saturday, May 19th starting at 8:30am at the Rock Island Police Department Community Room. If you would like to participate in this important planning session, be sure to let President Bruce know. Our Water Filter project came out of our last Visioning session. We'll be done by noon. Be a part of planning our future!
- 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.
- SIGN UP SHEET** to help with our first **ROTARYFEST CARNIVAL**, August 30 – September 2 was circulated again at today's meeting. If you missed signing up, see Bob Swanson or Sue Cassatt. We need your help and your suggestions!
- 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 patriotic Rotary door wreath. The first ticket drawn was held by student, Jilil Gay, who took the cash. The second winner was held by Jeff Dismer who took home the Milani wine. The final winner was Bud Phillis who proudly walked off with the wreath. All raffle proceeds go to support the International Rotary Foundation, carrying on humanitarian work throughout the world.

Thank you for participating!

COMMITTEE SIGN-UP FOR NEXT YEAR

Today, our 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!**

2018-19 CLUB DIRECTORY

A new club directory featuring photos and contact information for all members will be distributed on July 3rd. The information will go to press on May 16th, so between now and then much must be done. In the near future you will receive an email showing what we currently have for you. If you are satisfied with your photo and your information is still correct, just reply "Everything is Okay". If information has changed or if you need/want a new photo, reply "New Photo Please" or "Here is New Info". Photos will be taken at upcoming meetings. Please watch for your email and reply promptly!

IT'S BIRDIES TIME! - Our Number is 937

Kevin Koski is once again heading up our Birdies for Charity Drive for 2018. 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. Our club goal this year is 45 pledges for a total of \$2 per birdie. Kevin reported that to date he has received 15 pledges for a total of \$1 per birdie. So, we're well on our way to the dollar goal, but not so good on the number of pledges received. 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

The Rotary Club of Leogane, Haiti, brought electricity to the Respire Haiti Christian School in Gressier – and with it, education for children and adults. The school serves 500 orphans, disadvantaged children, and restavecs (child domestic servants). For a long time, its six buildings had no electrical power, forcing teachers to rely on the sun as their primary light source and preventing the school from offering evening classes to address the community's high adult illiteracy rate.

Using funds from a Rotary global grant, the Leogane club and its international partner, the Rotary Club of Parker, Colorado, installed a hybrid energy system, featuring locally sourced solar panels, to power lights, computers, and even the school's water pump. Teachers received training in adult literacy instruction so the school could offer evening reading and writing classes in Creole and French. Now both young students and adult learners are receiving the education they deserve.

Your contribution to The Rotary Foundation enables this to happen. Thank you for your support.

Former First Lady Laura Bush to speak at Rotary convention



Former First Lady of the United States Laura Bush, an advocate for literacy, education, and women's rights, will speak at the 2018 Rotary Convention in Toronto this June. For decades Mrs. Bush has fought for key national and global issues including launching groundbreaking education and healthcare programs in the U.S. and abroad. She founded both the Texas Book Festival and the National Book Festival in Washington D.C. As chair of the Women's Initiative at the George W. Bush Institute, Mrs. Bush continues her work on global healthcare innovations, empowering women in emerging democracies, education reform, and supporting men and women who have served in the U.S. military.

Women's healthcare also has been a central issue for Mrs. Bush. Because heart disease is the leading cause of death among American women, she partnered with the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to launch The Heart Truth campaign and Red Dress project. The Heart Truth raises awareness among women about their risk for heart disease.

Mrs. Bush is the author of the bestselling memoir, *Spoken From the Heart*, and bestselling children's book, *Our Great Big Backyard*. She serves on several boards including the National Advisory Board for the Salvation Army, the Council for the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, the Board of Trustees for the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Southern Methodist University Board of Trustees.

ROTARYFEST CARNIVAL

Our first Rotaryfest Carnival will be held August 30 - September 2, 2018. We need help to pull off a successful event. Please review these committee descriptions and next week, signup in an area of your choice. This could potentially be the most lucrative fundraiser in our club's history!

1. **SPONSOR SOLICITATION** – This committee will be in charge of contacting other entities who might agree to be named co-sponsors of Rotaryfest in return for providing needed products and services for the event. Potential co-sponsors include a porta-potty provider, a sign/banner company, a dumpster provider, the City of Rock Island, and the Rock Island Police Benevolent Society.
2. **FAMILY ACTIVITIES** – This committee will determine what, if any, special activities can be offered for toddlers and pre-school children. Could be anything from tricycle races to bean bag tosses, or crawling races. The committee will decide on activities, determine prizes, and run whatever is decided on.
3. **ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES** – Often times extra activities are used to attract more attendance at carnivals. Examples are car shows, craft shows, art shows, etc. This committee will determine what activities we want to include and will make contact with the groups involved and make the arrangements to set up the event.
4. **VOLUNTEERS COORDINATION** – Our only duty during the actual carnival is to provide Rotarians to walk around the carnival and report any issues observed. This might be anything from litter on the ground to unruly behavior. We're not expected to take any action other than to report it to carnival officials. This committee will have the task of establishing a time schedule and signing up volunteers to cover the time slots. Those who help will be given a tee shirt designating them as a Rotaryfest Official.
5. **PUBLICITY/PROMOTION** – This committee will be in charge of distributing carnival posters to area businesses, and to work with television, radio, and print media to promote the event.

Hopefully you spotted an area that peaked your interest and taps into your skills! We need everyone on board to pull this off.

Thank about the areas where you can help and next week when the signup sheet comes around, add your name to make ROTARYFEST a memorable community event!



ROTARYFEST



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-

Food Pantry-Heart of Hope

Chair-
Committee member-

Global Projects

Chair-
Committee member-

Bert Blood Scholarship

Chair-
Committee member-

Public Image Committee

Chair-
Committee member-

RIHS Entrepreneurship

Chair-
Committee member-

Dining Books

Chair-
Committee member-

Dueling Pianos

Chair-
Committee member-

Birdies for Charity

Chair-Kevin Koski
Committee member-

Earl Hanson Partnership

Chair-
Committee member-

Pumpkin Patch Committee

Chair-
Committee member-

Rock Island Club Foundation

Chair Development-
Chair Projects/Grant-
Committee member-

Nominating Committee

Chair-
Committee member-

Fun Committee (Socials)

Chair-
Committee member-

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Chair-
Committee member-

Trivia Night

Chair-
Committee member

Carnival

Chair-Bob Swanson
Committee member-

Service Projects Committee

Chair-
Committee member-