



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



June 12, 2018: Volume XXV, Issue 50
MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



*A child's friend through and beyond
a parent's cancer™*



Brother and sister David and Gloria Nevarez were guest speakers at Rotary today. Gloria is a 2018 graduate of Augustana College with a Degree in Speech Language Pathology. She will be continuing her education at St. Ambrose University in the fall working toward her Master Degree. David just completed his freshman year at Augustana majoring in Bio-Medical Engineering.. Both students, who lost their grandmother to cancer, are very involved with Camp Kesem.

Kesem, is a nationwide community, driven by passionate college student leaders, that supports children through and beyond their parent's cancer. Camp Kesem is the largest national organization dedicated to this unique population – supporting children with innovative, fun-filled programs that foster a lasting community. Kesem provides training, support and leadership development to more than 4,500 passionate college student leaders from coast-to-coast who volunteer year-round to create, manage and run Camp Kesem's life-changing programs in their communities. Camp Kesem at Augustana embraces and supports children affected by a parent's cancer by providing a free summer camp for these children in addition to providing a year round support system for these children and their families. Camp Kesem at Augustana also seeks to empower student leaders to recognize the benefits of civic engagement and being a part of a non-profit organization. For camp this summer, Augustana College's Camp Kesem chapter attracted a record 140 children, all of whom have a parent who has been diagnosed with cancer, is being treated for cancer, or has died from cancer. Camp Kesem started at Stanford University in 2001. Four student leaders there chose the Hebrew word, "Kesem," because it means "magic." Camp Kesem was introduced at Augustana during the 2011-12 school year, by a former Augustana student named Jenna Orabutt. A freshman at Augustana, she drove around the Quad-Cities, trying to explain the camp concept to doctors who treated patients with cancer. Jenna was 9 years old when her mother was treated for cancer. While her mom eventually recovered, Orabutt never forgot the fear she felt. It took her almost two years to get the camp off the ground at Augustana. Camp Kesem is operated out of 86 college chapters in 33 states, including Ohio State University and the University of Illinois. The week long summer camp typically held in July is open to campers 6-16 years old, and there is a counselor-in-training program for older teens. It is free for campers, but Augustana students must raise \$100,000 annually to cover the camp costs. They do this by each counselor taking on the task of raising \$600 individually, and then joining forces to run numerous fundraising activities. The children take a charter bus to the YMCA camp in Boone, Iowa, where they join children from Des Moines and central Iowa. No specific grief counseling is offered, but there is wide encouragement to play and have fun. There is time for reflection during nighttime cabin visits by the college counselors. Each counselor undergoes an intensive training session before working at the camp including viewing and taking tests on over 50 videos. The camp staff will include 60 counselors, 20 volunteer workers, and several nurses. A professional counselor is also on site. The children tend to quickly make friends, and the counselors keep everyone busy. Favorite activities: are "messy games", like paint wars; or ga-ga ball, played like dodge ball. There is a rock-climbing wall, a pool and sports facilities. Great to see young leaders involved in humanitarian work.

June – July Calendar

- June 19 - Liz Nino – Director of International Recruitment and Asst. Director of Admissions, Augustana
- June 19 - 5:30 Meeting at City Limits re: Orientation & New Members
- June 26 - President Bruce Peterson
- July 3 - New President – Sue Cassatt
- July 10 - TBA
- July 17 - Cindy Duncan – Ottawa Rotary Club
- July 24 - TBA
- July 31 - TBA
- Aug 7 - TBA
- Aug 14 - Tony McCombie
- Aug 21 - Club Assembly



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 several guests to today's meeting. Visiting Rotarian included, Duncan Cameron from the Naples, Florida Club and Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Club. Virginia Houlton was a guest of hubby Fred. Brian Williams of WQPT was a guest of our Community Grants Committee. Membership recruitment is a responsibility of all Rotarians!
- ☐ **NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM** – Don't miss next week's meeting. Liz Nino – Director of International Recruitment at Augustana will present our program.
- ☐ **OPEN TABLE DISCUSSION** our new member orientation and mentoring programs. Can they be better? Tuesday, June 19th at 5:30 at City Limits Saloon/Restaurant.
- ☐ **DO YOU ENJOY THE FRIENDLY GREETING YOU RECEIVE WHEN YOU ENTER OUR ROTARY MEETINGS?** We think it is an important part of our fellowship, but unfortunately our cupboard is nearly bare. Members volunteer to serve as greeters and our list is almost empty. All that is required is arriving a few minutes early for a meeting and putting your hand out and giving a friendly smile. See Sam Wray at the Sergeant's table to sign up for a future meeting.
- ☐ **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY** – Help is needed with the Heart of Hope Food Pantry. Loyal helpers Al Metz and Steve Morenz will be unavailable this month, so we need help! Thursdays from 6 to 7:30pm is all that is required. If you can help one Thursday in June it will be greatly appreciated. It's easy duty and is truly Service Above Self at its most basic definition. Contact Al Metz or Steve Morenz to volunteer. Used plastic bags are needed too.
- ☐ **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 door wreath donated by Bud Phillis. The first ticket drawn was held by Julie Gelaude who took the cash and donated it to the Rotary International Foundation. Bill Stengel have a super lucky day holding the winning tickets for both the wine and the wreath. Keep in mind, all raffle proceeds go to the Rotary International Foundation helping to fund humanitarian projects throughout the world. Thank you for participating!

IT'S BIRDIES TIME! - Our Number is 937

Our Birdies for Charity Drive for 2018 is moving into the last few weeks for making pledges. Our club goal this year is 45 pledges for a total of \$2 per birdie. At last count we were below halfway on our number of pledges goal, but well over halfway toward our total dollar goal. What we need now is support from many more members. You can pledge as little as 1¢ a birdie or even less by making a set amount pledge (\$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 along with the Deere Foundation bonus! Get and return pledge forms from Kevin Koski or from the Sergeant at Arms. A \$50 prize will be awarded to the member making the closest Birdie guess to the actual number of birdies scored.!



Foundation Minute

What Is the Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund? It is the primary source of unrestricted support for the programs of The Rotary Foundation. From digging clean water wells for villages in Africa to teaching basic literacy skills to children in Latin America, during any given moment in a day, thousands of Rotarians volunteer their time and expertise to ensure that all contributions given to the Annual Fund are spent wisely on quality Rotary projects.

In the 2016-17 Rotary year, a record US \$140.2million was donated to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund. Rotarians completed over 30,000 Rotary service projects and dedicated 24.3 million hours to volunteering in the communities that need us most.

The Annual Fund is comprised of donations from Rotarians, friends of Rotary corporations, and workplace giving vehicles. These donations can be matched by corporate gifts to leverage donations. There is even an online resource that allows Rotarians to see if their company has a charitable matching program ... check it out a Rotary.org/matchinggifts.

Your generosity has made it possible for Rotarians to stay hard at work Doing Good in the World. You have until June 30 to make your gift for 2017-18. If you haven't contributed this year - please do so - and give generously.

ROTARY STEPS UP FOR WQPT

WQPT is our regional PBS outlet serving the Quad Cities, Eastern Iowa, and Western Illinois. Today, Frank Lambert, Chairman of our Community Grants Committee present a check for \$750 to Brian Williams of WQPT in support of their *PBS KIDS Raising Readers* program, a national literacy campaign, and part of the Ready To Learn initiative, focused on building reading skills at home, at school, in child care, and in the community. The Ready To Learn initiative is developing engaging PBS KIDS Raising Readers television programs, exciting games, playful Web sites, and easy-to-use learning resources for kids, parents, caregivers, and teachers—all with the goal of helping children ages 2 to 8 get ready to read. The program also provides each child with five free books each year.



HAVE IDEAS ABOUT HOW TO MAKE OUR NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION AND MENTORING PROGRAMS BETTER?



If so, or if you are just willing to help make the programs better, be sure to attend our open table discussion at the City Limits Restaurant on June 19th (next Tuesday) at 5:30pm. President-elect, Sue Cassatt will lead the discussion and is looking for creative ideas and helpful critique. Recruiting new members and retaining those that we have is critical to the continued health of our club. Join Sue, next Tuesday at 5:30 at City Limits. Food and beverage will be available for those that want it on a "buy your own" basis. See you at the Limits!

Sam and Bud Get Sentimental

Last week our speaker told us about the Lead(h)er organization that strives to help women reach their personal and professional goals through a strong mentoring program. Sam and Bud rose today to make donations to our Foundation in honor of Motherhood, noting that stay-at-home moms and raising children is one of the most noble and important careers for women.



Bud and Sam with two of their favorite "mothers", Hilde Wray and Diane Phillis. Both happy couples have enjoyed more than 60 years of raising their children together!

A few weeks ago, the Rotary District 6420 Conference was held in DeKalb. Our president, Bruce Peterson was invited to make a presentation about our Kenya Water Filter Project. Bruce packed up our demo filter, attended the Conference and made a great presentation. Also attending the conference as one of the featured speakers was Teresa A. Wasonga, a Fulbright scholar and 2016 NIU Presidential Engagement Professor. She is also the recipient of 2017 MU College of Education Alumni Outstanding Professional Achievement Award. She is co-founder of an all-girls boarding secondary school in her native country Kenya. The school educates indigent girls who would otherwise not access secondary education. Mrs. Wasonga listened carefully to Bruce's presentation and the more he talked the greater her excitement grew. After the program she approached Ruth Lee who as District Foundation Chair had introduced Bruce and told her that the one critical problem her school in Kenya faced was a total lack of clean, safe water. She asked if it might be possible for our club to assist her school. Ruth was very impressed with Mrs. Wasonga and agreed to make some inquiries. Ruth asked if we could contact Replenish, Inc., to see if they would deliver filters to Mrs. Wasonga's remote school in Kenya.



Teresa A. Wasonga

The answer came back "YES", but Replenish needed the exact location of the school, the number of students attending, and the name of the current school master. Ruth got all the information requested and Replenish determined that it would take three filters to service all the girls in the school. Ruth wrote a check to purchase three filters and they were ordered as part of our most recent order. Today we received the pictures shown below with confirmation that our filters have been delivered to Mrs. Wasonga's school. From a founder of a school in Kenya serving as a guest lecturer at Northern Illinois University, attending a Rotary District Conference as a guest speaker, who just by chance heard about a Rock Island Rotary Club project, and turning that into the reality of more than 200 young school girls attending the Jane Adeny Memorial School (JAMS) in Muhoroni, Kenya, finally have access to clean, sanitary, water. Rotary works in many mysterious and magical ways.

MORE GOOD NEWS

Past District Governor and loyal Rock Island Rotarian, Fred Houlton and wife Virginia, recently became the 11th Rock Island Rotarian to personally donate the entire cost (\$350) of one or more Lifestraw Community water filters for deliver to children in remote parts of Kenya. In addition, the Rock Island Rotary Club purchased three filters, and numerous other Rock Island Rotarians and the Rock Island Rotary Club Foundation have made contributions toward the purchase of a filter. Because of the Houlton's generosity, 70 children in a rural school in Kenya will have access to clean, safe water. Thanks Fred and Virginia.



PDG Freed Houlton



ROTARY NIGHT AT MODERN WOODMEN PARK



Thursday, July 19, 2018 6:35 vs. South Bend Cubs
PRE-CAME MIXER ON THE FORD DECK BEGINNING AT 5:00 PM

Tickets can be purchased at our Rotary meetings
Friends and family welcome to attend the event

MARK YOUR CALENDAR