



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



August 21, 2018: Volume XXVI, Issue 8  
MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER

## CLUB ASSEMBLY

Today Rock Island Rotary held our first Club Assembly under the leadership of President, Sue Cassatt. Sue took us through the work done by members of our club who participated in the Visioning Seminar held last May 19<sup>th</sup>. There members of our club faced the questions: 1) Where is our club now? 2) Where do we want to be in five years? The session guided by the District Visioning Chairman helped us develop a long-range plan for Rock Island Rotary. Look at where we want to be in five years, President Sue named four general goals: 1) Be a Key Player in Rock Island Development, 2) Be Recognized as a Leader in the Community, 3) Have a strong mentoring program in our club and the community, 4) Grow the club to a minimum of 125 members. Within our members the goal is to have multi-sector membership that reflects the diversity of our community. The goal is also to have excellent programs that foster professional and social growth. Being recognized as an "Agent for change" with substantial community involvement is another aspiration for our club. Looking at how we go about accomplishing these goals Sue noted that we need an active and interactive newsletter, website, and social media presence. We need to offer professional development opportunities for our members. We also need to build a strong corporate membership program. Our club also aspires to interact with other Quad City area clubs and organizations recognizing that more can be accomplished through working together. The vision participants also felt that having a strong member retention program is a must, as is having exciting and dynamic weekly programs. Sue also mentioned that developing a program to assist struggling students in our community is needed to go along with the many programs we have that recognize the extremely outstanding students. Regarding some of our current projects, the group felt that we need to strengthen and grow support for our RYLA and Interact programs. There is also a desire to expand both the high school Entrepreneur Program and our Earl Hanson involvement. In the area of community service, the group set goals of becoming the sponsor of a girls' softball teams, and that we partner and teach as advocates for adults and children in the community. Developing partnerships to resolve unmet community needs and being seen as a desired partner by others, are also priorities. The group felt our members should also wear our club shirts and other club gear to become more visible and recognized in the community. Regarding the "new generation", it was felt that we should work to expand Interact, Rotaract, and Earlyact. Sue noted that Carla Thies has agreed to head up the Rocky Interact Club, Bud Phillis has agreed to mentor the Jordan Earlyact Club, and Bruce Peterson is working to strengthen our ties with the Augustana College Rotaract group. Like these leaders, Sue hopes to assign key individuals to champion various projects to ensure successful results. She hopes to also encourage both utilization and contributions to Rotary International funds. Plans also include continuing our support for the Rotary Youth Exchange program with one inbound and two to four outbound students each year. In the area of international service, goals included adopting a sister club in a foreign nation, providing assistance and support for refugees that locate in the Quad Cities, developing a strong program of maintaining contact with our past exchange students, and encouraging some of our members to participate in the Rotary Friendship Exchange. For fundraising the planners set a goal of raising \$100,000 per year and to do so not just by our own contributions, but by involving the entire community in our fundraising projects. Finally, Sue said that every club member needs to understand the importance of fundraising and all need to participate both with their treasure and talent. To encourage member support of the club, the group suggested adding a line item on our dues statements where we can add a charitable contribution. The Club will also provide more encouragement and information on making testamentary gifts to the club. They will also ask that club members receive periodic Paul Harris Fellow status statements, so members will know exactly what they have given and how much more is needed to earn PHF recognition. Finally, President Sue said the goal is to have a press release for each project the club undertakes. The plan also calls on us to develop a public image plan to ensure. T It is also hoped that a phone app can be development to help maintain better contact with our members. It is apparent that our members worked hard at the visioning seminar, accomplished much, and gave us a challenging plan for the future. Thank you Sue for laying it all out for us. [We have a nice photo of Sue but no space to use it!]

### August - October Calendar

- Aug 28 - Ruth Lee – Rotary Foundation
- Sept 4 - Amy Trimble, Watermark Corners
- Sept 11- State of the Schools, Dr. Mike Oberhaus, (with Kiwanis)
- Sept 18- Ken Massey, CEO and Pres., Modern Woodmen
- Sept 25- Tony McCombie, State of the State
- Oct 2 - Gwen Tomberg, President QC Storm Hockey Team
- Oct 9 - Paul Rumler, Quad City Chamber
- Oct 30 - Caitlin Russell, Russell Construction



P.O. Box 4514  
Rock Island, IL 61204  
[www.rirotary.com](http://www.rirotary.com)

## Officers

Sue Cassatt, President  
Mark Mayeski, 1st VP  
Angela Campbell, 2nd VP  
Anne McGlynn, Secretary  
Carrie Crossen, Treasurer  
Bruce Peterson, Past Pres.  
Co-Sergeant at Arms  
Bob Swanson & Vic Boblett

## Board Members

Rick Emery  
Sarah Gorham  
Kathy Lelonek  
John Oliger  
Justin Peterson  
Molly Shattuck  
Bill Stengel  
Tammy Weikert

## Program Chairs 2018-19

Aug – Sept: Stan Coin  
Oct – Nov: Mike Locander  
Dec – Jan: John Wetzel  
Feb – Mar: TBA  
Apr – May: Gary Rowe  
June – July: TBA

# Club Notes & Announcements!

- **WELCOME GUESTS!** Rock Island Rotary was pleased to welcome Alex Kelly, a prospective member from the Corn Crib, a guest of Mike Locander. Also, in attendance was new Rock Island High School Principal and a prospective member, Jeff Whitaker, a guest of Karla Thies. We had one visiting Rotarian today, Duncan Cameron from the Naples, Florida Club. Rock Island Rotary enjoys welcoming guests to our meetings. Next week invite a friend to Rotary.
- **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY** – Help is still needed with the Heart of Hope Food Pantry. We help every Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:30pm. It's easy duty and is truly Service Above Self at its most basic definition. Volunteers have been scarce lately, so please contact Al Metz to join our team of volunteers! Used but sound plastic bags are needed too. Call Al Metz to help at 309-236-2013.
- **NEW GUEST/MEMBERSHIP BROCHURES**, printed courtesy of John Oliger and Modern Woodmen, were distributed last week. If you didn't take one or two, you are forgetting your member recruiting duties! Get a few from the Sergeant at Arms and use them! They are excellent to hand to anyone you think might be a potential new member. Every member should have several! Bring a guest next week!
- **NEW MEMBER APPLICANT** - Alex Kelly, an employee of the Corn Crib Nursery, the areas largest nursery and garden center has applied for club membership. Send comments or questions to President Cassatt or 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Mark Mayeski.
- **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!



## FRED'S INFLUENCE STILL FELT!

Last year, Fred Luckenbill gave new Past District Governor Scott Shore a stunning bracelet with bells on, so everyone would be able to keep track of him since he no longer had his busy District Governor schedule. This past week at the district's annual Past District Governor event, Steve Kuhn was welcomed as the newest Past District Governor. In all, twelve Past District Governors, including our own Ruth Lee, attended the "PDG Reunion". Scott passed the Fred bracelet on to Steve. Thanks to Fred, it looks like this tradition might continue for many years into the future!

## FOUNDATION RAFFLE REPORT



Today's raffle featured fine wine from the Lo Milani Collection and a 50/50 cash drawing. The first lucky ticket was held by Marcy Bell, who took the cash and donated it to Polio Plus. The second lucky ticket was held by Bill Stengel who took home a bottle of Lo Milani's best! Keep in mind, all raffle proceeds go to support the International Rotary Foundation which helps ensure that Rotary can continue humanitarian work throughout the world. Thank you to all who participated!

## QUAD CITY DINING BOOKS ARE BACK!



Bud Phillis has the new Quad City Dining Books available for purchase from Rotary. Cost is \$35 per book. With over 150 restaurants represented you're sure to find your favorites along with new places to try. If you only use **the** Circa 21 coupon the savings more than pays for the book! For every book sold our Club receives \$10. Look at all the establishments you can visit and save at least half off! They also make excellent gifts for friends and family member. Everyone enjoys eating out so why not save half price each time you go and help fundraise for Rock Island Rotary at the same time!

## Foundation Minute

The Rotary Foundation has a unique funding cycle that utilizes contributions for programs three years after they are received. The three-year cycle gives districts time for program planning and participant selections, and allows The Rotary Foundation to invest the contributions. The earnings from those investments help pay for the Foundation's administration, program operations and fund development costs.

At the end of the three-year period – say in 2021-22, ½ of district's contribution made in Rotary year 2018 – 19 is returned to the district for district projects while the other half is placed in the World Fund which is used to match project expenses and support the fight to eradicate polio.

This approach of using donations wisely has won a four-star rating from Charity Navigator for many years.

Please consider supporting The Rotary Foundation now and get involved in planning future projects. Thank you.

## A WORD ABOUT MEMBERSHIP

As the pace of the world speeds up and technology becomes a bigger part of everyday life and families with both partners working becomes the norm; churches, social organizations, and service clubs such as ours struggle to maintain membership. Fewer members means less dues collected and fewer people sharing in fundraising projects. You probably have noticed that even our club has experienced more than a 20% loss of members over the past four year. Bottom line, activities and budgets suffer; and being able to fund our committees and activities as we have in the past is threatened. But let's not take this **sitting down!**

It's time for all of us (and I do mean all) to get up and do something to preserve and grow Rock Island Rotary. Here's a way to start: **EVERY MEMBER, INVITE A MEMBER.** Between now and Thanksgiving let's all commit to invite at least 1 prospective member to join us for lunch. It can be a friend, neighbor, work associate, relative, or acquaintance. Time to stop sitting!

## WINE RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE



All club members are asked to join in our Wine Raffle Fundraiser. Tickets are just \$5 or five for \$20. First prize is \$750 worth of wine of the winners choosing. 2nd place is \$500 and 3rd place \$250. The wine is being provided by the Grape Life Wine Store & Lounge. Cash prizes are available if the winner lives too far away to come select their wines. The winners will be drawn at our fall Rotary Trivia Night on November 9<sup>th</sup>. We don't need you to just buy tickets, we need you to sell them! To continue making grants to worthy community organizations and projects, we need to fundraise. Ruth explained how if just fifty of our members (about half the club) sell \$100 worth of tickets we will bring in \$5,000. If fifty members sell \$200 in tickets we earn \$10,000! We need every member to take tickets and sell to friends, family, and associates!!



## **PUMPKIN PALOOZA IS FAST APPROACHING!**

It's that time of year again when Rock Island Rotary prepares to treat all the Kindergarten and first graders from Earl Hanson Elementary School to a day at the Pumpkin Patch. All the kids get a tee shirt, lunch, petting zoo tour, hayrack ride, adventures through the corn maze, panning for "gems", and a ride on the wild cow train! The date is October 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rotarian volunteers are needed to help with the kids and to join in the fun. But our chances to get involved go beyond spending time with the kids. Event sponsors are also needed. For a donation of \$100 your business or family name will be printed on the tee shirts that the kids will wear throughout the year. It's some of the best priced advertising and good will you can buy! Contact Mike Locander or Trisha Barron to be a sponsor or to volunteer to help on Palooza day.



## **MENTORS NEEDED**

For every new Rotarian we need an existing member to act as their mentor. Essentially you "show them the ropes" and help them learn what Rotary is all about and help them get involved. Perhaps the most important duty of a mentor is to be a friend to a new member. How about helping! Sign up to be a mentor at the Sergeants at Arms table.

## **Dueling Pianos Committee Needs Members**

Although the event doesn't happen until March, plans are underway for this year's Rock Island Rotary Dueling Pianos Fundraiser. Right now, what we need are a few more committee members to help ensure this year's event will be the best yet! Not a lot of time is involved, just your ideas, suggestions, and help in putting a great night of fun together. Contact Sue Cassatt if you will help.

## **First Birthday Books of The Year**

LOTS of help is needed for our first of the year Earl Hanson School Birthday Books presentation. We include children with birthdays in July and August so upwards of 60 kids will be receiving books. We need twice as many Rotarians as usual to sign the books and hand them out. Please arrive at the school by 2:15. You'll be all done by 3pm. It's a fun job and a great service. Please join Molly and lend a hand!



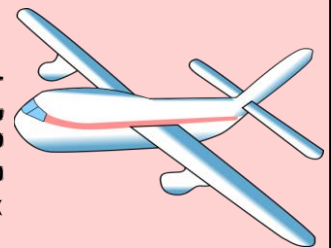
## **LABOR DAY PARADE**

Rotary will be in the Rock Island Labor Day Parade on Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Parade Steps off at 9:30 with line up starting at 8:30. Our officers and Exchange Daughter will be featured. All members are welcome to walk, skate, or bike with us. Meet at the American Bank parking lot 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 38<sup>th</sup> Street.



## **JOIN THE WELCOMING PARTY!!**

**OUR ROTARY INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE DAUGHTER, ROCIO ROBELLEDO, WILL ARRIVE FROM CHILE THIS THURSDAY, AUGUST 23<sup>RD</sup> AT 10:38AM. IF YOU'RE AVAILABLE, ROTARIANS ARE URGED TO MEET AT THE QUAD CITY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT 10:15 TO FORM A WELCOMING PARTY FOR ROCIO. THIS WILL ALL BE NEW AND STRANGE FOR HER AND A GROUP OF FRIENDLY FACES WILL LET HER KNOW HOW WELCOME SHE WILL BE IN ROCK ISLAND. LOOK FOR JEFF DISMER AT THE AIRPORT THIS THURSDAY!**



## **BE PREPARED**

In the near future help will be needed immediately after a regular meeting to package items for our District Grant project in support of "Breaking Traffik". Breaking Traffik provides education and services to survivors of human trafficking. Braking Traffik is dedicated to eradicating sex trafficking in the Iowa and Illinois Quad Cities. We will be providing personal supplies for use in responding to and caring for victims.

**ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CLUB  
WHY DO WE HAVE FUNDRAISERS?  
RUTH'S PERSPECTIVE - August 2018**

It has become apparent to me that the answer to that question might be very different depending upon whom I ask. Some say fundraisers allow us to have funds to support the many service projects our club undertakes every year. Some might respond that fundraisers are meant to foster friendships and interactions among club members. Some might even say that the purpose is to provide us a way to involve our families and friends in Rotary activities. Further, we might have fundraisers to raise awareness in our community about Rotary and the importance of Rotary clubs. From experience, I can certainly say that some Rotarians believe we have fundraisers simply to annoy them or "guilt" them into contributing (I can also say that there are some who don't even succumb to the guilt prod, and I'm pretty good at that!).

Ever since the pork sandwich fundraiser went away years ago, we have been searching for a way to raise a significant amount of funds without unduly burdening the people who plan and carry out the fundraiser. I can say that the pork sandwich fundraiser did indeed promote lasting friendships, give members a great sense of accomplishment, take a lot of planning and work, and raise funds.

When I first heard from a dear Rotary friend in another area about the very successful annual wine raffle in which she is involved, I immediately thought, "What a great idea!" It doesn't have a lot of overhead - printing the tickets, and covering the cost of the prizes. It doesn't take hundreds of hours of volunteer labor to plan and carry out. It can be a fun way to talk to others about Rotary and what we do. For some, the best part is that if, for example, a person takes five (5) packs of five (5) tickets each and sells them for a total of \$100.00, the seller (Rotarian) can contribute mightily to our success and not even spend a dime out of his/her own pocket. It's like Tom Sawyer recruiting others to paint the fence! Now, I do hope all our members will participate personally; I'm just saying that you don't have to.

How can we make our Wine Raffle successful?

1. Establish a personal goal to sell at least \$100 in tickets (5 packs of 5).
2. Talk to non-Rotarians that you know - work, colleagues, friends, family, neighbors, fellow poker players, book club members, etc.
3. Recruit a family member(s), to assist you. Spouses and significant others know people, too!
4. As a Rock Island Rotarian, make your purchase.

**BE THE INSPIRATION!**