



BE THE INSPIRATION

Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

August 7, 2018: Volume XXVI, Issue 6

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Easier.

Guest speaker at today's Rock Island Rotary meeting was Ben Leischner, entering his third month as Executive Director of the Quad City International Airport. He was selected from a pool of 37 applicants for the job. "I am very excited to join the Metropolitan Airport Authority of Rock Island County and to partner with the Board in the continued success of Quad City International Airport," said Mr. Leischner. "I am very impressed by the people and the community the airport serves and I look forward to partnering with



local leaders in pursuing regional initiatives that increase services for the community." Leischner spent the past 14 years working for the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Aviation Management and Flight Operations from Florida Institute of Technology and a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Nebraska. Mr. Leischner is an Accredited Airport Executive (A.A.E.) from the American Association of Airport Executives and is a commercial instrument pilot. He and his wife, two daughters, and a son on the way purchased a home in Milan and his girls are attending Jefferson Elementary School. Leischner said his move to the Quad Cities was spurred by a desire to have more community involvement and time for family. In Seattle his commute was 2 hours daily and he noted that there is really no "community" atmosphere in a big city. He thought the Quad Cities is a "right sized community". He characterized it as, "Small enough to be five minutes from everything and big enough to get lost in." The Quad City Airport faces a number of challenges when it comes to funding and keeping passengers in the Quad Cities as opposed to flying out of Chicago. He said the challenge is to make it profitable for airlines to fly out of the Quad Cities. He said our airport "overhead" costs for the airlines is about \$10 per passenger. An airport of our size should have costs at \$2-\$4 Leischner said. Bringing in more revenue and controlling costs are on his priority list. He said cutting costs and bringing in revenue go hand in hand. For instance vacant space in the airport terminal and grounds "costs" the Airport Authority. If they can fill vacant space and make use of airport property, the income generated offsets costs so fees charged the airline companies can be reduced. Leischner also spoke of bringing new airlines to the Quad City International Airport. He says he would love to see more airlines and more service out of the Quad Cities again noting that it must be profitable for the companies. He said that Southwest Airlines has contacted him about possibly coming to the airport in the future, but nothing has been talked about seriously as of yet. United, American, Delta, and Allegiant are the four airlines that fly out of the Quad Cities. He said they provide good service and connect with hubs that allow Quad City passengers to go just about anywhere with one stop. He said he would love to see service to Seattle which is the major hub for travel to Asia. Currently Quad City Travelers can fly direct to Chicago, Atlanta, Detroit, Phoenix, Las Vegas, Minneapolis, Denver, Dallas, Orlando, St. Petersburg, and Ft. Myers. When asked where the Airport gets it's funding Mr. Leischner stated that tases are a relatively small part of their budget. Most income comes from userfees from the airlines, land leases, and concession/vendors in the airport terminal. Ben Leischner appears to be an outstanding choice to head up the Quad City International Airport and will provide strong leadership for future growth and great customer service.

July - August Calendar

- Aug 7 - Ben Leischner, QC Airport Executive Director
- Aug 14 - Erik Elsea, Mississippi Shelter Box Expedition
- Aug 21 - Club Assembly
- 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



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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 Olinger
 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. Cathie Rochau was also a guest of Mike. Danny Miner was a guest of Bill Green. We had two visiting Rotarians today, Duncan Cameron from the Naples, Florida Club and Roger Strandlund from the Moline Club. Rock Island Rotary- enjoys welcoming guests to our meetings. Have you invited a prospective member to be your guest? Membership recruitment is a responsibility of all Rotarians!

☐ **NEW GUEST/MEMBERSHIP BROCHURES**, printed courtesy of John Olinger 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!

☐ **2018-19 ROSTER DISTRIBUTION** – The new 2018-19 Roster Books were again available today. If you didn't get yours, you can pick one up at the Sergeant at Arms table at next Tuesday's meeting.

☐ **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.

☐ **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!

OUR ROTARIAN AUGUST BIRTHDAYS!

August was a very good month for birthdays, with 15 of our members celebrating.

| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| Jay McEvoy | August 2 | Monta Ponsetto | August 4 |
| Dan McNeil | August 9 | Pat Cunningham | August 9 |
| Jennifer Hirsch | August 10 | Marcy Bell | August 11 |
| Mary Fislar | August 11 | Bud Phillis | August 12 |
| Tricia Barron | August 15 | John Daly | August 19 |
| Duncan Cameron | August 19 | Jim Nordquist | August 21 |
| Ben Farrar | August 24 | Carrie Crossen | August 25 |
| Julie Gelaude | August 29 | Bruce Peterson | August 30 |



SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR EARL HANSON NEEDED



We began collecting school supplies for children at Earl Hanson Elementary School at today's meeting. Donations will be collected again next Tuesday. Rotary wants to help children in need have all the supplies needed for a successful school year. Please join the effort and bring a few items to next week's meeting. Items needed are book bags, No. 2 pencils, crayons, glue sticks, spiral notebooks (elementary, not college ruled), kids round nosed scissors, rulers, pencil bags, and any other items you see that would be helpful for a kindergarten through 6th grade aged child.

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 Tricia Barron, who opted for the cash and then donated it to our local Rotary Club Foundation. The second lucky ticket was held by Ruth Lee who gladly accepted the wine. Our ticket sellers, Al and Marcy did a super job raising \$100 today! 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!

Foundation Minute

Ricardo Roman was shopping with his wife at a department store in Chile in 2012 when a woman in her early 20s approached him. He didn't recognize her – for two good reasons – he had last seen her more than a decade earlier and her smile had changed drastically!

Roman, a member of the Rotary Club of Renaca, Chile, is the national coordinator of a program that has helped thousands of children in Chile with cleft lips, palates, and other birth defects – including this stranger who now wanted to give Roman a hug.

She told me, "This is my Rotarian smile," Roman recalls, his voice full of emotion, "It was a very gratifying moment."

Since 1993 Rotarians in Chile and the United States have teamed up to provide life-altering reconstructive surgeries. The project was started by California Rotarians and has evolved into a nonprofit organization that has since sent teams to 26 countries.

This is another example of Rotary's People of Action and how Rotarian's ability to give works! Thank you

MOLINE ROTARY SPORTS DAY

MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2018

**Oakwood Country Club
1067 US Highway 6
Coal Valley, IL**

Rock Island Rotary is Invited to Participate!

Registration/Lunch - 11:30

Golf - 1:00 (Shot-Gun Start)

Note that the event will be played with a preferred ball scramble format.

Costs: \$65.00 - Golf, cart, sleeve of balls and prizes. **\$15.00** – Lunch for non-members

Make payment at the Outing, checks payable to the Moline Rotary Club.

Lunch will include grilled burgers, pork chop sandwiches, assorted condiments, potato salad, pasta salad, cookies and brownies, ice tea and coffee. A cash bar will be available.

Please fill out and return this form as we need an accurate count to give to the Club.

ROTARY SPORTS DAY

Please Indicate Yes No

I will have lunch () ()

I will play golf () ()

Sorry, I can't attend ()

NAME _____

(please print)

Rest of foursome, if you have one.

Please note any guests you are inviting. If you do not have a foursome for golf, we will arrange for you to be part of a foursome

PLEASE TURN IN AT A MEETING,
MAIL, FAX OR E-MAIL TO:

Dennis Kelly
Kelly & Associates-Architecture

3800 Archer Drive
East Moline, IL 61244

309-751-3026
309-751-3028 Fax

dkelly@kellyarchitecture.com

DENNIS KELLY

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS AUGUST 21, 2018

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 fundraise for Rock Island Rotary at the same time!

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 3rd 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.



WINE RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE



President Sue announced today that tickets for our first ever Wine Raffle Fundraiser are now available. All members are asked to help promote and sell tickets. First prize is \$750 worth of wine of the winners choosing. 2nd place is \$500 and 3rd place \$250. Wine will be 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 9th. Tickets are just \$5 or five for \$20. We need to sell lots of tickets! All members are encouraged to not only purchase tickets, but to take a packet and sell to your not-Rotarian friends and associated. We need the entire Club to pitch in on this.

DUNCAN CAMERON IS THE FIRST IN THE "SPOTLIGHT"

Today we had our first 5-Minute Spotlight presentation by Duncan Cameron who told us of his adventures at the Major League Baseball All Star Games. Proceeds of the first game in 1933 were donated to the Tribune Children's Charities. Duncan noted the parallel of both Rotary and the All-Star game being born in Chicago and both aimed at service and charitable work. Duncan has gone to every All Star game since 1983, that game was held in Chicago at Comiskey Park (now a parking lot for the new stadium) Duncan also noted how the event has grown from the first game to the current game which now includes five days of activities including the "Futures Game" which previews minor league stars, the Commissioners Party, the Home Run Derby, a Pre-Game Party, a Fan fest with vendors of baseball equipment and memorabilia, and ending with the All Star Game. Thanks Duncan for an informative and fun kickoff to our weekly member Spotlight!