



BE THE INSPIRATION

Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

September 25, 2018: Volume XXVI, Issue 13

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



STATE OF THE STATE



Tony McCombie is a Republican member of the Illinois House of Representatives, representing the 71st district which includes Carroll, Henry, Rock Island and Whiteside counties in northwestern Illinois. McCombie was born and raised in Savanna and received her Bachelor's Degree from Western Illinois University. She is a businesswoman, operating Blue Appraisals and is self-employed in the real estate industry as a broker with Mel Foster Company. She lives in Savanna with her husband, Curt. She sits on the Business & Occupational Licenses; Business Incentives for Local Communities; Cities & Villages; Elementary & Secondary Education School Curriculum Policies; Tourism, Hospitality, and Craft Industries; and the Transportation: Regulation, Roads & Bridges committees. Prior to her election to the Illinois House of Representatives, she served as Mayor of Savanna, Illinois and as a Savanna Councilwoman. Rep. McCombie noted that Illinois went 31 months without a budget which made her first year in the legislature atypical. She noted that the "hate level" was at its highest. During her second year (this current year) a budget was passed by a 100 to 18 vote indicating fairly wide bi-partisan support. After that she stated the atmosphere, collaboration and level of work accomplished was much better. She reported that the state funded education at levels promised in the past, but never carried out. Additional funds were provided for higher education, including funds for capital improvements and repairs to state university facilities. The state is beginning to pay bills owed for past debts, including salaries owed to state employees. Of particular interest to McCombie's home district (Savanna, IL area) was obtaining the release of habitat funds. These funds are collected as part of hunting licenses and are held for use in protecting and improving habitat for Illinois wildlife. The funds had been accumulating for years but had never been released. Similarly, snowmobile funds collected as part of the licensing fees for snowmobiles was also released. Releasing these funds benefited local economies as much of the funds were spent primarily with local businesses. McCombie also reported that an "adoption credit" was enacted to assist and encourage adoptions. McCombie stated that getting Illinois turned around financially involves both increasing revenues and decreasing spending. Noting that a substantial tax increase was enacted last year, McCombie said that part of the equation is done. Now we need to work on improving our state agencies and work more efficiently. She said expenditures need to be reviewed line by line with full transparency. "Some people say, "That's only a few million here and a few million there, but added together and over time, it will amount to a great deal of money". When asked what part of her job she enjoyed the most, Rep. McCombie said working in her district. "I've met many people and learned about businesses in my district that I had driven past for years. I have truly enjoyed learning what all is going on in our area. She said that the Springfield part of the job is the least enjoyable. Asked what Illinois can do to improve our economy, McCombie said that reform of our workmen's compensation system, and tort law reform are the most important. She also said she support term limit, but says that is so political it probably won't be done. Thanks Tony for an informative program!

August - October Calendar

- Oct 2 - Membership Committee
11:30
- Oct 2 - Gwen Tombergs Quad City Storm Hockey
- Oct 3 - Pumpkin Palooza
- Oct 9 - Paul Rumler CEO & President of the Quad City Chamber
- Oct 16 - Donna Honold - Emotional Intelligence
- Oct 23 - Alternate Fuels Forum - Progressive Action for the Common Good
- Oct 30 - Caitlin Russell - Russell Construction
- Nov 6 - James Jones - Economic Growth Corporation - Home buying Resources
- Nov 13 - Dr. Jennifer Palar - Business Education at Augustana
- Nov 20 - Mike Locander - "Go with the Flow"
- Nov 27 - Rock Island High School Orchestra - Katie Benson



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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 a number of guests to today’s meeting. Our exchange daughter, Rocio Robolledo Hernandez (Sheño), was present along with Rock Island Junior Rotarian, Emily Loughlin. Alleman Junior Rotarians, Alexandra Cajigal, and Sydney Heller also attended. Jim Jannes was a guest of Stan Coin. Ted Pappas was a guest of Rick Devinney. Liz Buckwalter and Christine Lee, members of Rep. McCombie’s staff joined us along with two visiting Rotarians, Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Club and Duncan Cameron from the Naples, FL Club. Rock Island Rotary enjoys welcoming guests to our meetings. Have you invited a prospective member to be your guest?

☐ **PLEASE SIGN-UP NOW FOR OUR HOLIDAY PARTY** – To ensure we block the right number of seats, please sign-up now for our December 5th Circa 21 holiday party to see “Annie”. No money is needed to sign up. Just let Bob Swanson know that you are going to go and how many seats you need. See Bob at the Sergeant’s Table to sign up. No money needed until November.

☐ **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.

☐ **ESTABLISHMENT THEATER** – October 24 Fundraiser for Polio Plus. Save the date and watch for details!

☐ **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!

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!

FOUNDATION RAFFLE REPORT



Today’s raffle featured fine wine from the Lo Milani Collection, a Dr. Larry Tadlock Walnut Bowl, and a 50/50 cash drawing. The first lucky ticket was held by Bud Phillis, who opted for the cash and donated it to the Rotary Foundation. The second lucky ticket was held by Mike Locander who took the Tadlock bowl. Our final winner was Steve Morenz who took home a delicious bottle of Lo Milani’s best Cabernet Sauvignon. Keep in mind, all raffle proceeds go to support the International Rotary Foundation.

Thank you to all who participated!

BIRTHDAY BOOKS

Rotarians are needed **this Thursday** for the September Birthday Book Celebration at Earl Hanson Elementary School. You will experience the fun of signing and giving away books to the children celebrating their birthdays during the month of September. Refreshments will also be provided. Please arrive at 2:15. You will love seeing the smiles and hearing the giggles of the kids and will be done and on your way by 3pm. Meet Holly Shattuck at the school.



Foundation Minute

In 2009, Salvador Rico stood in the waters of the Russian River in Northern California with other members of the Rotary Club of South Ukiah. They were there for a river clean-up, during which they removed toilets, refrigerators, car parts, and garbage.

After participating in the Russian River cleanup, Rico's thoughts turned to the Ameca River which flows past his father's farm in western Mexico. That was where his oldest sister contracted polio which killed her in the 1960s. He also thought of another river, the Lerma, which carried trash and toxic waste from Guadalajara.

With the help of Rotary clubs in Mexico and California cleanups were organized and the project eventually expanded to become Cleaning the Rivers of the World which has challenged Rotary clubs across the globe to clean up a river. The initiative has been adopted by the Water and Sanitation Rotarian Action Group as well as the Environmental Sustainability Action Group that have initiated cleanup projects in Colombia, India, Nigeria, Peru, Turkey and Venezuela, Mexico and in the US.

Your contribution to the Rotary Foundation supports this project and helps sustain a better world. Thank you.

PUMPKIN PALOOZA IS NEXT WEEK!

Next Wednesday we treat all the Kindergarten and first graders from Earl Hanson Elementary School to a day at the Pumpkin Patch on Rt. 150 just north of Alpha, IL. 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! Rotarians are needed to help ensure the kids have a fun and safe time. Please arrive at the Pumpkin Patch by 9:15am and look for Trisha Barron Contact or Mike Locander. You'll have a lot of fun and will be all done by 12:45. See you on Wednesday!



WINE RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE



Tickets for our Wine Raffle Fundraiser are available from President, Sue Cassatt. 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 non-Rotarian friends and associates. We need the entire Club to pitch in on this. Sold some? Sell some more!!!



Rock Island Rotary TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday, November 9th at 6:30pm

SAVE the DATE and get your team together for Rock Island Rotary's annual fundraiser! Cash prizes, cash bar, 50/50, silent auction and TONS of FUN with MR. TRIVIA!!!

SIGN UP SHEET AT NEXT WEEK'S MEETING!

This fundraiser supports Earl Hanson Elementary School.

When: Friday, November 9th, 2017

Where: Milan Community Center, 2701 1st Street East, Milan

Time: 6:30pm START time, doors open at 5:45pm

Cost: \$100 a table, up to 8 players at a table

RSVP: Kathy Trone 309-794-9400 or Kathy@wesselspc.com

The Rock Island Rotary Club is challenging all other Rotary Clubs in the QC Area to participate and TRY to win the "Traveling Trophy" for the SMARTEST ROTARY CLUB!

The *Wine Raffle* winner will be announced at the event. Don't know what that is? Haven't bought a ticket? Win up to \$750 worth of wine. One ticket \$5, 5 tickets for \$20

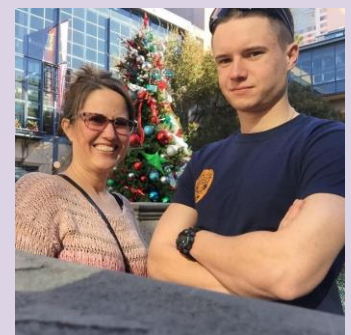
Our Newest Paul Harris Fellow!



Kyle Wilson

Kyle Wilson, son of Rock Island Rotarian Tammy Weikert was honored today as our most recent Paul Harris Fellow. The award was accepted by Tammy on behalf of son, Kyle who is serving in the United States Navy in Europe.

Tammy also urged her fellow Rotarians to contact Bud Phillis and consider setting up an automatic withdrawal for the Rotary Foundation. She said it is a painless and quick way to become a Paul Harris Fellow or to honor a loved one by bestowing the Paul Harris Fellow designation on them. You can designate the amount you want to have deducted and Rotary will take care of the record keeping. Congratulations to Kyle and thanks to a very proud and thoughtful mom, Tammy, for honoring him!



Tammy & Kyle

SAVE THE DATE
ROTARY/KIWANIS
HOLIDAY PARTY



Wednesday, December 5th

RESERVE YOUR SEATS WITH BOB SWANSON AT THE SERGEANT'S TABLE
Tickets Just \$61.21 For two with Dining Book Coupon
Includes Pre-Show Salon Party with Kiwanis No Money due until November!

CLUB SECRETARY HONORED

Anne McGlynn, our hard-working club secretary was honored today, not for her great work as secretary, but for 10 years of perfect Rotary attendance! Unfortunately, Anne was not present to receive her award. [A bit of humor there]. Actually, Anne was at our meeting but had another commitment and had to leave before we got around to her award. At any rate, Bud Phillis will have it for you next week! Anne has been a tireless member of our club, serving as our President during our Centennial year and presiding over our \$100,000 fund drive in support of the Botanical Center's Children's Garden. Congratulation on the honor and thank you for your dedication to Rock Island Rotary!



Third Annual *End Polio Now* Walk
Centennial Park in Rock Falls

Saturday, October 13, 2018

Registration from 8:15 – 9:00 a.m. at Larson Shelter.

T-shirt will be given for a \$20 donation, while supply lasts. Public is invited to walk.

All donations to End Polio Now.

An Iron Lung will be on display from 8:00 a.m. –noon.

Sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Dixon, Sterling Noon, Twin Cities Sunrise, and Rock Falls.

How about a few Rock Island Rotarians joining the walk!