



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



October 2, 2018: Volume XXVI, Issue 14

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Gwen Tombergs president of the Quad-City Storm, the new hockey franchise that will debut in the Southern Professional Hockey League in October was our featured speaker at today's meeting of the Rock Island Rotary. A native of Eldridge, Tombergs said. "I can't tell you how proud I am that I had the skill set that fit, but to say I can make a difference in my own hometown with a product that's going to be embraced and has a lot of support already, it's pretty huge in my book." Tombergs is the first female president in the 23-year history of Quad-City hockey as well as in the 14-year history of the SPHL. Tombergs has been involved with sports throughout her career. She worked as the director of ticket sales development with the New York Mets and also had roles with the Quad-City Thunder back in the CBA days, as well as with the Richmond Renegades, a former ECHL team. Most recently she worked at Quad-Cities Chamber of Commerce, serving as the director of resource and member development. She became aware of the opportunity with the Storm when TaxSlayer Center executive director Scott Mullen inquired about posting the job opening on the commerce website. Her experience and her long background with the community could provide opportunities to quickly make inroads with corporate sponsors. The Storm already have a base established by the former Quad-City Mallards. With the season opening just days away, Tombergs knows what challenges face the Storm. She has plenty of ideas about how to make sure the Storm succeed where teams before them failed. She plans to take cues from what the Quad-Cities River Bandits and Quad-City Steamwheelers have done, particularly community involvement and a strong focus on marketing and in-game entertainment. "I was trained to do big and I have the 'wow factor' mentality and that's what I want to bring back," Tombergs said. "What they've done over there (with the Bandits and Steamwheelers) shows me what I can do here." Opening night for the new team is Saturday, October 20th. Tombergs said they have carefully analyzed why prior Hockey franchises in the Quad Cities have struggled and believe they have put together a formula for success. First, they have local ownership. The co-owners are John Dawson and Ryan Mosley. Both are long time Quad City residents, as is Tombergs. Second they understand they must offer more than a hockey game. It must be a fun filled evening of entertainment. They intend to have many giveaways, promotions, contests, and a Kids Zone, in addition to high quality hockey. Tombergs guaranteed an evening of fun entertainment, and asked, "Just give me one night". She is confident a person who attends once will want to come back and will invite others to join the fun. See you at the TaxSlayer Center!

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 24 - World Polio Day – 7:00pm Establishment Theater Fundraiser
- Oct 30 - Caitlin Russell - Russell Construction
- Nov 6 - James Jones - Economic Growth Corporation - Home buying Resources
- Nov 9 - Rotary Trivia Night
- Nov 10 - Rotary District Foundation Dinner.
- 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 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 a number of guests to today's meeting. Our exchange daughter, Rocio Robolledo Hernandez (Sheëo), was present along with Alleman Jr. Rotarians Faith Pickslay and Haley Mosley, and Rock Island Junior Rotarian, Emily Loughlin. Sue Rector from Augustana College was a guest of Bud Phillis. Ted Pappas was a guest of Rick Devinney. We had three visiting Rotarians, Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Club, Duncan Cameron from the Naples, FL Club, and Sarah Balkovek from the Twin Cities RAH 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 four tickets to opening night of the Storm Hockey team, fine wine from the Lo Milani Collection, and a 50/50 cash drawing. The first lucky ticket was held by Mike Locander, who snatched the hockey tickets. The second lucky ticket was held by Bob Swanson who opted for the cash and donated it to the Rotary Foundation. Our final winner was Tom Showalter 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!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Just two Rotarians are celebrating their birthdays in October. January must not be a very romantic month! But two special guys do call October their birth month:

Steve Morenz October 8
Sam Doak October 27

Happy Birthday Guys!



Foundation Minute

Rotary is dedicated to six areas of focus in order to build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world. Three of these focus areas are:

1. Promoting peace: Rotary encourages conversations to foster understanding within and across cultures. We train adults and young leaders to prevent and mediate conflict and help refugees who have fled dangerous areas.
2. Fighting disease: We educate and equip communities to stop the spread of life-threatening diseases like polio, HIV/AIDS, and malaria. We improve and expand access to low-cost and free health care in developing areas. AND
3. Providing clean water, sanitation, and hygiene: We support local solutions to bring clean water, sanitation, and hygiene to more people every day. We don't just build wells and walk away. We share our expertise with community leaders and educators to make sure our projects succeed long-term.

Learn about the other three next week! Your contribution to the Rotary Foundation enables this to happen. Thank you.

PUMPKIN PALOOZA IS TOMORROW!

Tomorrow (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. 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 or Mike Locander. You'll have a lot of fun and will be all done by 12:45. See you on Wednesday!



SAVE THE DATE

We will have our holiday club bell ringing (through Salvation Army) on Saturday, **December 1st from 9am to 3pm at the Rock Island HyVee**. Mark Mayeski will once again chair the project. We will start asking for volunteers in November. Rock Island Rotary has been a long-time volunteer for holiday season bell ringing. The bell ringing season starts each November and runs through Christmas Eve, when the red kettles are packed away for the season. Volunteers are the difference between an empty kettle and one that raises about \$60 per hour – enough to provide two families with two bags of groceries; or shelter two individuals for a night. All money dropped in the red kettle stays in our local community!



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

WE NEED TO SELL WINE RAFFLE TICKETS!



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!!!

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!



Wednesday October 24th, 2018

Celebrate Rotary's Success working to end Polio

5:30 pm – 9:00 pm

The Establishment – 220 19th street Rock Island, IL



Guys in Ties Show time starts at 7:00 pm

Open to the Public All ages welcome

Get your \$15 tickets today! 309 – 786 – 1111
(50% of ticket sales goes to Polio Fund)

You can order your tickets through Mike Locander. Call or see him at Rotary

NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

Corporate Member Application: **City of Rock Island**

Primary Member – Mike Thoms, Mayor

Alt. Member – Stephanie Masson, Finance Director

Alt. Member – Randy Tweet, City Manager

Alt. Member – Chandler Poole, Community Economic Development Director

Please direct comments to President Sue Cassatt or 1st Vice Pres. Mark Mayeski

CONGRATULATIONS STAN AND KAY COIN 60 YEARS OF MARITAL BLISS!



And 65 years in Rock Island Rotary!

Thank You From Amanda:



Dear Rock Island Rotary,

I am writing today to thank you for your continued support, and incredible donation to me to go on this Austrian ski trip. The amount donated is so much more than expected and on behalf of my parents and I, I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your help with the payment for this incredible opportunity. On the ski trip I will get a chance to travel to Austria, seeing more of this beautiful world, and I will be able to learn, and get better at skiing. I will also be making great new relationships with more people around the world.

The whole experience will be amazing, and I couldn't thank you enough. Your thoughtfulness and support through my endeavors has been amazing and it is making me never want to come home! (In a Good way) Again thank you for this incredible opportunity to see more of the world and I am looking forward to telling you about my experience!

Sincerely,
Amanda Murray



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!



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Cindy Gramenz stepped into the Club spotlight today. Cindy joined our club in May of this year. She is the Grant Writer and Development Director for Christian Care, and organization that has served our community for over 100 years. Cindy told us that Christian Care runs a support facility for men. They have 36 beds with 6 reserved for veterans and 3 reserved for men in the Rock Island County drug rehabilitation program. In addition to providing shelter for the homeless, Christian Care also provides a meal site seven days a week, three times a day which served over 47,000 meals last year. Cindy noted that most homelessness is related to mental health and drug abuse issues. For that reason, Christian Care has formed partnerships with the Rock Island County Council on Addictions, and with Trinity Medical Center who visits the facility during meal hours and provides preventative health care to those in need. Locally Cindy reported that there are approximately 450 “homeless” per night in the Quad Cities. She said many of those are in shelters or other temporary arrangements. The number actually living on the streets is significantly less than the 450 often cited a homeless in the Quad Cities. Thank you Cindy for an excellent, brief introduction to you and what you do.



Sheëo (Rocio Robolledo Hernandez) Presents Banners

Our Rotary International Exchange daughter, Sheëo presented our club with Club banners from her home Rotary Clubs in Chile. Past President, Bruce Peterson has been working to find us a willing seamstress who can incorporate Sheëo’s banners with others we have received into a new large wall banner we can display at our meetings. Thank you Sheëo, who took the occasion to thank us over and over for making her year with us possible. She noted that she loves her school (Rocky), her host family, our community, and our state. We love you too!



IMPORTANT MEETINGS NEXT TUESDAY

The **Community Grants Committee** will meet next week at 11:15am just prior to our regular Rotary meeting. Members Ardo Holmgrain, Kevin Koski, Jeff Dismer, Steve Morenz, Jim Moran, and Marcy Bell should join chairman Frank Lambert at Table 11 next Tuesday. Meeting starts at 11:15!

The **Trivia Night Committee** will meet next week immediately after our regular meeting. Thinking you’re not on that committee – your right – and that’s the problem! The committee needs members and your help. Join Kathy Trone and Sue Cassatt and help plan the event fast approaching on November 9th. This is one of our main fundraisers for the year so please plan to stay after next week’s meeting and help!

ROTARY DISTRICT 6420
ANNUAL FOUNDATION DINNER
NOVEMBER 10, 2018
BRANDYWINE BANQUET CENTER, DIXON IL
REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____
CLUB: _____
GUEST NAMES: _____
EMAIL: _____
PHONE: _____

MEAL SELECTION:	Salmon/Rice/ Vegies	Wild Mushroom Risotto/Vegies	Chicken Marsala/ Rice/Vegies
1ST PERSON	_____	_____	_____
2ND PERSON	_____	_____	_____
3RD PERSON	_____	_____	_____
4TH PERSON	_____	_____	_____

Please note any dietary restrictions:

PAYMENT: \$37.50/person

Cash \$ _____

Check \$ _____ Payable to Rotary District 6420/Foundation

Credit Card Name _____
 Number _____
 Expiration Date _____
 Security Code _____

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 3, 2018

MAIL PAPER REGISTRATION FORMS WITH PAYMENT TO:

Betty Clementz, District Secretary
21762 Manton Road
Sterling IL 61081

Simple Tentative Agenda:

4:00-5:00 p.m. View project displays/social time
5:00-6:30 p.m. Introductions/Dinner
6:30-8:00 p.m. Recognition of Donors
 Project Presentations