



BE THE INSPIRATION

Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

October 30, 2018: Volume XXVI, Issue 18

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



CAITLIN RUSSELL Senior Vice President of Russell was the featured speaker at today's meeting of the Rock Island Rotary Club. After working at Pepper Construction (Chicago) and Waldinger Corp. (Des Moines), Caitlin joined the Russell team in 2009 as a Project Engineer and became a Project Manager shortly after. In the last few years, she has transitioned from construction operations to real estate development leadership, and last July she was promoted to Vice President of the company.

Caitlin graduated from Arizona State University with a Construction Management degree and later earned an MBA from the University of Iowa. Along with this, she holds an Iowa Real Estate Broker license and is an accredited Certified Commercial Investment Manager (CCIM). This past January, she was honored as one of the YWCA's 100 Years Top 100 Honorees due to her significant contributions to the community through empowerment and economic advancement. She proudly serves on the board of directors of United Way, Junior Achievement of the Heartland and the Genesis Foundation. Caitlin and her husband Nic Brandt have two children: Theo (2) and Eden (1). Her present role with Russell Construction calls for Caitlin to deal with numerous issues related to property acquisition, use and management. She works on land purchase terms, lease rates, obtaining necessary bank financing, structuring lease agreements and analyzing construction costs for projects. The Russell Company does not tie their business future solely to the Quad-City area. They worked with Deere on projects in North Dakota, Canada, Nashville, Miami and Wisconsin. With 25 project managers and 25 project engineers, the company has the capacity to manage multiple projects throughout the Midwest. They employ close to 150 staff members with 80 working at headquarters. In 2016 Russell Company entered a partnership to explore, in cooperation with the City of Bettendorf, the long-sought goal of redeveloping Bettendorf's downtown district. Russell also announced the acquisition of The Lodge hotel complex and will undertake redevelopment of that 8.42-acre site. Caitlin is closely involved in these pending projects, which will redefine key commercial corridors in the Bettendorf community. Caitlin stated that her dad started the company then known as Russell Construction Company in 1983 when he was unable to find a job coming out of college. Five years into the business his financial advisors suggested he close the company. He did not and today the company, known simply as "Russell" operates in 31 states with over \$150 million in revenue. The company has always been community oriented and has donated back over a million dollars to our community. Russell employees are encouraged to be involved in the community and are given time off for that involvement. Ms. Russell said the company name change was to reflect that they now do much more than construction and have become an active and leading developer of projects. She presented a slide show of numerous Russell projects highlighting those in the Quad Cities, including the new Hanson Hall at Augustana. One "coming soon" project is the redevelopment of the former Jumers Lodge Hotel site in Davenport. Soon going up on the razed site will be a new Home2 Suites by Hilton. Home2 is a more affordable, all-suite extended-stay hotel featuring contemporary accommodations and customizable guest room design. It will compete with Marriott TownePlace and InterContinental Hotels. Russell said that about 60% of their work is in the Quad Cities with projects averaging four to five million in cost.

October - December Calendar

- Oct 30 - Caitlin Russell - Russell Construction
- Nov 6 - James Jones - Economic Growth Corporation - Home buying Resources
- Nov 9 - Rotary Trivia Night
- 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
- Dec 1 - Bell Ringing - HyVee
- Dec 4 - Rock Island High School Chamber Choir
- Dec 5 - Rotary/Kiwanis Holiday Party at Circa 21



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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 Wetzal
 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 Rocky Jr. Rotarian, Monica Diaz. Alleman Jr. Rotarians, Chloe Boyd and Pierre Azar joined us. Kimberly Calhoun was a guest of Mary Fislar. Mary McNeil was a guest of hubby, Dan McNeil. Patrick Adamson was a guest of the Club, representing the Establishment Theater. Mark Zimmerman, a member of the Davenport Club was our only visiting Rotarian. Have you invited a prospective member to be your guest? Next week would be a great opportunity!

☐ **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. We are still taking reservations. 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.

☐ **ATTENTION TRIVIA BUFFS.** Ruth Lee has half a table and needs four more folks to join her winning team. Contact Ruth immediately!

☐ **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!

SUPPLY SOLD OUT!

BUD CONTEMPLATING ORDERING MORE



All of our Dining Books are gone; however, we are suspicious that some of you who signed up for our Circa 21 Holiday Party or who intend to sign up have not yet bought a book. The Book cost is \$35. If you only use the Circa 21 coupon and attend our party, the savings more than pays for the book! Plus, you get buy one get one free coupons for over 150 restaurants in the Quad Cities. For every book sold our Club receives \$10. Dining Books 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 50/50 cash drawing, and a \$50 gift certificate from the Green Auto Group that can be used for any service. The first lucky ticket was held by Gary Rowe who took the cash and donated it to our Club Foundation. John Oliger had the second lucky ticket and he took the wine. Jeff Dismer had the final winning ticket and he will have his car serviced at any of the three Green Auto locations in the Quad Cities.

Keep in mind, all raffle proceeds go to support the International Rotary Foundation.

Thank you to all who participated!

Foundation Minute

Projects that were accomplished through Rotary's global grants in the USA:

1. Dental Equipment and oral healthcare services were provided by Rotarians to low-income residents in Ventura, City, California.
2. In Pittsburgh, PA and Richmond, California, Rotary provided free longitudinal care for 75 patients at two Rotacare Free medical clinics.
3. It provided a baseball clinic with a focus on teamwork and anti-bullying among youngsters ages 7-16 in Yonkers, New York.
4. It developed and implemented a school based dental model within two schools in Cabell County, West Virginia.
5. And it created a "Kids Club Literary Project" to promote age/grade level reading for children living in Loveland Housing Authority apartments in Loveland, Colorado.

These projects had a budget of over \$30,000 and were initiated by clubs and districts within the United States with financial support from countries outside the US. Your contribution to The Rotary Foundation enabled this to happen.

Thank you. Ruth Lee, District Foundation Chair

SAVE THE DATE ROTARY/KIWANIS HOLIDAY PARTY



Wednesday, December 5th

**Ticket includes: Pre-Show Salon Party with
Complimentary Hoers Devours and Cash Bar (5:00-6pm)
Buffet Dinner (5:45-7:00pm)
Bootleggers Warm-up Show (7:15pm)
Annie (7:30pm)**

One Admission	\$49.75
Two Admissions	\$99.50
Two <u>with Dining Book Coupon</u>	\$61.21

Tip included (not including deserts & bar)

Circa Subscriber? Pay Just \$3.50 per person for gratuity

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!



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

RUTH LEE HAS HALF A TABLE AND NEEDS PLAYERS – CALL RUTH!

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!



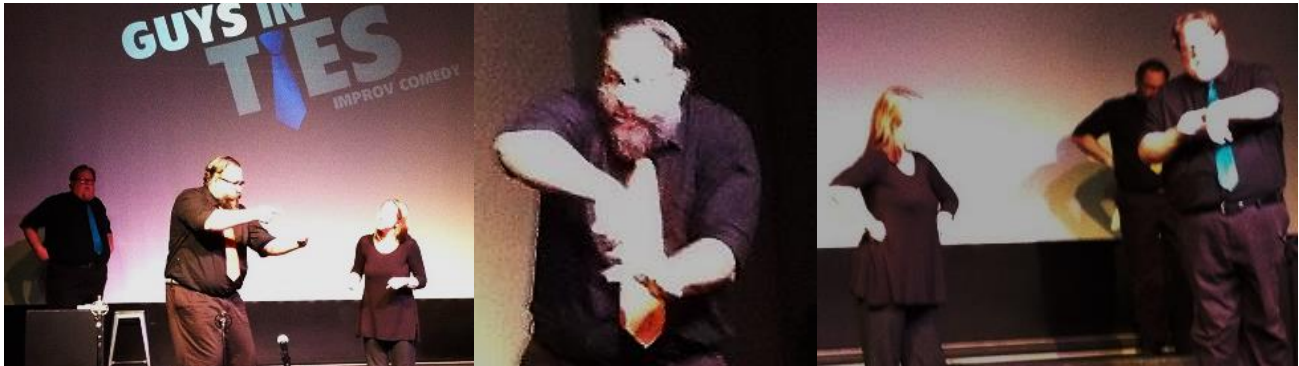
Tickets for our Wine Raffle Fundraiser are available from President, Sue Cassatt. All members are asked to help promote and sell tickets. First prize is \$750 worth of wine of the winners choosing. 2nd place is \$500 and 3rd place \$250. Wine will be provided by the Grape Life Wine Store & Lounge. Cash 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!!! Just now getting to break even!

WORLD POLIO DAY CELEBRATION RAISES FUNDS!



Last Wednesday Rock Island Rotary Celebrated World Polio Day by hosting a comedy night at the Establishment Theater in Rock Island. It was the brain child of past president, Mike Locander, who pretty much single handedly organized the event. The *Guys In Ties* (actually are two guys and a gal) comedy troop provided the hilarious entertainment. Today, Patrick Adamson of the Establishment Theater attended our meeting and presented a \$300 donation for our Polio Plus Campaign. This represented half the admissions paid for the event. With the Gates Foundation 3 to one match, our event will raise \$1,200 for the fight to eradicate polio. Rotarians across the globe celebrated World Polio Day on October 24th. From a time when hundreds of thousand suffered paralysis and death from the deadly virus, to today where fewer than twenty cases have been reported worldwide

and all but three countries have been declared polio free, Rotary has led the battle to wipe polio from the earth. After billions of dollars in contribution and hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours, 2018 was the year to both celebrate our success and to dedicate ourselves to finally conquering the disease. Our Rock Island Rotary celebration with the "Guys In Ties" comedy troop was one of thousands of worldwide events designed both to raise funds and to bring attention to the fact that polio, although driven out of the United States decades ago is still a deadly enemy to children in the world. Until it is finally driven entirely from the earth it poses a threat of returning here and throughout the world. Our celebration featured comedy, pizza, beverages of all varieties, an inspiring video from Rotary, and a brief update on the Polio Plus campaign from president Sue Cassatt. Thank you Mike Locander, the Establishment Theater, and all who attended!



Some of the nutty antics of the Guys In Ties performing at the Establishment Theater in Rock Island.

DAN MCNEIL STEPS INTO THE ROTARY SPOTLIGHT

Dan McNeil was our featured Rotarian today. Dan is Executive Director of the Spring Forward Learning Center in Rock Island and joined Rock Island Rotary in 2015. Dan lives in Moline with wife Mary and their son. Dan didn't tell us much about himself, rather he used his time to talk about the Spring Forward Learning Center and to thank those that have helped the non-profit educational project. Dan said that the Learning Center was born in a church basement. In 2007, the growing need for after-school programming in Rock Island motivated Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church in Rock Island to create Spring Forward Learning Center, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization to provide out-of-school time programs for Rock Island and Milan schools. Prior to that, Spring Forward had been operating as a mission project at the church. The volunteer tutoring program was supported by the generosity of church members and served fewer than 40 students from Audubon Elementary School. The original purpose of the program was to provide a safe after-school environment for children coupled with a little extra help with homework. In 2009, SFLC opened a second after-school campus at First Presbyterian Church in Milan to serve students from Ridgewood and Thomas Jefferson Elementary Schools. Since then, after-school programs and summer enrichment camps have been steadily added each year. In 10 years, they've grown now serving over 600 children with after school and summer enrichment programs. Dan thanked the Doris & Victor Day Foundation, Rock Island-Milan School District, Deere Foundation, the Rock Island Community Foundation, Amy Helpenstell Foundation, Bechtel Trust, Hubbell Waterman Foundation, Brissman Foundation and Ascendra Credit Union Foundation, and Rock Island Rotary for substantial financial support. He also recognized Rock Island-Milan School District #41, Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, City of Rock Island, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, United Way of the Quad Cities Area, Figge Art Museum, Quad City Botanical Center, Illinois Extension Office, Check and Connect Community Partners, Rock Island Public Library, St Mary's Monastery, Putnam Museum, Milan Hy-Vee, Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, Nahant Marsh Education Center, First Presbyterian Church in Milan, WQPT Public Television, Ballet Quad Cities, River Music Experience, Boy Scouts, Youth Hope and Living Lands and Waters, for each partnering with the Learning Center to make their programing possible.

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