



BE THE INSPIRATION

Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

November 6, 2018; Volume XXVI, Issue 19

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Economic Growth Corporation

James Jones, Financial Education Coordinator for the Economic Growth Corporation was guest speaker at today's Rock Island Rotary meeting. Economic Growth Corporation (GROWTH) is a national 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the overall image and economic vitality of underserved communities. GROWTH accomplishes this by improving housing market dynamics, providing fair and equal housing access, encouraging home ownership, providing homeownership counseling, foreclosure prevention counseling, creating jobs, and growing the tax base. GROWTH partners with The Downtown Rock Island Partnership to advance economic development initiatives in Rock Island, where GROWTH is headquartered. The Development Association of Rock Island and The Downtown Rock Island Arts & Entertainment District, together formed the Downtown Partnership to cohesively advance the downtown and greater Rock Island area as a destination for business growth, job creation, arts & entertainment, and retail sales. They are pledged to the letter and spirit of U.S. Policy for the achievement of equal housing opportunity throughout the nation. They encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtaining housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin. GROWTH is regarded as a national leader in developing innovative housing opportunities and commercial developments by facilitating community partnerships, and continues to evolve its organization in order to meet community needs, while remaining true to their mission set forth over 35 years ago. Their community-driven efforts consistently look to create jobs, support and stabilize neighborhoods, and strengthen the community fabric in ways that sustains and promotes long-term viable economic success. Mr. Jones described the numerous programs available for potential home buyers, as well as programs to assist current homeowners with such things as access ramps and accessible bathrooms. Jones also holds monthly classes on such topics as home buying, foreclosure prevention, home maintenance, and other critical topics for homeowners. Personally, Mr. Jones does counseling with prospective buyers to help determine if they are ready to buy a home, if renting is a better option, saving for a down payment, and home maintenance. Growth has various grants available for home purchasers and home improvements which are available based on family income. Most are geared to families at 80% or below the median area income, however some are available for families at 120% of the median average. Mr. Jones best advice was come speak with him and he can identify exactly what might be available. Thanks Mike Locander for another quality program.



October - December Calendar

- 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
- Dec 11 - Illinois Medical Society President
- Dec 18 - Tom & Molly, "The 4-Way Test and the 2018 Tax Act!"
- Dec 25 - No meeting – Merry Christmas!
- Jan 1 - No meeting – Happy New Year!
- Jan 7 - MONDAY - Joint with Kiwanis Mayor Thoms' "State of the City"
- Jan 15 - Mark Poulos - "River Rescuing Today"
- Jan 22 - TBA
- Jan 29 - Angela Campbell "Rock Island Library's New Strategic Plan"



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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 guests attending today’s meeting. Alleman Jr. Rotarians, Chloe Boyd and Pierre Azar joined us. Theresa Jones, wife of our guest speaker attended and helped with his presentation. 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.
- **ANGEL TREE COMING SOON.** Be prepared to be an angel for a little boy or girl and ensure they have presents for Christmas. Names will be available at an upcoming meeting!
- **ATTENTION TRIVIA BUFFS.** Cindi Gramenz has a partial table and invites two to four more folks to join her winning team! Contact Cindi 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 ORDERED 15 MORE



All of our Dining Books were sold; 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! Bud got 15 more books – GOING FAST!!

FOUNDATION RAFFLE REPORT



Today’s raffle featured fine wine from the Lo Milani Collection, a 50/50 cash drawing. The first lucky ticket was held by Dr. Bud Phillis who took the cash and donated his winnings to the Rotary Foundation. Dr. Tricia Barron had the second lucky ticket and she took home the wine.

Keep in mind, all raffle proceeds go to support the International Rotary Foundation. Thank you to all who participated!

Foundation Minute

There are over 122 million children in the world that are illiterate. In addressing the problem, Rotary realizes that bringing children into schools isn't enough to solve illiteracy. Consequently, it has turned to mentoring and coaching teachers!

The Guatemala Literacy Project and the Nepal Teacher Training Innovations are two global grant projects that lead the effort to advance childhood reading by empowering teachers to teach better. The projects plan lessons that ensure students will actually learn. The entire effort is part of a larger goal to reduce extreme poverty, because knowing how to read and write increases a person's earning potential and ability to build a better life.

These projects can succeed thanks to your generous contribution to The Rotary Foundation.

Thank you.

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 with Dining Book Coupon \$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. Payment now accepted for reservations.**



Rock Island Rotary TRIVIA NIGHT

This 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

LAST FEW DAYS 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!

NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS

Circa 21 has applied for corporate membership. The primary member will be Kimberly Calhoun and Brett Hitchcock will be their alternate member. Kimberly has attended several meetings as a guest of Mary Fislar and is Circa 21's Marketing Designer. Brett is the Marketing Director for Circa 21.

Please direct comments to First-Vice President Mark Mayeski or to President Sue Cassatt.



CARRIE CROSSEN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Carrie Crossen was our Spotlitged Rotarian today. Carrie joined Rock Island Rotary in 2007 and in 2008 became our club treasurer, a position she has held ever since. Carrie and husband, Tony, an employee of the Rock Island Arsenal, live in the rural Milan area. She is employed by Blackhawk Bank & Trust Company and serves the public as a financial advisor in the bank's trust department. Carrie said that she truly loves her job and looks forward to going to work each day and meeting with her clients. She gets a great deal of satisfaction knowing that she is helping make a better life for her clientele. Carrie and Tony are the proud parents of seven pets, three dogs and four cats. Carrie also is a volunteer foster pet parent, and frequently takes in pets from the local animal welfare facility. Currently she is fostering a mama cat and five new born kittens.

Rotarians, since August our Rotarian Spotlight feature has been a great success! We are booked through November and December. We need volunteers for January and beyond.

**Just a reminder, please keep your presentation to 5 minutes so we don't cut into main speaker's time.



BIG BIRDIES NEWS!

Our favorite Finn and Birdies for Charity chairman, Kevin Koski gave his final report today regarding this year's Birdies Campaign. Noting that last year was a record setting year with \$4,676 raised for our Club, Kevin was deservedly excited to report that this year the campaign raised **\$5,629.32** for our club's coffers. The John Deere Foundation matched the funds club members pledged at a rate of 8.5 percent, helping us set a new record for our Birdies fund drive! Thanks to all who pledged and thanks KEVIN!!!

A FEW WORDS ABOUT ROTARY



Rotary unites more than a million people with 1.2 million members and over 35,000 clubs worldwide. Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

We take action locally and globally. Each day, our members pour their passion, integrity, and intelligence into completing projects that have a lasting impact. We persevere until we deliver real, lasting solutions. Rotarians gave 1.6 million volunteer hours every year. **WE SOLVE PROBLEMS.** No challenge is too big for us. For more than 110 years, we've bridged cultures and connected continents to champion peace, fight illiteracy and poverty, promote clean water and sanitation, and fight disease. Rotary has funded polio immunization for **2.5 billion children.** Our Causes are Promoting Peace, Fighting Disease, Providing Clean Water, Saving Mothers & Children, Supporting Education, and Growing Local Economies. Club activities, social events, and volunteer projects offer networking opportunities that build personal and professional connections. And Rotarians can extend those networks by visiting other clubs around the globe.

