



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



May 21, 2019: Volume XXVI, Issue 44

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Today's guest speaker was Missey Heinrichs of the Empower House Quad Cities. Empower House will be a place where people belong - a place where people with brain injuries come to be productive and enjoy contributing to a common cause. If people want to learn work skills and get a job in the community as well as feel a sense of

May – July Calendar

May 28 - Figge Art Museum
June 4 - Chio – Youth Exchange Year
June 11- Tom Hammar – Biking through Europe
June 18 - Friends of Douglas Park
June 25 - President Sue Cassatt
July 2 - District Governor Bobbi Burke
July 9 - New President, Mark Mayeski
July 16 - Norm Moline, "China"
July 23 - Cathy Jordan – DeLaCorda Home
July 30 - IDOT - I74 Bridge Update

belonging, Empower House will help. What will the day look like at the Clubhouse? The program follows a work-ordered day. The members do everything that must be done to run the Clubhouse each day. For example, answer the phone, deposit lunch money in the bank, advocate for themselves in the community, and learn where the jobs are and how to get them, learn jobs and keep them. They also will pay the bills, eat lunch, clean and maintain the Clubhouse on a daily basis. Where did this idea come from? The Clubhouse model began in 1948 when some people with psychiatric disabilities gathered together to support each other. They got some help to develop a program to keep them busy and productive, help them work, live independently, get some education, and socialize with each other. Now there are over 300 Clubhouses around the world, but less than 30 of them focus on people with brain injuries. The Quad Cities Empower House was launched just this year by four occupational and speech therapists at Genesis: Kami Holst, Claire Motto, Mickey Owens, and Missey Heinrichs. Missey had the initial idea, seeing the need from her position as a speech therapist at Genesis Hospital. After 10 years working with inpatient therapy and 13 years in outpatient therapy, she noted that once brain injured patients (resulting from stroke, accident, or tumor) were released from inpatient care, their ability to obtain outpatient therapy was often hampered by insurance limitations, costs, and depression leading to giving up. She researched ways to provide ongoing outpatient care designed to place the patient in an environment where they would practice and work at improving their abilities and equally important, an environment that would give the patient a useful purpose in life. Empower House is modeled after the Side By Side Clubhouse in Georgia. Still in its infant stage, the Quad City Clubhouse meets just one each week in a local church. They are looking to have their own facility and are hoping to secure a 10,000 square foot location. Their program will have three concentration areas: "Kitchen" where food preparation skills will be taught and practiced; "Business" where skills in record keeping, money management, and promotion will be taught and practiced; and, "Maintenance" where skills in maintaining the clubhouse, setting up for meals and meetings, and various other maintenance skills will be taught and practiced. Starting in March of this year, Empower house is serving 8 to 10 patients and plans to expand to 24. The staff to patient ratio is 1 per 6 patients. Patients pay for the services on a sliding ability to pay scale, and medicare, medicade is also accepted. Empower House is also applying for various grants and donations and hopes to be in a position to offer their service to all in need regardless of their ability to pay. Best of luck to this new and vitally important venture.



P.O. Box 4514
Rock Island, IL 61204
www.rirotary.com

Officers

Sue Cassatt, President
Mark Mayeski, 1st VP
Angela Campbell, 2nd VP
Anne McGlynn, Secretary
Carrie Crossen, Treasurer
Bruce Peterson, Past Pres.
Bob Swanson, Sergeant at Arms

Program Chairs 2018-19

Aug – Sept: Stan Coin
Oct – Nov: Mike Locander
Dec – Jan: John Wetzel
Feb – Mar: John Wetzel
Apr – May: Gary Rowe
June – July: Tom Hammar

Board Members

Rick Emery
Sarah Gorham
Kathy Lelonek
John Oliger
Justin Peterson
Molly Shattuck
Bill Stengel
Tammy Weikert

Club Notes & Announcements!

☐ **WELCOME GUESTS!** Rock Island Rotary greeted several guests at today's meeting. Diane Phillis was a guest of husband, Bud Phillis. Hilde Wray was a guest of Ruth Lee and Bud Phillis. Former member Ralph Crowe visited today. Danielle Kilberry, Stephane Hasakis, and Mary McNeil from Spring Forward were guests of Dan McNeil. Kathy Ruggeberg from School District 41 was also a guest of Dan McNeil. We had two visiting Rotarians this week; Duncan Cameron from the Naples, Florida Club, and Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Club. Guests are always welcome at the **Number One Club**, Rock Island Rotary!

☐ **LITTLE LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS** – If you volunteered to keep an eye on one of our Little Library locations, please make a special trip past your location and see that the box is still in good shape and that the Library has a good supply of books. If you see needed maintenance or a lack of books, Please, notify Kathy Lelonek. We have books to resupply the libraries and people who will make repairs to the boxes. However, we need to make sure that Kathy is notified when upkeep or replenishing the book supply is needed. Thanks for your help!

☐ **ROTARY NIGHT AT THE BALL PARK** has been scheduled for Thursday, June 18th. Reserved box seat tickets are just \$10 each. Invite the whole family, work colleagues, and friends for a great evening under the stars at Modern Woodmen Stadium. Save the date.

☐ **ROTARY PLANS A FLOAT FOR THE LABOR DAY PARADE.** In addition to our traditional Rotary President ride in Bud's Prowler, president Cassatt announced today plans to enter a float in the upcoming Rock Island Labor Day Parade. Molly Shattuck is providing the trailer and Sue Cassatt the truck. Plans include a large Rotary Wheel and other decorations. Want to help? Let Sue know. Ideas and skills are both needed. Rotarian riders, walkers, our new exchange student, and cyclists will fill out our entry.

☐ **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!

FOUNDATION RAFFLE REPORT



Today's raffle featured a 50/50 cash drawing and bottle of fine wine from the Lo Milani cellar. The first lucky ticket was held by Howard Beck who accepted the cash and donated it to the Rotary Foundation. The second lucky winner taking a great bottle of Lo Milani's finest wine was Jeff Dismar. Proceeds from our raffle go to the Rotary International Foundation. **Thanks to all who participated!**



RUTH LEE LAUDED AS "ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR"

Congratulations to former District Governor and our former President, Ruth Lee, for being named as the Rotary District 6420 "Rotarian of the Year". We're not surprised Ruth is the top Rotarian in the entire District of 47 clubs and thousands of Rotarians since we see her generosity and tireless work and dedication to Rotary up closed and often! A very well-deserved honor! We're proud you are a Number One Club member!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Former member, Sara Cross, has reapplied for Rock Island Rotary membership. Sara joined our Club in 2017 when employed by the Girl Scouts. A change in job responsibilities resulted in Sara being unable to attend meetings and led to her ultimate resignation from Rotary. Now with a new employer and in a new position as Executive Director of First Tee of the Quad Cities, Sara is again able to be an active Rotarian and has submitted her application to rejoin the "Number One Club". Direct any comments to President Cassatt or President-Elect Mayeski.

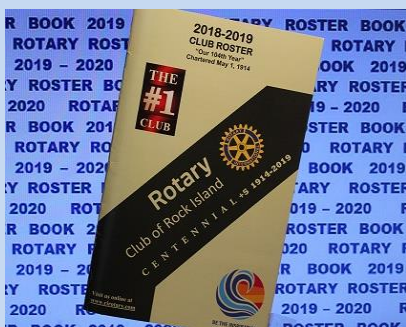
DISTRICT HONORS SAM & HILDE WRAY

Last weekend at the Rotary District 6420 Conference, Sam (posthumously) & Hilde Wray were presented with the Rotary "Service Above Self Passion Award" in recognition of their generous and dedicated support of the Western Illinois - Eastern Iowa Rotary Water Project. In making the presentation, District Governor, Kathy Kwiat-Hess said, "He [Sam] was a dedicated Rotarian, joining Rock Island Rotary in 1975. In his 43 years of membership Sam served on virtually every committee and lent his leadership and talents to hundreds of projects. He served as Assistant Sergeant at Arms for Rock Island Rotary up to his death. ... Sam along with his wife of 61 years, Hilde, researched the various options for providing a solution for those with no access to safe water. Ultimately deciding on a water filter project for school children in rural Kenya, Sam and Hilde made a \$10,000 donation to kick start the program. In 2016 Rock Island Rotary created "The Western Illinois - Eastern Iowa Rotary Water Project". Sam's initial contribution purchased 33 water filtration units which were delivered to schools near Nairobi, Kenya and provided clean, sanitary water for more than 2,300 children. He also purchased a unit and had it delivered to the Rock Island Club so it could be used for demonstrations to other Rotary Clubs who were encouraged to join the project. By the time of Sam's death on March 27, 2019, Sam and Hilde had made three more \$10,000 donations to the project and are personally responsible for providing safe water to more than 8,000 children. The project he created is now supported by thirteen Rotary Clubs, three Interact Clubs, one Earlyact Club, and scores of individual Rotarians throughout Illinois and Iowa. It is estimated that in the three years since the project's inception, more than 14,000 children are receiving safe drinking water along with training regarding sanitation and water born disease. Sam Wray was truly a Rotarian, one who lived by the code of Service Above Self." We miss Sam and thank the District for recognizing his great contributions to our Club and to the less fortunate children of the world.



District Governor Kathy Kwiat-Hess, Hilde Wray, and District Foundation Chair, Ruth Lee

HAVE YOU APPROVED YOUR ROSTER BOOK ENTRY?



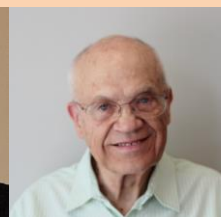
Recently ever member received a proof of the photo and information we currently have for your Rotary Director listing. Over half the club has already sent a reply email confirming everything is okay or indicating any changes that are needed. If you have not yet responded, please do so asap! For members that need a photo or want a new photo, Bob Swanson will take photos before and/or after our remaining May club meetings. Everything goes to the printer on June 15th, so please reply quickly. One more week for new photos!

THREE HONORED FOR PAUL HARRIS ACHIEVEMENTS

Foundation Chairman, Bud Phillis presented Paul Harris Plus 4 pins designating \$5,000 in donations, to Bob Swanson and Ralph Crowe. Dr. Larry Tadlock received a Paul Harris Plus 6 pin designating \$7,000 in donations to the Rotary International Foundation. Congratulations to Bob, Ralph, and Larry!



Bob



Ralph



Larry

IT'S BIRDIES TIME!

The John Deere Classic PGA Tournament is just two months away, so it is time for our annual Birdies for Charity Campaign!. Pledge sheets are available from chairman, Kevin Koski, and at the Sergeant at Arms table. All money pledged will go to our local Rock Island Rotary Club Foundation which funds projects solely for the benefit of Rock Island and our citizens. If you plan to support the Club Foundation, pledging your contribution through the Birdies program means that John Deere will add a matching contribution to your own donation, making your gift even larger!. Last year the Club raised over \$5,000 through Birdies. So, get your form, fill it out. You also have a chance to win our Club's \$50 best guess prize or even the John Deere Classic's new car grand prize!



ROTARIANS CELEBRATE NEW 15-PASSENGER VAN FOR SPRING FORWARD

Rock Island Rotary made the lead donation the lead to Spring Forward's purchase of a new 15-passenger van. Along with a significant contribution from the Doris & Victor Day Foundation, Rotary's grant enabled Spring Forward to make the purchase which will be used to transport children to and from after-school programs and summer enrichment camps as well as on field trips throughout the year. It will also be used to transport adult students in Spring Forward's Family Literacy Program. The community unveiling of the new van took place in the Botanical Center parking lot just prior to this week's Rotary meeting.



Rock Island Rotarians gather for the Community Unveiling of the new Spring Forward van.

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Not long ago, Tricia Barron asked for volunteers to assist with her "Pillow Project" at Earl Hanson School. You may recall that Tricia purchases material and takes it to kindergarten classes cut into "pillow" sized pieces. She lets the kids "decorate" their materials and then sews it into pillows. She returns the prepared material along with stuffing she purchases, to the classroom and lets the kids stuff their pillows. Then she sews the final seam to complete the pillow and leaves them with the kids to give to their moms for Mother's Day. We're not sure if she got any volunteer help, but thanks to the quick camera of Dave Geenen, we learned that this year Tricia's project went beyond Earl Hanson School. Below are photos of Tricia in action at Rock Island's Denkmann Elementary School. Looks like both she and the kids had a great time! Want to volunteer for next year? Help is needed "supervising" the decorating and stuffing. Call Tricia at 309-781-5114. Sewing skills are not required! An example of a great Rotarian and Service Above Self! Thanks Tricia.



LABOR OF LOVE

FOUNDATION MINUTE

The largest Native American reservation in the USA is the Navajo Nation. The reservation, bigger than the state of West Virginia, sprawls across Arizona, Utah, and New Mexico. It's a harsh, beautiful land marked by extremes of temperature, sun, wind, and dryness. According to a 2016 assessment, about 16,000 Navajo homes don't have access to electricity. Nearly a third have no running water, and more than half lack kitchen and toilet facilities. At night, the glow of kerosene lamps is too dim for reading, card playing, or for studying. Even during the day, the home's interior is full of shadows, making it difficult to do anything requiring detail and good vision. Rotary members of the Durango Daybreak Club from Durango, Colorado, USA, planned a project that would bring solar lights to at-risk populations on the reservation. A solar light is a simple thing: just a small panel the size of a baking sheet, which mounts onto a roof with a pole. A wire runs from the panel into the house, where up to three rechargeable lights hang from hooks on the ceiling. To turn on the lights, one simply touches a button. To use the light as a flashlight for going outside at night, they simply unhook it. A fully charged lamp offers dim light for 75 hours or bright light for 7½ before needing to be recharged. To see a house go from kerosene to solar is life changing. No longer do they spend \$20 a month on kerosene. No longer do they have a proclivity for upper respiratory infections because of the soot. Durango Daybreak volunteers have supplied more than 40 homes with solar power. The beneficiaries are largely elders, the disabled, and other at-risk individuals and families. Recipients say when they wake up early in the morning, they don't have to wait until it's bright out to read. A grandmother received a light that will help her young granddaughter, who dreams of becoming a doctor, do her schoolwork at night. The Durango Daybreak Rotary club hope the project continues to change lives on the reservation. They are working with the Navajo Nation to pursue grant funding for further solar units and to train crews of young Navajo tribal members as installation and repair technicians. So far, progress is slow, but the group is persistent. Your donations to the Rotary Foundation help fund projects internationally and within the United State. Thank you!.