



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



May 7, 2019: Volume XXVI, Issue 43

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER

WIU PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE INSTITUTE



Becky Paulsen and Joe Rives

Western Illinois University President Jack Thomas established the President's Executive Institute (PEI) at Western in Fall 2016. The PEI is led by WIU Vice President for Quad Cities and Planning Dr. Joe Rives and Becky Paulsen, the WIU director of business engagement and outreach. Ms. Paulson and Dr. Rives both attended our meeting today. Their purpose is to ensure that WIU is the partner of choice for addressing the needs of the region, to continue to chart the University's course for a strong future and to continue the University's longstanding tradition and mission of providing outstanding educational opportunities to the citizens of the state and beyond. The PEI was publicly unveiled in June 2017. At a June 14 press conference President Thomas said "Through the

University's strategic plan and the President's Executive Institute, Western serves as an even greater resource for, and stimulus to, educational, cultural, environmental, community and economic development in our region and beyond for the public good," Dr. Rives was today's Rock Island Rotary guest speaker. He began his comments stating that he was going to burst the balloon of recent newspaper articles portraying a gloom and doom picture of WIU. Rives said the most critical article was written by a disgruntled employee; and then borrowed a Mark Twain quote, saying "the story of our demise is greatly exaggerated." He said WIU was founded in 1899, has been around for 120 years, and will continue to be a major educational institution for decades into the future. Dr. Rives said that Western is working hard to attract students and to meet the needs of both traditional and adult professional students. His talk was largely determined by club members as he called on table by table to ask, "The one question they wanted to know about WIU". Nevertheless the polished speaker had no trouble answering every question including details and statistics that flowed without hesitation. When asked how WIU was meeting the challenges of today and the future, Dr. Rives noted that WIU is the first institution in Illinois to offer a Sociology Degree on line and is only the 3rd in the nation to do so. He also announced that WIU now offers a major in psychology. When asked what WIU is most noted for, he said their Law Enforcement Degree program, their School of Business, and their long heralded Education Department. Rives stated that WIU is eager to form partnerships with area colleges and noted that WIU and St Ambrose have formed a partnership in museum studies that offers graduates of Ambrose a one year Master's Degree Program. He said they are looking forward to forming similar partnerships with Augustana College. In answer to another Rotarian's questions, Dr. Rives stated that WIU offers 2 PhD programs, one in Environmental Studies and the other in Educational Leadership. When asked about tuition, Rives said that tuition at WIU is \$300 per credit hour which equates to approximately an annual cost of \$9,000 to attend WIU full time. Members of the military and veterans receive benefits that allow many to attend free. He contrasted that to approximately \$38,000 annually to attend the University of Illinois. When asked about the WIU student body Rives said that over 90% of the students attending Western Illinois University come from within Illinois. 85% of the students attending the Quad City campus come from the Quad Cities. He said the Quad City campus is striving to be a "STEAM" Institution with emphasis on science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. When asked about the economic impact of the University, Rives said the Quad City campus has a \$51 million impact on the Quad Cities and that WIU overall has over a \$400 million impact on the region. When asked where he thought the Quad City Campus would be in 10 years, he said he thought they would be approaching 3,000 students and have strongly established their STEAM goals. Overall it appears the picture is not doom and gloom for the Leathernecks of Western Illinois University!

May – June Calendar

May 14- Kelli Fegley, Fresh Films
May 21- Missy Heirich--Empower House
May 28- Figge Art Museum
June 4 - TBA
June 11- TBA
June 18 - TBA



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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.
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. Jennifer Heckenkamp, Jordan Elementary EarlyAct sponsor along with Club President Devyn, Vice-President Justin, Secretary Alyssa, and Treasurer Tyler were guests of the Club and Bud Phillis. Rock Island Junior Rotarians Ana Jacobs and Blake McKillip attended along with Rock Island Security Chief, Charles Butler. Our exchange daughter "Chio" Rebolledo attended, as did Alleman Jr. Rotarian, Gannon Ethington. Guests are always welcome at the **Number One Club**, Rock Island Rotary!

☐ **SERVICE** – Help is 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. They also are collecting men's and women's winter clothing for their free clothing exchange. Drop off anytime the Heart of Hope Center is open. Call Al Metz to volunteer to help at 309-236-2013 or just show up any Thursday at 5:15. It's easy duty!

☐ **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!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAY ROTARIANS!

Brett Hitchcock	May	2
Angela Campbell	May	5
Ruth Lee	May	6
Kimberly Calhoun	May	11
Susan Lerchen-Cassatt	May	21
Cindi Gramenz	May	24
Eric Westphall	May	28
Jay Stanley	May	29



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 Exchange daughter Chio who gladly accepted the cash. The second lucky winner taking a great bottle of Lo Milani's finest wine was PDG Ruth Lee, who then presented the wine to our guest speaker. Thanks to all who participated. Proceeds from our raffle go to the Rotary International Foundation.

LINDA GOLDEN STEPS INTO THE SPOTLIGHT

Linda was born and raised in Rock Island. Her father was a Rotarian, and upon his death her mother became a Rotarian, and when mother Sue passed, Linda joined Rotary carrying on a long family commitment to Rock Island Rotary. After graduation from Rock Island High School, Linda attended the University of Michigan earning a teaching degree in Social Studies. Her first position was at a school on the Zuni Indian Reservation in New Mexico. After teaching at several native American schools, Linda took a position in Western Mexico, learning after she arrived to begin teaching that the school was a 3½ hour walk from the nearest highway! Eventually Linda returned home accepting a position to teach social studies at Thurgood Marshall Alternative School in Rock Island. She held the position for 14 years prior to her retirement. She also reported that Rock Island Rotary had a major impact on Thurgood Marshall School and its students. Rotary donated funds to provide appliances for a kitchen at the school that is used every week for a special program in food preparation and entrepreneurship. Rotary also donated funds to provide tools for the schools Youth Build program which built and renovated homes in Rock Island. Linda joined our club in 2015 and has been a wonderful member and a faithful servant of our community.

FOUNDATION MINUTE

As of April 2019, nine cases of polio have been reported in the world specifically within the endemic countries of Pakistan and Afghanistan. Polio continues to spread in these countries due to the unchecked borders where movement of people threatens efforts to eradicate the disease.

The numbers of those affected have decreased dramatically since 2014, however polio is still found in the country. In response to that, the government of Pakistan has increased the number of manned permanent transit posts across the Pakistan/Afghanistan border where children can be vaccinated against the virus. Conflict, political insecurity and remoteness of areas, combined with a highly mobile population and logistical challenges are significant obstacles to Pakistan's effort to eradicate polio.

The difficult geographical terrain in Afghanistan has been responsible for polio outbreaks. Areas of the country, which are home to nomads, seasonal and economic migrants and agricultural laborer families, make it hard for immunization teams to reach them.

Rotary along with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and other NGOs continue their efforts to eradicate this dreadful disease. Your financial support will support them – until the battle is finished. Giving to the Foundation is much easier – just go to www.rotary.org/donate.

Thank you.

Rock Island Rotary Provides Lead Gift for Spring Forward Van

Rotarians please join us at 11:30 am on Tuesday, May 21 just prior to our regular meeting at the QC Botanical Center for the community unveiling of Spring Forward's new fifteen passenger van. The van purchase was made possible by a lead gift from the Rock Island Rotary Club Foundation.

Spring Forward will use the van to can take 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 our Family Literacy Program.

Spring Forward's Mission

Spring Forward Learning Center's mission is to provide free educational opportunities for children and families in Rock Island and Milan.

About Spring Forward

Spring Forward Learning Center has grown to serve more than 600 children in our after-school programs and summer enrichment camps and another 50 adult English Learners in our Family Literacy program. Our programs are welcoming to all as we aim to support a community in which all people are embraced and have an equal opportunity for success.

District Conference - May 17-18

About The Van

The van will be on display in the Botanical Center parking lot. Come see the bright and bold ROTARY logo proudly displayed on the van.

LAST CHANCE! Click here to register for the conference . Don't miss out on all the fun in Galena!
See you on the 21st!

KIM CALHOUN TURNS BLUE



Today, President Sue Cassatt had the pleasure of presenting a "blue" Rotary name badge to Kim Calhoun who completed all of her club orientation tasks and turned in her "new member red" badge. Kim joined our Club in November of 2018 and has quickly become a very active participant in Club activities and committees. She is employed as Marketing Designer for Circa 21 and has already loaned her expertise in marketing to several Rotary projects and has agreed to serve on our Public Relations Committee for the coming year. If you haven't had an opportunity to meet her, please take time to say hello! We're thrilled to have Kim in Rock Island Rotary!



KEVIN SAYS "IT'S BIRDIES TIME!"

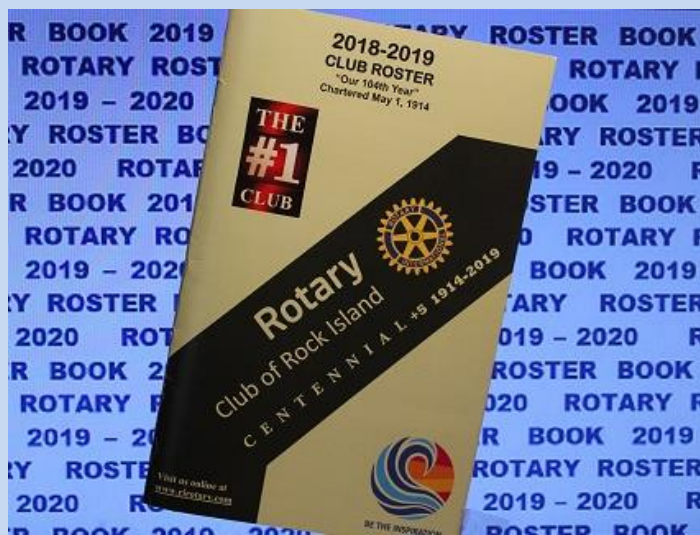
With the start of the John Deere Classic PGA Tournament just two months away, Chairman Kevin Koski reminded us that our Annual Birdies for Charity Campaign started TODAY!. Kevin passed out sign-up sheets which will be available from Kevin and the Sergeant at Arms table for the next several weeks. All money pledges will go to our local Rock Island Rotary Club Foundation which funds projects solely for the benefit of Rock Island and our citizens. Pledging your contribution through the Birdies program means that John Deere will add a matching contribution to your own donation. Last year the Club raised over \$5,000 through Birdies. So, get your form, fill it out and who knows, you may win our Club's \$50 best guess prize or the John Deere Classic's new car grand prize!



JORDAN EARLYACT A "WINNER"

The sponsor and officers of the Jordan Catholic School EarlyAct Club visited us today and reported on their Club's activities. So far this year, the club served as morning greeters, opening the door and welcoming parents and visitors to the school; painted the bathroom stalls in the school restrooms; made Christmas cards for area shut-ins; and made dog toys out of tee-shirts and raised money for an additional cash donation to the local animal shelter. As impressed as we were with the children's service, we were even more awed by the poise and maturity displayed by Devyn, Justin, Alyssa, and Tyler who each presented a section of their report. EarlyAct members are 5th and 6th grade students at the school. Congratulations to their faculty sponsor, Jennifer Heckenkamp, who has led the Club since it's establishment several years ago. Thanks also to our club liaison to EarlyAct, Bud Phillis, for arranging for their visit today.

TIME FOR OUR ROTARY ROSTER BOOK UPDATE



In preparation for the new Rotary year starting July 1st, we will be updating our Club roster book. In the next few days you will receive a copy of the photo and information we currently have for you. Please review it carefully and send a reply email confirming everything is okay to print or indicate any changes that are needed. For members that need a photo or want a new photo, Bob Swanson will have his camera in hand before and/or after our remaining May club meetings. Everything goes to the printer on June 15th, so please reply quickly and let Bob know if you need a photo.

Our Rotary District Conference - May 17-18 in Historic Galena, Illinois
Last Chance to Register, go on line to:

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50144/Stories/district-conference-may-17-18>