



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



June 35, 2019: Volume XXVI, Issue 49
MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER

President Sue Cassatt



Today Rotary President Sue Lerschen-Cassatt presided over her final meeting. Next Tuesday Mark Mayeski will be sworn in as Rock Island Rotary's 104th president. President Sue spoke of attending the past two Rotary International Conventions and how that experience opened her mind to all the wonderful things Rotary is doing through out the world as well as in this country. She reviewed Rotary's 6 Areas of Focus: Peace and conflict

prevention/resolution; Disease prevention and treatment; Water and sanitation; Maternal and child health; Basic education and literacy; Economic and community development. Sue noted how our club supports each area. Sue entered the year with lofty goals and ended her term with great accomplishments, including rewriting the Bi-laws and Constitution of Rock Island Rotary and obtaining the adoption of both. She also led the effort to establish our corporate membership program which already is responsible for bringing 16 new members into our club. President Cassatt also identified human trafficking in the Quad Cities as a crisis needing Rotary's help. She obtained a Rotary District Grant in support of *Braking Traffik*, a local organization affiliated with Family Resource. Braking Traffik served 80 area survivors of trafficking just last year. That number has been increasing year after year, as there is more education and awareness of the problem. Rotary funding allowed our club to supply and pack emergency packages given to victims when they are rescued from their captive situation. President Sue also spoke of getting our Little Libraries installed throughout the community and stocking them with books. In addition we continued our strong relationship with Earl Hanson School, including birthday books and our Angel Tree. She noted that our participation on a fun social event, the Rotary Night at the Ballpark resulted in our making a significant contribution to the Miracle Field construction in Davenport. Sue recalled that we supported the Shelter Box program both with our donations and by hosting Erik Elsea as a guest speaker as he passed through the Quad Cities on his trip canoeing all 2552 miles of the Mississippi River from the Headwaters in northern Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico in Louisiana. Under Sue's leadership, Bud Phillis was recruited to serve as liaison with the Jordan Early Act Club, a task he has successfully taken over. She also got the re-establishment of the Augustana College Rotaract Club underway obtaining the help of Rotarians Kai Swanson and Sue Rector. Sue's administration also established the Rotary Wine Raffle, which had a successful first year and will be an ongoing and growing fundraiser for our club. During the year we held a successful blood drive, expanded our social media presence on Twitter and Facebook, took over sponsorship of a Little League team, and participated in a Rotary Big Table event. Sue didn't just lead from the podium, she was a tireless volunteer working on numerous club committees and every club project. She even opened her home to our youth exchange daughter and served along with husband Bob as exchange parents. She closed her comments wishing her successor officers success and thanked the club for allowing her to serve and thanked all those who served on committees. In a showing of great thanks to Sue for her hard work during the past year and in the years prior while moving through the chairs in preparation for serving as president, the Club rose to their feet and presented a standing ovation to Sue Lerschen-Cassatt, the 103 president of Rock Island Rotary. Thank you, Sue!

June – August Calendar

- July 2 - District Governor Bobbi Burke
- July 9 - New President, Mark Mayeski
- July 16 - Norm Moline, "China"
- July 23 - Cathy Jordan – DeLaCerde Home
- July 30 - IDOT - I74 Bridge Update
- Aug 6 - TBA
- Aug 13 - TBA
- Aug 20 - TBA
- Aug 27 - TBA
- Sept 3 - State of the Schools – Dr. Reginald Lawrence II
- Sept 10- Andy McCray Chief Meteorologist, WHBF-TV



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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!** Guests at today's meeting were Megan Christensen from Augustana College and Duncan Cameron, a visiting Rotarians from the Naples, Florida Club. 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 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!
- **GREETERS ARE NEEDED** for upcoming meetings. It is a great way to get acquainted with fellow members and to make our newer and prospective members feel welcome. It is a fantastic way for newer members to quickly meet fellow members. Stop by the Sergeant at Arms table and sign up to serve as a greeter for a future meeting.
- **UPCOMING ROTARY SOCIAL EVENTS** include our Night at the Ballpark on Thursday, July 18th, see John Oliger for tickets; and our annual Holiday Party at Circa 21. Details for the party will be coming in the near future. Also, don't forget our Trivia Night, which although a fundraiser, is a great social night out for fun, good food (depending on what your table brings), and your favorite adult beverages.
- **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!

FUN AT THE BALL PARK!

Thursday, July 18th is the date of our annual Rotary Night at the Ball Park! Don't miss the fun of professional baseball and see some of the future major league stars as they begin their pro careers. Thursday night is also "Thirsty Thursday" at Modern Woodman Park with \$2 beer and soda specials. Rock Island Rotary has a reserved block of prime box seats and the cost is just \$10 per seat. This is a family event so bring grandma, grandpa, and the kids! While you're at it, invite the neighbors and work colleagues. It's a great social night out under the sun and stars! Rotarians from all over the metro area will be in attendance and we want Rock Island to be the largest and the most fun delegation! The game starts at 6:35, but the fun begins ever earlier. See president Mark Mayeski display his blazing fastball as he throws out the ceremonial first pitch! **Get tickets from chairman, John Oliger.**

DINING BOOKS ARE BACK!

Chairman Bud Phillis will have the new 2019 – 2020 Quad City Dining Books at our July meetings. The cost remains just \$35 per book and the Circa 21 coupon alone is worth more than \$35 if you use it to attend our club's Holiday Christmas Party. \$10 from each purchase is donated back to Rock Island Rotary, so besides being a great money saving coupon collection, it is also a fundraiser for our club. Dining books make great gifts and are always appreciated by anyone who enjoys eating out. Featuring over 150 high quality Quad Cities area restaurants, every coupon offers two for the price of one deals. Let Bud know how many books you want!



FOUNDATION RAFFLE REPORT



Today's raffle featured a 50/50 cash drawing, a bottle of fine wine from the Lo Milani cellar, a beautiful walnut hand-turned vase made by Dr. Larry Tadlock, and 2 groups of six one day passes for the Figge Art Museum. The first lucky ticket was held by Jim Moran who snapped up the Tadlock vase. John Daly held the second winning ticket and opted to take the cash and donated it to the Rotary International Foundation. The third lucky winner taking home the wine was Larry Tadlock. Jeff Dismer won the tickets. Proceeds from our raffle go to the Rotary International Foundation. Thanks to all who participated; and, Thanks to Lo Milani who donates the wine every week, Larry Tadlock who donates a hand turned wooden bowl or vase every month, and to Bud Phillis and his raffle volunteers who staff the ticket table every week!

HELP US FILL THE BASKET!!

Rock Island Rotary is building a huge basket of adult beverages! Bourbon, Gin, Rye, Rum, Wine, Vodka, Brandy, Tequila, Vermouth, Champaign are all needed! Rotarians are asked to donate a bottle (minimum value of \$18) which will go towards building our gift basket to be raffled off at our annual Trivia Night. Raffle tickets will be sold in July to November. The winner can pick from one of two prizes. One prize will be our huge basket of wine/spirits. The other will be a \$1000 travel voucher through Picture Perfect Travel. Take a cruise, an All Inclusive, or anything you choose! Then a second winner will be drawn for the other prize. There will also be a silent auction with baskets and other items to bid on at Trivia Night. Proceeds will go to Earl Hanson Elementary School and our Community Grants program. Please bring donations to next week's meeting.



FOUNDATION MINUTE

Everyday Rotary continues to "Do Good In the World!" They look for ways to make a difference in their communities and in communities around the world. They use their knowledge of local issues to identify areas of need, then apply their expertise and diverse perspectives to find solutions.

In Korea they established a mentoring project to prepare students with autism and intellectual and emotional disabilities for careers in horticulture. In Brazil, Rotarians offered Judo classes for youth to funnel their energy avoiding violence in the slums. In Canada a Rotary club is helping Syrian refugees start new lives, and in Australia clubs are helping to end domestic violence.

Your contribution to The Rotary Foundation enables this to happen. Giving to the Foundation is much easier – just go to rotary.org/donate, Thank you.

ROTARY SUPPORTS AUGUSTANA PROGRAM FOR KIDS

Community Grants Committee chair, Frank Lambert had the pleasure of presenting a \$600 Rock Island Rotary Donation check to Megan Christensen from Augustana College. The funds will be used to help provide fieldtrip busses to bring Rock Island school children to the Fryxell Geology Museum and the John Deere Planetarium and Carl Gamble Observatory on the campus of Augustana College. The Fryxell Geology Museum features one of the best collections of minerals and fossils in the Midwest. Highlights include a wall of glowing, fluorescent rocks, a cast of a Tyrannosaurus rex skull, and a complete 22-foot long skeleton of Cryolophosaurus, a large crested carnivorous dinosaur discovered in Antarctica.



FOUR NEW PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS!

Rock Island Rotary continued our award-winning tradition of support for the Rotary International Foundation with the presentation of four new Paul Harris Fellows at today's meeting. With the addition of these four, Rock Island Rotary now boasts a roster of 445 Paul Harris Fellows. That means through just the Paul Harris Fellow program, our club has sent \$445,000 to the Rotary International Foundation!

Today Tammy Weikert was recognized as a Paul Harris +6 donator, this time honoring her stepdaughter, Kayla Preston as a Paul Harris Fellow. Howard Beck, who joined Rotary just in 2015 received his Paul Harris Fellow pin and certificate. Stan Coin named his 9th and 10th Paul Harris Fellows, honoring his grandsons, James Contes and Nicholas Brockleman as Paul Harris Fellows. Congratulations to the new honorees and thanks for the generosity of our fellow Rotarians.



Tammy Weikert



Howard Beck



Stan Coin

SHARED ANNIVERSARY MEANS MONEY FOR FOUNDATION!

Many years ago, Rotarian Bud Phillis and Rotarian John Wetzel discovered they shared the same anniversary date (although not the same year). Thereafter the pair began a tradition of making a donation during the week of their anniversary to the Rotary Foundation. Each donated a dollar for every +year of their marriage. Today Bud donated \$61 for his 61 years of marital bliss with Diane. John made his donation of \$50 for 50 years of enchantment with Marcia. After explaining what they were doing and why they paid the amounts stated, new Rotarian Sara Cross rose and announced that she too shares the same anniversary date! Not to be out done, Sara chipped in a dollar for each of her years with loving hubby Dylan. That sweetened the pot by \$5 more dollars in honor of Sara's 5th anniversary. We hope all 4 couples have a wonderful day and many more happy anniversaries!



Bud Phillis



Sara Cross



John Wetzel

Chairman Kevin Wraps Up Birdies Campaign

Rotary Birdies for Charity chairman Kevin Koski wrapped up our 2019 pledge drive reporting that we exceeded our dollar goal; but fell a bit short in our pledge participation numbers. As of today, Kevin had received 38 pledges with a total of \$2.47 per birdie. Our goal was 46 pledges and a \$2.20 goal. After making his final plea, several additional pledges were given and we have it on good authority that even though the drive is over, you can still turn in a pledge at next week's Rotary meeting! Let's hit that goal of 46 pledges!