



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

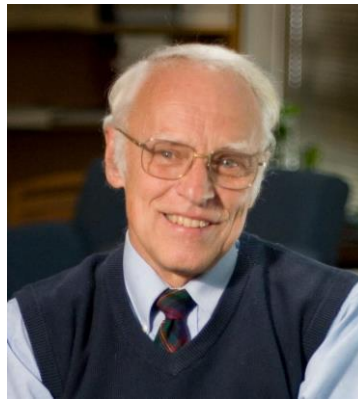
July 16, 2019: Volume XXVII, Issue 3

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Norm Moline's CHINA

Dr. Norm Moline, a professor at Augustana College, founded the first U.S. college study-abroad program in China in 1974. He also co-founded the environmental studies program long before the interdisciplinary field became well known on college campuses. Norm Moline, became a geography teacher in 1968 at Augustana College, he retired from the classroom there after 45 years on the Augustana staff. An Augustana alum who graduated in 1964, he has a Master of Arts and a doctorate from the University of Chicago. Dr. Moline said as an Augustana student he took a geography course about transportation and infrastructure, and the discipline caught his interest so much that he began doing work outside of the class requirements. He found the potential scope of the science fascinating, Mr. Moline said geographic principles can be applied to anything from ethnic groups to forest distribution. His particular interests in the field include how people make decisions on managing natural resources. His work at Augustana included leading numerous student trips to Asia, and in particular, 40 trips to China. Moline, now an Augustana professor emeritus of geography, periodically leads Riverine Walks where participants explore the Quad Cities through a series of guided walks. Today he presented a fascinating slide show comparing China to the United States. First he noted that surveys show that citizens of China have basically the same hopes, fears, and goals, as citizens of the United States. His presentation then showed how in many ways China is becoming quite similar to the United States. Although ruled by a communist dictatorship, Moline noted that 80% of the jobs and 60% of the Gross Domestic Product in China is produced by the Chinese private sector. China currently accounts for \$13.4 billion in GDP compared to \$20.4 billion for the USA. Together the two nations account for 40% of the total world GDP. He also pointed out that the growing Chinese economy has created 600 million "middle class" citizens, who work, travel, vacation, and spend much like middle class in the US. Moline showed that the current life expectancy in China is 75 for men and 78 for women. Roughly the same as in the US, where life expectancy is 76 for men and 81 for women. Another similarity is the fertility rate. Currently, China and the United States have the same fertility rate with families averaging 1.8 children per family. Both countries have an aging population with 30% of China being over 65 years old by 2050. In the US is anticipated 22% of our citizens will be over 65 by 2050. Although the total land mass of the two nations is very similar, there are some significant differences between the two nations. In the USA roughly 17-20% of our land is arable and capable of producing food crops. In China only 12% of the land is arable. This creates a serious problem for the Chinese. Their population at 1.4 billion people dwarfs the US population of 328 million. They need to feed four times our population with 40% less tillable land than in the US. Moline then told that China has 3,033 people per square mile, compared to 557 people per square mile in the US. Like the US, China is experiencing urban migration. Their cities are growing at an incredible rate and fewer and fewer are left in rural areas to produce food. In addition many rural farmers are turning to cash crops such as flowers, and fruits, as opposed to food and grain crops. In addition to food issues, China is also struggling with a substantial wealth gap with urban areas economically booming and those remaining in rural areas facing poverty. Moline showed photos of numerous modern Chinese cities, noting "this is no longer a third-world country!" Thanks Dr. Moline for an interesting and very informative presentation!



July – September Calendar

- July 23 - Cathy Jordan – DeLaCorda Home
- July 30 - IDOT - I74 Bridge Update
- Aug 6 - Carrie Crossen – Pet Foster Mom
- Aug 13 - Katie Snyder - Mississippi Bend Trykes
- Aug 20 - Katie Thompson
- Aug 27 - Peter & Mel Wessels
- Sept 3 - State of the Schools – Dr. Reginald Lawrence II
- Sept 10- Andy McCray Chief Meteorologist, WHBF-TV
- Sept 17- Dr Christopher Peters
- Sept 24- Nisha Ladlee - Family Resources



P.O. Box 4514
Rock Island, IL 61204
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Officers

Mark Mayeski, President
Angela Campbell, 1st VP
Justin Peterson, 2nd VP
Anne McGlynn, Secretary
Carrie Crossen, Treasurer
Sue Cassatt, Past Pres.
Co-Sergeants at Arms
Cindi Gramenz
Bob Swanson

Board Members

Rick Emery
Kathy Lelonek
John Oliger
Bill Stengel
Howard Beck
Kim Calhoun
Cindi Gramenz
Eric Westphall

Program Chairs 2019-20

Aug. – Sep. Kathy Trone
Oct. – Nov Cindi Gramenz
Dec. – Jan John Wetzel
Feb. – Mar: Volunteer Needed
Apr. – May: Gary Rowe
June – July: Volunteer Needed

Club Notes & Announcements!

□ **WELCOME GUESTS!** Guests at today's meeting included Virginia Johnson, a guest of husband Don Peterson; and Virginia Houlton, a guest of husband Fred Houlton. We also were pleased to host Jennifer Vandracek, a prospective member and guest of Dave Geenan. We had two visiting Rotarians today, Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Club, and Duncan Cameron 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!

□ **AMANDA MURRAY** returns from Poland. Last year's outbound exchange student. Amanda Murray was with us today after spending the past year in Poland. She'll be presenting a program on her year abroad in the near future.

□ **LABOR DAY PARADE** – Mark your calendar. Rotary will have two cars, a float, plus bikers and walkers. Got ideas for our Float? Talk with Sue Cassatt who is chairing our Parade entry. Join in the fun, be a part of Rotary's parade entry! The date is Monday, September 2nd. Parade kicks off at 9:30am. Line up location will be provided in future newsletters.

□ **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 a bottle of fine wine from the Lo Milani cellar. The first lucky ticket was held by Rick Devinney who took the cash and donated his winnings to the Rotary International Foundation. The second lucky winner was Kathy Trone who won the wine and then forgot to take it home! Proceeds from our raffle go to the Rotary International Foundation. **Thanks to all who participated!**

FUN AT THE BALL PARK THIS THURSDAY!

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 your 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 23rd meeting. 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!

NEW CLUB DIRECTORY BOOKS AVAILABLE

Our 2019-20 Club Directories were distributed at last week's meeting. Each member is entitled to receive a copy of the directory. Thanks to all for getting your photos and information to Bob Swanson so that the books could be available for our first meeting of the new Rotary year. If you didn't get a copy last week, stop by the Sergeant at Arms table and we'll see that you get one!

The directory contains a list of all of our club's Paul Harris Fellows, from the first to the most recent. Please check the list to ensure that all Paul Harris Fellows you have bestowed are listed. Occasional the list we receive is missing a few names. Also, if their name is not the same as yours and you would like to be identified as the source of their honor, let Bob Swanson know and we will add it for next year's book. Be sure to let him know if any names are missing.

THANKS



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 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.



Our Water Project Update

Three years ago we began this adventure with enthusiasm and hope that Rotarians from Illinois and Iowa could make a real difference in the struggling lives of children in rural Kenya. Sam and Hilde Wray stepped up with a major contribution and as Jackie Gleason used to say, "Away We Go"! Since that time, scores of Rotarians and nearly 20 Rotary Clubs have joined the campaign! To date the number of children receiving safe, sanitary drinking water in rural Nairobi, Kenya is approaching 15,000 as a direct result of our project.

One of the most gratifying aspects of the project is seeing the results first-hand. This past week we received photos from the Sango, Mwiraria, Nyawacha, and Ligongo schools. Also, they included a link to a short video thanking us for the clean water provided by Rotary. Be sure to notice the stickers on the filters in both the photos and video. These are filters that YOU have helped provide and these are children who YOU have helped save! The stickers clearly show the filters came from our Western Illinois – Eastern Iowa Rotary project. Here is the video link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AJ3lwMizR4CGfoCFCVVWCG8VvdGCxLY3/view?usp=sharing>

Once again, thanks all for your generosity and support of the project. We are still campaigning hard and have many more children to reach! The cost of a filter delivered and set up with training, remains at \$350 per unit. Each unit will serve 70 children. Any who care to "re-up" and donate toward or purchase another filter this year, please make your check payable to Rock Island Rotary with a memo of "Water Project, and give it to Bob Swanson, Bud Phillis, or Carrie Crossen.

Thanks for being an amazing partner in this life-saving mission of providing clean water!



LOGINGO Primary School



SANGO Primary School



NYAWACHA Primary School



SANGO Primary School



MWIRARIA Primary School

ROTARY LITERACY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS SPRING FORWARD'S "STEPPING UP FOR SUMMER LEARNING"

On Thursday, July 11, students, parents, Quad City Symphony members, event sponsor Deere & Company, and Rotarians gathered at the TaxSlayer Center for "Stepping Up For Summer Learning", Spring Forward's summer book distribution program. Rotarians present were Mike Thoms, Rebecca Arnold, David Geenen, Kathy Lelonek, vice-president Angela Campbell, and Dan McNeil, Executive Director of Spring Forward. Hundreds of children who are summer "campers" at Spring Forward. Spring Forward says, "Summer learning loss during elementary school accounts for two-thirds of the achievement gap in reading between low-income children and their middle-income peers by ninth grade. Let imaginations run wild in books this summer." This summer Spring Forward has 300 campers who are engaged in 45 minutes of literacy intervention 3 times every week! Rotary is a proud partner with Spring Forward having previously funded books, field trips, and participated in the purchase of a new van.



Campers Listen Intently



Kathy & Angela Give Books



Mayor Thoms and Dan McNeil

FANTASTIC EXCHANGE DAUGHTER ENDS HER YEAR WITH US!

Just about a year ago we greeted Rocio Robolledo Hernandez as she arrived at the Quad City International Airport to begin her year with us as a Rotary Youth Exchange student. Today marked Cheo's final meeting with us as her exchange year comes to a conclusion. She will leave for her home in Chile (a 14-hour flight) on Sunday, July 21st at 5:45. Friends and Rotarians should gather around 3:30PM at the QC Airport in Moline to see her off. Cheo was a delightful young lady and represented her country and youth confidently and beautifully. Her outgoing personality aided her in making new friends and lasting relationships. In her final address to our club Cheo professed her love for the United State, for Rotary, and in particular for our club. No doubt she will be an outstanding ambassador for us as she returns to her homeland. Below are some memories of our year and final meeting with Cheo. She will be missed!



Cheo Arrives at Q.C. International Airport to Begin Her Year With Us



Labor Day Parade 2018



Rotarians gather as Cheo attends her last Rock Island Rotary Meeting



Exchange "Mom" Kathy Gets One Last Goodbye Hug with Cheo



Youth Exchange Chairman, Jeff Dismer with 2019-20 Outbound Andrea Rangel, Cheo, and 2018-19 Rebound from Poland, Amanda Murray



Andrea, Cheo, and Amanda stop for one last photo opp. Australia awaits Andrea soon



Rock Island Rotary TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday, November 8th 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!!!

This fundraiser supports Earl Hanson Elementary School and RI Rotary Community Grants. Corporate Sponsorships are available!

When: Friday, November 8th, 2019

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 10 players

RSVP: Kathy Trone 309-794-9400 or Kathy@wesselspc.com

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!



Rock Island Rotary TRIVIA NIGHT

Proceeds benefit Rock Island Rotary Youth Programs

Sponsorship Opportunities:

Gold Sponsor \$500

- Listed on all advertising material
- Complimentary Table for up to 10 players, including mulligans and double score sticker
- Day of event recognition as a Gold Sponsor

Corporate Sponsor \$250

- Complimentary Table for up to 10 players
- Day of event recognition as a Corporate Sponsor

Friend of Rotary \$100

- Day of event recognition as a Friend of Rotary



Rotary Club of Rock Island

P.O. Box 4514, Rock Island, IL 61204-4514

May 15th, 2019

Dear Business Owner/Corporate Donor:

The Rock Island Rotary Club is preparing for Rotary Trivia Night, an annual fundraising event, to be held Friday, November 8th, 2019 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Camden Centre in Milan, IL.

Proceeds from this event will help support youth programs in our community. Last year the club was able to support the Rock Island High School Interact Club, sponsor outreach activities for Rock Island elementary students and support various other QC youth programs. These valuable programs keep our youth engaged in positive, healthy activities.

We need your help to make this event a success. PLEASE consider donating an item for the silent auction. Any item is greatly appreciated, and all donations are tax deductible, as we are a not for profit, 501c3 organization. Your donation will be appropriately acknowledged at the event. If you would like to get a Trivia Team together, it is \$100 for up to 10 players and promises to be a fun night with Mr. Trivia at the microphone!

You may send your donation to the address above. I would also be more than happy to stop by and collect the item. Please let me know via email if this is your preference. Kathy@wesselspc.com

Thank you in advance for everything you do to support events and organizations in the Quad Cities! If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Best Regards,

Kathy Trone - Rock Island Rotary Fundraising Chair
(309) 794-9400

DAY FOUNDATION ASSISTS LITTLE LIBRARY PROJECT

Last year Rock Island Rotary funded the building and placing of 12 "Little Libraries" throughout our community. Each library is stocked with children's books that are free for the taking to area youngsters. In addition, the Rock Island Public Library also has a number of little libraries placed throughout the city. Fortunately, the Libraries are being used and the Library staff struggles to keep each Little Library stocked with books. Recently the Day Foundation awarded a \$4,000 grant to be used for purchasing books to keep the unites fully stocked. Working through the Public Library, books can be purchased for as little as \$1 or \$2 each. The generous Day Foundation grant will ensure that several thousand new books will be available free of charge to children in our community. Thank you Doris & Victor Day Foundation!

TRUE ROTARIANS TO THE VERY END!

Almost two years ago Bud Phillis and I (Bob Swanson) were invited to make a presentation regarding our water project to the Erie Rotary Club in Erie, Illinois. We arrived with program presentation, projector, screen, and brochures in hand. When we arrived, about 20 minutes before meeting time, no one was there and the building (a local church) was locked. About 10 minutes later the first Rotarian arrived with a key and let us in. We asked how many members they had in the club. "About 6", was the answer. "How many usually attend", we inquired and were told, "Five or Six". Within about five minutes four more members arrived, a delicious dinner was laid out, and we had a wonderful time. After making our presentation, the Erie Club voted to purchase a water filter. Over the next few weeks every single member of the club sent in a donation. 100% support! The only Club to do that! Today we received the very sad news that the members have voted to dissolve the Erie Club. Their final gesture in true Rotary form was to empty their checkbook with a final \$400 donation to our water project. Thank you Erie. We hope your members find a new club. We can't afford to lose great Rotarians like you!