

Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

January 28, 2020: Volume XXVII, Issue 29

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Dr. Luis Moreno, CEO of Arrowhead

As a former East Moline Police Officer and Dean of Students at Black Hawk College, Dr. Luis Moreno lives to help and serve others. His latest position, as CEO of Arrowhead Ranch, affords him the opportunity to do just that. At today's meeting, Dr. Moreno gave a short background, which he said can be summarized by "I love to help people and youth," and if you were in the room today, you could certainly tell he is very passionate about his job!

Founded in 1945, Arrowhead is a private, non-profit treatment facility serving at-risk youth aged 12-17 years old, located in a rural setting just outside of Coal Valley. Arrowhead's mission is to motivate youth-at-risk to become productive and responsible young people by providing quality counseling, education, and social services to youth and their families. Due to the girls' residence hall being out of ADA compliance, they are currently only serving young men from Rock Island, Knox, and Henry counties, as well as Jacksonville, Illinois.

Arrowhead provides a full school with teachers, a principal, and counselors. The ratio is 10 students to every teacher and paraprofessional; and 1 mental health specialist for every 3-4 students. The goal is to get to the root cause of the behavior. There are 3 ways a child can get sent to Arrowhead - 1. The courts, 2. The schools, or 3. The parents. Once at Arrowhead, children attend school, participate in therapy, learn life skills, and enjoy some recreational time. It used to be that Arrowhead Ranch was more of a "work-release" center for youth, but it has pivoted to provide kids with the tools to cope and respond to anything life throws at them.

Being a non-profit organization, Arrowhead does rely on the generosity of others during the annual "Auto Auction" fundraiser. If there is not enough money at any given time, it can eat into their endowment.

Thank you to Dr. Moreno and his co-worker, Mary Davidson, Director of Program Development, for an inspirational look into how Arrowhead is changing lives for the better. They shared some excellent ideas for the future, such as preventable care, transitional housing, and a possible program where the students train shelter dogs to become socialized and adoptable.

If you want to learn more about Arrowhead and the amazing work they do assimilating at-risk kids into society, visit their website at:
www.arrowheadyouth.org.

Learn more:

ARROWHEAD

ACADEMY • RESIDENTIAL • OUTREACH

www.arrowheadyouth.org

Winter Calendar

Feb 4 - Christie Adamson,
Humility Housing
and Services

Feb 11 - Rebecca Arnold,
THRIVE

Feb 18 - Jodie Barton,
New Kingdom Trail Riders

Rotary

Club of Rock Island



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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 President
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
February Linda Golden
Mar. – May: Gary Rowe
June – July: Volunteer Needed

Have a program idea? Contact the chairman listed above for a possible date.

Club Notes & Announcements!

WELCOME GUESTS! Rock Island Rotary was pleased to welcome guests at today's meeting: Andrew Coleman (Alleman); David Moens (Alleman); Emil Rosin (Rotary Exchange Student); Samantha Gange, guest of Julie Gelaude; Susan Llewellyn, guest of Julie Gelaude; Mary Davidson, Guest of Dr. Moreno; Diane Phillis, Guest of Bud Phillis; and Davenport Rotarian, Mark Zimmerman. Guests and visitors are always welcome at the **Number One Club**, Rock Island Rotary!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SCHEDULE – We are combining the January and February board meetings into one meeting on Monday, February 3rd. Board meetings are open to all Club members and may be used as a “make-up” for missed meetings. The board meets at the office of Studio 483 Architects, 124 Arts Alley, Rock Island at 11:45am in the 2nd floor meeting room.

SERVICE – Rotary members are needed to help 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 Steve Morenz 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 Steve Morenz to volunteer to help at 309-721-7632 or just show up any Thursday at 5:15. It's easy duty! We have a sign-up sheet at the Sergeant at Arms table and will be glad to add your name!

ROTARIANS ARE REMINDED to pick up your Wine Raffle Tickets and promo posters from Anne McGlynn or Ruth Lee. Tickets are in packs of five and it is hoped that every member will be responsible for selling 5 packs. Cost is \$5 per ticket or \$20 for pack of five. Wine prizes of \$750, \$500, and \$250 will be awarded.

GREETERS NEEDED FOR FEBRUARY! Please contact the Sergeant at Arms if you would like to be a greeter.

COMING SOON - Mark your calendars! Our Rotary program for February 11th is our very own Rock Island Rotarian, Rebecca Arnold. Rebecca will be speaking about THRIVE, a hunger fighting agency in Bangladesh which she helped establish. She will just have returned from Bangladesh the week before so will have fresh, first hand information about progress there. Let's support our own by attending this fascinating program!

ROTARY RAMBLE T-SHIRTS - There's still time to purchase a 2019 Rotary Ramble t-shirt. Contact Mary Fislar for the details!



FOUNDATION RAFFLE REPORT

Today's raffle featured a 50/50 cash drawing. Emil “Lucky” Rosin won the money AGAIN! That's two-weeks in a row! Congratulations, Emil. Don't spend it all in one place. :)

Proceeds from our raffle go to the Rotary International Foundation.
Thank you to all who participated!





Rotary Spotlight - John Wetzel

John Wetzel walked to the Rotary podium with confidence. He pulled out his mobile phone and said, "When the dogs bark, I am done," and proceeded to set his timer for five minutes. Although that got many chuckles from the crowd, it's also a testament as to why he has had such a successful life. And although he took us on a journey through his biography (and some genealogy), it is obvious that we will need a "Part 2," because the dogs seemed to bark rather quickly.

John was born in Chicago, but not long after, he and his family moved "home" to Rock Island. His mother and grandfather had deep roots in our fine city. His grandfather owned an electrical goods store at 308 19th Street, which for those of you who know downtown, is now Circa '21. As that space was being revitalized, the store moved to the 1500 block of 2nd Avenue, replaced by one of the on ramps to the Centennial bridge.

John's family immigrated to the US in 1752, through Philadelphia, and eventually landed in Macomb. His wife's family immigrated here in 1910 from Sweden and lived on the Moline/Rock-Island border. They eventually met at school, and later, got married.

John's early beginnings taught him life skills, specifically with a job delivering the Rock Island Argus newspaper. He graduated from Rock Island High School in 1960, and was a manager on Fred Houlton's softball team!

John received a BA in "G & G," Geology and Golf, at Augustana College. He began at Iowa-Illinois Gas & Electric Company in 1968, which later merged with MidAmerican Energy. During this time he also went on to receive a Master's Degree in Urban and Economic Planning from the University of Iowa. He worked more than 40 years with the company, retiring as Vice President of Economic Development.

Other items of note - John was the chair of the John Deere Classic in 1984, and helped rescue the financially troubled event. He was President of Rock Island Rotary from 1982 - 1983, and still feels as passionately about Rotary's Augustana Scholarship fund, the Club Foundation, and Rotary International just as he did when he first began.

Rotarian, John Wetzel, was in the spotlight! You can be, too! Just email Angela at campbell.angela@rigov.org, and pick a date!

There are some amazing stories online about John and his volunteerism, take a look, if you have the time. It is very clear that what he presented today was just the tip of the iceberg of a phenomenal life. We look forward to hearing more in the future!

PHF +7 - Congratulations, Larry!



Bud Phillis presented a Paul Harris Fellow Plus 7 to Larry Tadlock at today's meeting. Larry has now donated \$7,000 to the Rotary Foundation. As Bud said, it adds up over time. Congratulations on this achievement, Larry.

See Bud if you have any questions about making a donation to the Foundation, or how you can become a Paul Harris Fellow.



Alleman Students Say "Goodbye"

David Moens and Andrew Coleman have been visiting for the past month. Both said a few words today and thanked the club for "great food, great people." David intends to go to Loyola or University of Chicago in the fall. He doesn't know what he wants to study, but wants to find a Rotary Club to join! Andrew is headed to Illinois State University. He doesn't know what he wants to study, but he really enjoyed Rotary. Good luck!



Fires in Australia - Rotarians Can Help

The Rotary Australian Districts have developed a fund called the 2019-20 Bushfires Appeal.

People can donate by visiting <https://donations.rawcs.com.au/67-2019-20>



Wildlife rescuer Simon Adamczyk carries a singed koala from the smoldering remnants of gum forests on Kangaroo Island on January 7, 2020. (Photo Credit David Mariuz/EPA-EFE/Shutterstock)

ROTARIAN BLOOD DRIVE

The annual Rock Island Rotary Blood Drive will be held on Tuesday, February 4th. Giving blood is a simple way to change the world, one pint at a time! The Blood Drive will occur at the Botanical Center all morning and through the noon hour on the 4th. You can sign up (or sign up your family members) at any meeting right up to February 4th. Last year 20 Rotarians and family members donated 2.5 gallons of blood Let's beat last year's total ... we need more than 20 donors and more than 2.5 gallons donated!