



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

January 7, 2020: Volume XXVII, Issue 26

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Kathy Wine, Executive Director of RiverAction

Kathy Wine, the Executive Director and founder of RiverAction was guest speaker today at Rock Island Rotary. River Action strives to foster the environmental, economic, and cultural vitality of the Mississippi River and its riverfront in the Quad City region. Their vision is realized by Collaborating and partnering with people who appreciate and understand the importance of the Mississippi River and its place within the Quad Cities region. RiverAction advocates for the protection and enjoyment of the Mississippi River for people within the Quad Cities region. They develop and present programs, activities and projects that positively impact the people of the Quad Cities region and provide opportunities to enjoy the Mississippi River and they educate people in the Quad Cities region

January Calendar

- Jan 13 - MONDAY - Mayor Mike Thoms, State of the City – Joint with Kiwanis
Jan 21 - Dr. Joseph Rives, Senior Vice President for Strategic Planning and Initiatives, Western IL University
Jan 28 - Dr. Luis Moreno, CEO, Arrowhead Ranch

about the history, environmental impact and uniqueness of the Mississippi River. They promote respecting the natural beauty and magnificence of the Mississippi River and recognizing those people who share this respect within the Quad Cities region. Ms. Wine reviewed RiverAction's past accomplishments which include the Centennial Bridge Lights; Sixty miles of riverfront trail; Freeing the Nahant Marsh of lead pollution; Hosting the Upper Mississippi River Conference; creating the Channel Cat Water Taxi; Initiating the Channel Cat Education cruises; Creating Riverine Walks; Floatzilla; and Establishing Ride the River. Wine then revealed RiverAction's 2020 project goals. The goals are to 1) increase the Quad City Flood Resiliency Alliance to 26 communities; To begin construction of "First Bridge"; to complete 10 Rock Island Conservation Consortium projects; to complete 10 Scott County Conservation Consortium projects, and to break the world record for the Largest Canoe and Kayak Flotilla. Ms. Wine was particularly excited about the "First Bridge" project. RiverAction intends to build an exact replica of one span of the first bridge that crossed the Mississippi which connected the East to the West in 1856. The bridge extended from Rock Island to Arsenal Island, and from Arsenal Island to Davenport. Amazingly the original railway burn for the bridge and some original rails were found in tack at the original bridge site at the corner of River Drive and Federal Street in Davenport. Photos and drawings of the bridge exist allowing the exact reproduction to occur. Rather than carrying railway cars, the new "First Bridge" will be a bike and pedestrian bridge connecting the docks where Viking River Cruise Ships will dock next year with downtown Davenport. The new "First Bridge" will span street and vehicle traffic rather than the river. The bridge will connect the newly-built River Heritage Park, Mississippi River Trail, and American Discovery Trail, with a developing neighborhood in downtown Davenport and a new YMCA. The First Bridge elevation, 30 feet, will showcase views of significant historic sites on the river. It will also provide a safe link over a heavily used, fast moving four lane highway and BNSF railroad, between downtown Davenport, newly restored loft housing, the Mississippi River Trail (MRT), a 3,000 mile north-south route of on-road bikeways and multi-use trails. Shown here is a drawing of the span superimposed on the site it will occupy in Davenport. Ms. Wine is a woman full of



drive and enthusiasm, as is evidenced by her 35 years of service as the first and only Executive Director of RiverAction. She describes herself as a "River Rat", but is better described by Teri Goodman, in her nomination of Wine for the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation Lawrence and Eula Hagie Heritage Award, "Kathy Wine is a bold visionary and tenacious leader who invites the community to embrace the Mississippi River and its habitat by creating options for residents and visitors alike to touch the mighty Mississippi through bike trails, interpretative centers, reclamation of natural spaces, public design practices, art, education and economics." Thanks Kathy for an interesting and fun presentation!



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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

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 to today's meeting. Alleman Jr. Rotarians Andrew Coleman and David Moens were introduced by Fr. Mirabelli. Our Exchange son, Emil Rosin was in attendance as was Rusty Boruff representing One Eighty was a guest of the Club. We had one visiting Rotarian, Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Rotary Club. Guests 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! The Pantry will be closed the week of Christmas and New Year's. Next time to help after this Thursday will be January 9th.

□ **ROTARIANS NEEDED FOR LITERACY PROJECT** - We need more helpers for our Little Free Libraries. They are located at all elementary schools in Rock Island. We need a volunteer for each one to simply keep an eye on it. Let us know when it needs repair or more books. Contact Kathy Lelonek to volunteer to watch a library near your home.

□ **SEND ITEMS** for publication in our newsletter to bobdebswanson@att.net
We are happy to promote anything relating to Rock Island Rotary. Photos are welcome.



FOUNDATION RAFFLE REPORT

Today's raffle featured a 50/50 cash drawing. The winner was past president, Anne McGlynn, who donated her winnings to today's guest speaker for the One Eighty organization he founded. The Club's share of proceeds from our raffle each week go to the Rotary Foundation. **We greatly appreciate and thank all who participated!**

ROTARIAN HAPPY BIRTHDAYS IN JANUARY

Fred Houlton	January 17	Bob Swanson	January 25
Tom Torrey	January 17	Ted Kutsunis	January 29
Laura Fontaine	January 19	Jim Moran	January 31
Miranda Marshall	January 22		



QUAD CITY DINING BOOKS

Bud Phillis has just a few dining books to sell. If you need one or more, contact Bud and he will arrange to get it to you. The cost is \$35 and \$12 will be donated back to our Club! They make great gifts, with over 350 Coupons from over 150 Local Restaurants! Dining Tour books make great gifts! Introduces you to new restaurants! Save money with every coupon! Coupons expire Oct. 31, 2020.

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY POET LAUREAT, ANNE McGLYNN



Gave the first international reading of her new poem, entitled *"I've Got Wine"* (often translated as *"Get off your duff and sell some tickets!"*) The gist of the message was that we have a major fundraiser approaching that requires "All Hands On Deck". Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. They come in packs of 5 and the hope is that every member will take responsibility for selling 5 packs. If we do that this will be a successful fundraiser. The tickets tend to sell themselves! 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes for the raffle are First prize \$750 worth of wine of the winners choosing. 2nd place is \$500 of wine, and 3rd place \$250 of wine. Wine will be provided by the Grape Life Wine Store & Lounge. Cash prizes are available if the winner lives too far away to come select their wines.

The committee also has posters promoting the event and ask all members who have business or service locations to post a poster at your location. You can take a consignment of tickets and have them available for your customers who respond to the poster. See Anne McGlynn or Ruth Lee to get a poster.

If you have not yet purchased and/or taken tickets to sell, please see Anne or Ruth at an upcoming meeting.

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY SUPPORTS ONE EIGHTY

Community Grants Chairman, Frank Lambert presented a \$700 Rock Island Rotary Donation to Rusty Boruff, the founder and Executive Director of One Eighty. One Eighty began out of the testimony of Rusty who spent many years as a homeless addict who eventually found himself sitting in Cell 121. He spent a year of his life behind bars and met Jesus there. He began dreaming about starting an organization to help people in his position. A few years later, he and a few friends bought a trailer for \$500 and began what we now know as, One Eighty. In just a short time, One Eighty has experienced incredible growth. Through the faithful dedication of a small staff and a lot of volunteers, God has taken them from that small trailer to an entire city block of properties in the west central part of Davenport, IA with hundreds of volunteers participating in initiatives ranging from school based ministries to jail outreach to a residential program. These initiatives and the partnerships with local school districts, governments and police departments have allowed them to make a real impact in their community. One Eighty exists to bring hope, love and opportunity to people and communities impacted by crisis, poverty, or addiction. One Eighty prevents crisis, poverty, and addiction before it happens, reaches out to those who are in crisis, poverty, and addiction and develops those who were in crisis, poverty, and addiction. We do this by helping people build a relationship with Jesus Christ and assisting local churches and organizations to connect with their communities. Rock Island Rotary is pleased to help One Eighty. Our money will go toward their lice, bedbug, and roach control programs.



ROTARIANS WERE SADDENED

at the loss of fellow Rock Island Rotary member, Bill Green. Bill was a member of our club for 38 years, joining Rotary in 1981. Other than spending winters in Arizona, Bill rarely missed a meeting until health issues arose the past few years. He had a distinguished career in the military, serving tours in Germany, Japan, Korea, Thailand and Vietnam. He retired as a Colonel in 1979 after serving as Chief of Staff for HQ ARRCOM at the Rock Island Arenal. Bill then was employed by Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric, rose through the ranks, and retired as a Senior Vice President in 1994., Bill is a Paul Harris Fellow. He will be missed. Our sympathies to wife Marvel and to the entire Green family.

Visitation is Thursday at Wheelan-Pressly in Rock Island from 4 to 7pm. Rotarians who wish to attend as a group will meet at Wheelan Pressly at 5:30pm. A Memorial Service will be held at Wheelan-Pressly, Friday at 10am. Interment will be at the Arsenal National Cemetery with military honors. Our club Board of directors authorized a \$100 donation in Bill's honor to the Rock Island Rotary Club Foundation.



■ Club Members ■ Donors

FOUNDATION DONATIONS – Foundation Chairman Bud Phillis reported that our Club has reached our monetary fundraising goal for the year, but we only have 40% of members that have donated to the Rotary Foundation. We would like to see that percentage improve. A donation in any amount, just \$10, will add your name to the donors list and help our club improve our percentage of members donating! See Bud to make your donation. Remember, SIZE, doesn't matter.

AN AMAZING FIND!

Fellow Rock Island Rotarian, Dr. Jim Nordquist has a lovely daughter named Jamie “Nordquist” Grahn. Recently Jamie, a Marketing Manager with Allstate, was traveling near New Orleans, Louisiana and noticed the historical marker pictured to the right. Thanks to a great Rotary upbringing by Jim and wife Judy, Jamie (a Paul Harris Fellow) understood the significance of the marker, snapped this photo, and sent it to her Dad. It is an amazing story and we thank Jamie and Jim for sharing it with our club. To the right is the photo Jamie took showing the setting where the marker is located. Below is a blow up of the inscription. Be sure to read the inscription!



FOUNDATION MINUTE

Happy New Year to all Rotarians!

Welcome to our Vocational Service Month. January is the month clubs highlight the importance of the business and professional life of each Rotarian.

The Rotary Foundation recently released a summary of its Program Expenditures during 2019. According to the report, during 2018-2019, the Foundation funded over \$151 million (US) in program awards including PolioPlus Partners grants. Our six Rotary Peace Centers provided training of Peace Fellows where they earned either a graduate degree or professional development certificate. Since 2002, 1,284 fellows have graduated from these centers and are working in 116 countries. In the period under review, 94 fellows from 43 countries began their studies at these Rotary Peace Centers with \$5 million (US) funding from TRF. Furthermore, 494 District Grants and programs were awarded \$26.3 million (US). These small-scale, short-term projects are related to our Foundation's mission. During this same period TRF approved 1,403 Global Grants and program awards in the amount \$86.6 million (US).

As we continue to be engaged in Service Above Self, Rotary clubs should seek opportunities to participate in special activities that promote the vocational avenue of service. Below are listed some easy activities that can raise awareness:

- Distribute Four-Way Test
- Distribute Vocational Awards to outstanding individuals, Arrange Vocational Visits
- Organize Awareness seminar on career guidance, organize / Arrange in Plant Training
- Start Vocational Education / Skill Guidance Center. Start Part Time Consultancy center.

Yours in Rotary,
Olabisi Gwamna Ph.D.
Rotary Club of Mt. Pleasant
Foundation Minute Editor

ROTARIANS PLANNING TO GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE!

Project Chair, Chris Lemon announced that 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! A few things you'll need to help save lives: A photo ID or Donor ID is required to donate. You must be in good health, weigh at least 110 pounds, and be at least 17 years old. The Blood Drive will occur at the Botanical Center all morning and through the noon hour on the 4th. Many signed up at our meeting today, but you can sign up at any meeting right up to February 4th. Last year 20 Rotarians and family members donated 2.5 gallons of blood.

Did you know: 4.5 million Americans would die each year without life saving blood transfusions.

Approximately 32,000 pints of blood are used each day in the United States.

Every three seconds someone needs blood.

One out of every 10 people entering a hospital needs blood

Just one pint of donated blood can help save as many as three people's lives.

That means that last year's drive saved as many as 60 lives right here in the Quad Cities.

Our drive is not restricted to just Rotary members. We are the hosts; but will be happy to accept donations from any Rotarian, family member, friend, colleague, or associate!

Let's beat last year's total ... we need more than 20 donors and more than 2.5 gallons donated!

