



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



MARCH 10, 2020: Volume XXVII, Issue 35

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER

## Ed Tibbetts Reports: SUPER TUESDAY & THE IOWA CAUCUSES




### March – May Calendar

- Mar 17 - My Night at the Oscars  
Dr. William Campbell, St.  
Ambrose University.
- Mar 23 - Earl Hanson School –  
Principal Sarah Leonard
- Mar 31 - Earth Day – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Lori McCollum
- April 7 - Bert Blood Scholarship
- April 14 - Rotary Awards Banquet
- April 21 - Davenport Junior Theatre –  
Daniel Sheridan
- April 28 - Earl Hanson Inspire Choir
- May 5 - Early Act Club – Jordan  
School
- May 12 - Legalized Marijuana – Allison  
Wright, Papas & O'Connor
- May 19 - Liz Tallman – Q.C. Chamber  
of Commerce
- May 26 - TBA

On September 18, 2018 Ed Tibbetts, a veteran Quad-City Times journalist with three decades of reporting experience, was named as the Times' Opinion Page editor.

Times Publisher, Debbie Anselm, said the Times is "thrilled to have Ed in this leadership position. As a veteran reporter well known for his political coverage and a long-time citizen of the Quad-Cities, Ed brings a unique perspective to this role," Anselm said. Today Rock Island Rotary had the privilege of meeting Ed and hearing his perspective on last week's "Super Tuesday" and the 2020 Iowa Caucuses. Tibbetts, joined the Times in 1989. During his tenure, he primarily covered politics and local government, including the city of Davenport and Scott County. For the past 25 years, he has covered everything from local races to the statehouse, the Iowa caucuses and presidential politics. He also has reported on topics including health care, demographics, the economy, Rock Island Arsenal, Mississippi River, Interstate 74 bridge and other governmental issues impacting the region. "Ed is one of the sharpest newsmen I've ever worked with, and he's one of the most respected journalists in Iowa," said Matt Christensen, Times executive editor. Tibbetts began his remarks noting that when he agreed to speak at today's meeting he was a bit worried that the Iowa Caucus would be "old news", since it occurred some 6-weeks ago. However, with the debacle that occurred on the democrat side, more recently he worried whether there would be any results by the time he was to speak with us. As it worked out, the results did get confirmed, albeit just recently, with Pete Buttigieg winning, Bernie Sanders coming in second and Joe Biden scoring a distant fourth. Then with Biden's fifth place finish in New Hampshire, most pundits counted him out of the race. However, Tibbetts noted "Americans are hard to predict" and polls and pundits are often wrong. Biden's campaign emerged from the ashes in South Carolina and carried over into "Super Tuesday", and he is now leading the pack going into today's primaries. He also noted that with the race being close, next week's Illinois primary may be of more importance than in past years. He also said that the relatively low amount of early voting is a sign that people are waiting to the last minute to make their choice. Because of the problems that occurred this year and the complaint that Iowa is a small, agricultural state with little diversity, Tibbetts is guessing that it will no longer be the "first in the nation" in the next presidential primary race, at least not for the democrats. It will probably remain a caucus state. Party leaders can't just decide to switch to a primary election, because Tibbetts noted the caucus system is written into Iowa law. Iowa's system is unique in that rather than a caucus where a straw poll determines the winner, Iowa uses a "delegate equivalent" system. Caucus goers divide into separate areas of the room designating which candidate they support. Any group that is not at least 15% of those in attendance must either go home or join another candidates group. Once all groups in the room each represent 15% or more of those present, whatever delegates have been allotted to the caucus by the state democrat leaders are divided among the groups, based on their percent of the total number present. When asked what his biggest surprise of this election year has been, Tibbetts said, "Joe Biden. He has never run well in Iowa and his emergence as the front runner at this stage is surprising". Time will tell, but for now we greatly appreciated and enjoyed the Tibbetts take on the election and Iowa caucuses.

**Rotary**   
Club of Rock Island  
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Rock Island, IL 61204  
[www.rirotary.com](http://www.rirotary.com)

## 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. – 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. Alleman Jr. Rotarians, Gabriel Sebben and Bayley Hoffman, along with our exchange son, Emil Rosin, were our only guests in attendance today. Have you invited a friend or associate to Rotary lately? Guests are always welcome at the **Number One Club**, Rock Island Rotary!

□ **ROTARY 2 HOUR SERVICE PROJECT** – We need SIX MORE Rotarians to fill our 25-person team who will be meeting at Riverbend Foodbank on Saturday, April 4th from 8 a.m. to 10am. This will be a "quick" easy service project where Rotarians can help a cause while engaging in fellowship with other members. It costs nothing but 2 hours out of your day! We will be putting together "over the weekend" grocery bags (backpacks if you will) of food for children who are on free/reduced school lunch programs. Many of these kids only eat during the week and must fend for themselves on the weekend. These bags allow the kids to have food for the weekend. This program serves 85 schools in Iowa and Illinois (mostly Quad Cities). Let President Mark know if you will join the team or sign up at the Sergeant at Arms table next week!

□ **SERVICE** – Rotary members are needed to help with the Heart of Hope Food Pantry. We help every Thursdays from 5:30 to 6:30pm. It's easy duty and is truly *Service Above Self* at its most basic definition. 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.

□ **SEND ITEMS** for publication in our newsletter to [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net)  
We are happy to promote anything relating to Rock Island Rotary.



## FOUNDATION RAFFLE REPORT

Today our raffle featured wine from the Pete Wessels collection and a 50-50 cash drawing. The first lucky winner was Ruth Lee who opted for the cash and donated it to our exchange son, Emil Rosin. The second ticket and the wine went to Tammy Weikert. The Club's share of proceeds from our raffle each week go to the Rotary Foundation. **We greatly appreciate and thank all who participate!**

## ROTARY SUPPORTS FIRST TEE OF THE QUAD CITIES



Today our Community Grants Committee Chair, Frank Lambert, presented a \$500 Rotary donation to Sara Cross, Executive Director of First Tee of the Quad Cities. First Tee is an international youth development organization introducing the game of golf and its inherent values to young people through after school and in school programs. First Tee helps shape the lives of young people by incorporating core values through the game of golf. Kids in the program are taught Honesty, Integrity, Sportsmanship, Respect, Confidence, Responsibility, Perseverance, Courtesy, and Judgment which are incorporated throughout the program. Our donation will be used for their new "Boys & Girls Academy" that will bring 20 boys and 20 girls to TPC Deere Run for 4 hours of golf and life lesson instruction.

## FOUNDATION MINUTE

This year, members from some of the 33,000 clubs scattered among 535 districts in 34 zones in more than 200 countries, will be involved in special programs for their clubs. 2020 is the year that many Rotary Clubs will celebrate their century of "Doing Good In The World." In his latest message published in the March 2020 edition of the Rotarian, Foundation Trustee Chair, Gary C.K Huang implores Rotarians to "continue to cultivate virtue, examine and analyze what we learn, move toward righteousness based on our new knowledge, and keep improving everything we do."

With regards to The Rotary Foundation's core goals, several clubs are already harkening to the advice. At the Rotary India Centennial Summit which just concluded in Newtown, West Bengal, India, 4,000 members from 35 countries, along with government officials explored ideas and solutions for disease prevention and treatment, water sanitation, hygiene and education. Addressing the participants at the summit, RI President Mark Maloney said, "As we celebrate our impact over the last 100 years in India, I'm inspired by these creative solutions to some of our toughest challenges, from economic inequality to conflict resolution to fighting disease."

During the service year of 2018-19, The Rotary Foundation supported projects in India worth \$22.81 million (USD). The emphasis is always on the Six Areas of Focus. Recognizing India's role in the eradication of Polio, this March Rotary will join India in celebrating its 6th Polio-free year. Since 1995, Rotary has worked with the Indian government to institute a National Immunization Day each year to immunize 172 million children under 5 years old.

Disease prevention was a top priority for Rotary District 7070 (Toronto) when it handed over a high-tech toilet complex to the Wandse Proper Primary School in Kundapura, India. The \$90,873 USD project was funded through a Global Grant. Rotary District 3182 Kundapura, India and the Rotary Club of Whitby-Sunrise, Whitby, Ontario, Canada, contributed to the project. Unveiling the plaque for the toilet complex, Past District 3182 Governor, Abhinandan Shetty Kundapura, expressed gratitude to TRF for the grant and disclosed that another Global Grant of \$39,145 USD has been approved for the Narayana Specia School, Kundapura, India. Finally, Global Grant Program Coordinator, G. Sridhar Shetty said that an additional Global Grant worth \$23, 068 USD has provided funds for a "smart class" school vehicle for the school's technical training staff.

Your continuing support of the Rotary Foundation makes all this possible!

## INVOCATION PRESENTERS & GREETERS ARE NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to present the invocation at upcoming meetings. Whether you take a month or just one meeting, your help will be greatly appreciated. Remember, you don't have to be a saint to pray, but you'll never be a saint if you don't! Please drop an email to Mark at [mark.mayeski@edwardjones.com](mailto:mark.mayeski@edwardjones.com) and let him know what you are willing to do.



Volunteers are also needed to serve as greeters at upcoming meetings. The only requirement is that you arrive a bit early and bring your smile and friendly handshake, fist bump, or hug, whichever fits your style. Please volunteer at the Sergeant at Arms table.



## CLARENCE DARROW IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Today Rotarian Clarence Darrow was our featured member. Clarence joined Rock Island Rotary in 1997. He was born in Dubuque, Iowa and graduated from Loras College in Dubuque. He accepted a position with the Cook County Public Air Office working in the Children's Division. That experience led him to a job with the Iowa Dept. of Social Services, supervising the Aid to Dependent Children program. He returned to school and earned a master's degree in Social Work. He continued his work primarily helping children but began attending night school at Chicago Kent School of Law, graduating with a JD degree in 1971. He then joined the Rock Island County States Attorney's Office and worked primarily in Juvenile Court. In 1974 he successfully ran for the Illinois House of Representatives and served 4 terms prior to serving 1 term in the Illinois Senate. Clarence then ran for and won election as a local Circuit Judge. Retiring from the bench, he formed a law office with his son and daughter-in-law and was in the private practice of law until retiring in 2015. His son is now a Circuit Judge and his daughter-in-law a U.S. Federal District Court Judge. Thanks Clarence for sharing your life story of service to youth and our community.

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HONOLULU, HAWAII, USA 6 - 10 June 2020



The convenient online system makes registering easy for Rotary members, Rotaractors, and Rotary club and district employees. [REGISTER ONLINE](#)  
Important deadlines: 31 March 2020: Last day for Preregistration discount

## 2020 ROTARY AWARDS

Although April 14<sup>th</sup> may seem a long way off, time flies when we meet just once each week. Our 2020 Awards Banquet is just 5 meetings away. In that short time the Awards Committee need each of us to nominate persons to be considered for the Awards, the committee needs to review and vote on the nominees, those to be awarded must be contacted and invited to the Banquet, and appropriate awards must be ordered and received in time to be presented. SO ... time is actually short!

**Step One** = We need you to review the awards criteria and to fill out nomination forms and return them to either Carrie Crossen or Chris Lemon. You can return them in person or via email.

**Excellence Award:** Recognizes distinction or superiority in a field of endeavor. This can be for a single accomplishment for achieving high standards of achievement or performance over a sustained period of time. The recipient need not be a Rotarian.

**Community Service Award:** Recognizes individuals or organizations who have worked effectively for the betterment of our community. The recipient need not be a Rotarian.

**Luckenbill - Wray Award:** Recognizes a current Rock Island Rotarian for outstanding service and dedication to our club over the past year.

**A.T. Peara Award:** Recognizes the Rock Island Rotarian who has exhibited the dedicated service and faithful commitment to the ideals of Rotary that were personified by A.T. Peara, for whom the award is named. The recipient must be a Rotarian and the award is a one-time, "lifetime" award.

Your nomination form is on the next page of today's newsletter.

# ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CLUB

## 2020 Awards Committee



Rock Island Rotary's annual Awards Luncheon is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 14th**. The Awards Committee seeks nominations for the following awards:

1. **Excellence:** Recognizes distinction or superiority in a field of endeavor. This can be for a single accomplishment or for achieving high standards of achievement or performance over as sustained period of time.
2. **Community Service:** Recognizes individuals or organizations who have worked effectively for the betterment of our community.
3. **A.T. Peara Award for Service Above Self:** Recognizes the Rock Island Rotary member who has exhibited the dedicated service and faithful commitment to the ideals of Rotary that were personified by A.T. Peara, for whom the award is named after.
4. **Luckenbill/Wray Excellence Award:** Recognizes a Rotarian who has exhibited outstanding service and dedication for Rock Island Rotary over the last year.

The first two awards are open to any individual or organization that has demonstrated excellence or worked for the betterment of the Rock Island community. The excellence award applies to all lines of work and to all ages.

The A.T. Peara Award is limited to current members of Rock Island Rotary. It can only be won once per lifetime. The Luckenbill/Wray Excellence Award is limited to current members of Rock Island Rotary however is able to be received more than once in their lifetime.

To ensure that our committee has adequate time to evaluate, consider, make the selections, and have awards prepared, the deadline for nominations is March 20th. Please consider making one or more nominations using the lower portion of this form. Additional copies are available if you need them. We greatly appreciate your participation and assistance.

Submit Nomination to: Carrie Crossen or by e-mail to [ccrossen@choosethechief.com](mailto:ccrossen@choosethechief.com)

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**NOMINEE NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated for (be sure to indicate):

\_\_\_\_\_ Excellence \_\_\_\_\_ Community Service \_\_\_\_\_ A.T. Peara Award \_\_\_\_\_ Wray/Luckenbill Award

Reasons in support of your nomination: (use back of page if needed)

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