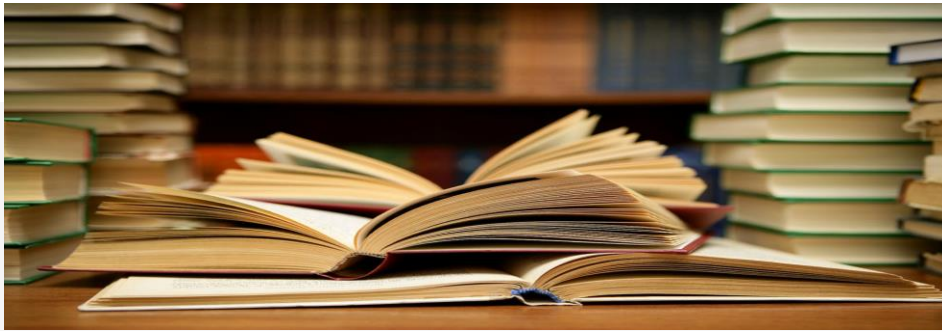




Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

June 23, 2020: Volume XXVII, Issue 50

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Rock Island Rotary Book Club

Our program today was the brainchild of program chair Tom Hammar. Knowing that a) We've been ordered to shelter at home for the past two and a half months, and b) Our incoming president is Director of the Rock Island Public Library, Tom suggested that members of our club be called upon to talk about books they have recently read. In brief five-minute reports we heard from the following members.

- Kai Swanson reported on The Cider House Rules by John Irving. Kai stated that although he read the book over 30 years ago when in his 20s, four words from the book have stayed with him and have been somewhat life-shaping for him. The words came from the phrase, "there is no higher calling than **to be of use**". The story set in the pre- and post-World War II era, is about a young man, Homer Wells, an orphan growing up under the guidance of Dr. Wilbur Larch. The story relates his early life at Larch's orphanage in Maine and follows Homer as he eventually leaves the nest and comes of age in the world. From an excellently written story, Kai, took away the advice, in every opportunity and in everything you do, "be of use".
- Bob Swanson read The United States of Trump by Bill O'Reilly. The book billed as neither pro nor con Donald Trump, is a historical investigation into what the President really thinks of the United States and why his is as he is. Noting that Trump is unique in being an "outsider" who has run for office just once and became president, and that he seems to be either despised or adored with great intensity by his detractors and followers, the book through interviews and research attempts to discover what makes Trump – Trump. Starting with his childhood with strong influence from his father and older brother and progressing through military boarding school and ultimately the Wharton School of Business, Donald developed an intense competitive nature first in sports and then in business. He developed a desire and ability to lead, and a hatred of losing. He loves a good fight and is primarily results driven. Politically, his competitive drive to win, translated in to his "America first" beliefs.
- Kathy Trone's career and interest in law lead her to the book Know My Name, by Chanel Miller. Considered the memoir that laid the foundation for the "Me Too" movement, the author recounts her traumatic sexual assault. She was known to the world as Emily Doe when she stunned millions with a letter. Brock Turner had been sentenced to just six months in county jail after he was found guilty of sexually assaulting her on Stanford's campus, leaving her half naked and unconscious behind a dumpster. Turner, an Olympics hopeful swimmer actually served just 3 months, the Judge saying that the damage to his career and Olympic hopes was enough punishment for the "incident". Miller's victim impact statement inspired changes in California law and the recall of the judge in the case. Thousands wrote to say that she had given them the courage to share their own experiences of assault for the first time. But her struggles with isolation and shame during the aftermath and the trial reveal the oppression victims face. Kathy noted that the story illuminates a culture biased to protect

June - July Calendar

- June 30- President Mark Mayeski makes his farewell address and will recap a most unique and challenging year as our President.
- July 7 - President Angela Campbell takes the reins of Rock Island Rotary and lays out her hopes and expectations for the coming year.
- July 14 - Steve Bahls Augustana College President
- July 21 - Jerry Huiskamp Former President of Blackhawk Bank
- July 28 - Chris Marme Augustana Economics Dept.



Club of Rock Island

P.O. Box 4514

Rock Island, IL 61204

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 Olinger

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: Tom Hammar

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

Club Notes & Announcements!

- ☐ **WELCOME GUESTS** – Rock Island Rotary was pleased to have two guests at today's meeting. Duncan Cameron, a visiting Rotarian joined us from Naples, FL. Also joining was Mark Zimmerman, from the Moline Club. Neither really considers themselves as "guests", but we love to have them with us. Guests are always welcome at Rock Island Rotary, the Number One
- ☐ **BORED STAYING AT HOME!** Grab your Club Directory and call a Rotarian. Just chat, find out how they are doing and compare notes on how they pass the time while Sheltering at Home. Maintaining a semblance of social contact is good for you and you'll be surprised how good you feel just chatting with a fellow club member. You might just "make the day" for the Rotarian you call.
- ☐ **SERVICE** – Rotary members are needed to help with the Heart of Hope Food Pantry. We help every Thursday. The Pantry serves those using walkers and scooters starting at 4:30pm. The distribution to the general public will begin at 5:30pm and will last until 6:30pm. They do not need our help to serve the early group, therefore, the volunteer time needed is only one hour. During the current health crisis, the needs of the less fortunate still exist and may even become greater. People still are hungry and still need the food they receive from Heart of Hope Food Pantry. The plan at this time is for the operation of the Food Pantry to continue and our help and support is still needed. But the distribution system of food has changed. Instead of a shopping format where the guest walks through the building selecting the food they want, the food now is pre-packaged into bags and just hand out to the guests. Contact with the public is reduced considerably. Food will be delivered to the elderly and disabled so that that population does not have to leave their homes. Used but sound plastic bags are needed now even more than in the past. Drop off bags anytime the Heart of Hope Center is open. Call Steve Morenz to volunteer at 309-721-7632 or just show up any Thursday at 5:15 to help pack bags. Clients will not come into the food pantry until further notice.
- ☐ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** Email items, including photos to Bob Swanson at bobdebswanson@att.net.

KEVIN KOSKI TALLYS OUR BIRDIES CAMPAIGN



We started with a goal of 40 pledges with a total of \$2.20 pledged per birdie. After 6 weeks of campaigning we are short of our number of pledges goal, tallying a total of 33 pledges. However, those that did pledge were generous and we exceeded our goal in dollars pledged, hitting \$2.42 per birdie. That will translate into a total campaign effort of over \$4,800 plus the John Deere Foundation will add an additional 5%. All proceeds from the campaign will go toward our Rock Island Rotary Club Foundation. Kevin offered one last chance to pledge. Call Kevin with your pledge today!. Thank you Kevin for again heading up this vital fundraising effort. Thanks to all who pledge!

THE TAB DOESN'T GROW!

Today when President Mark called for "Happy/Sad Dollars" he was greeted by a chirping chorus of crickets. It cannot be that there was nothing to be happy (or sad) about this past week! Must be that members are realizing that we are nearing the time of meeting in person again and the "Tab" will be due!

Fortunately, we have an accurate record of all those who have offered up their dollars through the weeks of ZOOM meetings. There is still a few weeks left for building the tab with proceeds to the Rotary Foundation, so get happy!

[BOOK CLUB - Kathy Trone Continued]

perpetrators, indicts a criminal justice system designed to fail the most vulnerable, and, ultimately, shows the courage required to move through suffering and live a full and beautiful life.

- John Wetzel told us about the book Shoeless Joe, by W.P. Kinsella. The book later adapted into the feature film "The Field of Dreams", tells the story of Kinsella as an Iowa farmer obsessed with the beauty and history of American baseball, specifically the plight of his hero, Shoeless Joe Jackson, and the Black Sox Scandal of the 1919 World Series. When he hears a voice telling him to build a baseball field in the midst of his corn crop in order to give his hero a chance at redemption, he blindly follows instructions. The field becomes a conduit to the spirits of baseball legends. Kinsella also makes is a cross-country trip to ease the pain of another hero, the reclusive writer J.D. Salinger, as part of a journey the Philadelphia Inquirer called "not so much about baseball as it's about dreams, magic, life, and what is quintessentially American." John noted that the field when actually built for the movie just outside of Dyersville, Iowa, has become a major tourist attraction for northeastern Iowa.
- Kevin Koski's book entitled Martin's Hundred by Ivor Noel Hume, is an archeological detective story. The book is a first-hand account of an excavation in American historical archaeology--the discovery of a lost plantation, providing extensive evidence of English colonial life in early seventeenth-century Virginia. What started out as a search for an 18th century village turned up items from a century earlier in time. The book details the various discoveries and the detective work involved in attempting to determine just what they had found. Ultimately the trove of discoveries established a village settled in 1618. All signs of it had disappeared, leaving no trace above ground. More than three centuries later, archaeological explorations uncovered evidence of the people who had lived, worked, and died there in the seventeenth century including a vast array of artifacts and burials, Coffins with gable style lids were a puzzle until it was discovered that the peaked lids allowed the palls and family crests tp be seen when the coffins were carried to their burial site.
- Tom Hammar wrapped up our book club session with a report on the Brothers Karamazov by Fyodor Dostoevsky. Tom stated the story is about a dis-functional family, a philosophical novel set in 19th-century Russia, that enters into the ethical debates of God, free will, and morality. It is a spiritual, theological drama of moral struggles concerning faith, doubt, judgment, and reason. Fyodor Karamazov is the father of three sons, but takes no interest in any of his sons, who are, as a result, raised apart from each other and their father. The relationship between Fyodor and his adult sons drives much of the plot in the novel. Dmitri the eldest son returns home to claim his inheritance which he believes is being withheld by his father. Ivan, the middle son is an atheist and has little to no feeling for his brothers initially. Alexei, the youngest in contrast to his atheist brother, is a novice in a Russian Orthodox Monastery. The relationship between Dmitri and his father is the most volatile, aided by both men vying for the same woman. When the father is murdered, Dmitri is accused and convicted (wrongfully) of the crime. The author carefully develops each character and winds in a sub-plot involving schoolboys and bullying. The book is considered one of the world's greatest literary achievements.



The Illinois Quad Cities Rotary Club is partnering with River Bend Food-bank providing support for their School Pantry Program. Their "Gift Card Raffle" has 17 gift cards representing local businesses for a total of \$345.00 in value. For every dollar raised, the Rotary Foundation will match up to \$1500. The raffle drawing will be held on July 15th. To purchase tickets, simply contact the Illinois Quad Cities Rotary Club president, George McDaniel at g.mcdaniel@mchsi.com. Tickets are \$5 or 5 for \$20.

FOUNDATION MINUTE

In its concerted effort to combat the menacing effects of COVID-19, The Rotary Foundation initiated a Disaster Response Fund. Districts can apply for a \$25,000 grant. The first tranche of funding has been distributed. The districts that have been awarded the funds have utilized the grants within their local communities.

To date, nearly \$5 million has been dispersed by TRF to nearly 200 of the 535 districts in the world. One of the recent awardees is District 6270. This district, comprising of 54 clubs in southeastern Wisconsin, has four clubs that are purchasing and delivering food to those in need, and supplying face masks, shields, and other PPEs to local first responders and fire departments. The West Bend Sunrise Rotary, WI USA, one of the four clubs, donated PPE worth \$4,000 to the Albrecht Free Clinic.

TRF also awarded \$25,000 to District 6820, Mississippi, which has split the grant among seven hospitals in Central Mississippi.

Responding to the needs of those affected by COVID-19, The Rotary Club of Winnetka-Northfield, IL with a matching grant from TRF, presented a check for \$3,810 to St. Dominic Hospital for COVID-19 expenses.

Another Disaster Response Grant awarded by TRF made it possible for the Rotary Club of Potsdam, NY to donate \$1,000 to the Potsdam Neighborhood Center Food Bank for COVID-19 relief. Expressing much appreciation for the donation, the director of the Food Bank, Kristal Hayes, declared that the money will provide "a good deal of food to our clients. It takes a village, they say, and we definitely cannot do what we do without the support of great organizations like the Rotary and our community."

Rotary is Fellowship. Real Fellowship is frank, spontaneous, full of warmth, and if you want to gauge its depth, you will find that it is the difference between "Mister" and "Bill" – "Reverend" and "Jack." (Call Him "Bill." The Rotarian, May 1915).

Rock Island Rotary



PUMPKIN PALOOZA 2020

Hosting First and Second grade classes from Earl Hanson School

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Should this event be postponed or changed, we will still plan something fun for the kiddos and teachers and give them a t-shirt.

Sponsorship

Sponsorship

\$100

Helps to provide a t-shirt for every participant

Sponsor's name/logo will be printed on the back of the shirts

Thank you for your support for a great day for a great group of kids.
Please make checks payable to Rock Island Rotary and indicate this is for Pumpkin Palooza Sponsorship.

Thank you.

The Pumpkin Palooza Team