



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

June 9, 2020: Volume XXVII, Issue 48

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



EMIL Emil Rosin 2019-20 Youth Exchange Son

Our 2019 - 2020 Rotary Youth Exchange son, Emil Rosen came to us from Finland. He was enrolled at

Alleman High School and quickly became an accepted member of the class of 2020. His outgoing personality and friendly charm earned him a spot on the Alleman Homecoming Court and his crowning as the Homecoming Prince. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 Pandemic caused Emil to end his year with us a few months earlier than anticipated. Amid concerns that flights and borders might be closed, Emil's parents opted

April – May Calendar

June 16- Dr. Louis Katz – The Pandemic
June 23- Rotarian Book Club
June 30- President Mark Mayeski
July 7 - President Angela Campbell
July 14 - Steve Bahls Augustana
College President
July 21 - Jerry Huiskamp Former
President of Blackhawk Bank
July 28 - Chris Marme Augustana
Economics Dept.

for him to return home on April 7th. Upon his safe return to Finland he was required to quarantine for 14 days in Helsinki prior to moving on to his home in Pargas. Today we were pleased to have him back with us for our ZOOM meeting with Emil as our guest speaker! He began his comments with a heartfelt “thank you” to our Club for welcoming and hosting him. With an interesting array of photos, Emil walked us through his year in the U.S. He arrived in America on August 6, 2019, landing in New York. After spending a couple of days in New York along with other Finnish Rotary Exchange students he boarded a flight to Chicago. Unfortunately, his plane was delayed getting to O'Hare Airport and he missed his connecting flight to Moline. After a quick call to his awaiting host family, host dad, Mike Maynard was on the road driving to Chicago. Once safely in the Quad Cities, Emil was enrolled at Alleman High School. He reported that he really liked Alleman and all the opportunities and friends it gave him. He noted that American education differs greatly from schools in Finland. He said in Finland students are required to work much more independently. Lessons in school are shorter and students are expected to do the bulk of their work on their own at home. Recalling his favorite memories, he spoke of attending a Rotary Conference in Chicago which gave him the opportunity to socialize with other Nordic exchange students and also allowed him to do some Lake Michigan sailing. In a subsequent trip to Chicago with Tom Hammar, Emil attended his first live NFL game and became a lifelong Chicago Bears Fan. He described the game as an “awesome” experience. Emil also had fond memories of visiting Springfield and touring the Lincoln Museum and visiting the Lincoln memorial and tomb. In yet another trip with his host family Emil visited St. Louis and Memphis. He had photos of the Arch and of Elvis' home in Memphis. In a trip that he called an “unforgettable experience” he and his host family traveled to Alaska. He was particularly joyed to see all the snow, since snow fall in the Quad Cities last winter was far below what is customary in his homeland. He was able to experience dog sledding and see amazing ice sculptures. As stated earlier, his year was cut short by the pandemic. It ended with host dad, Pete Murray driving Emil to Chicago and an uneventful flight home to Helsinki. When asked what his future plans include, Emil said he will first finish high school, and then will serve a mandatory one-year service in the Finnish military. After completing his service, he hopes to enter the University of Helsinki where he wants to study law and economics. He concluded his comments by “debunking” the “myth” of St. Urho, stating that as a person born and raised in Finland he had never heard of St. Urho or St. Urho's Day until coming to the U.S. Emil again thanked our club and stated that he will return someday and plans to join us for a Tuesday Rotary luncheon. He said he was grateful for how friendly and welcoming the American people are. Needless to say, Emil will be a most welcome guest at Rock Island Rotary whenever he may return!. [See photos page 6]



Club of Rock Island

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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 several visitors today. Duncan Cameron, a visiting Rotarian joined us from Naples, FL. Also joining us were Pete and Amanda Murray, and Mike and Sam Maynard, host family members for our guest speaker, Emil Rosin. Guests are always welcome at Rock Island, the Number One Club!
- ☐ **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.

FOUNDATION MINUTE

Welcome to Rotary's Fellowship Month!

We have all been witnessing the ravages of COVID-19. Rotarians have continued to donate to local food pantries and with help of TRF's **Disaster Response Grants**, much good is being accomplished around the world.

The Rotary Club of Cincinnati-Eastside received a matching grant from TRF in the sum of **\$5,000** to support the staff of Mercy Health-Anderson and Clermont Hospitals in recognition of their hard work. **The \$10,000 grant** supports employee accommodations, meals, and team recognition events. Ken James, the president of Anderson-Hospitals, expressed his gratitude for the generosity, stating that the Rotary Club's donation "is providing meals for associates and covering the cost of hotel accommodation to reduce the risk of hospital workers exposing their families to Covid-19."

The Mason City Noon Club received a **\$1000 Disaster Response Grant from TRF and donated it to Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank**. According to Carol Clayton, Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank Director, the grant will be used to buy "close to 6,000 pounds of food for the Food Bank of Iowa."

Another grant totaling **\$24,000 was matched by TRF** to the Central Oregon Rotary Clubs to assist the homeless and homebound during the Covid-19 for food and hygiene. Each of the nine regional Rotary Clubs donated \$500 apiece.

"The Foundation upon which Rotary is built is FRIENDSHIP; on no less firm foundation could it have stood." Paul P. Harris, 1935 "The Rotarian Age"

THE TAB GROWS!

In the absence of our official “finer”, President Mark called for “happy dollars”. However, in the tradition of Rock Island Rotary, President Mark and Wine raffle chair Ruth Lee were fined for each being named and pictured in all three local newspapers in recognition of our Club’s \$2,500 donation to the Heart of Hope Food Pantry. Others building the “tab” were Kevin Koski reporting that Finland again ranks as the happiest country in the world and Helsinki ranks as the happiest city. Kai Swanson had happy dollars for Steve Bahls postponing his retirement and extending his contract as Augustana President, and for Rotary’s help funding meals for stranded Augie International Students. Molly Shattuck had happy dollars for Hammar and Associates being named #1 in the Quad Cities for accounting services, and #2 for tax services. Finally, Dan McNeil had happy bucks for the van Rotary helped purchases for Spring Forward which is now being used to deliver over 5,000 books and Summer Success Kits to 400 local school children..

HELP A SISTER CLUB – ILLINOIS QUAD CITIES ROTARY CLUB



Gift Card Raffle

Support River Bend Foodbank's
School Pantry Program

Raffle Prices

\$5 for 1 Ticket
\$20 for 5 Tickets

Ruth Lee advises that members of the Illinois Quad Cities Rotary Club were generous in their support of our recent Wine Raffle. They sponsor their own “GIFT CARD” fundraising raffle with a drawing next month and to their credit held sending out their information until our raffle was completed.

The Illinois Quad Cities Rotary Club is partnering with River Bend Foodbank 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.

Help support the Illinois Quad Cities Rotary and the School Pantry Program, as well as our community businesses. The raffle drawing will be held on July 15, 2020.

To purchase tickets, simply contact the Illinois Quad Cities Rotary Club president, George McDoniel at g.mcdoniel@mchsi.com. Tickets are \$5 or 5 for \$20.

KEVIN KOSKI REPORTS ON BIRDIES



Although the 2020 John Deere Classic PGA Tournament has been cancelled, The John Deere Foundation is going forward with the Birdies for Charity Fundraiser and they are adding a 5% bonus to all donations. They will use 2,000 Birdies for those that pledged a "per birdie" amount or donors may indicate a specific donation amount. Whether \$10 or \$100, every dollar helps. The Birdies 2020 brochure is part of this newsletter. Please use the pledge portion of the form and send it to Kevin or just email or call Kevin with your information. He will complete and submit your form for you. Remember, pledge a set amount for your donation. So far 22 members have pledged a total of \$1.92. Let's be sure to meet and exceed our goal of 40 donors!! 2 weeks left!



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

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CONTINUES SERVING – RECEIVES THANKS!

Through out the Covid-19 Pandemic, Rock Island Rotary had continued to meet (via ZOOM) and has been steadfast in dedication to “Service Above Self”. Funds saved from cancelling our president’s trip to the Rotary International Convention, to cancelling lunches since mid-March have been rechanneled into donations aimed at those suffering as a result of the pandemic. Most recently all the profits from our successful 2020 Wine Raffle were donated to the Heart of Home Food Pantry. Here President Mark and Wine Raffle co-chair Ruth Lee present Rotary’s \$2,500 donation to Heart of Hope Founder/President Lynda Sargent (pictured far left). Ms. Sargent reports they have given away over 70,000 lbs. of food this year



Heart of Hope’s typical monthly budget is \$400-500. In April they paid Riverbend Foodbank \$2,046 because of such high demand for their services/food. Normally they have between 45-50 people a week. Last week they had 119--they counted 83 cars waiting in line. They can't continue to pay that much extra for food that is not donated to their shelter and would have been forced to cut back to mostly donated items which can vary. Our donation of \$2,500 allows them to keep serving Rock Island families at current levels for another two months.

After the donation was made, we spotted the following on the Heart of Hope Facebook Page:



We are so very thankful for the friendship over the years that the Rock Island Rotary has demonstrated in so many ways! They have sent volunteers to help with our Thursday evening Food Pantry for years, and they have blessed us with financial assistance. Today they truly BLESSED us with a check for \$2,500 for our Food Pantry!!! Your donation helps tremendously as we have experienced twice the number of visitors in our food pantry and our delivery service to the elderly and disabled! May God bless each of you for your generosity!!! ❤️

This screenshot was taken during Emil's presentation. In the picture you can find Mike and Sam Maynard and Pete and Amanda Murray, all host family members for Emil's year with us. Pictured separately below are Emil and his parents in their home in Pargas, Finland during his presentation today. We had 41 participating in today's meeting.



GARY ROWE OUR NEW ASSISTANT DISTRICT GOVERNOR



Rock Island Rotary was pleased to learn that one of our own, Gary Rowe, has been selected to serve as Rotary District 6420 Assistant Governor beginning July 1st. Gary served as our Club's president in 1995-1996 and is a Paul Harris Fellow. He has been an active member on many of our committees and fundraisers. He also serves as president of the Rock Island - Milan School Board. Currently Gary is executive director of the Rock Island Community Foundation. Gary formerly served as director of development for Western Illinois University-Quad Cities. He has more than 35 years of professional experience in nonprofit development work. He is an outstanding addition to the Rotary District leadership team. Congratulations Gary!

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO ATTEND A ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FREE!
SIGN UP FOR THE 2020 ROTARY VIRTUAL CONVENTION - It's FREE use this link:
<https://www.riconvention.org/en/sign-2020-rotary-virtual-convention>

General Sessions

Watch inspiring speakers, panelists, videos, and entertainment and witness the power of Rotary connections.

Featured Breakouts

Connect with the family of Rotary to discover inventive ways to engage, increase our ability to adapt, and learn new skills that will strengthen your club and community.

The Virtual Convention will take place 20-26 June. You can find the entire schedule [here](#), including a link to a time conversion tool. On 19 June, visit www.riconvention.org, and click the General Session Button. That will take you to a site where you can test your connection and verify that you are set up to see and hear the content on 20 and 21 June.

Our campaign ends on June 23rd. \$50 club prize for the closest guess in the club. Proceeds go to our own Rock Island Rotary Foundation. Money raised will have a guaranteed match of 5% (last year it was 7.25%). Our goal is 40 pledges for \$2.25. Print the second page, fill out and send to Kevin Koski, 1309 - 38th Ave. Ct., Rock Island 61201. If you cannot print the pledge form, you can email or phone Kevin with your information. He will fill out a form for you. Email to kevinkoski3@gmail.com, or call (309) 788-6007.

The Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund continues the bonus promise

The Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund was established to support the continuing efforts of the John Deere Classic, a 501(C)(3) not-for-profit organization, to provide bonus dollars to participating charities. To qualify, charities must be publicly supported and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(C)(3) organization. All charitable contributions must come from a designated donor, and must not be part of a capital campaign. The Birdies for Charity program is intended to support charitable organizations, services, operations and programs. It is not intended to be used for endowment or brick and mortar charitable purposes.

As before, the tournament will provide a bonus to all participating charities. This year, all charities will be guaranteed a 5% bonus on amounts up to their prior year pledge total, or \$100,000, whichever is greater. Additional bonus dollars will be based on tournament revenues. The Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund is the source of these bonus dollars. This fund is supported with dollars from tournament revenues, individual donors, and corporations. These dollars will be distributed annually, and are designed not to compete with, but to enhance the benefits for the over 500 charities that participate in the program. So, if you are not already participating, this is the year to hop on board.



JULY 6-12, 2020

Sponsored by:



Grand Prize Sponsor:



Media Sponsors:



Chip in for your charity

OFFICIAL PLEDGE CARD **2020**



BIRDIES FOR CHARITY

15623 Coaltown Rd, East Moline, Illinois 61244



ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CLUB

CHARITY SOLICITED FOR

937

BIRD NUMBER

I pledge and promise to donate:

☐ \$_____ one-time flat donation.
Please attach payment. Checks payable to
Quad Cities Golf Classic Charitable Foundation.
OR

☐ \$_____ - _____ for every birdie made
during the John Deere Classic.

☐ \$_____

extra donation to the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund

Donations to the BFC Bonus Fund (#1041) benefit all participating charities.

GUESS THE BIRDIES & WIN A TWO YEAR LEASE ON A 2020 LEXUS NX!

I guess that _____ birdies will be made.

Only 1 grand prize will be awarded. Void where
prohibited by law.

BIRDIES SCORED (YEAR)

2,160 (2011)	2,040 (2014)	1,918 (2017)
2,113 (2012)	1,990 (2015)	2,355 (2018)
2,142 (2013)	1,982 (2016)	2,091 (2019)

PLEDGE INFORMATION (Please print)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE OR EMAIL _____

Chip in for your chance to win

When you chip in to help area charities, you can win some great prizes. But your favorite charity will be the real winner. That's because participating charities receive every single penny of the donations from this program, plus a bonus from the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund which is a guaranteed 5% match.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

Simply make a one-time flat donation OR pledge one cent or more per birdie. After the tournament, you'll be mailed a notice of your pledge amount due.

To enter the contest, guess the number of birdies that will actually be made by PGA Tour Pros during the tournament, Wednesday through Sunday. A grand prize will be given to one person who guesses the correct number. In case of ties, winners will be randomly selected.

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

*Your pledge is based on actual
number of birdies scored.*

I pledge \$_____ one-time donation

OR \$_____ - _____ per birdie

If 2,000 birdies are made, my total pledge would be:

1¢ = \$20	3¢ = \$60	5¢ = \$100
2¢ = \$40	4¢ = \$80	10¢ = \$200

I guessed _____ birdies would be made



GRAND PRIZE:

2 YEAR LEASE ON A 2020 LEXUS NX



LEXUS
SMART LEXUS OF QUAD CITIES

One lucky supporter of the John Deere Classic's Birdies for Charity program will win a 2 year lease on a 2020 Lexus NX, courtesy of Smart Lexus of the Quad Cities. Other prizes awarded by random drawing.

CONTEST RULES

- Only 1 grand prize awarded. Ties and other prizes determined by random drawing.
- All guesses must be on an official pledge card and received at the tournament office by July 10, 2020.
- Rules are available at www.birdiesforcharity.com.
- No pledge or purchase required. Need not be present to win.

Pledges submitted after the JDC may be applied the following year.