



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

September 1, 2020: Volume XXVIII, Issue 9

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Melissa Sharer, and Ryan Saddler St. Ambrose University



September Calendar

- Sept. 8 - State of the Schools, Dr. Reginald Lawrence - joint meeting hosted by RI Kiwanis
- Sept 15 - Dr LaDrina Wilson, Black Hawk College
- Sept 22 - Jerry Jones, Martin Luther King Jr Community Center
- Sept 29 - Mariah Benson, CAUSE & Tobacco-Free QC
- Oct. 13: Miles Brainard- Rock Island Downtown Historic Dist.

Dr. Melissa Sharer is an Assistant Professor and the Director of the

Master of Public Health program at St. Ambrose University. She earned her PhD, from The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, a MSW from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, a MPH from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and a BS from the University of Illinois. Dr. Sharer has spent the last 25 years working in health-care starting with Peace Corps Armenia in 1994. Her work has primarily focused on HIV, mental health, youth/adolescent, maternal health, gender, and violence issues in over 25 countries including Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Malawi, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Timore Leste, Uganda, United States, and Zimbabwe. In addition to her faculty role at St. Ambrose, Dr. Sharer continues to practice in the global health field as a Senior Technical Advisor at John Snow, Inc based out of Boston. In all of her roles, Dr. Sharer actively employs participatory action research methods, designed to ensure the voices of the most vulnerable are at the table and to eliminate gaps between research and action. Her focus has remained strongly person-centered, reinforcing the fact that the person must be at the center of all healthcare programs, research and policy actions. Co-Presenter was Ryan Saddler. Ryan is Associate Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and reports to the Office of the President. He is tasked with developing and communicating a collective understanding of diversity, equity, and inclusion and its benefits across campus: Diversity Strategic Plan, Coordinate DEI Training and workshops for University employees and students, etc. Ryan serves as University compliance officer for the Americans with Disabilities Act monitoring grievance hearings for ADA and Section 504 complaints involving students with disabilities. One of the essential components is for Ryan to work with Human Resources, Advancement, and Admissions to recruit, retain, and promote a diverse workforce, student body, and donor/alumni base. Mr. Saddler received his Bachelors and Master of Education Degrees from St. Ambrose University. Public health works to protect the health of the entire populations, ranging from local neighborhoods to entire countries and regions of the world. While a doctor treats people who are sick, those working in public health try to prevent people from getting sick or injured in the first place. They promote wellness by encouraging healthy behaviors. Public health professionals work in multidisciplinary teams to identify root causes of health problems and to develop solutions to improve access to health care and reduce inequities. Dr. Sharer pointed out that there are numerous social determinants of health, including economic stability, neighborhood & environment, social/community structure, education, and health services. She noted that for the vast majority of health issues, the United States is typically one of, if not the most successful in disease prevention and treatment. However, in the Covid pandemic the United States is the most hard nation in the world (based on per capita number of cases). She blamed a lack of a coordinated effort to combat the disease and explained that our system of federal vs. state autonomy was at the root of the lack of a unified national policy. That lead into Mr. Saddler's portion of the program which centered on the impact "policy" can have on public health. Using the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as an example, he noted that infant mortality among non-whites was much higher than white infants prior to the Act. This was particularly true in the south. Subsequent to the act non-white infant mortality has dramatically decreased, though still remains slightly higher than white infant mortality. The speakers advocated changing policy to bring about equity in public health throughout all communities of the nation and world. Although not citing any specific policy, they noted that accessibility to health services is the key. Accessibility can be affected by availability of services, location of services, economic ability to utilize services, education and understanding of when services are needed, and understanding the environmental issues impacting health (hygiene, smoking, etc.) They cited statistics showing non-whites have less access to health services, including mental health, and illicit drug use treatment. The interesting and challenging program gave us much to consider! Thank you Dr. Sharer and Mr. Saddler for bring this to us.



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Officers

Angela Campbell President
Justin Peterson, 1st Vice Pres.
Cindi Gramenz, 2nd Vice Pres.
Anne McGlynn, Secretary
Carrie Crossen, Treasurer
Mark Mayeski, Past President

Board Members

Howard Beck
Kim Calhoun
Molly Shattuck
Eric Westphall
John Daly
Chris Lemon
Sue Rector
Gary Rowe
Bob Swanson Co-Sgt.-at-Arms
Cindi Gramenz Co-Sgt.-at-Arms

Program Chairs

2019-20

Aug – Sept Rebecca Arnold
Oct – Nov John Daly
Dec – Jan John Wetzel
Feb – Mar Gary Rowe
Apr – May Bill Stengel
June – July Tom Hammar
Have a program idea? Contact
the chairman listed above for a
possible date.

Club Notes & Announcements!

- ☐ **WELCOME GUESTS** – We had two guests at today's meeting. Nancy Luckenbill was a guest of Mark Mayeski, and Duncan Cameron, a Visiting Rotarian from the Naples, Florida Club also joined us. Guests are always welcome at Rock Island Rotary, the Number One Club!
- ☐ **CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE**– Our club has 6 “corporate members” that in total brought 23 members into Rock Island Rotary. One person from each entity is designated as the “primary member” and up to 4 others from the entity can be named as associate members. All are entitled to attend meetings, serve on committees, and fully participate in our club. A corporate membership is ideal for those that are unable to commit to attending weekly. The hope is that one member of the entity will be in attendance each week, although more than one are welcome. An corporate membership brochure and application is available from Bob Swanson. .
- ☐ **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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SEPTEMBER ROTARIANS

Tammy Weikert	September	2		Rebecca Arnold	September	20
Molly Shattuck	September	4		Arron Southerland	September	21
Steve Bahls	September	4		Father Dan Mirabelli	September	24
Sara Cross	September	13		Bill Groh	September	26
Kai Swanson	September	13		John Slover	September	28

GREAT NEWS! DINING BOOKS ARE HERE!

Our Dining Book chair, Bud Phillis, has received a supply of the new 2020-21 Quad City Dining Book! Dining out after months of being sheltering at home will be a real treat and something positive to look forward to and they are good through October 31st of 2021. Over 350 Coupons including a **2 for 1 Circa 21 Coupon** good for our Rotary Holiday Party! Dining Tour books make great gifts! Introduces you to new restaurants! The price remains at \$35 for the value packed book. Rock Island Rotary receives a minimum of \$10 for each book sold. You can place an order by emailing Dr. Bud Phillis at rphillis35@gmail.com. Make checks payable to Rock Island Rotary and write “Dining Book” on the memo line.



Rock Island Rotary



PUMPKIN PALOOZA 2020

Having some fun with the First and Second grade classes at Earl Hanson School

UPDATE

Although we will be unable to take the kiddos to a pumpkin patch this year, we still plan to celebrate fall with them.

We will target
Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Thanks to 7 RI Rotarians who have generously sponsored t-shirts for this year.
Howard Beck, Rick Devinney, Jeff Dismar, Tom Hammar/Molly Shattuck, Ruth Lee,
Mark Mayeski, Tammy Weikert
And to Tricia Barron who again is working with the printers.

Thank you!

What else are we working toward for that day???

- President Angela Campbell is looking into giving each kiddo a fall/pumpkin related **book**.
- * Howard and Anne have the great idea of getting a small **pumpkin** for each kiddo – maybe going that day to scatter them throughout a grassy area and letting the kids pick a pumpkin. *Know any contacts for small pumpkins?*
- (Does anyone have a connection to getting 80-100 small pumpkins at a great price??)
- And, we are working on pulling together some fall/pumpkin puzzles and games that we can copy and print a booklet for each of the kiddos.
- **Other thoughts???**

Thank you for your support for a great day for a great group of kids.

Thank you.

The Pumpkin Palooza Team

HAPPY / SAD DOLLARS

Rotarians contributed to the “Tab” today offering up dollars for happy and sad announcements. Angela Campbell chipped in \$19 in honor of her 19th wedding anniversary. She threw in another dollar for enjoying this week off work. Kai Swanson volunteered \$3 for Augustana’s successful re-opening yesterday, for Augie being recognized by Dr. Louis Katz as having an exemplary plan for opening a college/university safely, and for “winning” the random Covid Test lottery at Augie causing him to report for the test tomorrow. Rebecca Arnold gave a happy dollar in recognition of the King Center opening a Free all-day virtual education supervision center. They will provide the service for up to 50 children. Gary Rowe had a dollar for the Rock Island School System’s decision to remain in virtual learning status through the first quarter. Kevin Koski had a happy dollar for the Whites Sox winning 2 of 3 games over the Cubs. He challenged Cub fans to also pay up. Loyal “North Side” fans Bud Phillis, Anne McGlynn, Bob Swanson, and John Wetzal accepted the challenge! Their dollars were classified as both “sad” and “embarrassed”!

FOUNDATION MINUTE

It's the Final Week of Rotary International's Month of Membership and Extension!

In order for a Global Grant to move forward, the grant must have a Host district and club and an international sponsor district and club to partner with them. Both clubs and all other partners, both international and domestic must work together to see the project to fruition.

Rotary Clubs of Sydney-Sunrise, Sydney, and New Waterford (D-7820) and the Yerevan Rotary Club of Armenia (D-2452) worked together on a Global Grant awarded by TRF. The \$57,210 (USD) award was for an upgrade of medical equipment and supplies for the Nork Hospital of Infectious Disease in Yerevan, Armenia. Jack D'Orsay, the chair of the joint committee said the grant has helped save many lives, given the global pandemic. "The work makes me feel useful and I am very aware that living conditions in second and third world countries are worse than ever. Involvement with the international work is both rewarding and extremely gratifying. We have actually been able to save lives with the equipment we have provided, and that is really satisfying."

Another joint effort resulting in an impressive award was spearheaded by the Rotary Club of Maple Grove (MN) and the Indian Association of Minnesota, an organization representing over 50,000 Asian Indians in Minnesota. TRF awarded the duo a \$60,000 (USD) Global Grant for distribution of COVID-19 medical equipment and supplies to essential frontline workers in Minnesota. The Rotary Clubs of Brooklyn Park, MN; Thane West, Thane Lake City, and Kaylan Riverside were among contributing clubs. The Global Grant will supply surgical gowns, caps, hand sanitizers and thermometers to essential frontline healthcare workers. Part of the funds will be used to provide 10,000 meals and equivalent groceries to area food banks for families experiencing food insecurity.

August 2020 saw us still battling with COVID-19, then surprised us with Derecho. Both disasters have been handled with much empathy by Rotarians and TRF.

"Rotary International's masterpiece is The Rotary Foundation. It transforms our dreams into splendid realities ..." --Paulo Costa, 1990-91 President of Rotary International.



Rock Island Rotary TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday, April 16th at 6:30pm

SAVE the DATE and get your team together for Rock Island Rotary's annual fundraiser! Cash prizes, cash bar, 50/50, silent auction and TONS of FUN with MR. TRIVIA!!!

This fundraiser supports Earl Hanson Elementary School and RI Rotary Community Grants. Corporate Sponsorships are available!

When: Friday, April 16th, 2021

Where: Milan Community Center, 2701 1st Street East, Milan

Time: 6:30pm START time, doors open at 5:45pm

Cost: \$100 a table, **up** to 10 players

RSVP: Kathy Trone 309-794-9400 or Kathy@wesselspc.com

The Rock Island Rotary Club is challenging all other Rotary Clubs in the QC Area to participate and TRY to win the "Traveling Trophy" for the SMARTEST ROTARY CLUB!

NEW MEMBERS PROPOSED

Rick Emery has proposed three fellow American Bank employees to join us as Corporate Members. Rick will remain the primary member. Proposed to be new Associate Members are: **Jeff Rose**, President and CEO of American Bank; **Amanda De La Cruz**, Market Manager; and **Trista Foster**, Vice President – Senior Trust Officer.

Please direct any comments or questions to President Angela Campbell or First Vice-President, Justin Peterson.

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY 2020

The Magic of an Old-Fashioned Holiday at CIRCA 21



Rated: PG
Area Premiere!

Wednesday
December 9th

In this heartwarming new musical, a dad's wish to celebrate an old-fashioned Christmas leads him and his family on a magical journey to another time where he learns that while remembering the past is important, the best way to hold on to tradition is to enjoy the Christmas present! This one-of-a-kind show, written for Circa '21 by longtime Bootlegger Brad Hauskins, is a nostalgic celebration of family that will leave you filled with the peace and joy of the holidays.

****Due to Covid-19 Restrictions the audience is limited to 50 guests. We had 48 of those seats which are sold on a first come basis to Rotary Club members and their guests. We now have just 27 seats available. Email Bob Swanson to make your reservations: bobdebswanson@att.net**

Tickets include a private pre-show Salon Party.

Pre-Show Salon Party with Complimentary Hoers Devours and Cash Bar (5-6pm)

Buffet Dinner (5:45-7:00pm)

Bootleggers Warm-up Show (7:15pm)

"Winter Wonderland" (7:30pm)

TWO WITH DINING BOOK COUPON \$67.23*

ONE ADMISSION (NO COUPON) \$52.75

TWO ADMISSIONS (NO COUPON) \$105.50

*Tip included (not including deserts & bar)

Circa Subscriber? Pay Just \$3.50 per person for gratuity

More Fun from Dr. Bud Phillis

Bob: Why was it so hot at the football game?

Max: I give up

Bob: Because there were no fans tat the stadium.



Zach: What building has the most stories?

Anna: I have no clue.

Zach: A library!

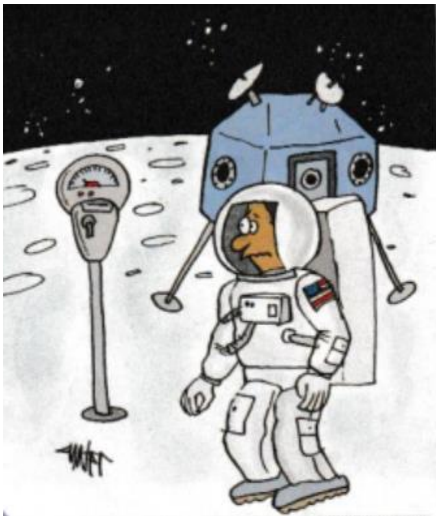


Max: What do you call a gnome with ESP who escapes from jail?

Sam: What?

Max: A small medium at large.

A Priest, A Minister, and a Rabbit walk into a blood bank,
The Rabbit says, "I think I might be a type-0."



Mason: Why was the road nervous?

Nate: I don't know

Mason: It was about to get graded.

AT AN OPERA, a wife says to her husband,
"It's a shame the person in front of us fell asleep!"

Then her husband grumbles and replies,
"That's not a reason to wake me up!"



Abby: What's worse than getting wet when it's raining cats and dogs?

Kris: I don't know.

Abby: Stepping in poodles!

Alex: How do you make a popcorn kernel?

Alexa: How?

Alex: You promote a popcorn captain!