



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

September 9, 2020: Volume XXVIII, Issue 10

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Dr. LaDrina Wilson

**Vice President for Student Services
Black Hawk College**

LaDrina Wilson is a Division I athlete, a scholar, a track star at Moline High School, that went on to run at Northern Arizona University. She experienced life outside the Quad-Cities but decided to come home to establish herself in this community, raise her family, work, and be part of something special at Black Hawk College. Wilson, a married, mother of three, who accepted her post at Black Hawk after a successful 10-year run in a variety of administrative posts



Sept. – Nov. Calendar

- Sept 22- Jerry Jones, Martin Luther King Jr Community Center
- Sept 29- Mariah Benson, CAUSE & Tobacco-Free QC
- Oct. 6 - Patricia Matson, RIHS Incubator Program
- Oct. 13: Miles Brainard- Rock Island Downtown Historic Dist.
- Oct. 20 - Steve Schafer, Augustana 's new Head Basketball Coach
- Oct. 27 - Richard K. Whitaker, Jr CEO Vera French Community Mental Health Center
- Nov 3: TBA
- Nov 10: Robert Erickson, Unity Point
- Nov 17: Angie Kendall, Hand in Hand
- Nov 24:- TBB

— the last being dean of students — with the Eastern Iowa Community College system's Scott branch. After graduating from Moline High School Wilson went to Northern Arizona University, where she would graduate. She receives her master's degree from Western Illinois University and her doctorate from Iowa State University. Her time as a Division I athlete at Arizona State, Wilson says, helped prep her for her life in education. "I met a phenomenal coach at Northern Arizona, who in a lot of ways changed my thought process about so many things," Wilson said. "When I think of the things that led me to higher education, I have to step back and believe it was that relationship with that coach. We have a chance at the community college level to have that one-on-one relationship with students that will have a long and lasting effect. That's the beauty of what I get to do." Dr. Wilson spoke about Black Hawk College's effort to adjust to the coronavirus pandemic. In March, Black Hawk closed the campus entirely. In May the campus went through a "soft" reopening offering classes online. She noted an enrollment decrease of 27% occurred which she attributed to several factors, 1) Lost jobs led to frustration 2) Lack of technical competence 3) Lack of confidence in learning via virtual education. Officials at Black Hawk spent the summer planning how to adjust to the pandemic and how to get their students back. This fall the campus reopened in a modified form. Learning is blended with 24% offered in face to face classrooms and 76% offered on-line. Courses that are highly technical are offered live. Wilson said those are typically "see it – do it" classes where students need to be with the instruction to see how things are done. Workloads are staggered to minimize the number of people on campus at any one time. In addition to providing their regular educational courses, Black Hawk is faced with helping students (current and potential) overcome fear of technology and lack of self-confidence. They also are committed to maintaining the mix of career & technical education, courses designed for transfer to a four year institution, and non-credit courses such as swimming, physical education, and life hobby, pleasure, courses. Wilson stated that Black Hawk is educating students for jobs that are available and jobs that don't yet exist. Being able to adjust and pivot is critical in these difficult times. Not only are students required to adjust, but faculty also had to re-think and re-tool what they do. Dr. Wilson noted that there is a deep "digital divide" separating society. Black Hawk is committed to narrowing that divide by encouraging and educating those fearful or unschooled in the use of technology so that they can achieve and thrive in a highly technical society. She stressed that Black Hawk is an "open access" institution. Everyone who applies is admitted. "We meet them where they are," Wilson, "whether they are working on GED courses or have a PhD and are just wanting to pick up a particular course."

Thank you Dr. Wilson for a very informative and interesting program. We look forward to future cooperative ventures with Black Hawk College.



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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 visiting Rotarians at today's meeting. Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Iowa club and Duncan Cameron, from the Naples, Florida club. Guests are always welcome at Rock Island Rotary, the Number One Club!
- ❑ **BOARD MEETS MONDAY** – Our Board of Directors will be meeting on Monday via ZOOM starting at 11:45. All members are welcome to attend Board meetings. Non-board members just send an email to bobdebswanson@att.net and you will receive an invitation with the information needed to join the meeting.
- ❑ **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 handed out to the guest. 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 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.

GREAT NEWS! DINING BOOKS ARE HERE!

Our Dining Book chair, Bud Phillis, has the new 2020-21 Quad City Dining Book! 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! The price remains at \$35 for the value packed book. Rock Island Rotary will receive a \$12 donation for each book sold! 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.



ALAS, THE TAB TAKES A HIT!

As expected, the purveyor of fines got even for the last week's reprieve. She started with \$1 fine for all who were not wearing their Rotary pin. That got virtually all of us! She then noted that David Geenen and Reginald Lawrence were both in the local newspapers. Dave spoke about the census and Reginald spoke about education in Rock Island – Milan schools. Our finer, Cindi Gramenz, offered up her own dollar for being an early leaver today. Stan Coin gave 25 happy dollars in recognition of a recent visit by his 1-year old great-grandson. That was a dollar a pound according to Stan! Bud Phillis, a long and true Chicago Cubs fan offered a happy dollar in recognition of pitcher Alec Mills throwing a no-hitter Sunday, shutting down the Milwaukee Brewers in a 12-0 victory. By the way, the Cubs remain in first place and I will throw in a dollar for that editorial comment!

MADE YOUR RESERVATION YET?



Every year the holiday season seems to come around long before we expect it! Don't miss out on the Rotary Holiday Party on December 9th at Circa 21. An audience of just 50 will be allowed in the theater to ensure proper social distancing is followed. The meal will be served at your table rather than the traditional buffet. It will be a fun filled evening and a great break from the hustle and bustle of shopping and snow shoveling! Treat your special date to an evening of professional theater filled with holiday fun and music. Reserve now!



FOUNDATION MINUTE

Welcome to Week 2 of Basic Education & Literacy Month!

Global Grants have been supporting peacebuilding and conflict prevention; disease prevention and treatment; water, sanitation and hygiene; maternal and child health; basic education and literacy; and community development. The Rotary Foundation has added a new area of Global Grant focus, Supporting the Environment. According to Past President Mark Maloney, TRF has allotted more than \$18,000,000 to environment-related projects over the past 5 years and creating this new focus will give Rotarians more ways to positively impact the world. Commenting on the environmental area of focus, Randy Roberts of the Rotary Club of Fort Wayne, (IN) praised RI for doing "...what is best for our planet...This is the only home we are leaving for our children and grandchildren. We must help solve the climate change issue or we jeopardize all other humanitarian work we do through the first six areas of focus."

The Food Depot in Santa Fe (NM) provides over 500,000 pounds of food each month, which over time has increased due to much need in the community. In April alone, more than 1,000,000 pounds of food was distributed, and between March and June, the depot provided over 3,300,000 meals. Responding to these overwhelming needs, the Rotary Club of Los Alamos applied for and received a generous grant from Rotary District 5520 and TRF to sponsor a Peace and Health Project to provide over 40,000 meals to needy families. Explaining why her club chose this project, club president Laura Gonzales cited that New Mexico ranked second highest for projected overall childhood food insecurity and fifth highest in the nation for projected overall food insecurity. "Food insecurity is a critical issue in New Mexico all the time. The needs now, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, are staggering. Rotary is a service organization and we are proactively addressing this problem." This past Saturday The Rotary Club of Los Alamos worked with Meals of Hope, a Florida-based food packing organization, to pack bags of ready-to-cook meals of beans, rice, and macaroni and cheese.

"With the global population reaching near eight billion, protecting the environment is increasingly important...It is time for us to use our collective resources to invest in a smart and efficient way of protecting our environment. We are qualified to take this initiative because we are a global group of problem solvers with diversified talents." Foundation Trustee Chair Gary C.K. Huang

Rock Island Rotary



PUMPKIN PALOOZA 2020

New Information coming soon! School being closed forces us to "adjust and pivot". Pumpkin Palooza chairman Sue Rector will be presenting new ideas to our Board of Directors at Monday's meeting! Stay tuned for details!

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



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