



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

September 22, 2020: Volume XXVIII, Issue 11

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Jerry Jones **Executive Director** **Martin Luther King, Jr.** **Community Center**



Sept. – Nov. Calendar

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:- Loredana Cooper, Black Hawk College

A fellow member of Rock Island Rotary and a Chicago-area native, Jerry Jones came to Rock Island to attend Augustana College and graduated with a BA in Psychology in 1991. Jerry worked extensively with troubled youth in the Quad City area until he came to The Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center in 1998 to serve as a youth program coordinator. In 2001, Mr. Jones was promoted to Executive Director to accept the charge of aiding the King Center on its mission of promoting opportunities for a diverse population through a variety of services. During his first tenure, Mr. Jones expanded services and led a successful capital campaign with a subsequent facility expansion completed in 2011. In 2012, Jones joined the United Way of the Quad Cities as its Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Jones returned to his role as Executive Director of the King Center in 2016 excited to implement an enhanced skill set to bolster the positive impact provided by its staff and services. Mr. Jones is active in the community serving on several Board of Directors but values family time with his wife and two children. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center opened March 22, 1975, as a new multipurpose center to serve as a centralized location for various social service programs and organizations. Partnerships and collaborations with groups including Rock Island Parks and Recreations, the Rock Island School District, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, the Girl Scouts, the Metropolitan Youth Program, the Red Cross, Community Caring Conference, and numerous others help make the King Center a vital part of our community. In addition, Center staff have been able to participate in various initiatives and boards to effect change in the community, schools, and neighborhoods. The Center has become an important body and catalyst for positive change in Rock Island and the Quad Cities. The Center operates under the direction of a 13-member Board of Directors appointed by the Mayor of Rock Island, with the Executive Director ensuring quality in all operations and programs. Jerry reports directly to the Rock Island City Manager and the MLK Board. While remaining true to its mission, the Center now places special emphasis on aiding youth in the community. Jerry noted that the King Center location was selected to target services in an area where it could best serve community needs. At the time the area had a significantly lower per-capita income, a lower level of high school and above education, higher unemployment, and greater poverty than the rest of Rock Island. The King Center is both a department of the City of Rock Island and a fully qualified not-for-profit entity. Funding comes 60-70% from state and federal government with the balance coming from the City of Rock Island, grants, and community support. The Center's Board recently adopted a new Strategic plan with four principal goals: Strengthen the MLK Center brand and message; Diversify funding; High-quality and outcome-driven programs; and provide a welcoming 5 star facility. The new mission statement: To inspire greatness in the Quad Cities through community-building, education, and service, emphasizes the center as a "Quad City" rather than just a Rock Island entity.

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P.O. Box 4514
Rock Island, IL 61204
www.rirotary.com

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 just one visiting Rotarians at today's meeting. Duncan Cameron, from the Naples, Florida club joined us but was just tardy enough to miss being introduced to the group. Do we fine late arriving guests? Guests are always welcome at Rock Island Rotary, the Number One Club!
- ☐ **BOARD DISCUSSES RESUMING LIVE MEETINGS** – At yesterday's Board of Dirbe meeting Molly Shadduck and Bob Swanson reported on meeting with Ami Porter, Executive Director of the Botanical Center regarding resuming live meetings. The Center is prepared to host us and Bridges will provide individual box lunches. After a lively discussion it was decided to poll the membership regarding a possible return to in-person meetings next month while continuing a ZOOM option for those who prefer not to attend in person. Watch for your survey and be sure to respond. We want your opinion.
- ☐ **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.



THE TAB GROWS A BUNCH

Even though our designated finer was unable to join the meeting today, Rotarians stepped up to President Angela's call for "Happy/Sad Dollars". Stan Coin pledged \$62 in honor of 62 years of bliss with wife Kay. Their anniversary is next Monday, the 28th. Kathy Trone chipped in \$19 in celebration of her brother and sister-in-law making a full recovery from the coronavirus. Tammy Weikert paid a dollar for having to leave the meeting early today. All together our Rotary Foundation coffers grew by \$82 today. We will be doing the math and will provide up to date report on everyone's "tab" since we began virtual meetings in next week's newsletter. Some have been sending in their fines. If you fall into that category, don't take the report as an "amount due"; rather it is a report of what you have given. For those of us who have not paid via mail, we will collect when we again meet in person.

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 3 of Basic Education & Literacy Month of Rotary International.

The greatest Global Grant by TRF for any project in Africa happened recently.

Mercy Ships is an international charity that uses hospital ships to respond to global humanitarian emergencies by providing humanitarian aid like free health care, community development projects, community health education, mental health programs, agriculture projects, and palliative care for terminally ill patients. Mercy Ships provide surgical services during crisis by reducing the surgical backlog in developing countries while providing training and mentoring to increase local medical skills and renovating local facilities in each of the countries the ships visit.

The Global Mercy is the world's largest purpose-built charitable hospital ship and is the latest beneficiary of one of the largest Global Grants sponsored by TRF. The Liberian Observer, the national newspaper of Liberia, published in Monrovia, reports that the Rotary Club of Monrovia is the host club in charge of this super grant of The Rotary Foundation Global Grant program totaling \$1,125,000 (USD).

This impressive RF grant, which has involved the participation of over 300 clubs from around the globe, has enable Rotary and Mercy Ship to equip The Global Mercy with a new, state of the art CT scanner and other vital equipment. Not only that, the extraordinary grant will provide a range of sophisticated medical equipment for Decks 3 & 4: the ship's hospital decks with six operating theatres, three infection isolation rooms, 147 ward beds, six post-operative recovery beds and four intensive care beds.

The grant also provides training and education for local healthcare workers. The TRF sponsored hospital ship, The Global Mercy, is undergoing the final stages of construction with the aim of sailing by the end of 2021. The ship's first port of call will be Monrovia, Liberia's capital where it will stay for over nine months. Over 150,000 lives will be transformed through free surgery over the ship's expected lifespan of 50 years.

Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects. With your help, we can make lives better in your community and around the world.

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!

OUR MOST RECENT PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

It is with a mixture of joy and sadness that we introduce Rock Island Rotary's newest Paul Harris Fellow. 2019-2020 Rock Island Rotary President Mark Mayeski's Father, John Mayeski, passed away on August 29th just a short time before he would have been awarded one of Rotary's highest honors—a Paul Harris Fellow. Here John's wife Fran Mayeski accepts the award on John's behalf. John joins Mark, Mark's wife Kim and their daughters Madelyn and Maya as Paul Harris Fellows. I am sure Fran will follow soon as the 6th family member to be so honored.



Congratulations to Mark and our deepest sympathy to you, your mother, and your family for your loss. You have honored your father and his memory in a most appropriate way. In his name, Rotary will continue serving those less fortunate in the world and work for world peace and better understanding among all peoples.

ROOM FOR TWO LAUGHS!

Wife texts husband on a cold winter's morning
"Windows frozen, won't open."

Husband texts back:
"Gently pour some lukewarm water over it."

Wife texts back 5 minutes later:
"Computer really screwed up now."

This morning I saw a neighbor
talking to her cat.

It was obvious she thought her cat
understood her.

I came into my house, told my
dog—we laughed a lot.

MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Membership was approved by our Board of Directors for three new Corporate Members representing The American Bank and Trust Company. Rick Emery will continue as the primary member for the Bank. New associate members approved by the Board are Jeff Rose, bank President and Chief Executive Officer; Trista Foster, Vice President and Senior Trust Officer; and Amanda De La Cruz, Market Manager. Jeff, Trista, and Amanda will be officially inducted at an upcoming meeting. Once live meetings resume, we encourage all members to meet and welcome them.



Jeff Rose



Trista Foster



Amanda De La Cruz

CONGRATULATIONS SAM DOAK – HONORARY MEMBER

Sam Doak joined Rotary in 1971 and as of the current quarter is completing his 50th year as a member. Throughout those years Sam has been the source of stories, jokes, and “down home” humor. You want to talk fishing, hunting, farming, or dam building, Sam is the man! Prior to retirement, Sam worked for the Army Corp of Engineers and for local private engineering companies. In 1972 Sam and wife, Peggy, bought the “Cable Mansion” located at 1505 – 19th Avenue in Rock Island. The large 2 story brick home was built in 1912 by Hiram S. Cable. Cable has a pedigreed past. He was the great-nephew of Philander Cable, famous for bringing \$80,000 in a leather satchel to the pioneer town of Rock Island in 1856 to start a bank. Hiram’s father was owner and president of the railroading company eventually known as the Rock Island Lines. Upon his father’s death, Hiram and his brother, Ben Cable, took over ownership of the railway company. Hiram’s title was general superintendent and his brother’s was general manager. Hiram also became involved in banking, and in 1919, was elected president of the reorganized Rock Island Savings Bank. He was also president of the Pike’s Peak Railway, the highest railroad in North America, which was created solely for the tourism trade. Cable eventually moved to California and the Mansion had various owners including Deere & Company. In 1972, Sam & Peggy took ownership and raised eleven children in the home, but as the family nest began to empty, the Doaks converted it to a bed and breakfast inn called Top O’ The Morning in 1986. So, on top of his Engineering career and parent and grand-parent duties, Sam became chief maintenance man, gardener, and owner of the still operating bed and breakfast business which was named one of Rock Island’s 100 Most Significant Unprotected Structures in 2009. With all those responsibilities, Sam still found time to be a Rotarian with an outstanding attendance record. Sam is a Paul Harris Fellow and has served on dozens of committees and worked scores of Club projects over the years. Recently, Sam considered resigning his Club membership, “Not because of not wanting to be in Rotary”, he said, but concerned he is reaching the age when he can no longer contribute much to the club. To the contrary, Sam, not only do we value your experience, wisdom, humor, and friendship, but our Board said it is our turn to honor you. Sam was named an Honorary Member of our Club and joins Fred Houlton, Don Peterson, and Jay Stanley as our four honored members. Together they have combined for 208 years of Service Above Self in Rock Island Rotary. When advised of the Board’s action, Sam said, “The only objection I have is, I don’t think I deserve it!” Oh, yes you do!! Sam will receive his Honorary Member pin when we resume in-person meetings. Congratulations!



Jerry Jones – Continued

Along with that Mission came a new vision: To build A thriving, beloved community rooted in justice, equity, and respect for one another. Helping the Center achieve that mission and vision was a 2011, \$3.6 million addition to the center providing expanded, high quality facilities including an attractive banquet room, conference rooms, office space available for lease, and enhanced recreational and educational facilities and equipment. Rock Island Rotary was a significant contributor to the expansion, providing educational equipment and computers. Mr. Jones highlighted current programs at the King Center which include: The Afterschool Program serving 65-70 children each day with enhanced programs to assist with virtual learning during the current Cov9d-19 crisis; Summer Day Camp serving 150 children each summer; Substance Abuse Prevention; Teenage Pregnancy Prevention; Family Advocacy Center; ACTIVE Club bringing over 100 senior citizens into the center to help and mentor youth; The Metropolitan Youth Program known throughout the Midwest for its distinctive drum and marching skills. Jerry took particular pleasure in noting that the program involves much more than music and marching. Scholastics are also a key part of the program with the Metro Youth participants hold a 3.0 grade point average; RI Boxing Club; and The CAUSE a drug abuse prevention program. In addition to programs the MLK Center also sponsors annual events including the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Service drawing over 500 in attendance each year; a Legislative Breakfast; a Family Fun Day; Thanksgiving Dinner with over 3,000 meals served last year; a Christmas Party at which 400 children celebrated and received Christmas gifts. The Center also has high quality facilities available for rent including the Ida Robinson Banquet Room; Conference Rooms; and office and program space which has been leased by The Two Rivers YMCA, the RI Bible Church, Arrowhead Youth & Family Services, and United Way Tax Preparation services. All of this is accomplished under the leadership of Jerry Jones and a full-time staff of just 10 people. Mr. Jones concluded his comments with a picture collection of MLK Center facilities. Below are some of those photos. Thank you, Jerry, for your service to our community and for a great presentation today!



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