



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

October

October 13, 2020: Volume XXVIII, Issue 14

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



VIKING BASKETBALL Coach Steve Schafer

Oct. – Nov. Calendar

- Oct. 23 - Pumpkin Palooza - Noon
- Oct. 23 - Noon–1pm We host Joint Area Rotary World Polio Day Meeting via ZOOM!
- Oct. 24 - World Polio Day.
- Oct. 27 - Richard K. Whitaker, Jr CEO Vera French Community Mental Health Center
- Nov 3 - Rotary & Polio – World Polio Day
- Nov 10 - Robert Erickson, Unity Point
- Nov 17 - Angie Kendall, Hand in Hand
- Nov 24:- Loredana Cooper, Black Hawk College

On June 24, 2020 Steve Schafer, a 2001 Augustana graduate, was named men's basketball coach at his alma mater in Rock Island after spending the past six years building a college athletic program from the ground up in Mesa, Arizona. "I told myself there was just one job I'd leave it for," Schafer said. "And that was Augustana." Prior to taking the job in Mesa, Schafer served three years as men's basketball coach at Fontbonne University in St. Louis. Previously he served as an assistant at Benedictine in Lisle (2009-11), North Park (2004-09) and Wayne State (2001-04), where he earned his master's degree with an emphasis in sports management. The 6-foot-5 Schafer was a three-year varsity regular at Batavia. As a senior, he averaged 14 points and six rebounds for a team that went 26-3. Schafer succeeds Grey Giovanine, the man largely responsible for getting Schafer into coaching. Giovanine retired in May after compiling a 433-150 record in 21 seasons. Schafer, who was recruited to Augustana by Giovanine predecessor Steve Yount, was a member of the team for three seasons but his playing time was limited by leg injuries. "I had another stress fracture and my doctor advised me against playing after my junior season," Schafer said. "I wasn't thinking about coaching but Giovanine asked if I wanted to come back and help as a student assistant coach." Schafer took the offer and made it into a career. His Fontbonne team improved its record in each of his three seasons. Benedictine Mesa had a record of 76-69 under Schafer, who takes control of an Augustana program with great expectations. In the past six seasons, the Vikings have won five CCIW titles, made five appearances in the NCAA Division III Tournament and placed second twice, in 2015 and 2017. "Make no mistake, we want to keep that team rolling, but it's going to be a process. Schafer said, "We lost 80 to 90% of our minutes and scoring to graduation, and that's a lot of production and experience, but we have a nice young core. They're a talented group but untested. It's their time to step up. This is their summer of separation." Schafer expects his Vikings to continue the program's tradition by playing hard, smart, and together in the CCIW, a league he terms, "a Power Five conference in Division III." He is excited about his recruiting so far at Augie and said he has a five-point criteria students must meet before he considers recruiting them. Schafer said it doesn't matter how good they are: "1) Do they have high character? 2) Are they a high academic achiever? 3) Are they a hard worker? 4) Are they tough? 5) Do they "compete?" Schafer said, "If a prospect checks those 5 boxes then we will evaluate their talent level to see if they are a good fit to Augustana basketball. We will not sacrifice those 5 things for a really talented player. In my experience, those that don't check those 5 boxes don't end up panning out at the college level or at Augustana College no matter how talented they are". It is obvious coach Schafer is excited to be at Augustana and we believe that excitement, along with his proven coaching skills will keep Augie at the highest level of Division III basketball. Schafer said his teams will defend, run, and rebound. Basketball games will start in mid-January due to the pandemic. Thank you Coach for sharing with us and GO VIKINGS!



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** – This week we had one visiting Rotarians and no other guests spoke up when called. With us was Duncan Cameron, a member of the Naples, Florida Rotary club. Don't forget you can invite a guest to join us on ZOOM if you think they might enjoy the scheduled program and/or might have interest in joining Rotary. Just pass on the meeting ID and password. Then feel free to introduce your guest when the meeting begins. Guests are always welcome at Rock Island Rotary. the Number One Club!
- ❑ **SPECIAL MEETING FOR WORLD POLIO DAY** – Members are reminded that we will host a ZOOM meeting this Friday, October 23. It will be joint meeting with 7 other other Illinois Quad Cities Clubs joining us. The program will feature stories from local Rotarians regarding their personal polio experiences. That will be followed by a great Rotary International World Polio Day video. It will be a celebration of Rotary and our accomplishments! Don't Miss It.
- ❑ **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.



CONTINUING A TRADITION

Rock Island Rotary will again ring the bell for the Salvation Army during the holiday season. We will be staffing two doors at the Rock Island HyVee on December 5th from 9am until 3pm. As in the past, Mark Mayeski will chair the project. Volunteers are needed to take a shift. Rotarians and their family members are invited to help. Teams of two work great and you can set up your own team or let Mark place you with a fellow Rotarian. Please email Mark at mark.mayeski@edwardjones.com to sign up.

THE TAB GROWS

Our chief finer was back on the job today and was able to build the Foundation coffers with contributions from Monta Ponsetto, Bob Swanson, Gary Rowe, Jerry Jones, and John Phillips for being named in a recent Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation newsletter. Monta picked up a second \$1 fine for plugging the Foundation when Angela made her Board Meeting report. Tammy Weikert gave a happy dollar in recognition in a "fee saving" program started for those who owe court fees. Gary Rowe offered a dollar in celebration of Rock Island-Milan schools resuming in-person classroom learning as of yesterday. The fund got a healthy bounce from John Olinger who contributed \$189 in celebration of his and wife Julie's 29th wedding anniversary and 7 children! He came up with \$189 with a dollar for each child times 27 years (27x7=189). Thanks to all for your generosity!



Rock Island Rotary PUMPKIN PALOOZA 2020 DIFFERENT THIS YEAR, BUT STILL IMPORTANT!

Because of Covid-19, our annual PUMPKIN PALOOZA will take on a different look this year. Kids just returned to school and bus fieldtrips are not yet allowed; instead, we went to Earl Hanson Elementary school and piggybacked on their food distributions today at noon. We will be going back on Friday at noon to pass out pumpkins, shirts, books, and goodies. **TWO MORE Rotary volunteers are needed for Friday.** Contact Sue Rector to help at suerector@augustana.edu.

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 October, Rotary International's Economic and Community Development Month.

In August 2019, Nigeria reached three years without a case of wild poliovirus. A year later, on the 25th of August 2020, the continent of Africa was declared polio-free.

October 24 is World Polio Day, and many Rotary Clubs are planning special observations in honor of Rotary International's immense contribution to the global effort at combating the crippling disease. Through TRF and matching grants by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the poliovirus is on its way to becoming history. Since 1996, Rotarians from across Africa and around the world have raised funds, immunized children, and promoted vaccinations all aimed at eradicating polio. More than 9 billion doses of oral polio vaccine have been provided throughout Africa preventing almost 2 million cases of paralysis.

Every year about 2 million volunteers help vaccinate over 430 million children against polio in Africa. Rotarians all over the world have contributed almost \$890 million toward polio eradication efforts in Africa. With the Gates matching funds, TRF has spent a staggering \$1.6 billion on polio eradication. The funds have allowed Rotary, through TRF, to issue PolioPlus grants to fund polio surveillance, transportation, awareness campaigns, and National Immunization Days.

Dr. Tunji Funsho, chair of Rotary's Nigeria PolioPlus Committee and recently honored by TIME Magazine for his leadership in that nation's polio eradication effort, noted the impact that Rotarians have had on polio eradication efforts in Africa. Dr. Funsho said, "From raising funds and immunizing children, to providing 'polio plusses,' such as soap and health kits, Rotary members have shown resilience and steadfast dedication to our top priority of ending polio....no child in Africa will ever again be paralyzed by wild polio, a disease that once disabled 75,000 children every single year in Africa."

"I am from a generation who has witnessed the devastating effects of polio. When I discovered how close we were to eradicating polio, I was very motivated to be a part of this movement. It is so rare when you can accomplish something so spectacular." (Angelique Kidjo, Beninese Singer-Songwriter).

WORLD POLIO DAY 2020 – THIS YEAR A VERY SPECIAL DAY

October 24th is World Polio Day, and we have plenty to celebrate! Just in the past month the continent of **Africa was declared “Polio Free”**. Nigeria was the last African nation to experience a case of wild polio and that was now 3 years ago! Having passed the 3-year threshold made Nigeria officially polio free. Polio now exists in just two Asian countries, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

Rock Island Rotary is planning a special emphasis this year on World Polio Day. Fellow Rotarian, Rock Island Mayor Mike Thoms, proclaimed Saturday, October 24th as World Polio Day in Rock Island. This Friday, October 23rd, our Club will host the first ever Joint Illinois Quad Cities Rotary Club Meeting. The meeting held on ZOOM will begin at 12 noon and will end by 1pm. Rotary Clubs from East Moline-Silvis, Geneseo, Illinois Quad Cities, Milan Area, Moline, River Cities, and Twin Rivers RAH have been invited to join us. Our District Governor, Tom Brooks, and other Rotary District officials will join the meeting. The program will feature local Rotarians with personal polio experiences and an outstanding World Polio Day video provided by Rotary International

Bud Phillis and Kai Swanson will be on the Channel 4, “Living Local” show, Thursday October 22nd at 2:00pm. They will be talking about Rotary, Polio, and our World Polio Day activities. Tune in to see them.

Mark your calendar: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23rd, 12 NOON and plan to join in this unique and important meeting. We could easily have well over 100 Rotarians coming together on ZOOM to commemorate World Polio Day. Be sure you are part of this first ever endeavor! AND watch Bud & Kai on TV-4, October 22nd at 2:00pm.



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. Ask friends if they want one. Our club makes \$12 for every sale.



BOARD VOTES TO ESTABLISH SCHOLARSHIP

Last year our Wine Raffle raised a profit of \$2,500 which was donated to the Heart of Hope Food Pantry. Raffle co-chairs Ruth Lee and Anne McGlynn reported that ticket sales are much easier when the beneficiary of the funds is known and can be advertised. After discussion by the Raffle Committee a recommendation was made to our Board that raffle proceeds for the coming year and future years be used to create a Rock Island Rotary Scholarship through the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation. Our club would set the criteria required for students to vie for what is anticipated to be an annual \$1,000 scholarship. Noting that this recommendation fit perfectly with our club's emphasis on serving youth and literacy, the Board unanimously adopted the idea. President Angela Campbell will be meeting with Education Foundation executive director (and fellow Rotarian) Monta Ponsetto, to work out the details. Rock Island Rotary previously established a scholarship at Augustana College.

Rock Island Rotary Trivia Night April 2021

***Serving our community through our generosity of time,
talent and treasure***



***It is NOT too early to start
collecting great ideas and
items for our
Silent Auction.***

I've already started collecting some favorite products to make a Sustainable Products Basket (see below).

And there are always great sales around the holidays, closeouts from the summer that we can take advantage of.... not to mention the re-gifting opportunities!!



I've got a stash of baskets if you will need one and I am happy to take random items and put them together to make great baskets if you don't want to do a full basket.

Give me a call or e-mail with questions or donations.
I will store things until April!

Sue Rector....563-343-7985.... srector3614@gmail.com

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY/KIWANIS
HOLIDAY PARTY 2020

The Magic of an Old-Fashioned Holiday at CIRCA 21



Rated: PG Wednesday
Area Premiere! December 9th

Over half of our seats are gone. Reserve Now!

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