



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

September 29, 2020: Volume XXVIII, Issue 12

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Mariah Benson, CAUSE & Tobacco-Free Quad Cities



Oct. – Nov. Calendar

- 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 - 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

Mariah Benson is the Lead Case Manager at Rock Island County Health Dept. Mariah graduated from Augustana College in 2015 with a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in Biology. She received her Master of Science degree from Western Illinois University in 2017 in Public Health Education and Promotion. In 2018 Mariah earned certification as a Personal Trainer in the area of Health and Physical Education/Fitness from the National Academy of Sports Medicine (NASM). As a health educator, she represents the health department in the community and works through federal and state funded grants to enhance the health of our community. Today she spoke with us about two organizations for which she serves as a director. Mariah is the Rock Island County Program Coordinator for Tobacco-Free QC (TFQC), a bi-state coalition of community members, agencies and organizations dedicated to reducing the impact of tobacco in the Quad Cities community. The TFQC is a resource for information on tobacco, secondhand smoke, tobacco-free policies, smoke-free pledges, quitting tobacco use, and much more. Mariah also serves on the Board of "CAUSE", the Coalition Advocating for Underage Substance Elimination. The mission of C.A.U.S.E. is to collaboratively promote community awareness of the negative effects of drugs and alcohol among teens. First speaking about Tobacco Free Quad Cities, Mariah said that in the past year the organization had expanded to include electronic smoking and vaping. Principal activities of the organization are Providing Nicotine Replacement Therapy products for residents of RI County trying to quit using tobacco. Promoting compliance with the Illinois Smoke Free Air Act. Providing tobacco education to participants in RI County's Women, Infants and Children (WIC) clinic and the "Nest." Implementing educational activities focused on tobacco cessation aimed particularly at youth in RI County. Educating owners/landlords of multi-housing units on the benefits of smoke free housing policies. Increasing the number of families participating in the Smoke-Free Home and Vehicle Pledge Campaign. Promoting "Quitline" at community events. Educating local businesses about the Illinois Smoke Free Air Act and their responsibilities on complying with the law. Assisting in strengthening smoke-free policies in public places. Serving as a community resource for agencies and organizations. Most recently Smoke Free Quad Cities initiated Champion Awards which recognize businesses and campuses that go beyond the minimum requirements of the law to provide smoke free environments. Speaking about CAUSE, Mariah said it is a Rock Island County project established in 2013 aimed at eliminating the use of alcohol, prescription drugs, marijuana, and smoking/vaping by youth. They present education programs at schools, organize the Drug Take Back Day in Rock Island County, and created and aired educational webinars on Electronic Smoking, Mental Health issues related to substance abuse, and a soon to be released program on Alcohol. Mariah presented some eye-opening statistics on the percent of youth as young as 7th and 8th grade that admit to using illegal substances. In closing she stated that the pandemic has complicated her work, forcing a shift to on-line resources; however, the work of both organizations continues. Thank you, Mariah!!



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Cindi Gramenz, 2nd Vice Pres.
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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 just one visiting Rotarians at today's meeting. Duncan Cameron, from the Naples, Florida club joined us. Feel free to invite a guest to join us on ZOOM. 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!
- ❑ **SURVEY FOR RESUMING LIVE MEETINGS** – We sent 93 surveys last week and to date have received just 52 responses. If you have not completed the survey, please make your opinion known by finding the survey sent to you and responding. The sender should show up as "Survey Monkey". The average time required to complete the four questions is 1 minute! The Board can only make good decisions if they have the necessary information from our members. Thanks!
- ❑ **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. Ask friends if they want one. Our club makes \$12 for every sale.



THE TAB CONTINUES TO GROW!

As promised an updated total including today's additions may be found on page 6. Some have mailed their fines as assessed, others of us are letting the tab ride until we meet in person. The report indicates the total amount fined since we began virtual meetings, it does not reflect any payments that have already been made. Today's lucky contributors to the TAB were: Kai Swanson in recognition of the new Augie video on YouTube; Chris Lemon and Father Mirabelli for receiving recognition on John Marz final newspaper column; All White Sox fans for losing 2 or 3 to the Cubs last week; and all Cubs fans for finishing with a poorer record than the Sox! Molly Shattuck happy to get a tutor for son Brady through help from Kai; and John Phillips offering up \$35 in honor of 35 years of marital bliss with his lovely wife, Karen. Thanks to all! Fines go to the Rotary Foundation.



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 are not in school and bus fieldtrips are not recommended; instead, we will go to Earl Hanson Elementary school and piggyback on their two food distributions on October 20 and 23 at noon. We will be passing out pumpkins, tee shirts, books, and goodies to the kids. A few Rotary volunteers are needed. Contact Sue Rector to help at suerector@augustana.edu. Let's make sure the kids have a "Palooza" to remember!

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

If all women completed primary education, there would be 66% fewer maternal deaths. A child born to a mother who can read is 50% more likely to survive past the age of five. If all students in low-income countries left school with basic reading skills, 171 million people could be lifted out of poverty, which would be equivalent to a 12% cut in world poverty. Fifty-eight million children worldwide are out of school. Even after four years of primary schooling, as many as 250 million children cannot read and write. Seven hundred eighty-one million adults are illiterate. The statistics, as reported on the Rotary website, are grim, but TRF is poised to keep working on one of its seven areas of focus: Basic Education & Literacy.

Welcome to this final week of Rotary's Month of Basic Education and Literacy, the back-to-school month for all ages in most countries. It is no coincidence that TRF has carried out service projects in various regions of the globe that supports education and literacy through numerous global grants. Since 2018, more than \$12 million (US) in grants has been spent on basic education and literacy.

This Foundation Minute revisits some literacy projects funded through TRF Global Grants in the past few years. TRF Global Grant funds new schools, especially in dangerous areas of conflict. Case in point is Afghanistan, where a girls' school was opened to break the circle of poverty and social imbalance. Rotary clubs in South Africa, Canada and the United States used a Global Grant to support a vocational training team to provide training and curriculum development in South Africa. The training curriculum was eventually endorsed by the Ministry of Education in South Africa and has since been implemented throughout the country.

Low adult literacy, youths not attending school and lack of resources in schools are some of the reasons Global Grants are funded by TRF and the WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) interventions in school have been an effective way to improve school attendance. Through a Global Grant, Rotary clubs have supported nine public elementary schools outside Guatemala City by laying new pipes for fresh water, improving quality of drinking water, and installing flush toilets and handwashing stations for improved sanitations. Another TRF Global Grant of \$100 million was raised to get clean water in Lebanese schools. In these days of COVID-19, WASH couldn't have come to schools at a better time.

When you teach somebody how to read, they have that for a lifetime. It ripples through the community, one by one. Mark Wilson, Rotary Club member

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

WINE RAFFLE COMMITTEE



This year, more than ever, the fundraisers we can host are critical if our Club is to continue as a leader in local community service. Because of the pandemic our usual “in-person” events have either been cancelled or postponed. One event that helped us continue our philanthropic work last year was the wine raffle. Now the time has rolled around to start planning for this year. The Wine Raffle Committee will meet via ZOOM on Wednesday, October 7 at 4:30 pm. Committee members Anne McGlynn, Kimberly Calhoun, Rick Emery, John Oliger, Tammy Weikert, and Eric Westphall are asked to attend, and any other Club members that are interested are more than welcome. Just contact chair, Ruth Lee, at rotarianruth@gmail.com to get the meeting ID and password. Mark your calendar, Wednesday, October 7th at 4:30pm.

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 or so 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. War and mistrust have made it difficult to get children in those countries immunized, but efforts are now concentrated to do just that! Extremists have spread the rumor that the vaccination is designed by “infidels” to neuter the children. Medical volunteers have been attacked, killed and immunization supplies destroyed. Progress is being made amidst the conflict and there is hope that the final two nations experiencing polio will take their place in the world as polio free in the next year or two. Incidents of poliovirus are up in 2020 in Afghanistan (37 as of July 20) and are down slightly (65 as of July 24) in Pakistan. The 102 total cases thus far in 2020 compare to 84 total at the same date last year.

Rock Island Rotary is planning a special emphasis this year on World Polio Day. Fellow Rotarian, Rock Island Mayor Mike Thoms, will be proclaiming Saturday, October 24th as World Polio Day in Rock Island. On 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 no later than 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. The program will feature local Rotarians with personal polio experiences and an outstanding World Polio Day video provided by Rotary International.

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!



**END
POLIO
NOW**
endpolio.org



HOW EACH OF US STAND WITH THE "TAB"

As of September 29, 2020

April 14
Sue Rector
John Wetzel
Molly Shattuck
Ruth Lee
Jeff Dismer
Mike Thoms
Pete Wessels
Cindi Gramenz.

April 21
Pete Wessels
Mark Mayeski
Jeff Dismer
Kim Calhoun
Ruth Lee

April 28
Sue Cassatt
Kevin Koski
Gary Rowe

May 5
Ruth Lee
Holly Sparkman
Cindi Gramenz
Sue Cassatt

May 12
John Phillips
Bob Swanson
Molly Shattuck
Tammy Weikert
Sue Rector

May 19
Stan Coin
Kevin Koski
John Wetzel (2)
Monta Ponsetto (3)
Tom Hammar
Tammy Weikert

May 26
Cindy Gramenz

June 2
Gary Rowe
Kevin Koski
Bob Swanson (2)

June 9
Mark Mayeski
Ruth Lee
Kevin Koski
Kai Swanson (2)
Molly Shattuck
Dan McNeil

June 16
Cindi Gramenz
John Wetzel (2)
Rebecca Arnold
John Oliger

June 23
NONE

June 30
Jeff Dismer
Bud Phillis
John Wetzel
Tom Hammar

July 7
Cindi Gramenz
Gary Rowe
Angela Campbell
Mark Mayeski
Bob Swanson

July 14
None
July 21
Anne McGlynn
Tammy Weikert
Dan McNeil
John Wetzel
Ruth Lee
Kevin Koski

July 28
John Wetzel
Cindi Gramenz
Mark Zimmerman
Sue Rector (\$5)
Mark Mayeski
Molly Shattuck \$14
Jim Nordquist
Kevin Koski
Anne McGlynn
Holly Sparkman
All Member (not wearing pin)
All Member (book delivery)

August 4
Stan Coin \$2
Monta Ponsetto \$65
John Phillips
Bob Swanson
Anne McGlynn
Bud Phillis
Gary Rowe \$2
Howard Beck
Rebecca Arnold
Tammy Weikert
Cindi Gramenz

August 11
NONE

August 18
John Phillips \$2
Kevin Koski
Bruce Peterson \$2
Carrie Crossen
Monta Ponsetto
Bill Stengel
Bob Swanson \$42

August 25
Bud Phillis
Carrie Crossen
Molly Shattuck
Tom Hammar
Doug Hultquist
Ruth Lee

Sept 1
Angela Campbell \$20
Kai Swanson \$3
Rebecca Arnold
Gary Rowe
Kevin Koski
Bud Phillis
Anne McGlynn
Bob Swanson
John Wetzel

Sept 8
NONE

Sept 15
ALL – No pin
Reginald Lawrence
Dave Geenen
Cindi Gramenz
Stan Coin \$25
Bud Phillis
Bob Swanson

Sept 22
Stan Coin \$62
Kathy Trone \$19
Tammy Weikert

Sept 29
John Phillips \$36
Kevin Koski
Kai Swanson
Chris Lemon
Fr. Mirabelli
Bob Swanson
Bud Phillis
John Wetzel
Anne McGlynn
Molly Shattuck

The Grand Total!	As of 9/29/20
Rebecca Arnold	3
Howard Beck	1
Kim Calhoun	1
Angela Campbell	21
Sue Cassatt	2
Stan Coin	90
Carrie Crossen	2
Jeff Dismer	3
Dave Geenen	1
Cindi Gramenz	8
Tom Hammar	3
Doug Hultquist	1

Kevin Koski	9	Sue Rector	7
Reginald Lawrence	1	Gary Rowe	6
Ruth Lee	6	Molly Shattuck	18
Chris Lemon	1	Holly Sparkman	2
Mark Mayeski	4	Bill Stengel	1
Anne McGlynn	5	Bob Swanson	50
Dan McNeil	2	Kai Swanson	6
Fr. Mirabelli	1	Mike Thoms	1
Jim Nordquist	1	Kathy Trone	19
John Oliger	1	Tammy Weikert	5
Bruce Peterson	1	Pete Wessels	8
John Phillips	40	John Wetzel	8
Bud Phillis	6	Mark Zimmerman	1
Monta Ponsetto	69		\$416

Plus, all members have been fined 3 times: Twice for not wearing our Rotary pins for ZOOM meetings (If you had yours on you don't owe this one. And once for home delivery of your Roster Book. Members who joined after July 7th don't owe this one either. These fines are not included in the above totals