



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

January 19, 2021: Volume XXVIII, Issue 28

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



THOM SIGEL

**Head Coach
Rock Island
Boys Basketball**



Jan. – Feb. Calendar

- Jan 26 - Dave Heller, Owner, QC River Bandits
- Feb 2 - Brian Baxter, Executive Director
Quad City Symphony. .
"Symphony During the Pandemic"
- Feb 9 - Mike Nitzel – Retired Principal
Thomas Jefferson Elementary
"How People Become Great
Leaders"
- Feb 16 - Nate Ludwig, Administrator, Rock
Island County Health Department
- Feb 23 - TBA
- Mar 2 - TBA
- Mar 9 - Dr. Guilou Huang, President,
Western Illinois University

Today's Rock Island Rotary guest speaker was Rock Island High School head basketball coach, Thom Sigel. 2020-21 marks Coach Sigel's 20th season as Rock Island's head coach. During the past nineteen years at Rocky, he has guided teams to nine Western Big 6 titles, 12 Regional Championships, two Sectional Championships, and in 2011 the Rocks went 30-3 and won the IHSA Class 3A State Championship. He came to Rocky after six years as head coach at Rock Falls High School, leaving as the all-time winningest coach in school history and won the 1999 Class A State Championship for Rock Falls. He remains the only coach in Illinois history to win State Championships in two different classes. In the spring of 2017 Thom was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches' Hall of Fame. Coach Sigel was a 1985 graduate of Rock Falls and then continued his playing career at Knox College, majoring in English. Coach Sigel then spent six years as an assistant coach at Galesburg before leaving for Rock Falls. He completed his Masters' degree from Western Illinois University and is currently in his 20th year as a Guidance Counselor at RIHS as well as head basketball coach. Thom's wife Alicia is also a teacher, working at Earl Hanson Elementary, our adopted school in Rock Island, Thom and Alicia have three children, Trey & Haley, both graduates of Rock Island High School, and Colton, currently a senior at Rocky. Coach Sigel provided an interesting recap of what the COVID 19 pandemic has meant to Illinois high school athletes. He said a big part of the difficulty has been the frequently changing rules. Basketball was initially listed as a Moderate-Risk activity and a season was announced with games starting in late November. Then without explanation basketball was moved to a High-Risk activity and the season was "put on hold". The team has gone through weeks where all they could do is lift weights and run, to weeks when they could have one-on-one coach/player practices, to weeks when they could have actual intra-squad scrimmages. Coach Sigel, himself a victim of the virus, said he understands the frustration and concern, but believes with proper mitigation practices basketball can be played safely. He said under school control, masks can be required, social distancing on the bench, locker room, and team meetings can be enforced. Sigel said he feels particularly bad for the seniors who are holding out hope for an opportunity to play. He noted that college recruiting, normal done by college scouts watching live games or at minimum current year game films has not occurred and some athletes that might have received Division I interest are not getting it. He said emotionally kids are frustrated and upset particularly with Iowa side schools playing their regular season. He is hopeful that Illinois basketball will get to play, at least a shortened season and said his team can be ready with a week's notice, although he said it might look pretty ugly and offenses and defenses would have to be simplified. When he has had the opportunity to observe his players, he noted that because of the long layoff they are not physically in as good of shape as normal. We hope the Rocks do get to play and wish Coach Sigel the best of luck for 2021! Thank you for a fact pact and interesting program!



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Rock Island, IL 61204
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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

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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** – Today Mark Zimmerman of the Davenport Club and Duncan Cameron from the Naples Florida Club, were visiting Rotarians attending our meeting. Guests are always welcome at Rock Island Rotary, the “Number One Club”. We hope you enjoyed our meeting!
- ❑ **HELP NEEDED** – AT HEART OF HOPE FOOD PANTRY Volunteers are needed from 3:30pm to 5:30pm every Thursday to help make up food packages and assist in handing them to needy recipients. It is strictly as drive thru, no contact distribution. Heart of Hope also needs old grocery sacks. They also have a clothing ministry and need donations of clothes. Older or slightly used men’s, women’s, and children’s clothing will be appreciated. This time of year, coats, gloves, and caps, as well as warm pants and shirts/blouses are greatly appreciated. Project chair Steve Morenz will arrange to collect sacks and clothing. Email Steve at smorenz3@gmail.com.
- ❑ **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING** – Our Board met yesterday and received a very positive update from our treasurer, Carrie Crossen. Our financial position remains very solid with 3rd Quarter dues beginning to come in. John Wetzel provided an update on the Bert Blood Scholarship program. The award presentation is scheduled for April 13. John Daly reported on the Incubator Entrepreneurship Class at Rock Island High School and asked for Rotarian volunteers to act as judges.
- ❑ **WORD RECEIVED** – That past club president, Miary Fislar, is ill and under a doctor’s care. We’re sure a card from Rotary friends would be appreciated.
- ❑ **DON’T FORGET** - We need either your \$20 check and filled out stubs, or the five WINE RAFFLE tickets that were sent to you, returned to Anne McGlynn, at 11502 - 47th St., Milan, IL 61264 or dropped off to Kathy Trone at Wessels & Wierman law firm, 423 -17th Street, Rock Island.
- ❑ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** Email items, including photos to Bob Swanson at bobdebswanson@att.net.



BE A JUDGE!

Students in Rock Island High School's INCubator Entrepreneurship Class will give their MVP (minimum viable product) pitch to a group of judges via ZOOM on the morning of February 9th. Judges, made up of business leaders in the community, are needed. Rotarians are welcome!

During the pitch, students will explain to the judges their product, how they are going to test their product, why people will pay for their product, and make their plea for seed money. In the next step, students will go out and build a prototype and test the demand. They will be meeting with manufacturers to see actual costs and to find out if they can find someone to manufacture their product.

The INCubator Entrepreneurship Class is designed to get RIHS students excited about becoming entrepreneurs. Throughout the year students learn what it is to be an entrepreneur, dig into all aspects of business and develop skills such as team building, problem-solving and creative and critical thinking. In 2015 Rock Island Rotary supplied a grant of \$10,000 to help start the INCubator Entrepreneurship program and build a state-of-the art business incubator classroom. Since then, Rock Island Rotarians have served as mentors and coaches for the program. This year Judges are needed. If you would like to help, please contact John Daly at jdaly@russellco.com or call John at 847-4241-3148.



ROTARY OLDIES QUIZES



Over the past several weeks Rock Island Rotarians had the opportunity to show the depth of their musical knowledge of hits from the '50s, '60s, '70s, '80s, and '90s. We want to thank those who put their brains to the test and reported their quiz results. The '50s proved to be by far the most difficult, guess we are all just too young! As promised, we have some amazing, never before seen (we think), prizes for our winners. We also have a way for all Rotarian music lovers to share in the "gold".

FIRST, THE WINNERS:

The '50s	Jeff Rose – Scored 5 of 10
The '60s	Jim Moran – Scored 10 for 10
The '70s	Jim Moran – Scored 10 for 10
The '80s	Angela Campbell – Scored 13 of 15
The '90s	Angela Campbell – Scored 10 of 15
Jim Moran scored 23 of 30 in the 50's-70's group	
Angela Campbell scored 23 of 30 in the 80's-90's group	

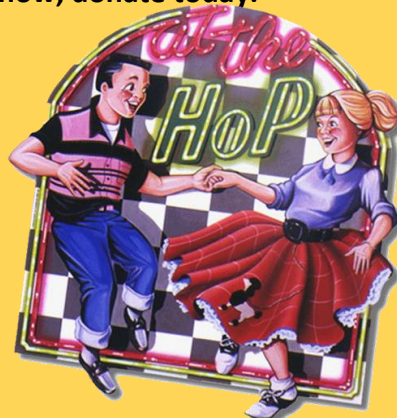
THE PRIZES:

Each winner will receive a fantastic CD featuring 60 Rock 'N Roll smash hits (over 3 hours of music!) spanning 5 decades of top music. Each hit is performed by the original bands and each features their lead singer who was in our quizzes. This incredible musical treasury is not available on Amazon and was made especially for Rock Island Rotary! PLUS, each winner will also receive a custom-made CD of the "TOP 40" songs from the decade they won. In total each decade winner will take home 100 top hits and over 5 hours of great entertainment!

Crushed that you didn't win or didn't enter? Say no more ... we've got you covered! From now to February 15th, any Rotarian who makes a \$15 donation to the Rotary International Foundation or our Rock Island Club Foundation can select a decade Top 40 CD of their choice as our "thank you". Donate \$20 if you want the 60 song – 5 Decade CD. Make as many donations as you want for additional CDs. \$80 or more gets you the entire 6 CD set! That's a \$10 savings! Act now, donate today.



Make your donation payable to Rock Island Rotary and note on the memo line either "International Foundation" or "Club Foundation". Send a separate Email to: bobdebswanson@att.net telling how much you donated and which CD(s) you want ('50s, '60's, '70s, '80s, '90s, or 5 Decade). WARNING – the '90s decade and 5 Decade CDs contain one or two rap songs with very adult language!). Send checks to R.I. Rotary, PO Box 4514, Rock Island, IL 61204-4514.





FOUNDATION MINUTE

Welcome to Week 3 of rotary International's Vocational Service Month.

Personal hygiene and environmental sanitation are enhanced when community members have easy access to potable, clean water. These pandemic days heighten the importance of easy access to clean water. Public health is jeopardized when the people have no hygienic toilets and bathrooms for personal use. As part of Rotary International's focus on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, the Rotary Foundation is tasked with supporting activities that encourage the management of freshwater resources and providing universal and equitable access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene. TRF seeks to empower governments, institutions, and communities to manage their water, sanitation, and hygiene services through environmentally sound, measurable, and sustainable interventions.

One of the ways TRF achieves this aim is by facilitating universal and equitable access to improved sanitation and waste management services in order to achieve open defecation-free communities through its Global Grant initiatives. Two Global Grants were recently approved by TRF for the purchase of materials and supplies needed for sustainable clean water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities in the Mayan villages of Agui Caliente and Paxorotot in Guatemala. District 7890 (Northampton, MA) has previously sponsored 25 projects in Guatemala. The district worked with the host club, The Rotary Club of La Antigua to use \$237,817 USD to acquire the material for the projects. A total of 4,208 people, comprising of 668 families will benefit from the improvements to their drinking water and general hygiene and sanitation.

The District Chair for Water & Sanitation Projects and member of the Rotary Club of Manchester, MA, Rick Lawrence will share with any club how these projects impact the lives of the people involved. He is also willing to present virtually or in-person when convenient. Any club willing to invite Rotarian Lawrence should contact him by calling (860) 558-2793 or email him at: elawrlaw@sbcglobal.net

"For what good is it to fight disease if our polluted environment causes us to become sick again? The Rotary Foundation will be central to this work. More than \$18 million has gone toward environment-rated global grants in the past five years. Building upon this work to protect the environment, we will give yet another Rotary gift to future generations. And you can be a part of it today." (K.R. Ravindran, Foundation Trustee Chair, 2021)

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.

Sue has already started collecting some favorite products to make a Sustainable Products Basket, and there are always great sales around the holidays, closeouts from the summer that we can take advantage of not to mention re-gifting opportunities!! And she's got a stash of baskets if you will need one and is happy to take random items and put them together to make great baskets if you don't want to do a full basket.

Give Sue a call or e-mail with questions or donations. She will store things until April! Call 563-343-7985 or email srector3614@gmail.com.





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

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

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

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

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

ROTARY LEADERSHIP SERIES – DON'T MISS THEM!



Rotary
Elgin Breakfast Rotary Club
District 6440 • Illinois • USA

ROTARY LEADERSHIP SPEAKER SERIES

January 4

Holger Knaack
Rotary International
President



January 14

Jennifer Jones
Rotary International
President Nominee



January 21

Shekhar Mehta
Rotary International
President Elect



January 28

John Germ
Rotary Foundation Chair Elect
Past Rotary
International President
2016 - 2017



Join us LIVE at 7:15 a.m. each date at www.facebook.com/ElginBreakfastRotaryClub/

ROCK ISLAND LIBRARY NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Helping is so easy. Just take a simple survey. Instructions are below. Thanks!



What do you think?

**Please share your thoughts
about Rock Island Library
services & community needs.**

Whether you use libraries or not,
the library wants to hear from you.
Please take a quick survey!



Scan QR code with your phone or enter this URL in your
browser: <http://surveys.librarycustomer.org/s3/5968580>

THE TAB BOUNCES BACK!

After taking last week off, the TAB made a nice recovery with numerous fines and happy dollars contributed. Howard Beck and Bruce Peterson each contributed an "early leaver" dollar. Kai Swanson earned a fine in recognition of his receiving the prestigious Martin Luther King "I Have A Dream Award". Congratulations Kai! Angela Campbell paid a \$1 fine for including a Library Survey in today's newsletter. Sue Rector was dinged under the Austin Rule for Lucy Rector (no relation to our Sue) being a 2021 Mardi Gras Attendant. Cindi Gramenz put in a \$1 for her recent multi-media exposure including an upcoming appearance on Channel 4's Living Local Show this Thursday. Gary Rowe put in a Happy Dollar for Rock Island-Milan students returning to school today. Rebecca Arnold added a dollar for the King Center again having a greatly successful MLK Day Awards Program. Then the happy dollars flowed from John Wetzel, Bruce Peterson, Bob Swanson, Sue Rector, Doug Hultquist and Jim Moran, all happy to see Augustana Basketball starting their season this week. Thanks to all who contributed!