



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

June 22, 2021: Volume XXVIII, Issue 50

MEETING EVERY TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



## LIZ NINO Recruiting the World For Augustana



Our program today was presented by our own Liz Nino. Liz joined Rock Island Rotary in 2018 as a corporate associate member with Augustana College and unfortunately will be leaving our club this month. Liz will be resigning her position at Augustana to join Rivermont Collegiate, as Associate Head of Enrollment. Her office will be in Bettendorf and she plans to join Bettendorf Rotary. We are sad to lose her, but pleased that Rotary will not lose her! Liz grew up in Hampton, Illinois and is a graduate of St Ambrose University. She earned her Master of Science (M.S.) focused in Bilingual, Multilingual, and Multicultural Education from Western Illinois University. For the past eight years, Liz has served as Executive Director of International Enrollment Management and Alumni Relations for Augustana College. Prior to that she was an English language teacher in the Moline School District, working with English as a second language students. She also spent a year working in Cambridge, Massachusetts for EF Education First as Study Abroad Coordinator. Previous to that Liz spent 2 years as an International Baccalaureate Teacher for the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, in Monterrey, Mexico. She has traveled the world extensively recruiting international students for Augustana. One thing Liz does not lack is enthusiasm for her job and for Augustana. She said that her career choice really began as a 17 year old Rotary Exchange Student who spent a year in Sweden. That was a eye opening and life changing experience. Never having previously been much outside the Quad Cities, Liz was awed and fascinated by the diversity she saw in people and cultures. She said it gave her an entirely different perspective on the world and her place in it. She decided then that she wanted a career in which she could expose others to the same thrill she received from international travel and culture sharing. Both of Liz' brothers were also Rotary Exchange Students. After teaching in Europe, Mexico, and the United States, Liz was thrilled with the opportunity to head up the International Enrollment program for Augustana. When she began in 2013 there were approximately 33 international students at Augustana representing about 1% of the student population. Through hundreds of thousands of miles of travel and years of hard work, that number had tripled by 2019 and 120 new international students were enrolled to come to Augie in 2020. However the Pandemic hit and international travel and borders closed. Of the 120 scheduled to come, just 20 were allowed into the United States. Complicating matters further were US Immigration Rules that stated if college campuses went to 100% virtual education, all foreign students had to leave the United States. By then however most of their home countries had closed borders and would not allow the students to return home. Many schools simply went ahead and their international students were caught in a legal dilemma. However, Augustana made a commitment to continue on campus classes for their international students which allowed them to remain in the US legally. When summer came additional issues arose. Normally dorms close and food service and personnel are gone during the summer months. Because approximately 1/3 of the international students had decided to remain at Augie, accommodations had to be made. A dorm was kept open and costs were reduced, a campaign was initiated to provide food vouchers, gift cards, treat bags and even bicycles for the international students who were essentially stranded on an empty campus. An Augie alum, himself an international student, organized and hosted an international meal event providing the students with a "home cooked" meal. Over 60 bicycles were donated so the students could explore and become acquainted with the Quad Cities beyond the Augustana campus. By February 2021 90 more international students were admitted to the United States and enrolled at Augie. Liz was excited to state that this fall 150 new international students will be attending Augustana, bringing the international enrollment up to over 300 and between 13% and 14% of the total student body. Liz believes foreign students add important diversity and cultural information to schools. The federal 2020 Open Doors report ranks Augustana as 24th in the nation, in international student enrollment out of more than 4,000 schools. Augustana is the only college in Illinois in the top 25 in the rankings. The most popular majors for foreign students: 1) Computer Science 2) Business 3) Engineering. Thank you Liz great information!

### June - July Calendar

- June 29- President Angela Campbell's Wrap for the 2020-21 Rotary year.
- July 6 - President Justin Peterson's Induction and inaugural Address.
- July 13 - Norm Moline retired Augie professor talks about China
- July 20 - John Phillips does a tribute concert to John Prine
- July 27 - Dr. Louis Katz Infectious Disease Medical Dir., Scott County Health Department



Rock Island, IL 61204  
[www.rirotary.com](http://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** – Today Duncan Cameron from the Naples, FL Club and Mark Zimmerman joined us as visiting Rotarians. Also visiting were Corbyn Beck and Joni Beck, guests of dad and husband Howard Beck. Kaleigh Trammell a new member applicant joined us as did Dick Fislar, a guest of wife Mary Fislar. Guests are always welcome at the “Number One Club”. How long has it been since you invited a friend or colleague to be your guest at Rock Island Rotary?
- ☐ **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](mailto:smorenz3@gmail.com).
- ☐ **DIRECTORS MEETING** - Yesterday our Board of Directors met and made several very important decisions. Dues will be increasing for everyone due to rising costs. This was not an easy decision, but necessary to maintain our club's fiscal integrity. The Board also voted to resume return to our self-service lunch buffet with large salad selections and table beverages. This will take effect at next week’s meeting. For a complete report on Board action, see page 4.
- ☐ **WE ARE BACK TO LIVE MEETINGS** so it’s time to get back into the habit of attending Rotary and bringing a guest who might also be interested in great fellowship, community service, and networking with the area’s leading business and service professionals. Who do you know that would be a great addition to our club?
- ☐ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** Email items, including photos to Bob Swanson at [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net).

## FOUNDATION RAFFLE



Today’s Foundation featured a bottle of fine wine donated by Pete Wessels and a 50/50 cash drawing! The first ticket drawn was held by Bud Phillis who took the money and quickly donated it to the Rotary International Foundation. The second ticket drawn belonged to Dr. Pat Cunningham who happily accepted the Cabernet Sauvignon wine! Thanks to all who participated. Proceeds go to the Rotary International Foundation and are used to continue Rotary’s humanitarian and disease eradicating work throughout the world.



## New Member Applicant

Kaleigh Trammell has applied for membership in Rock Island Rotary. Kaleigh is the new Festival of Trees Administrator for Quad City Arts. Moving from Missouri, Kaleigh will be living in Rock Island and working out of the Arts office in downtown Rock Island. Previously she served as Program Coordinator for the Community Foundation of the Ozarks in Springfield, Missouri. She graduated from Missouri State University with a degree in Communication Science and Disorders in 2013 with a Minor in Linguistics. In her younger years she was a member of the Rotaract Club of Springfield and served as Community Service Chair. Not surprisingly, her hobbies and interests are Arts & Culture and local music. Please direct any comments to President Angela Campbell or vice-president Justin Peterson.





## FOUNDATION MINUTE

Welcome to Week 3 of Rotary International's Fellowship Month.  
Happy Father's Day to all Rotarians and other fathers around the world.

It has been a very busy week for Rotarians all over the world, especially as clubs and districts prepare for a new Rotary Service Year. New presidents, secretaries and board members are being sworn in and attempts are being made to keep the 4-Way Test relevant. In the midst of all these, TRF keeps on doing good globally, equipping medical clinics and centers with life-saving equipment, donating relief materials to victims of natural disasters and as recently as few days ago, improving the personal hygiene of teenagers. The Rotary Club of Haenertsburg, South Africa, with the help of a Rotary Foundation Global Grant came to the aid of schoolgirls in rural Limpopo by introducing them to reusable sanitary kits. The R1.78 million (124,000 USD) Grant will train 25 candidates in fabric design as well as entrepreneurial skills from the Junior Achievement Curriculum.

As we welcome new club officers, let us all remind ourselves of the change that is possible when: The Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world.

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.

## ROTARY BASEBALL CHALLENGE

Diehard White Sox fan John Phillips has thrown down the gauntlet! He has heard enough from the Cardinals, Cubs, Brewers, Yankees, and fans of other major league teams! John says it is time to "Put up or Shut up!" So, here is his challenge: "We have many baseball fans in our club who are loyal to their teams. Cubs, Cardinals and White Sox dominate but there are other teams as well. These teams are doing well this year and have post season aspirations. As a Sox fan, I am willing to bet that the win/loss record for the White Sox will be better than the other teams at the end of the regular season. If they do not have the best record, I will donate \$100 to the Rock Island Rotary Foundation. I challenge the other fans of their favorite teams to do the same. If their team does not have a better record than the other teams in the challenge, they agree to donate \$100, \$50, or \$25 to the Rock Island Rotary Foundation or the Rotary International Foundation (their choice)."

To join the Challenge, we need to know your name, your team, and the amount you agree to pledge if your team does not have a better final record than other teams in the challenge. Rotarians can let John or Bob Swanson know if they want to participate. Who is willing to face the Challenge and add your name?



John Phillips  
Bill Stengel  
Jim Nordquist



Frank Lambert



Anne McGlynn  
Bob Swanson  
Jim Moran  
Gary Rowe  
Justin Peterson  
Molly Shattuck



Duncan Cameron



Doug Hultquist



John Oliger

*We would have guessed there are more than one Cardinal fans in the Club, but if you are reluctant to admit it, Cub fans can understand why!*

?

**ADD YOUR TEAM**





## CLUB BOARD MAKES DIFFICULT DECISIONS FOR GOOD OF CLUB

No one is fond of higher prices, including every member of our Board of Directors, however when faced with some cold, hard, cash facts presented by Club treasurer, Carrie Crossen, the Board was forced to consider several options, none of which came easy.

FACT: The Club charge for lunches was increased recently to \$10 per plate.

FACT: In the average quarter there are 13 weeks and 13 Rotary meetings

FACT: The cost per Rotarian for meeting lunches therefore is \$130 per quarter

FACT: Rotary International and our Rotary District each charge our Club quarterly dues for every member on our roll. Those charges have been increasing every year and currently are approximately \$50 per member per quarter.

FACT: For many years we have paid \$3.50 from each member's quarterly dues into our International Foundation account to help assist members to achieve Paul Harris Fellow honors.

FACT: Combined costs paid for each member in dues, lunches, and a very small Foundation donation is therefore \$183.50 per quarter.

FACT: Our dues charged to members has been \$150 with no increase for many years. As you can see this falls short of covering even the base costs that we pay out per member. (\$183.50 - \$150 leaves a short fall of \$33.50 per member per quarter with nothing left to support our club expenses such as Pumpkin Palooza, Little Libraries, Birthday Books, and nothing for our Community Grants that benefit numerous community projects and activities. It also leaves nothing for Club expenses such as printing our Club Directory and member materials, our Holiday party pre-show reception, and nothing to pay for lunches for our guest speakers and group guests such as the Chamber Choir, Rocky Orchestra, and Award Luncheon honorees.

FACT: Most of our "fundraisers" are earmarked for specific causes. Ex) Birdies goes to the Club Foundation, Wine Raffle goes to the Service Above Self Scholarship, Trivia supports Earl Hanson, etc. Very little is available to cover Club expenses.

FACT: We have been staying solvent over the years because not every member attended every meeting and therefore some lunch expenses were saved. However, the increase in our cost for lunch coupled with some members wishing to have a "no-lunch" dues option (which our By-laws allow), has or will dry up that source of funding.

SOLUTION: An increase in quarterly dues to \$200 per member which includes lunch. Dues for those wishing not to have lunch will be \$100 and there will be no option to purchase lunches at the door for members selecting no lunch dues. We will have adequate meals to continue offering visiting guests paid at the door lunches. This adjustment to dues was approved by the Board and will take effect as of the first quarter of the 2021-22 Rotary year (July 1, 2021).

As in the Past, we do not want to lose members due to temporary financial issues. If the new dues structure causes serious financial hardship, we urge you to speak with treasurer Carrie Crossen regarding a confidential temporary dues adjustment.

In other business, the Board voted to return to our traditional "self-served" buffet as of July 29, 2021. Bridges will be asked to restore the large salad bowl selection and to provide beverages in pitchers on the tables.

Carrie Crossen announced that she will be retiring as Club Treasurer at the end of the 2021-22 Rotary Year. This allows us time to find a replacement and for that person to work with Carrie during her final year.

New members Nathan Parch, Randy Hurt, Mark Poulos, and Jeremy Richard were approved. Nathan, Randy, and Mark will be associate corporate members with the City of Rock Island. Jeremy is the new owner of the Ben Farrar Insurance agency. Resignation of membership from Liz Nino was accepted with regret.

The Board voted to again participate in the Rock Island Labor Day Parade. More details will follow.

Since our annual Blood Drive was cancelled due to the Covid Pandemic, the Board approved hosting a "make-up" Rotary Blood Drive on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will return to our customary February Blood Drive date in 2022.

The Board voted to purchase a Club ZOOM subscription and to continue offering a ZOOM option in addition to our live, in-person meetings. It was acknowledged that this creates more work but is a valued service to members.

The Board thanked President Angela Campbell for her service and leadership through a very difficult year.

TWO WEEKS AGO JEFF ROSE TOLD US ABOUT THE UPCOMING ROCK ISLAND ROTARY

# WINE AUCTION

FEATURING OUTSTANDING HIGH LEVEL WINE FROM THE NIMBLE VINEYARD  
OF SONOMA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA



Winners of the 2019 Sunset International Wine Competition  
Best of Class, Double Gold Award Winner  
\*Nimble Vineyards Nobis Cabernet Sauvignon\*

This will be a 2 week long “ON-LINE” Silent Auction Starting in Mid-August  
WE NEED CLUB MEMBERS TO STEP UP AND HELP WITH EXPENSES

We have received a generous donation of nearly \$7,000 worth of wine but must pay for shipping, taxes and miscellaneous expense for preparing the wine for auction.

**Here are the needs and opportunities:**

**Auction Sponsors** – You/Your Business or Entity will be recognized as an Auction Sponsor in all pre-auction promotions on Facebook, Twitter, Internet, and directed emails. You will also be shown as a sponsor in the On-Line Auction itself for the entire time the auction is open (minimum of 2 weeks)! **Cost - \$200.00**

**Swag Sponsors** – Your Business or Entity provides Swag promoting your business which will be added to an auction item. That item will then be named including your name. I.e., “John Doe Company Nobis Cabernet Sauvignon Delight”. That name will appear on the item throughout the auction (minimum of 2 weeks) continuing all the way through to the successful purchase of the item.

## NAME CHANGE FOR OUR SERVICE ABOVE SELF SCHOLARSHIP

After our Board established our new “Service Above Self” scholarship which was presented for the first time this past spring, a portion of a donation from Fred and Virginia Houlton was used to fund the required initial \$5,000 scholarship endowment. Fred, a former Rock Island Rotary Club president and Past District Governor of our Rotary District is a long-time educator and former elementary school principal in the Rock Island-Milan School District. In his honor, the Board voted to amend the name of our scholarship which hence forth will be known as the “Fred Houlton Rotary Service Above Self Scholarship”. A fitting tribute to an outstanding Rotarian and an incredible gentleman.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MOST RECENT PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

Rotarian Howard Beck, himself a Paul Harris Fellow, bestowed that honor upon his wife, Joni Beck at today’s Rock Island Rotary Meeting. Foundation Chairman, Bud Phillis introduced Howard and Joni and their daughter who accompanied them, and presented Joni with her Certificate and Paul Harris Rotary Pin. Howard joined Rock Island Rotary in 2015 and became a regular support of the Foundation. Congratulations to him and to Joni for their dedicated support of humanitarian service through the Rotary Foundation.



Howard Beck