



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

September 21, 2021: Volume XXIX, Issue 12

MEETING TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



**Apologies to those trying to connect via Zoom – the Botanical Center was having internet connectivity issues today.**

## Diversifying Your Leadership Portfolio



Alfred Ramirez is president of Diverse Strategies Now, a company based in East Moline. He provides individual, group, and organizational services, such as, training, coaching, program development, and strategic group facilitation. As a past president, executive director, senior leader or consultant, especially with organizations in start-up or fix-up mode, Ramirez has real-time experience and understanding of overt or subtle organizational management challenges and strategic

actions to address them. He has trained or facilitated small and large groups in public and private sector arenas for 30+ years and has provided in-person or remote keynote addresses to audiences ranging from 100 to 3000 individuals. Ramirez enjoys partnering with individuals and organizations to identify their assets, areas for development, and strategic focus to maximize their capacities and impact. Ramirez has led Diverse Strategies Now for the past 13 years. Mr. Ramirez has been a member of the Society for Human Resource Management for the past 15 yrs and spent a year as Director of Operations of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute. He was vice president of Group O, in charge of Government Relations & Diversity from 2011 to 2014 and was President of the Greater Quad Cities Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in 2010. Mr. Ramirez has also been politically active, serving as Executive Director – White House Initiative for Hispanic Education and was Special Assistant to The President and Associate Director of Personnel in 1993. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Columbia University and did his graduate studies at Baruch College in New York City.

We are honored that the Rock Island Rotary was his first presentation since March 2019! He didn't seem rusty at all. In fact, if you missed today's program, you really missed out. The first part was interactive, where Rotarians quizzed themselves on their level knowledge and comfort when discussing equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI). Although many felt somewhat comfortable at the beginning of the presentation with these concepts, many felt much more comfortable by the end.

Tips for creating and maintaining a creative and safe environment included: listening for understanding, being open to new possibilities, speaking from own experiences rather than generalizations, and respectfully asking questions but focusing on ideas. Mr. Ramirez also provided an overview of bias by presenting this quote: "We don't see things as they are, we see things as we are," and that we should accept each other as part of the spectrum of normalcy. There is no normal! Finally, differentiating and understanding the differences between equity, inclusion, and diversity makes for a well-rounded individual. Equity – fairness (not sameness); diversity (reality); and inclusion (not an existing space, but a choice to create a new and better space for everyone). This presentation was so rich that we really should invite Mr. Ramirez back to go more in-depth. Thank you so much for the valuable information and thought-provoking topic!

### Sept. – Nov. Calendar

- Sept 21 - 1pm-2pm Trivia Night  
Committee meeting  
following Club meeting
- Sept 28 - Monta Ponsetto, Rock  
Island-Milan Education  
Foundation
- Sept 30 - Birthday Books – 2pm at Earl  
Hanson School
- Oct 5 - Mark Werning - Bank Fraud/  
Scams
- Oct 12 - Dennis Harker – Missing  
Persons Network
- Oct 19 - Jessica Gordon – German  
American Heritage
- Oct 24 - World Polio Day
- Oct 26 - Dennis Ritter & Curtis Lundy  
Nehant Marsh
- Nov 2 - Kathy Kwiat-Hess – District  
6420 Foundation Chair
- Nov 9 - Deb Bowen – "Books By Me"
- Nov 16 - Cecilia O'Brien – United Way
- Nov 23 - Norm Moline – China
- Nov 30 - Chad Pregracke – the Bison  
Bridge



P.O. Box 4514  
Rock Island, IL 61204  
[www.rirotary.com](http://www.rirotary.com)

## Officers

Justin Peterson, President  
Cindi Gramenz, 1st Vice Pres.  
Eric Westphall, 2nd Vice Pres.  
Anne McGlynn, Secretary  
Carrie Crossen, Treasurer  
Angela Campbell, Past President

## Board Members

John Daly  
Rick Devinney  
Dan McNeil  
Monta Ponsetto  
Sue Rector  
Gary Rowe  
Molly Shattuck  
Kathy Trone  
Bob Swanson Co-Sgt.-at-Arms  
Cindi Gramenz Co-Sgt.-at-Arms

## Program Chairs

### 2021-22

Aug-Sept	- Gary Rowe
Oct - Nov	- Frank Lambert
Dec-Jan	- John Wetzel
Feb-Mar	- Kai Swanson/ Dave Hodge
Apr-May	- Kathy Trone/ Jeff Rose

# Club Notes & Announcements!

- ❑ **WELCOME GUESTS** – Susan Schaefer, Quad City Bank & Trust; David & Barbara Parker of the Victorian Inn; and Duncan Cameron from the Naples, Florida, Club.
- ❑ **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).
- ❑ **ANOTHER ROTARY SHIRT ORDER?** – We have heard from members who missed out on ordering a new Club shirt asking if we would be placing another order. **If you missed out and have decided you would like a shirt, please let Bob Swanson know asap.** We will put together another order soon. Cost is somewhat determined by the number ordered. Specify size and Polo or Tee.
- ❑ **NEWSLETTER** – If you have items for our newsletter, send to Bob Swanson at [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net).

## SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING AT HY-VEE

Salvation Army bell ringing is booked for both doors on December 11, 2021, at the Rock Island Hy-Vee, from 10am-3pm. Register with Mark Mayeski to volunteer and ring the bell. Families welcome, too!

## FOUNDATION RAFFLE – FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

A lot of fines and happy/sad dollars today!

Rick Devinney - \$100 check to the Foundation in honor of (?) the Moline/Rock Island Football Blowout

David Parker – Victorian Inn named as a Destination Illinois location

Mary Fislar – In honor of David and Barbara Parker's 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary

Eric Westphall – Going to the Ryder Cup; celebrating the MidAmerican Energy grant to the YWCA

Kathy Trone – New grandson, Baker, healthy 9lbs, 6oz.

Julie Gelaude – I did not hear what it was for, so I will pay a \$1 (I'm so sorry!)

Howard Beck won the fancy Nimble Vineyards wine! (Actually, Anne won, but left early and told Sue to draw again if she won). The \$75 collected will go to the Foundation. Thanks everyone for playing!

## OTHER IMPORTANT ROTARIAN NEWS:

Rotarian, Don Peterson, kindly remembered Rotary during his estate planning. President Justin announced that Don has left a portion of a trust (about \$12,000), which the Board voted would go to the Rotary Club Foundation for future use. What a wonderful gift that will keep on giving in Don's name.

Dr. Bud Phillis's wife is in hospice. Please keep her and Bud in your thoughts and prayers.

Amber Brummit's Mother-in-Law recently passed away. Please keep her family in your prayers.



Rotarian, Sara Cross, accepted the Rotary District Grant check on behalf of First Tee of the Quad Cities. The \$2500 will pay for 40 kids to attend the First Tee program, which teaches golf and leadership skills.

Sara reported that Highland Springs is getting an upgrade - a new clubhouse! - which will allow for First Tee to use the classroom in the future. They've also received an \$80,000 grant for the program. Great job to Sara and her team!

Mark Mayeski couldn't stay away from the podium and volunteered to revive the Rotarian Spotlight segment of our meeting. He felt like it was important to carry on the "awesome tradition of super joke telling."

In other words, he told some jokes, not really worth repeating, but here you go:

What do you call 3 Irish lumberjacks? (Tree fellers)

What is Forrest Gump's computer password? (1Forrest1)

Mark dropped a \$1 bill in the toilet and felt it wasn't worth it to fish it out...so he dropped in a \$20 bill.

Mark reminisced about attending his first Rotary meeting with Fred Luckenbill. He currently works at Edward Jones, but started out a CitiGroup. His undergrad degree is from Gonzaga, and he also has a master's degree from Colorado State. He's lived in a lot of great areas, but now calls the Quad Cities home.

All joking aside, we're thrilled to have Mark as a member and a past-president. Thank you for your leadership, Mark, and for revitalizing this portion of our meeting. 😊

If you would like to be the Rotarian in the Spotlight, contact President Justin to arrange a date.



# ENDPOLIONOW

Look for some upcoming announcements about our club's involvement in World Polio Day, October 24, 2021.



## The World Series of Giving PLAY BALL!



Welcome to the first inning of this year's District 6420 World Series of Giving. Our club president and our newsletter have been updating you on our club's preparations for this year's historic first annual competition. Points are earned via donations made by our member to the Rotary Foundation.

We will be scheduling foundation-related events to lead our club to the top of our division by the end of next May. Each month, beginning in October, we will be publishing in the newsletter the standings for all five divisions. In addition, we will be publishing the "Box Score" division standings charts so we can see how we stack up against other clubs in the District.

We will also be printing each month a baseball-theme trivia question, which the District will provide at the beginning of the month – again starting in October. The first club member to respond with the correct answer to the trivia question will receive 100 Paul Harris points toward his/her Paul Harris Fellow award (or next PHF+ Award). The winners of each club's monthly baseball trivia competition will be entitled for a final year-end trivia competition to be held during our World Series in June 2022.



In June (2022), the five division winners compete for the World Series of Giving title and the ultimate winner will be announced on July 1, 2022.

Is our team ready! If not, it's time to dust off the cleats, take a few practice swings and get in there!

**Play Ball!**

Scoring is based by aggregate per capita going to the Annual Fund and Projects throughout the year.

**Season Schedule:**  
Oct 8 - August 2022: Spring Training  
September 2022: Series 1  
October 2022: Series 2

**Northwest Division:**  
Area 1 & 2  
Clubs: [List of clubs]

**Mid-Central Division:**  
Area 3 & 4  
Clubs: [List of clubs]

**South-Central Division:**  
Area 5 & 6  
Clubs: [List of clubs]

**West-Central Division:**  
Area 7 & 8  
Clubs: [List of clubs]

**Western Division:**  
Area 9 & 10  
Clubs: [List of clubs]

Working towards our goal of 100% participation in the District's program.

**Rotary Foundation**



## MOLLY NEEDS HELP!

BIRTHDAY BOOKS resume on Wednesday, September 29th, at 1:30pm at Earl Hanson Elementary School. Chair Molly Shattuck will be there with the books but needs fellow Rotarians to assist with autographing and handing out books to the kids. It is a fun time and takes about an hour out of your schedule. Kids celebrating their birthdays in September will be attending and light refreshments will be served. Birthday Books will resume its regularly scheduled "last Thursday of the month" beginning in October.

## ROTARY BASEBALL CHALLENGE

Diehard White Sox fan John Phillips issued the challenge two months ago! "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)." Many accepted the challenge and here's how they stand today -



John Phillips  
Bill Stengel  
Jim Nordquist  
Kathy Trone

81-60



Frank Lambert

72-69



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

65-78



Duncan Cameron

88-55



Doug Hultquist

78-63



John Oliger

64-78



James Benson

80-63

RECORDS AS OF 9/12/2021



## PUMPKIN PALOOZA 2021!



### Pumpkins Palooza 2021 Approaching Fast!

October 22<sup>nd</sup> is the date and the Corn Crib on Route 150 just south of the Quad City Airport is the place. The time is 10 am -2:15 pm. Rotary volunteers are needed to be on hand to help the kids have fun!

We also hope to put together a goodie bag for each kiddo - any donations of fun kid friendly SWAG would be appreciated. Also, the bags! 54 kids and 5 teachers (if you have any teacher appropriate SWAG-that would be a fun surprise). Please let Sue Rector know at [srector3614@gmail.com](mailto:srector3614@gmail.com) if you can help or have goodie items.

SAVE THE DATE



## Rock Island Rotary TRIVIA NIGHT Friday, November 12th 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, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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!



### Rock Island Rotary TRIVIA NIGHT

**Proceeds benefit Rock Island Rotary Youth Programs**

#### Sponsorship Opportunities:

Gold Sponsor \$500

- Listed on all advertising material
- Complimentary Table for up to 10 players, including mulligans and double score sticker
- Day of event recognition as a Gold Sponsor

Corporate Sponsor \$250

- Complimentary Table for up to 10 players
- Day of event recognition as a Corporate Sponsor

Friend of Rotary \$100



SAVE THE DATE

# ROTARY REINDEER RAMBLE



SUNDAY

December 5, 2021

9:00AM

START & FINISH – CIRCA 21, 1828 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Rock Island, IL 61201

COURSE - Flat & Fast, scenic, accurate, wheeled distance.

SHIRTS - Size guaranteed to pre-registered runners and walkers

RUNNER'S AWARDS-- Overall male and female 3 awards per ages 0-9, 10-14, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80+

WALKER'S AWARDS-- Overall male and female, 3 awards per age groups 0-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+ ALL THIS PLUS GREAT FOOD & DRINK!

REGISTER ONLINE - [GETMEREGISTERED.COM/ROTARYREINDEERRAMBLE](http://GETMEREGISTERED.COM/ROTARYREINDEERRAMBLE)

REGISTRATION FEES – Pre-registered, postmarked not later than 11-20-20 \$25.00

Rotary members \$23.00 After Nov 20, \$30.00 for all!

PACKET PICKUP & REGISTRATION 7:30AM to 8:45AM RACE DAY

GRAND PRIZE! GIFT CERTIFICATE for two for CIRCA 21. for pre-registered runners only!  
MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN! NO EXCEPTIONS!

If you have questions call Dick or Mary Fislar at 309-788-0500 or e-mail  
[cruisemaster18@yahoo.com](mailto:cruisemaster18@yahoo.com)

-----CUT HERE-----

## OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM (MAY BE DUPLICATED) PLEASE PRINT!!!

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Mid \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age race day \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Run \_\_\_\_\_ Walk \_\_\_\_\_

Circle shirt size S M L XL XXL (ADD \$2.00 for XXL) Phone \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

No shirt option \_\_\_\_\_ deduct \$5.00 if you choose no shirt!

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER (MUST BE SIGNED)** In consideration of the acceptance of my entry, I for myself, my executors, administrators, and assignees, do hereby release and discharge Rock Island Rotary, the City of Rock Island, any sponsors, supporters, or volunteers, for all claims of damages, demands, actions whatsoever in any manner arising or growing out of my participation in the ROTARY REINDEER RAMBLE 5K Run or Walk. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this event, am physically fit, and sufficiently trained to participate in this event.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Participant, or Parent or Guardian if under 18 years of age.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ROCK ISLAND ROTARY Mail entry and payment to ROTARY, P.O. Box 4271, Rock Island, IL 61201. NO REFUNDS RACE WILL BE HELD REGARDLESS!