



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

December 7, 2021: Volume XXIX, Issue 23

MEETING TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



ROCK ISLAND CHAMBER CHOIR

The annual visit of the Rock Island High School Chamber singers under the direction of Scott Voigt is one of our most popular programs. After a year's absence due to Covid, the 2021 +version of the choir did not disappoint and again presented an outstanding performance. Mr. Voigt, who earned his Bachelor of Arts in Music Education and a Master of Music Education degree from VanderCook College of Music in Chicago is now in his 15th year as director of Choral Music at Rock Island High School. Cheryl Bolt is the group's accompanist. A member of the RIHS music department for the past 22 years, Cheryl holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from St. Ambrose University and currently serves as the head organist at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Moline. The Chamber Singers are in high demand as a performing group throughout the Quad Cities area, especially during the holiday season, this year with 25 scheduled performances, including 5 performances today! The Singers perform a wide variety of choral literature, including madrigals, chamber music, vocal jazz, spirituals, contemporary, and various genres of popular music. They compete each spring as a madrigal group, chamber ensemble, jazz choir, and mixed choir. During the holiday season, they may be seen performing on KWQC-TV6. Members of the choir are selected by audition. A number have been honored as "All State Musicians" by the Illinois Music Educators Association. Always a highlight of their performance is when the singers scatter throughout the room each essentially becoming a soloist in their area. Incredibly even so widely spaced they continue to present a balance blend of four-part harmony. Today's program included a lively rendition of "Boom, Boom, Boom" followed by the well-known Christmas standard, "What Child is This". The words were written by William Chatterton Dix in 1865, subsequently set to the tune of "Greensleeves", a traditional English folk song in 1871. They then performed "The Holly & The Ivy", a traditional British folk Christmas carol. From there the Choir took us to the ballet stage with their rendition of the "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy", the third movement in The Nutcracker Suite, written 1892 by Tchaikovsky. Director Voight then invited Rotarians to join in on the singing of "Oh Come All Ye Faithful" originally written in Latin as "Adeste Fideles" by John Francis Wade in the 1700s. Rotarians did pretty well until the Choir move on to the second and third verses! They got a second singalong chance with "Joy to the World", an English Christmas carol written in 1719 by the English minister and hymnwriter Isaac Watts. The musical arrangement done in 1848 is credited to the American composer Lowell Mason. According to Wikipedia, Since the 20th century, "Joy to the World" has been the most-published Christmas hymn in North America. Returning to the 20th Century, the choir presented, "Ah, Bleak and Chill the Wintry Wind" written by Bates G. Burt & Alfred Burt in 1945. Returning to the international flare, the singers presented, "Infant Holy, Infant lowly" (known in Polish as W Żłobie Leży, or "In the Manger He Lies") a traditional Polish Christmas carol. In 1920, the song was translated into English by Edith Margaret Gellibrand Reed, a British musician and playwright. Reed found the carol in the hymnal *Spiewniczek Piesni Koscielne* (published 1908), though the song itself may date back as far as the thirteenth century. Turning to a more contemporary composition, the Chamber Choir did a rousing version of Joshua Sellers' "My King is Coming". Sellers is a Canadian singer/song writer who made his first big splash into fame as a contestant on Season 2 of Canadian Idol. The group closed their performance with a short and quick "Merry, Merry Christmas song sung as the waved and excited the dining room. The talent and poise presented by these 19 "kids" is incredible. Four of the six boys in the choir and two of the girls were recently recognized as "All-State" musicians. Director Voigt noted that many more of the choir members could have earned All State recognition had they wanted to try out. Thanks Choir and Mr. Voigt for another great show!

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Dec. - Jan Calendar

- Dec 8 - Rotary Holiday Party Circa 21 Starts with 5pm Salon Party
- Dec 7 - RIHS Chamber Singers 2021 Holiday Show
- Dec 14 - TBA
- Dec 21 - The Taxman Cometh – Tom Hammar & Molly Shattuck on the new Tax Code
- Dec 28 - CLUB ASSEMBLY – Mid-year Checkup led by President Justin Peterson
- Jan 4 - TBA
- Jan 10 - MONDAY Joint Meeting with Kiwanis for Mayor Mike Thoms' State of the City Address
- Jan 18 - TBA
- Jan 25 - TBA



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Officers

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

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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** – Today our Club welcomed Dick Fislar a guest of wife Mary Fislar; Debbi Swanson wife of Bob Swanson, Judy Nordquist wife of Dr. Jim Nordquist, and Susan Llewellyn a guest of Julie Gelaude. Mark Werning and Dan Breidenstein joined us from Living Lands and Waters. We love having guests at “The Number One Club”!
- ❑ **REINDEER RAMBLE COMMITTEE** – will meet next week at 11:30 for a brief wrap-up and review. All committee members are urged to attend.
- ❑ **DON'T FORGET – KEEP THEM ENGAGED** Today was our final collection for November's educationally motivating items. Next week we start our December Collection of **construction paper and drawing paper**. We need to supply 300 Earl Hanson student and want each to get a fully supplied summer bag to “Keep Them Engaged”. Bring paper or your donation for the December cause!
- ❑ **WE ARE MAKING SCARFS FOR KIDS** – **Next Tuesday**, December 14 right after our meeting at the Botanical Center. Stay a few minutes, tie a bunch of knots and we'll have the job done. Our goal is 100 scarves in 15 minutes. If we have enough help we can do it! **NO SKILL REQUIRED** (my kind of job!).
- ❑ **GOING TO OUR CIRCA21 HOLIDAY PARTY TOMORROW?** – Be sure to make it to our private pre-show Party in Circa's elegant Salon. A selection of hors d'oeuvres will be provided along with a cash bar. New and very special this year, there will be a very nice door prize given to one lucky person attending the Salon party. Don't miss your chance for some great food and a surprise prize!
- ❑ **HOLIDAY PARTY at CIRCA 21!** – Rotary has 45 signed up to attend our party a tomorrow. Kiwanis has just four attending. We look forward to seeing everyone that reserved at the pre-show Salon Party at 5pm. Dinner is served at 6pm.
- ❑ **ROTARIANS WILL BE RINGING THE BELLS** at the Rock Island Hy-Vee from 10am until 4pm on Saturday, December 11th. Why not schedule your grocery trip that day and say hello to your fellow members who will be at the doors staffing the Salvation Army kettles. While there, drop in a donation!

BELL RINGING – ALL SIGNED UP AND ALL SHIFTS COVERED – THANKS!



Rock Island Rotary is scheduled to ring the bell for the Salvation Army this Saturday at the Rock Island HyVee from 10am until 3pm. We will be covering both doors, so we need four people for each shift. Club members have all shifts covered! Thanks.

Email mark.mayeski@edwardjones.com if an emergency will force you to cancel. Backups, in case needed, can sign up!

Time	East Door	West Door
10:00	<u>Gary Rowe</u>	<u>Ruth Lee</u>
10:00	<u>Bill Stengel</u>	<u>Cindi Gramenz</u>
11:00	<u>Bud Phillis</u>	<u>Jim & Judy Nordquist</u>
11:00	<u>Sue Rector</u>	<u>Anne McGlynn</u>
12:00	<u>Rick Devinney</u>	<u>Steve Morenz</u>
12:00	<u>Howard Beck</u>	<u>Judie Gelaude</u>
1:00	<u>Holly Sparkman</u>	<u>Ametra Carrol</u>
1:00	<u>Tom Sparkman</u>	<u>Jo9hn Phillips</u>
2:00	<u>Kai Swanson</u>	<u>Molly Shattuck</u>
2:00	<u>Jenni Swanson</u>	<u>Tom Hammar</u>
3:00	<u>Marcy Bell</u>	<u>Kim Calhoun</u>
3:00	<u>Kevin Koski</u>	<u>Rick Emery</u>

Rock Island Rotary Literacy Committee Introduces



“Keep them Engaged” Summer Packs for Earl Hanson School



The Goal: Collect and assemble items in engaging Summer packs for every student at Earl Hanson Elementary School. That means we need 300 of each item!

DECEMBER GOAL: We are looking for construction paper/drawing paper!

Bring your donations of paper or cash to our meetings each week in December

The New 2021-22 QUAD CITY DINING TOUR BOOKS ARE HERE!!

Chair Bud Phillis had the new Dining Books at our meeting today and they are going fast! The cost remains just \$35 for over 300 Buy-One, Get-One- Free coupons at 150 Quad Cities area restaurants! Better yet, for each book sold Rock Island Rotary receives a \$10 donation! In addition to numerous restaurants from fast food to luxury dining, the Book contains a Circa 21 Coupon you can any time through October 2022. **That savings alone more than pays for the book!** See Bud next week to get your 2021-22 Book!



FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today the Raffle featured Wine and Cash! The first lucky ticket drawn was held by guest, Debbi Swanson. She took the cash and donated it back to the Rotary Foundation. The second lucky ticket was held by Sue Rector, who appreciated the win, but isn't a wine drinker and asked that we draw again. The third ticket drawn was again held by Debbi Swanson. Guess her generosity in donating the cash was rewarded. She happily took the wine home! Thanks to all who participated in today's Foundation Raffle!

FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

With time being critical today, it was decided to skip our usual fines and happy/sad dollars. HOWEVER, President Justin just couldn't resist offering a \$1 in celebration of the Illinois basketball win over Iowa. Then Sue Rector spoke up and chipped in \$10 in honor of the naming of Augustana's new president. Announced just today, taking the reins at Augie for 2022—23 will be Dr. Andrea Talentino. Dr. Talentino is just the ninth person to hold the college's presidency and the first female to do so. She is an accomplished scholar from several top schools and a veteran of college administration. She comes to Augustana having served as an assistant professor at Tulane; the Associate Professor and Associate Dean at Drew University in Madison, NJ. She served as Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Norwich University in Northfield, VT, and most recently as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY. Dr. Talentino earned a bachelor's degree in political science at Yale University and completed a master's and doctorate in political science from UCLA. While serving as dean at Norwich, she earned an MBA with a concentration in organizational leadership.



Need a Stocking Stuffer or Dinner Favor?

Raffle tickets are now available from Ruth Lee for the May 2022 drawing. The major sales promotion will occur after the first of the year, but we are making tickets available now for anyone who wants them for use over the holidays. Email Ruth at rotarianruth@gmail.com or see her at next week's meeting if you are interested. Tickets are \$20. Thanks.



RIGHT AFTER OUR MEETING NEXT WEEK!!

Scarfs for Kids

Sue Rector will provide the materials and will even have done all the cutting! All we need is "ALL HANDS ON DECK" to tie knots! That's right, all you need to do it tie knots. No tools, no experience, no skill needed! We will do the project immediately after our club meeting on Tuesday, December 14. If you can give us 15 minutes, we can knock out 100 scarves and send them with our Angel Tree gifts to the kids at Earl Hanson School. Please mark your calendar and plan to stay a few minutes after the meeting next week.

NEXT MEETING ALL ANGEL TREE GIFTS ARE DUE



With Covid and many folks laid off for extended periods of time, the needs are greater than in the past. Earl Hanson teachers identified students that they fear are looking at a pretty bleak holiday season. In the past our Angel Tree typically had between 25 and 35 "Angels". This year there are 60! We need, or should we say the Kids need Rotarians to step up and ensure that little hearts experience joy, not sadness this Christmas. We still have names on the tree!

Contact or email Molly Shattuck and she will select an Angel for you. You can request a boy or girl and can even zero in on an age if you wish. You can call Molly at 309-781-9446 or email her at molly@hammarcps.com. She will get you the details and all the information you need to be "Santa" for some darling child. The suggested budget is approximately \$40. If you can't do the shopping, you can just donate, and Molly and our Rotary elves will handle the shopping for you.

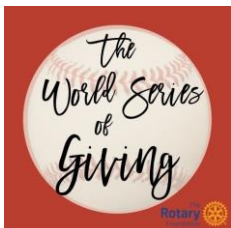
THANK YOU ROTARIANS FOR ANSWERING THE CALL. LAST FRIDAY WE LET YOU KNOW THAT WE HAD 11 CHILDREN STILL WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO TAKE THEIR NAME OFF THE ANGEL TREE. CHAIRMAN MOLLY ASKED FOR VOLUNTEERS TO EITHER TAKE A CHILD OR TO CONTRIBUTE SO GIFTS COULD BE PURCHASED FOR THE CHILD. WITHIN A MATTER OF MINUTES CLUB MEMBERS VOLUNTEERED SEVERAL HUNDRED DOLLARS, OTHERS TOOK A CHILD'S NAME (FOR SOME IT WAS THE SECOND, THIRD, OR FOURTH NAME THEY TOOK!), AND STILL OTHERS OFFERED TO HELP SHOP FOR GIFTS. DEFINITELY MAKES ONE PROUD TO BE A ROCK ISLAND ROTARIAN! THANKS!

DECEMBER ROTARY BIRTHDAYS



Kathy Lelonek	December	9
Mark Mayeski	December	15
David Parker	December	18
John Phillips	December	26
Chris Lemon	December	28
Jeff Whitaker	December	29





Rotary baseball fans. As we move further into the holiday season, we have now completed a third of our World Series of Giving innings. Our clubs' successes in Foundation fundraising continue to build. The standings by division follow. Scoring is ranked by aggregate per capita giving to the Annual Fund and PolioPlus throughout the year.

Northeast Division – We have a new division leader with the Pecatonica club having scored a Homer plus a Double! The Kishwaukee Sunrise club is right on their heels with a Homer plus a Single. Rockford Cherry-Valley East and Sycamore clubs are right behind with a Double for each club. Loves Park, Rockford, and DeKalb are on the board with a Single each. We still have 6 innings to go, and this division isn't showing any signs of cooling off!

Mid-Central Division – Rochelle and Rock Falls are leading the Mid-Central division with a Homer each. Dixon is very close behind with a Triple, followed by Twin Cities with a Double. Walnut is on the board with a Single. These clubs appear to be pretty evenly matched; watch out another leadership change any inning!

South-Central Division – In the South-Central division, we have a new leader after 3 innings. The Putnam County club has scored a Homer and now is ahead of the Peru club with a Double. The Ottawa Sunrise has a Single. The remaining clubs in this division are close to being on the board as well. Fundraising has clearly been a priority for these clubs in Inning #3; where we'll find ourselves another month, who knows!?!

West-Central Division – The River Cities club is maintaining its lead in this division, closing in on a Homer after just 3 innings. Morrison and Henry are on the board with a Single each. Geneseo, Princeton, and Toluca are closing in on their first hits. This division could catch on fire at any moment; keep an eye on these clubs!

Western Division – At the end of three, the Quad Cities club has maintained its lead with a Homer plus and additional Single. Close behind is the Savanna club with a Homer and the **Rock Island club** with a Triple. Freeport is in the thick of things with a Double, and East Moline and Twin Rivers have a Single each. As we said at the end of the last inning, this division is hot and getting hotter. It's still anyone's game!

This month's Trivia Question is:

"Spahn and Sain, and two days of rain," was the famous couplet describing the deficient Boston (later Milwaukee) Braves pitching staff of yore, as they struggled to get through games when the two big guys couldn't take the hill. The 1976 Brewers had their own version of this half a pitching staff strategy: "Travers and _____, then two days of waitin'!" Name the former Brewer pitcher who helped his buddy Bill Travers anchor that staff.

The first club member to email the correct answer to Justin Peterson, jpeterson@tbkbank.com 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.

As exciting fundraising projects start to ramp up for Winter, our World Series of Giving is showing no signs of being cooled off by the weather. Stay tuned; don't miss a minute of the action!

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY GRANT AT WORK!

Check out Ridgewood Elementary School's new outdoor music lab! The project allows students to explore, respond, and create music outside the traditional classroom setting. If you would like to read more about the project which was partially funded by A Rock Island Rotary Club Community Grant, please control/click on this link: <https://ridgewood.rimsd41.org/apps/news/article/1536531...>



Rock Island Chamber Choir –





2021 ROTARY REINDEER RAMBLE

Dick & Mary Fislar and their Rotary Reindeer Ramble Committee pulled off a successful 5K race on Sunday. The annual race/fundraiser for Rotary brought in significant dollars to help fund many of our Club projects and grants. The action began early in the morning with registration and packet check out starting at 7:45am at the Speakeasy located next door to Circa 21 Theatre. At 8:30 things moved outdoors and onto the 5K racecourse along following the bicycle path from downtown Rock Island to Sunset Park and back. Electronic "chip" timing made it fun and easy for each runner to record their accurate time. Rotarians placed along the course offered directions and water to participants. After the race all participants and Rotarians returned to the Speakeasy for delicious pies and snacks and for presenting awards to runners in multiple age classes. Many runners came decked out in holiday garb and everyone had a great time. But rather than describing it to you, Cindi Gramenz was our race photographer, and the pictures speak for themselves!



A huge thank you to Dick & Mary who lend their expertise and experience in organizing and running races and all the wonderful sponsors who donated to make this a great success. Thank you **Gold Sponsors** Picture Perfect Travel, Circa 21 & Speakeasy, Olsen Law Firm, and TBK Bank. **Silver Sponsors:** Edward Jones - Mark Mayeski, Hammar & Associates, and Hoffman & Tranel, P.C. **Bronze Sponsors:** Tammy Weikert, Dora Villarreal, Studio 483 Architects, Illinois Casualty Company, Russell Construction, Zimmerman Honda, Huckleberry's Pizza, American Bank & Trust, and Langman Construction. Support these generous people!