



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

March 8, 2022: Volume XXIX, Issue 36

MEETING TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



## **Carlene VanDyke DCFS Foster Care Parent Recruiter**



### **March - May Calendar**

- Mar 15 - Laura Fontaine Director - World Relief Quad Cities
- Mar 22 - Mikhayla Hughes-Shaw, former Miss Iowa - currently hostess of "Living Local" on WHBF-TV - "How About Hope Mental Health Awareness"
- Mar 29 - Steve Bahls - Retiring Augustana College President
- Apr 5 - Bert Blood Scholarships
- Apr 12 - Rotary Awards Luncheon
- Apr 19 - Chris Van Spybroek
- Apr 26 - Luis Moreno
- May 3 - Katie Powers
- May 10 - Sarah Leonard - Earl Hanson Principal

The Illinois Department of Children & Family Services maintains a local office located in Rock Island. Rock Island DCFS is an agency that offers programs and services for children in the Rock Island County area. Children and Family Services promotes the economic and social well-being of children, youth, and families. Under the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), the Children and Family Services Office also provides protective services. The office handles questions about Rock Island Child, Youth, and Family Services programs; Child abuse and child welfare in Rock Island; Social services programs; Rock Island County adoptions; foster care; and group homes. They also provide guidance for the SNAP Food Stamp program in Rock Island. Carlene VanDyke spoke to us today about her role with DCFS as the Foster Care Parent Recruiter. Ms. VanDyke stated that she is nearing 40 years of service with DCFS as a Foster Parent Recruiter. She says the job is to protect children. Removal from the home is a drastic step and currently is most commonly the result substance abuse and/or physical abuse. Regardless of the cause, the goal is to unify the child(ren) with their biological parents as soon as it may safely be done. While in foster care the child, in most cases, will have at least weekly visitation with their parents. With younger children the visits may be as much as two or three times per week. MS. VanDyke stated that children want to be with their natural parents and parents want their children so rectifying the reason for the separation becomes the critical goal. She stressed that finding a good placement is extremely important to avoid bouncing the child from one foster home to another. He job is to recruit quality foster parents. When she finds someone interested in becoming a foster parent there is a significant amount of interviewing, paperwork, and investigating done prior admitting the applicant into foster parent training. In Illinois potential foster parents must attend 40-hours of training and must become licensed as foster parents. The process of gaining a license takes six to eight months. Once licensed and admitted into the system the foster parent(s) can specify what they are willing to take by age, gender, and special needs. She noted that many enter the foster system looking only for babies. She cautions all foster parents to realize they ultimately will be the "loser". Foster parents are encouraged to love and care for their foster child but must keep in mind that the system's goal is to remove that child from the foster home and return the child to their biological parents. This can be very difficult for the foster parent. Ms. VanDyke said the biggest need is for foster parents willing to take older children and large sibling groups which the system strives to keep together. She also noted that a great help to foster parents is a support system that may be provided by their church or by others who have served as foster parents. She noted that one local church helps members of their church who are foster parents with food, clothing, gift cards and assistance watching or tending for the child. Such support groups make it much easier for the foster parents by sharing some of the burden and responsibility of parenting. VanDyke also stated that the system is currently in crisis with too many kids needing foster care and no place to put the. At the very beginning of her comments, she stated foster parenting affect not only the life of the foster child, but also impacts the type of parent they will become. Ms. VanDyke provided a very interesting and moving presentation. Thank you for your excellent insight and information!



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## 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

Amber Brummit  
John Daly  
Rick DeVinney  
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
Jun-Jul	- Tom Hammar

# Club Notes & Announcements!

- **WELCOME GUESTS** – We had two visiting Rotarian with us today, Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Club and Duncan Cameron from Naples, Florida both joined us via Zoom. In person we welcomed Lela Donaldson from DCFS a guest of the Club, Darren Hart from the Rock Island County Sheriff's Office, a guest of Tammy Weikert, and Mary Newcomb a guest of Anne McGlynn. Jr. Rotarians from Alleman High School, Skylar Thorpe and Sophia Heim also joined us. Guests are always welcome at "The Number 1 Club", Rock Island Rotary. We hope you enjoyed your visit!
- **DON'T FORGET – KEEP THEM ENGAGED** for **MARCH** we are collecting new and gently used books, We will be providing them to kids from 5 to 12 years old, so we're looking for books for a wide age group. We need to supply 300 Earl Hanson students and want each to get a fully supplied summer bag to "Keep Them Engaged". Bring your donation for the March cause or just drop a few dollars in the collection box on the badge table and we'll do the shopping for you!
- **GREETERS NEEDED** – Please sign up at the Sergeant at Arms table. It's a great way for newer members to meet fellow Rotarians and for long time members to meet our newer members. Spots are open for many dates in March and April. All you need to do is to arrive a bit early for your meeting. Bring a smile and handshake or fist bump.
- **WINE RAFFLE TICKETS** – We still have a number of members who have not picked up their 5 wine raffle tickets. Gary Rowe has them at each Tuesday meeting. If you are not able to attend, please email Gary at [gnrowe47@gmail.com](mailto:gnrowe47@gmail.com) or call 309-948-3403 and he will send them to you. Tickets are \$20 each and you are welcome to keep or sell them as you please. All proceeds from the raffle will go to fund our Fred Houlton "Service Above Self" scholarship which will be presented annually to a deserving graduate from Rock Island High School
- **NEWSLETTER** – Send items for our newsletter to [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net)

**The irony for mankind  
is that a computer  
program asks a human  
to prove that they're  
not a robot.**

Rock Island Rotary Literacy Committee Introduces

## **“Keep them Engaged”**

Summer Packs for Earl Hanson School



### **MARCH COLLECTION ITEMS:**

**New and gently used books.**

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

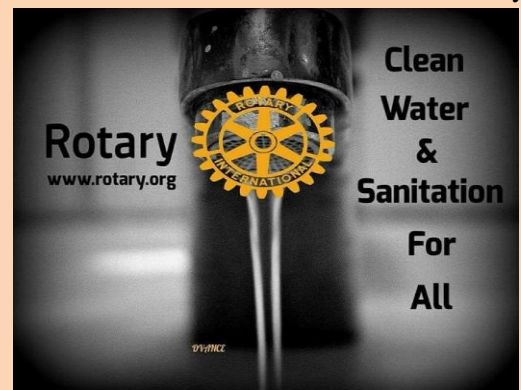
**Bring your donation items or cash to purchase them to our meeting**

## **FOUNDATION MINUTE**

Welcome to March, Rotary International's Month of Water and Sanitation.

Today, 2 billion people across the world lack access to clean and drinkable water and 3.6 billion people lack safely managed sanitation services. March is Rotary's Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) month. In the past, according to the WASH website, TRF has funded several projects related to WASH; among which are the following:

- In Sierra-Leone, the Rotaract Club of Freetown Sunset collaborated with a local engineering company to construct a well with hand pumps for a local orphanage to make clean water more accessible.
- In Nigeria, Rotary Clubs in Enugu State hosted a seminar on the importance of safe drinking water and how to access clean drinking water through boreholes, water sanitation campaigns, wells, and water treatment.
- In India, the Rotary Community Corps of Chennai Metrozone, sponsored the construction of two handwashing stations for a secondary school.
- In the Philippines, the Rotary Club of Downtown Dagupan provided water collection tanks to a nearby community to help residents collect and store rainwater.
- In Taiwan, Rotary Clubs supported the construction of a drinking water filtration station at a high school in Northern Thailand.
- In Rock Island, Illinois, Rotarians have raised funds to purchase water filtration units for rural village schools in Kenya. 244 units have been purchased providing safe water for over 17,000 children.



## **FINES & HAPPY DOLLARS**

Vice President Eric Westphall returned and levied fines to Monta Ponsetto, Jim Moran, Dan McNeil, and Kathy Lelonek for having to leave early. He also brought the newspaper color photo and story of Mardi Gras King, Gary Rowe, and Gary paid once again for his royal reign! Eric then thanked people for their fines and started to sit down when past president Jeff Dismar rose from the audience and stated that Eric should pay a fine for forgetting to ask for Happy/Sad dollars. Eric paid \$5 and a parade of additional money flowed in! Jeff Dismar offered Happy Dollars for the pending birth of a new granddaughter (his second). Kai Swanson gave two dollars for two new Amor Leopards born at Niabi Zoo and for recently signing the paperwork to establish the new 180-acre Rock Island County Forest Preserve in East Moline. Angela Campbell paid a fine for her well-written editorial regarding Libraries that appeared recently in our newspapers. John Wetzel paid two sad dollars for the two gas stations he passed on the way to our meeting with gas priced at \$4.49 per gallon. Sue Rector had a happy dollar for husband Ricks surgery last Thursday and reported that he is doing well. John Daly put in ten happy dollars for Illinois earning a share of the Big 10 men's basketball conference title. Thanks to all who contributed!



The Rotary Club of Rock Island  
is proud to present the 2022

# Wine Raffle

All proceeds benefit the  
Fred Houlton  
"Service Above Self"  
Scholarship  
of Rock Island Rotary

Drawing will be held  
on May 24, 2022

1st Prize— \$500 in Wine  
2nd Prize— \$300 in Wine  
3rd Prize— \$200 in Wine

**PLUS 7 Additional Fine Wine Prizes**

\*Winners get to choose their own  
Wine from The Grape Life

**NEW for 2022:**  
Only 300 tickets will be sold!  
**\$20 per ticket**

Purchase Tickets Online via Square at:  
[Facebook.com/rockislandrotary](https://www.facebook.com/rockislandrotary)

Or email us at:  
[rotaryclubrockisland@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryclubrockisland@gmail.com) for more info.



# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL'S FIRST FEMALE PRESIDENT TAKES OFFICE JULY 1<sup>st</sup>



President-Elect, Jennifer Jones

Prior to 1989 Rotary was a "Men Only" organization. Wives and interested women were known as "Rotary Ann's." This designation was never one of disparagement, but rather grew out of an interesting historical occasion. The year was 1914 when San Francisco Rotarians boarded a special train to attend the Rotary Convention being held in Houston. In those days few wives attended Rotary events, and until the train stopped in Los Angeles, the only woman aboard was the wife of Rotarian Brunnier.

As the train picked up additional convention-bound delegates, Mrs. Ann Brunnier was introduced as the Rotarian's Ann. This title soon became "Rotary Ann". Since the clubs of the west were inviting the Rotarians to hold their next convention in San Francisco, a number of songs and stunts were organized which would be performed in Houston. One of the Rotarians wrote a "Rotary Ann" chant. On the train's arrival at the Houston depot, a delegation greeted the West Coast Rotarians. One of the greeters was Guy Gundaker of Philadelphia, whose wife was also named Ann.

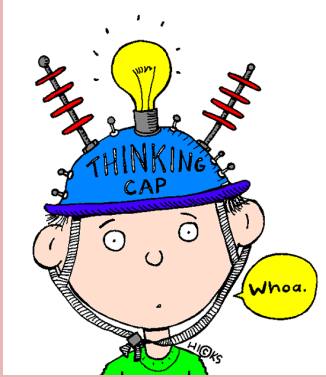
During the rousing demonstration, someone started the Rotary Ann chant. The two petite ladies, Ann Brunnier and Ann Gundaker, were hoisted to the men's shoulders and parade about the hall. The group loved the title given to the two women named Ann. Immediately the same term of endearment was used for all of the wives in attendance and the name "Rotary Ann" was here to stay. Nine years later, in 1923, Guy Gundaker became president of Rotary International. Bru Brunnier was elected president in 1952, 29 years after that. Thus, each of the two original Rotary Ann's became the "first lady of Rotary International."

The 1989 Council on Legislation vote to admit women into Rotary clubs worldwide remains a watershed moment in the history of Rotary. *"My fellow delegates, I would like to remind you that the world of 1989 is very different to the world of 1905. I sincerely believe that Rotary has to adapt itself to a changing world,"* said Frank J. Devlyn, who would go on to become RI president in 2000-01. The response to the decision was overwhelming: By June 1990, the number of female Rotarians had skyrocketed to over 20,000. By 2010, the number of women was approaching 200,000. Today, there are well over 200,000 female Rotarians, working alongside their male club mates, to serve their community.

Rotary International will induct Jennifer Jones as our first female International President. Ms. Jones joined the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Canada. (Her husband, Nick Krayacich, is past president of the Rotary Club of La Salle Centennial and was recently selected as governor-nominee-designate of District 6400.) She is president and CEO of Media Street Productions Inc. in Windsor, Ontario. Her company's specialties include radio and television production, corporate and nonprofit videos, and live show productions. Using her media background to elevate Rotary's global profile is one of the primary goals of her presidency, and Jones is planning what she calls the "Imagine Impact Tour" to showcase to the world several large-scale, sustainable projects in each of Rotary's areas of focus. "I see this as a way of increasing our membership," she says. "When we tell our stories, like-minded people will want to join with us." Jones played a lead role in the organization's rebranding effort by serving as chair of the Strengthening Rotary Advisory Group. She is co-chair of the End Polio Now Countdown to History Campaign Committee, which aims to raise \$150 million for polio eradication efforts. She also led the successful #RotaryResponds virtual telethon in 2020, which raised critical funds for pandemic relief and attracted more than 65,000 views. At the same time Ms. Jones is inaugurated as International President, we will inaugurate Cindi Gramenz as our 107<sup>th</sup> President, the 10<sup>th</sup> woman to serve in that role. Janis Lonergan was Rock Island Rotary's first female president elected in 1993. Since then, Doris Brown, Mary Lagerblade, Mary Fislar, Ruth Lee, Diane Koster, Anne McGlynn, Sue Cassatt, and Angela Campbell have all served as our president. In July Cindi Gramenz will become our 107<sup>th</sup> president, the 10th female to serve as president. During the past week Cindi met and heard Jennifer Jones at the President-Elect's Training Session (PETS). We look forward to President Jones' and President Gramenz' terms. Women have made incredible contributions to Rotary, sharing their skills in leadership, innovation, and compassion. We have seen it repeatedly in our own Club and look forward to Jennifer Jones leading Rotary International forward as we finish the battle with Polio and move on to new challenges. Thank you to each of our past presidents and to all the talented ladies of Rock Island Rotary!.



# WE NEED YOUR IDEAS!



Each year Rotary clubs in District 6420 are offered the opportunity to apply for a District Matching Grant for a project in their local community.. Rock Island Rotary has been fortunate for the past several years in obtaining District grants and have supported and funded numerous community needs. This year the district is offering up to \$1,350 in matching funds for the grants. That means we could invest \$2,700 in a worthy local project. Obviously there are many things we could do, but we want Club involvement in making the decision.

Please give some thought and send your suggestions for a good District Grant project to incoming president, Cindi Gramenz at [cgramenz15@gmail.com](mailto:cgramenz15@gmail.com). There is a deadline for submitting our application to the District. So please, put on your thinking cap and let's have several great projects to choose from!



**BIRTHDAY BOOKS FOR FEBRUARY & MARCH COMING ON March 31<sup>st</sup>**

## ATTEND THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY ON US!

The District Assembly for our District will be held Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup> at Sauk Valley Community College in Dixon, IL. You ask, "What is the District Assembly?" It is a half-day gathering of Rotarians from all over District 6420 which encompasses 48 clubs throughout northwestern Illinois. The annual district assembly is the major leadership training event in each Rotary district of the world. The workshops offer motivation, inspiration, Rotary information and new ideas for club officers, directors, and key committee



chairmen of each club. It provides an opportunity for all Rotarians in our District to meet with other Rotarians, exchange ideas, and learn about how our Rotary club can be the inspiration to our communities. There are so many aspects to Rotary that can interest and excite us! The annual District Assembly will allow all Rotarians to explore the best practices of Rotary and share the latest and greatest ideas on how to serve our communities, grow our clubs, engage our youth, obtain grants, and have fun with Rotary according to our shared interests. Do you have questions about how to connect to our community and tweak interest in your club? Come and learn how to use social media to make those connections! Here is not just chit-chat, but tools you can use! Do you like to think of yourself as someone interested in making things happen? Then come and learn about Rotary's "People of Action" campaign. Be part of the action! Not sure about your local community needs? Let us tell you how to dig and find those Service Project ideas that may have been eluding you. Come and check out the District Governor lineup; there is a session where you can ask them anything relating to Rotary. You may be pleasantly surprised by how hard they work at making your Rotary experience rewarding. The Assembly will provide members of Rotary clubs the opportunity to learn more about the different programs of Rotary and to have the opportunity to become involved at club and/or district level. One of the best benefits is a fellowship experience for the members of the different Rotary clubs of District 6420. President-Elect Cindi Gramenz is going, and we would be happy to have one or two more Rock Island Rotary members go with her. If interested or wanting more details, contact Cindy by email at [cgramenz15@gmail.com](mailto:cgramenz15@gmail.com). Our club will cover the registration costs. You do not have to be an officer, board member or committee chair to go.

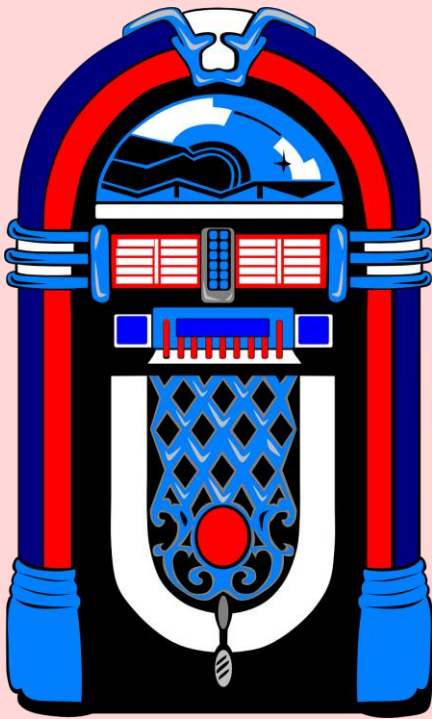
## FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's raffle featured cash, a bottle of fine wine, and a beautiful St. Patrick's Day fabric bowl made by past president, Angela Campbell. The bowl created added interest to the raffle today which rose to over \$60! The first ticket pulled was held by Sue Rector who bought lots of tickets because she wanted that bowl -- and she got it! Congratulations Sue. The second lucky ticket was held by club secretary, Anne McGlynn who took the wine. The final winning ticket was held by Tammy Weikert who took the cash and stated that she would donate it to the Rotary International Disaster Relief Fund. Rotary just recently announced that current donations to the fund would be used for humanitarian assistance to Ukraine. Thank you to all who joined in today's raffle drawing. Your generosity goes to fund our Rotary Foundation budget which provides assistance to members wishing to earn Paul Harris Fellow designation for themselves or others.



## ROCK 'N ROLL BINGO – MARCH 25<sup>th</sup>

*Get Set for Fun in the Private Upstairs  
Bar/Dining Room of Blue Cat Brewing Co.  
6-9pm*



*Playing is simple and fun. You buy a bingo card for \$10 or 3 for \$25. You'll notice that rather than numbers on the card there are song titles. The moderator then plays segments of songs from the 70s up to the present, and you mark each song you hear that is listed on your card (don't worry, the song titles aren't secret). Get five in a row up, down, or diagonally, and you've got BINGO! 5*

*There will be 10 rounds of Bingo and a prize for the winner of each Round. Your purchase of Bingo cards and participating in the accompanying silent auction and 50/50 drawings is the "funding" for the fundraiser. Plus, the Blue Cat is donating a portion of their food and drink sales from the event.*

*You have fun, hear lots of great music, and help fund Rotary projects! Please let Kathy Trone or Sue Rector know if you will attend.*

## 2022 ROTARY AWARDS LUNCHEON

April 12<sup>th</sup> is the date of our annual Rotary Awards Luncheon. At that time, we will present awards to the top two scholars from the senior class from Alleman, Rocky, and Augustana. We will also honor two Rotarians and two community members. Rotarians for the A.T. Peara Award and the Luckenbill-Wray Award; and community members for Professional Excellence and Community Service. The Rotarian and Community Awards are selected from people you nominate. Your participation in the nomination process is critical if we are to honor truly the best in our Club and community. Please use the form attached as the final page in today's newsletter. Make as many copies as you need.

# Rock Island Rotary Awards Luncheon

Tuesday, April 12, 12:00 o'clock noon. The event will be at the Quad City Botanical Center honoring outstanding members or our community, our club, and our schools. All awards other than the student awards are selected from nominations submitted by members of our club. It is critical that club members submit nominees for the various awards! **Time is short, so prepare and submit your nominations today!**

## ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CLUB 2022 AWARDS COMMITTEE



Rock Island Rotary's annual Awards Luncheon is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**. The Awards Committee seeks nomination for the following awards:

1. **Excellence:** Recognizes distinction or superiority in a field of endeavor. This can be for a single accomplishment or for achieving high standards of achievement or performance over a sustained period of time.
2. **Community Service:** Recognizes individuals or organizations who have worked effectively for the betterment of our community.
3. **The Luckenbill-Wray Award:** Recognizes a current Rock Island Rotarian for outstanding service and dedication to our club over the past year.
4. **A. T. Peara Award for Service Above Self:** Recognized the Rock Island Rotary member who has exhibited the dedicated service and faithful commitment to the ideals of Rotary that were personified by A.T. Peara, for whom the award is named.

The first two awards are open to any individual or organization that has demonstrated excellence or worked for the betterment of the Rock Island community. The Excellence Award applies to all lines of work and to all ages.

The Luckenbill-Wray and A.T. Peara awards are limited to current members of Rock Island Rotary. The A.T. Peara Award is a one time, life-time recognition, previous winners are not eligible for that award.

To ensure that our committee has adequate time to evaluate, consider, make the selections, and have awards prepared, the deadline for nominations is Noon, Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. Please consider making one or more nominations using the lower portion of this form. Additional copies are available if you need them, or feel free to print your own. We greatly appreciate your participation and assistance.

Submit nominations to Carrie Crossen: [ccrossen@choosethechief.com](mailto:ccrossen@choosethechief.com)

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**NOMINEE NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ EXCELLENCE AWARD    \_\_\_\_ COMMUNITY SERVICE    \_\_\_\_ LUCKENBILL-WRAY    \_\_\_\_ A.T. PEARA AWARD

Reasons in support of your Nomination:

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