



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

April 12, 2022: Volume XXIX, Issue 4

SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

MEETING TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



ROTARY AWARDS 2022

Keynote speaker for today's Rotary Awards Presentation was Mr. LeShane Saddler, a native of Waterloo, Iowa, and the current Vice President for Enrollment Management at St. Ambrose University. Saddler is a 1994 graduate of Notre Dame where he was a member of the Fighting Irish football team. He played in the defensive backfield under Coach Lou Holtz, including on the 1993 team that went 11-1 and finished a unanimous second in the national polls. Saddler



earned a Master of Arts in Education degree from the University of Northern Iowa in 2007 in addition to his Bachelor of Sociology, American Studies, and Education from the University of Notre Dame. Prior to St. Ambrose Saddler served as director of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at the University of California-San Diego. Before San Diego, Mr. Saddler served in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at Notre Dame. He was associate director from 2013 to 2018, assistant director from 2010 through 2013, and an admissions counselor from 2008 through 2010. Prior to his entry into higher education admissions, Saddler taught at Iowa City West High School and then Waterloo East and West High Schools. He was the head football coach at his alma mater, Waterloo East, from 2001 through 2004. Mr. Saddler said that he wanted to talk about Academic Achievement, Community Service, and Excellence. In preparing for his speech, he said he considered talking about great presidents and national leaders who exemplified those characteristics. But said he could not decide on just who to talk about. Then he considered several famous coaches, but again couldn't decide on just who to feature. He considered some of the top leaders in business and industry, but again found himself unable to narrow it down to just one to talk about. Ultimately, he decided the best person to talk about was his "big" sister. She was just 2 years older than LeShane, but he said when your four or five, two years seems like a lot. He said she seemed like a giant. His single mom worked long hours and left her oldest child, LeShane's big sister, in charge. He said she was really "in charge." At times he thought she was the meanest person in the world, but now realizes what a wonderful influence she was on him and on his brothers. She made them toe the line cause "mom expects you to behave." "Mom expects you to do your homework." "Mom expects you to get good grades and to excel in what you do." He said she instilled in him an attitude of "never give up" and "do your best." She taught him that Community matters and as a family they were active in their church and neighborhood. She taught him that Excellence matters, and as a family they strived for Excellence. LeShane said that she often taught in the form of dares, saying things like, "I dare you to be the first done with homework," or "I dare you to get your room cleaned before dinner." She even got him started in athletics by saying, "I dare you to run all the way around the block without stopping." As kids, they responded to the dares thrown out by his big sister. And he said it worked, as evidenced by how they turned out. His sister holds a very prominent community service position in Nashville. His older brother (just one year older) is an attorney, and LeShane and his younger brother are both college administrators. All graduated from major universities. He then turned to our audience and said, "I dare you to be dream." "I dare you to never give up." "I dare you to do your best" and then added, "Believe you are capable of doing anything you set your mind to do." He said, "This world is awesome, and you need to be an awesome part of it". Although he directed those words to the young students in attendance, the message resonated with everyone in the room. This is an awesome world, and we all can do awesome thing in it! Rock Island Rotary thanks Mr. Saddler for his time and inspiring message. We look forward to having him speak with us again in the future!

April - May Calendar

- Apr 19 - Chris Van Spybroek - Children's Therapy Center Q.C.
- Apr 26 - Luis Moreno - CEO, Arrow-head Youth & Family Services
- May 3 - Dr. Katie Powers, Pediatric Physical Therapy specialist
- May 10 - Sarah Leonard - Earl Hanson Principal
- May 17 - Aaron Sutherland- IL Casualty Company
- May 24 - Dr. Julie Schroeder - Life and Family Medical
- May 31 - Megan Brown-Saldana Lead(HER)-Exec. Director



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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 many guests with us today and for brevity we will not list them all here. Most of our honorees were accompanied by parents and/or spouses. Those guests are mentioned in the articles about the honoree for whom they were attending. We do want to mention that Mr. Tracy Pugh and Ms. Tyla Sherwin-Cole, both guests of Gary Rowe were with us today. Tyla is a prospective member from the Day Foundation. Tracy is a member of the Rock Island Board of Education. Another very welcome guest was Tricia Barron a former member of our Club and 2015 A.T. Peara Award Winner. Tricia now resides in Dillon, Colorado. Guests are always welcome at Rock Island Rotary, “The Number 1 Club”. We hope you enjoyed your visit and will join us again soon.
- ❑ **DON'T FORGET – KEEP THEM ENGAGED** for April we are collecting **Sidewalk chalk/bubbles/ other simple games/summer fun – indoors or outdoors.** 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 April 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 all meeting dates in May and beyond. 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. Ruth Lee and Gary Rowe have them at each Tuesday meeting. If you are not able to attend, please email Gary at 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



Rock Island Rotary Literacy Committee Introduces

“Keep them Engaged”

Summer Packs for Earl Hanson School

APRIL COLLECTION ITEMS:

**Sidewalk chalk/bubbles/ other simple games/
summer fun – indoors or outdoors**

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



FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

TO SAVE TIME THERE WERE NO FINES OR HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS TODAY. BRING YOUR CHECKBOOKS NEXT WEEK. ERIC HAS PENT UP ENERGY AND PLANS TO CATCH UP!

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS RECOGNIZED

Students honored were the top two seniors from Augustana College, Alleman High School, and Rock Island High School.

The Augustana students, introduced by Special Assistant to the Augustana President, Kai Swanson, were Annelisa Burns from Naperville, IL and Carl Schoenfield from Mundelein, IL.

Annelisa Burns is a triple major in religion, English and German. She is co-president of the Augie Equestrian Club, an active member of Viking Pups, a service, facility, and therapy dog training club that train services dogs to help persons with disability. She is also a member of the Unabridged English Club, Mortar Board and Oak Circle. She was the 2021 recipient of the Nils Hasselmo Award for Academic Pursuit, and the and the 2021 Floyd & Louise Anderson Award in Religious Studies. Annelisa also received the 2022 Outstanding Religion Major Award and the 2022 Dorothy Parkander Scholar in English Studies Award. She served as a Peer Tutor in the Augustana Reading/Writing Center, is a member of the Augustana Symphony and Chamber Orchestras. She worked as a writing consultant /editor on Dr. Jason Mahn and Dr. Michelle Wolff's book manuscripts. Annelisa served a summer internship at the *Christian Century* magazine as a research assistant. She plans to continue her education in graduate school in Religion at the University of Iowa or at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. She is the daughter of Rebecca Peterson Burns and David Burns.



Carl Schoenfield has a double major in geography and biology and is an incredible athlete and scholar. He received the Illinois Geographical Society Outstanding Senior Award. As a freshman he was honored as a 4.0 GPA student and has been named to the Dean's list every semester during his four years at Augustana. He also is a member and section leader of



the Augustana concert Band, and a member of the Augustana Bike Club. In athletics, Carl is a three-time Academic All-Conference Award winner in Cross Country and a 6-time Academic All-Conference in Indoor and Outdoor Track. He did an internship with the Lake County Stormwater Management Commission in 2019 and Interned with the Army Corps of Engineers in 2020, a position he continues to hold today. With the Corps, Carl worked in monitoring habitat restoration projects and ensuring that dredging operations will conform to water quality standards on the Illinois River, 300+ miles of the Mississippi River, and the Coralville, Saylorville, and Red Rock Reservoirs in Iowa. After graduation he will be accepting a fulltime position with the Army Corp of Engineers as a Hydrologist in the Water Quality and Sedimentation section. He is the son of Peter and Sonia Schoenfield.

Bryant Beal, Assistant Director of Development at Alleman High School introduced their top two seniors, Austin Kerker and Mary Nonnenmann. **Austin Kerker** is the son of Anthony and Wendy Kerker. He serves as treasurer of the National Honor Society and is an Illinois State Scholar. Austin is a John O'Connor Scholar, is on the Principal's List and is a Salute to Illinois State Scholar. He is on the Executive Board of the International Club and a member of Students Against Destructive Decisions. He worked on the Student Hunger Drive and was named the Alleman Student of the Month for January in both 2021 and 2022. Austin was the Riordan Family Award presented to a junior for outstanding academic achievement. Outside of school he plays 18U Boys Club Volleyball on the High Flyers Volleyball Club, team 18 Red based in Lincoln, Nebraska. He also served as the varsity



girls volleyball manager at Alleman. Austin has studied piano for nine years. After graduation Austin plans to attend Princeton University to pursue a PhD in astrophysics and hopes to play NCAA Division 1 men's volleyball.



Mary Nonnenmann is the daughter of Jim and Julie Nonnenmann. Mary is a National Merit Commended Scholar, and Illinois State Scholar and serves as Vice-President of the National Honor Society. She is a John O'Connor Scholar, on the Principal's List, and a Salute to Illinois State Scholar. Mary was captain of the ICTM Mat Contest Team which won 1st place in Algebra 2 and was a four-time state qualifier. She was also an Academic Challenge for Engineering and Sciences State Qualifier. She served as the Dance Marathon Captain, and also is a member of the Student Council, and earned the Council's Best Award. She is a Chair Member of Students Against Destructive Decisions and also worked on the Student Hunger Drive. She is an Alleman Ambassador and Editor of *Pioneer Reflections* magazine. Outside of school she does nannying and volunteers with the St. Pius X Parish Pro-life Group. After graduation Mary plans to attend either the University of

Illinois or Iowa State University to major in Chemical Engineering.

School Superintendent Dr. Reginald Lawrence introduced the top two students from Rock Island High School. They are Alaina Muller and Olivia Sholl. **Alaina Muller** is the daughter of Andrea and Michael Muller. She is an Illinois State Scholar, a member of National Honor Society and a Charles O. Austin Scholar. She has been in the "Top 10" in her class all four years of high school. Alaina is active in Key Club, the Environment Action Club, Student Council and is a Rocky Student Ambassador. She was a member of the Rock Island High School band for 3 years and the Pride of Rock Island Marching band for 2 years. Alaina participated in the student Hunger Drive with the Student Council. Outside of school she has been a competitive dance team member for 13 years and holds down a job as a HyVee courtesy clerk. She is a volunteer at the Rock Island Arsenal East Egg Hunt, the Trunk or Treat, and Christmas tree lighting. She volunteers at the America's Kids Run and at the Cinco De Mayo Event. She also has been a volunteer with the Rock Island Music Association at the John Deere Classis every year since 2016. Her volunteer commitment also includes working at the Xtreme Clean-up, "Toys for Tots, the QC Closet 2 Closet. After graduation she plans to attend Iowa State University. She is weighing options for a major, but plans to get a degree



in science, technology, engineering, or math.

Olivia Sholl is the daughter of Jen and Eric Sholl. She is a member of the National Honor Society, a Charles O. Austin Scholar, and an IHSA Scholastic Award winner. She is a Western Big 6 Academic All-Conference winner for Bowling and Swimming. She has been in the "Top 10" in her class all four years of high school. In addition to outstanding scholarship, Olivia has distinguished herself as one of the top female athletes at Rocky. She has been a bowling team member for 3 years and was part of the Western Big 6 Conference Champions and part of Rocky's state qualifying bowling team. She was voted bowling team captain her senior year. In swimming Olivia has been a varsity team member all four years of high school and selected Western Big 6 First Team All-Conference all four years. She was selected All-



Metro Honorable Mention in swimming her freshman year and First Team All-Conference every year for the past three years. She is a three-time state qualified in swimming and part of the school record setting 200-meter medley relay team. As a sophomore she was named the team Most Valuable Player, an honor she won again her junior and senior years. She was selected swim team captain her senior year. Outside of school Olivia volunteers as an aide to teachers at Denkmann Elementary School. She swims for the Davenport Metro Swim Team and holds down a part-time job as a lifeguard at the East Moline pool. After graduation Olivia will attend Southwest Minnesota State University to major in biology and participate on the swim team. After earning her bachelor's degree, she plans to get a master's degree in forensic science.

TWO LAUDED FOR PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

Two awards were presented for Excellence in a Profession/Career. Both went to outstanding individuals with long-time commitment to children in our community.



Introducing Tia Edwards, principal of the Thurgood Marshall Learning Center Principal, was Jerry Jones, Executive Director of the Martin Luther King Center in Rock Island,. Tia is a graduate of Rock Island High School and says, she bleeds red and gold. As a Rocky student she received the District's Medal of Honor and was named Student Citizen of the Year in Rock Island. She received the Illinois Quad City Chamber of Commerce Student Achievement Award and the M.L. King Centers Tia Farrah-Rice Award named in her honor. Tia also received the NAACP's 2018 Freedom Fund Award for excellence in education, and the Greater Antioch Church 2919 Educator Recognition Award. She is now in her 16th year as an educator in the Rock Island Milan School District. She earned her BS Degree in English at Old Dominion University and her MS in Education Administration from Western Illinois University and is currently working towards her doctorate degree in educational administration. She began her career as an English teacher at Rock

Island High School. She then moved into administration as a Dean at Rocky, then as an Assistant Principal at the Rock Island Academy, and then to her current position as principal of the Thurgood Marshall Learning Center. In each phase of her career Ms. Edwards displayed Excellence in leadership, motivation, and empathy.

Bob Swanson, Rotary Sergeant at Arms Introduced Jim Braet a life-long Rock Island Resident received the "Excellence" Award in recognition of his 33-year teaching career and 53-year coaching career in the Rocky Island School system. Jim established innovative programs for students including a "Student of the Week" program for elementary children which included Jim visiting the students home, providing a bulletin board for the student to display whatever he wish to show his class mates about his family, home, or interests. It also including getting their name posted as "Student of the Week" at McDonalds in Milan and a Friday night trip to McDonalds for dinner and an area fieldtrip for the student and their parents. Jim was also was lauded for coaching numerous sports and for producing state championship teams and individuals in both track and girls bowling. His outstanding personal athletic career at Rocky and Augustana including being named a 2-time College All American in Track and placing 6th in the nation in hurdles. It was note that in every endeavor; athletics, teaching, and coaching, Jim has always achieved excellence. He was selected for Who's Who in Elementary Teachers, served as president of the Rock Island Education Association, and Received the Milan Jaycee's "Outstanding Young Educator Award". He is currently on the Board of Directors of the Rock Island – Milan Booster Club and plans to continue next year in his 54th year of coaching for Rock Island High School Jim was accompanied today by his wife, Debby Braet. Mr. Swanson conclude saying, "Can you spell Excellence?" It is spelled -- Jim Braet!



JUNIOR BOARD OF ROCK ISLAND RECOGNIZED FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE



Gary Rowe, Executive Director of the Rock Island Community Foundation introduced the Jr. Board of Rock Island as the 2022 Rotary Community Service Award. The Junior Board is a non-profit organization which exists to support the needs of children and their families throughout the Quad Cities area through volunteer work, fundraising, and empowering other local non-profit programs. Founded in 1935 with the mission of working together to serve children in our community, their primary focus began by supporting the Visiting Nurses & Homecare Association, by volunteering service hours for their child-related

causes. Jr. Board has since expanded its support to over than 40 organizations in the Quad City area, having given more than \$1.7 million in donations to child-related services. Mr. Rowe noted that members of the Board perform hours of volunteer service to the community which over the years now total more than 375,000 hours of service. Among their many projects is hosting the Annual Mardi Gras Ball, a black-tie fundraiser that in February marked the 83rd year of the event. Jr. Board also is proud of its "Project Nest," a program that provides prenatal education and incentives operated by volunteers from the Junior Board. The program and incentives encourage participants to follow through with pre and postnatal medical appointments, a critical factor for helping babies have a healthy start in life. The Nest program has three major objectives:

- To provide prenatal and early childhood education and incentives to expectant and new mothers who are at-risk for having children with developmental, social, medical, or educational delays (e.g., mothers with low socio-economic status, very young mothers)
- To motivate participating mothers to get early, regular prenatal care through implementation of a points system; points are exchanged for certificates redeemable for baby merchandise from a local retailer
- To educate participating mothers on self-care during pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum phases

On hand from the Jr. Board to receive the award were: Chris Beierlein, Amanda Anan, and Courtney Winter.

Luckenbill-Wray Award Goes to Cindi Gramenz

With Nancy Luckenbill and Hilde Wray looking on, Cindi Gramenz was called forward to receive the 2022 Luckenbill-Wray Award for outstanding service to Rock Island Rotary during the past year. The Award was announced by last year's winner, Ruth Lee, who said although Cindi just joined our club in 2018 she has rapidly been recognized as an incredible and talented leader, worker, and dedicated Rotarian. She has served as 2nd and 1st Vice-President and is currently our President-elect, set to take the presidential office July 1st. Mrs. Lee noted that will serving as 1st Vice-President, Cindi has continued to act as co-Sergeant at Arms of the Club arriving early to set up the room and ZOOM equipment for our meeting and staying after each meeting to put everything away. She also has volunteered making scarfs, helping with the Wine Raffle, the Wine Auction, the Rotary Reindeer Ramble, and the Awards Luncheon. She sets up the rostrum computer for our guest speakers, helps them each week with videos or PowerPoints they wish to use, and communicates with those joining via ZOOM to make sure they can hear and participate in our meetings. When members drop off plastic bags for the Heart of Hope Food Pantry, it is Cindi who delivers them to the Heart of Hope facility. When coats were dropped off for our coat drive project it was Cindi who collected and delivered them to Heart of Hope. For all she does, much of it behind the scenes and without recognition, Cindi Gramenz is our 2022 Luckenbill-Wray Award winner!



A. T. PEARA AWARD WINNER

The highlight of each year's Award Luncheon is announcing the Rotarian selected as the A.T. Peara Award Winner. As stated by Molly Shattuck in her introduction of this year's winner, the A.T. Peara Award is our Club's highest honor. It is a lifetime achievement award and can be won only once by each recipient. It is given in recognition of a commitment of service and adherence to the principles and ideals of Rotary International. This year's winner is Jim Moran. Jim is a lifelong Rock Island resident. He currently resides in Moline with his wife Kim. They raised 5 children and now have 7 grandchildren. He is an Alleman grad and was heavily involved in Alleman sports and has been inducted in the Alleman Sports Hall of Fame for tennis, basketball and football. After high school



Jim went to the University of Colorado where he played Division I tennis. After earning his degree at Colorado Jim went to grad school at St. Ambrose. For most of his working career, Jim worked in the insurance industry. He maintained his interest and high skill level in tennis long after his college days, participating in and winning numerous tournament championship. His success and incredible skill earned him a spot in the United States Tennis Association's Hall of Fame – a huge honor. Jim joined Rock Island Rotary in 2003. He started through the leadership chairs in 2007 and served as our Club's president in 2009-2010. In 2008 he spearheaded "Operation Bookbag" a project to purchase and ship school supplies to Kurdish Children in Afghanistan. Jim was motivated by his son who was stationed there at the time and let his dad know how badly the Afghani Kurds needed supplies for the school children. Rock Island Rotary pitched in to send hundreds of pounds of pencils, paper, rulers, and other supplies to the kids. After serving as president, Jim didn't semi-retire as is sometimes the case. Jim completed his presidency and then made a personal commitment to annually select ten club projects in which he would take an active part. Just a few of the many projects he has worked on include: Volunteering as a reading mentor, Working Heart of Hope Food Pantry, Becoming a Paul Harris Fellow, Serving on the Community Grants Committee, Serving on the Awards Committee for multiple years and chairing this committee for 2 years, Serving on the Rotary Ramble Committee, Participating in the Blood drive every year, Volunteering with Pumpkin Palooza since its inception, Walking in the Labor Day Parade with Rotary, Volunteering with our club to help put up holiday lights at the Botanical Center, and Sponsoring a Trivia Night Table. In the conclusion of Jim's introduction, Molly said, "Jim is someone who quietly leads and is always ready to step up." We whole heartedly agree! Unfortunately Jim's wife, Kim, was under the weather today and unable to attend.



HAVE WE GOT A FANTASTIC SERVICE JOB FOR YOU!

On April 14th Earl Hanson Elementary School is having a **Donut Day** and they are looking for 6 Rotary volunteers to help **handout Donuts** from 7:15 -8:15am. You will be allowed to discretely lick icing from your fingers and undoubtedly will have a chance to sample what you are handing out! WHAT A DEAL! Sign up with Sue Rector, srector3614@gmail.com. We still need one more volunteer!



FOUNDATION MINUTE

The focus this week is on District 6000's contributions to TRF's Global Grants. Jennifer Jones, in her Presidential Theme announcement, asks us to "Imagine, a world that deserves our best where we get up each day knowing that we can make a difference." In the seven years since Rotary adopted the current grants model, 50 District 6000 clubs – 3/4 of our clubs - have participated in Global Grants for 53 projects in 23 countries. Because of District 6000 Rotarians, more than 418,000 poor people in need are enjoying better health, have experienced economic improvement, are realizing educational opportunities, are drawing water from new wells, or have had their disabilities lessened so they can earn a living. With donations of our time and about \$200 per D6000 Rotarian, we leveraged almost \$6.3 million in humanitarian benefits. Imagine the difference our Rotary Foundation global grants have made for 418,000 people. With global grants we have the power to change lives – even save lives. The Foundation Chair of D6000, Chris Knapp, reiterates the joy and appreciation of people whose lives have been changed by one such joint project initiated by the Rotary Clubs of Mt Pleasant and Fairfield in a rural village in Nepal, "We were there to celebrate completion of a community water supply project financed by a Rotary Foundation Global Grant. Until you have that experience, you cannot fully understand the power of Rotary to do good in the world. This project was so successful – so well received by the beneficiaries, so well managed by the Rotary Club of Narayani Mid Town, Nepal and such strong friendships developed between Rotary clubs – that the Rotary Club of Fairfield has undertaken and completed two more community water supply projects with the same Nepali club. Today, the three projects are providing clean, disease-free water piped to the homes of more than 25,000 people."

LIKE GOOD FOOD AND WANT TO SUPPORT KIDS?



Pork Chop Dinner & Pie Auction
Tuesday, April 26, 4 - 7 pm
Milan American Legion

THE NUMBERS ARE IN!

Rotary Rock & Roll



We thought this was a quick way to make \$1500-\$2000, to make up for lower numbers at Trivia Night last year ... WOW - Rock & Roll Bingo generated a \$4,220.77 profit! Thanks to all for supporting the event and special thanks to Kathy Trone, Sue Rector, Eric Westphall, Anne McGlynn, and Mark Mayeski for pulling it off! - You all ROCK!

FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's raffle featured a bottle of fine wine imported from the Nimble Vineyards of Sonoma, California. Tickets were \$5 for one or five for \$20. Proceeds raised go to the Rotary International Foundation. We were pleased as the winning ticket was pulled and the number read, to see a treasured guest, Nancy Luckenbill, was our winner. She was in attendance to see the presentation of the Luckenbill-Wray Award named in part for husband Fred Luckenbill, a long-time member of our Club, former Club president, and former District Governor. We lost Fred a few years ago, but the Luckenbill-Wray Award keeps his memory strong, along with that of Sam Wray another incredible Rotarian who also passed too soon. Hilde Wray was seated with Nancy. It was a delight and honor to have them with us today.



JOHN PHILLIPS ONCE AGAIN CHALLENGES ALL BASEBALL FANS!



Last year John bet all other Rotarians that his beloved White Sox would have a better record at the end of the regular season than any other Rotarian's favorite team. He backed up his bet with \$100 and invited any and all comers to bet on their favorite team at whatever amount they wished. Some bet \$25, some \$50, some \$100. The fun part of the bet was that the "losers" didn't pay John, they paid either our Club's Foundation or the Rotary International Foundation, leaving the option up to the payee. His challenge raised over \$1,200 last year for our Foundations. John has again issued the same challenge and will have more to say at next week's meeting. But in the meantime, be thinking about what wager you will make on your favorite team! (Did I say, 'Go Cubs!')

GOOD NEWS – WE HAVE A PARTNER



Back in 2015 the idea of taking on a project to build and install Little Libraries to provide children with a readily accessible supply of age-appropriate reading material free of charge seemed like a big, but very worthy task. Rock Island Rotarians got behind the idea and by 2020 Little Libraries were up and operating at every elementary school and both Jr. High Schools in the Rock Island – Milan School District along with others at non-school locations. That led to the need for monitors to keep an eye on each library to ensure they were always stocked with books, clean, and in good repair. Fortunately, we have had many Club volunteers take on this task, but help is always needed. Last night Holly Sparkman and Bob Swanson attended a meeting of the Illinois Quad City Rotary Club who had inquired about our project. After explaining what we do our fellow Rotarians in the QC Club volunteered to help. They have adopted the Center for Math and Science much as we adopted Earl Hanson. They offered to take over monitoring of that Little Library. Other members live near some of our other Library locations and offered to report any time they see a need for books, or repair. They even have a "handy man" in their club that offered to do maintenance when needed. They also wanted to consider the possibility of taking on primary monitoring of some of our other locations. Time will tell but having a partner club helping with the project eases the load on our members and helps ensure that the project will continue to thrive.

GOT A COMMITTEE PREFERENCE FOR 2022-23?

If there is a particular project or activity that caught your eye this year, why not join that committee for next year! Maybe you were on a committee and would like to continue on that committee. It's time to let Cindy Gramenz know what you would enjoy doing during the coming Rotary year. Committee decisions for the 2021-23 Rotary year which starts July 1st are firmed up in May and passed on to our Directory Book printer in June. So don't procrastinate drop Cindi an email and let her know what you would like to do. cgramenz15@gmail.com

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 for more info.



MORE SENIOR TEE SHIRT HUMOR SHARED BY BUD PHILLIS



BUD ALSO SENT THIS STORY ...

Two 90-year-old guys, Leo, and Frank, had been friends all of their lives. When it was clear that Leo was dying, Frank visited him every day.

One day Frank said, "Leo, we both loved playing baseball and we played all through high school. Please do me one favor: when you get to heaven, somehow you must let me know if there's baseball there.

"Leo looked up at Frank from his deathbed and said, "Frank you've been my best friend for many years. If it's at all possible, I'll do this favor for you."

Shortly after that, Leo passed away.

A few nights later, Frank was awakened from a sound sleep by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calling out to him, "Frank ... Frank ..."

"Who is it?" asked Frank sitting up suddenly. "Who is it?"

"Leo. it's me, Leo."

"You're not Leo. Leo just died."

"I'm telling you it's me, Leo," insisted the voice.

"Leo! Where are you?"

"In Heaven," replied Leo. "I have some really good news and a little bad news."

"Tell me the good news first," said Frank.

"The good news," Leo said, "is that there's baseball in heaven. Better yet, all of our old buddies who died before us are here too. Better than that, we're all young again. Better still, it's always springtime, and it never rains or snows. And best of all, we can play baseball all we want, and we never get tired."

"That's fantastic," said Frank. "It's beyond my wildest dreams! So, what's the bad news?"

"You're pitching Tuesday."

ROTARY DISTRICT 6420 CONFERENCE – April 29, 30, and May 1, 2022

- Friday, April 15, is the last day to register for the District Conference. Due to food supply line issues and staff shortages late registration may not be able to be accepted after April 15th.
- Register online at www.rotary6420.org
- Registration fee of \$60 includes four meals and our club will reimburse you the entire \$60!
- You will never again have an opportunity to attend a conference FREE right in our own community!

HEY KIDS! WHAT TIME IS IT! (All of us old folks are yelling, "It's Howdie Doodie time!")

ACTUALLY, IT'S BIRDIES TIME!

**BE SURE TO BE AT NEXT WEEK'S MEETING TO HEAR KEVIN KOSKI'S GALA
CAMPAIGN KICK OFF!**

YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT A FINN MAY DO WHEN YOU GIVE HIM FREE REIN!

The Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund continues the bonus promise

The Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund was established to support the continuing efforts of the John Deere Classic, a 501(C)(3) not-for-profit organization, to provide bonus dollars to participating charities. To qualify, charities must be publicly supported and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(C)(3) organization. All charitable contributions must come from a designated donor, and must not be part of a capital campaign. The Birdies for Charity program is intended to support charitable organizations, services, operations and programs. It is not intended to be used for endowment or brick and mortar charitable purposes.

As before, the tournament will provide a bonus to all participating charities. This year, all charities will be **guaranteed a 5% bonus** on amounts up to their prior year pledge total, or \$100,000, whichever is greater. Additional bonus dollars will be based on tournament revenues. The Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund is the source of these bonus dollars. This fund is supported with dollars from tournament revenues, special events, direct donations, and a generous matching grant from the **John Deere Foundation**. These dollars will be distributed annually, and are designed not to compete with, but to enhance the benefits for the nearly 500 charities that participate in the program. **So, if you are not already participating, this is the year to hop on board.**



JUNE 27-JULY 3, 2022

Sponsored by:



Grand Prize Sponsor:



Media Sponsor:



Send pledges and payments to:

BIRDIES FOR CHARITY
15623 Coaltown Rd, East Moline, Illinois 61244
(309) 762-4653 or 1-800-336-4655
www.birdiesforcharity.com



Chip in for your charity

OFFICIAL PLEDGE CARD 2022



Last year we set a new Club record in pledges

**CAN WE BREAK THAT RECORD THIS YEAR?
LET'S DO IT!**

This is a preview look at the 2022 PLEDGE BROCHURE

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY

CHARITY SOLICITED FOR

937

BIRD NUMBER

I pledge and promise to donate:

☐ \$_____ one-time flat donation.

Please attach payment. **Make checks payable to Quad Cities Golf Classic Charitable Foundation.**

☐ \$_____

extra donation to the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund

Donations to the BFC Bonus Fund (#1041) help provide the minimum of 5% match for all participating charities.

GUESS THE BIRDIES & WIN A TWO YEAR LEASE ON A 2022 LEXUS RX350!

I guess that _____ birdies will be made.

Only 1 grand prize will be awarded. Void where prohibited by law.

BIRDIES SCORED (YEAR)

| | | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2,142 (2013) | 1,982 (2016) | 2,091 (2019) |
| 2,040 (2014) | 1,918 (2017) | N/A (2020) |
| 1,990 (2015) | 2,355 (2018) | 1,905 (2021) |

PLEDGE INFORMATION (Please print)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY / STATE _____

ZIP _____

PHONE OR EMAIL _____

OFFICIAL PLEDGE FORM

Chip in for your chance to win

When you chip in to help area charities, you could win! But your favorite charity will be the *real* winner. That's because participating charities receive **100% of the donations** pledged to them in this program, plus a bonus from the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund which is a **guaranteed 5% match**.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

Simply make a one-time flat donation and mail with payment to the Birdies for Charity office at 15623 Coaltown Rd., East Moline, IL 61244.

To enter the contest, guess the number of birdies that will actually be made by PGA Tour Pros during the tournament, Wednesday through Sunday. A grand prize will be given to one person who guesses the correct number. In case of ties, winners will be randomly selected.

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS AS YOUR RECEIPT

I pledge \$_____ one-time donation

I guessed _____ birdies would be made

Payment was included with pledge

☐ YES \$_____ ☐ NO

☐ CASH ☐ CHECK NO. _____

Please make checks payable to
QUAD CITIES GOLF CLASSIC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION



GRAND PRIZE:
2 YEAR LEASE ON A 2022 LEXUS RX350



LEXUS
SMART LEXUS OF QUAD CITIES

One lucky supporter of the John Deere Classic's Birdies for Charity program will win a 2 year lease on a 2022 Lexus RX350, courtesy of Smart Lexus of the Quad Cities. Other prizes awarded by random drawing.

CONTEST RULES

- Only 1 grand prize awarded. Ties and other prizes determined by random drawing.
- All guesses must be on an official pledge card and received at the tournament office by **June 10, 2022**.
- Rules are available at www.birdiesforcharity.com.
- No pledge or purchase required. Need not be present to win.
- Pledges submitted after the JDC may be applied the following year.

KEEP IN MIND THAT THE JOHN DEERE CHARITABLE ADDS A PERCENTAGE TO EVERY PLEDGE MADE. ALL OF OUR PLEDGES WILL BE RETURNED TO THE CLUB WITH AN ADDITIONAL PERCENTAGE ADDED WITH THE TOTAL PROCEEDS GOING TO OUR CLUB FOUNDATION.