



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

May 10, 2022: Volume XXIX, Issue 44

MEETING TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



## **WELCOME SARAH LEONARD** **Principal, Earl Hanson Elementary**

### **May - June Calendar**

- May 17 - Arron Sutherland- IL Casualty Company
- May 24 - Dr. Julie Schroeder - Life and Family Medical
- May 31 - Megan Brown-Saldana Lead(HER) - Exec. Director
- June 7 - TBA
- June 14 - TBA
- June 21 - TBA
- June 28 - President Peterson's Final Address
- July 5 - President Gramenz Induction and Address

Today's guest speaker was Sarah Leonard, Principal of our adopted school, Earl Hanson Elementary in Rock Island. Mrs. Leonard was appointed principal in July of 2019. According to GreatSchools a national nonprofit organization that gathers information from schools all over the country, eighty percent of the students attending Earl Hanson are classified as "low income." Gathering information from numerous sources GreatSchools states, "Earl Hanson students are making above average academic progress. Students at this school are making far more academic progress given where they were last year, compared to similar students in the state. High progress with low test scores means... that students are starting at a low point, but the school is doing a great job at supporting their academic growth compared to most other schools." Earl Hanson students at 32% Black, 32% White, 18% Asian or Pacific Islander, 14% Two or more races, and 4% Hispanic. 48% are Female and 52% are Male. The students per teacher ratio is 15:1, slightly above the state average. The % of teachers with 3 or more years' experience is 100%, well above the state average of 89%. Every teacher is fully certified. The school has a Full-time nurse on staff and a part-time psychologist and a part-time social worker. Principal Leonard has over 28 years of experience in education spanning grade levels pre-kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, with a specific concentration in literacy development. She stated that her priority is to ensure that all students receive the best education possible. Every decision I make will be in each student's best interest. Prior to joining the Rock Island-Milan school District, Ms. Leonard served as Dean/Pre-K Director at East Moline School District #37, and also was Principal of the Taylor Ridge Elementary School and the Edgington Elementary School. Ms. Leonard began her comments with a sincere and BIG "thank you" to our club for our partnership with her school. She then mentioned our monthly Birthday Books, helping with "Donuts with Grownups," funding the annual Pumpkin Palooza field trip, funding and providing coaches and chess boards for the school's chess club. Annually providing an Angel Tree program and donating gifts for students identified as likely to be in need at Christmas time. In the past we have provided supplies for kids when needed including both school and personal needs. We have also funded school projects such as new carpet for the kindergarten room. Principal Leonard reported that Earl Hanson serves approximately 375 students in a kindergarten through sixth grade format. Roughly 225 of the students are from the geographic neighborhood around the school. Another 150 students from all over the district attend as part of the district's Gifted, and Behavior Disorders programs. She stated that their priorities in returning to full-time in-person instruction were providing equitable learning for all students. Utilizing the "Leader In Me" programs and to bring families back into the building by re-establishing a Parent-Teacher Organization. She reported that when students returned there was a significant amount of relearning required. Things like relearning to share, to work with others, to talk properly to others, and to behave. School expectations also had to be retaught including classroom, cafeteria, hallway, and playground rules. She said their full-time student counselor was extremely busy the first few months of the year. Ms. Leonard stated that immigrant and refugee students bring seven languages into the building and the school provides staff able to speak in those languages. They also anticipate an influx of Ukrainian students in the future and have already had students from Afghanistan. The school is excited to have received a substantial donation for a new playground that should be ready this fall. Future hopes are for a walking track and development of outdoor learning areas.



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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** – Today we were blessed with many guests. Visiting Rotarians were Duncan Cameron from Naples, Florida, and Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Club. Jr. Rotarian Danielle Luzano from Alleman High school was with us. Dick Fislar was a guest of spouse of Mary Fislar. Steven Nowinski, a prospective member was a guest of the Club as were soon to be inducted new members Tracy Pugh and Tyla Sherwin-Cole. A very special guest of the Club was Nancy Luckenbill, wife of former District Governor and long-time member of our Club, Fred Luckenbill. We welcome all to our Club!
- ❑ **BIRDIES FOR CHARITY** – Don't forget to support our club's local Foundation by making donation to Birdies for Charity. Any amount you donate will be totally returned to us along with at least a 5% match from the John Deere Charitable Foundation. A \$10 donation earns our Foundation at least \$10.50, a \$100 donation will return a minimum of \$105. It is a great way to get started as a supporter of our Club Foundation which funds solely local community needs!
- ❑ **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 meetings in May and beyond. All you need to do is to arrive a bit early for the meeting. Bring a smile and handshake or fist bump. We want all who enter to feel welcome.
- ❑ **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2022-23** – Last week President elect Cindi distributed committee preference forms for the coming Rotary year which begins July 1<sup>st</sup>. She asked every member to review the options and select at least one committee. She also "warned" that those that fail to let her know where they would be willing to serve, will be **assigned** to a committee. You might get put in an area that is not of great interest to you. If you want some input on where your energies can best be used, let Cindi know at [cgramenz15@gmail.com](mailto:cgramenz15@gmail.com). This is one very small "Service Above Self" opportunity.
- ❑ **NEWSLETTER** – Send items for our newsletter to [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net). Committee chairs be sure to send notification of upcoming meetings.

Rock Island Rotary Literacy Committee

## "Keep them Engaged"

Summer Packs for Earl Hanson School

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR DONATIONS AND TIME!**

**THE PACKS ARE ALL MADE UP AND WILL DELIVERED TO EARL HANSON SCHOOL  
GREAT JOB LITERACY COMMITTEE! THANKS SUE RECTOR FOR LEADING THE PROJECT!!**

## FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

Eric returned in good form today and raked in a number of happy/sad dollar donations. Anne McGlynn contributed a dollar in honor of her daughter Sarah being recognized by WQAD-TV as an outstanding teacher and winning a \$200 prize for her Monroe Elementary School classroom in Davenport. Kai Swanson had a happy dollar in celebration of Augustana's recent hosting of 7 students from Uppsala, Sweden. Mark Zimmerman paid a dollar just for being happy to be at our meeting. Dick Fislar, guest of Mary Fislar had a happy dollar for the publication of his second book titled, "Where in the World are Dick & Mary". Holly Sparkman had a Happy Dollar in honor of Rock Island teachers who were recently honored as "Educators of the Year" among those named was Dr. Yolanda Grandberry-Pugh, wife of new member Tracy Pugh, who added his own dollar to the collection. Sue Rector offered a happy dollar in honor of a girl in the Earl Hanson Chess Club coached by Sue's husband, who won 2<sup>nd</sup> and a huge trophy at the Illowa Chess Competition, President Justin had a dollar in honor of his son's baseball firsts – turning a double play and winning a tournament! Finally, Eric auction off 4 River Bandit Tickets and raised \$60 bid by Duncan Cameron. Thanks to all who generously contributed!

## FOUNDATION MINUTE

Allison Potter, a double major (Public Health Studies/Policy Studies) graduating Senior from Elon University in Elon, North Carolina has been awarded the Rotary Foundation Global Grant Scholarship, a prestigious award that will support her pursuit of a master's degree at the London School of Economics after graduating from Elon in May. Potter received the scholarship from the Piedmont District 7690 Rotary Club. The 2022 RF Global Scholar hopes to work in global health, consulting on program monitoring and evaluation: or in refugee resettlement before pursuing her doctorate and working in an academic setting. "This opportunity will help me grow in cultural humility and independence as I navigate living and learning across differences," Potter said. "Leaving Elon, moving abroad and pursuing graduate school will not be easy, however, it will be an amazing adventure and will prepare me well for the future," Potter said. She expressed immense gratitude to the dedicated members of District 7690 Rotary Club, who will help her earn her master's degree in London "where I will be able to pursue a global education to match my global career goals."

Foundation Minute congratulates Allison Potter as she prepares for her Rotary Foundation London experience!

Global Grant scholarships, funded by The Rotary Foundation, fund international post graduate coursework or research for one to four academic years. The minimum budget for a Global Grant Scholarship is \$30,000 per academic year.

## FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's raffle featured a bottle of fine wine, AND a 50/50 cash drawing. Sue Rector held the first winning ticket and decided to take the cash, which she then donated to the Rotary Foundation. Gary Rowe was the lucky person holding the second winner and he took a bottle of Pink Moscato. Thanks to our frequent wine donators, Anne McGlynn, Sue Rector, Pete Wessels, and Jim Moran! They have kept the Lo Milani tradition of a weekly wine drawing going strong. Thanks also to everyone who participated in the raffle. All proceeds go to the Rotary Foundation.



## ROCK ISLAND ROTARY TRIVIA NIGHT SAVE THE DATE – NOVEMBER 11<sup>th</sup> ROCK ISLAND HOLIDAY INN

### ROTARIANS ANSWER JOHN PHILLIPS' 2022 BASEBALL CHALLENGE!

John bet all Rotarians that the 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 payable to our Club Foundation and invited any and all members to bet on their favorite team at whatever amount they wished, \$25, \$50, \$100, or more. Rotarians that bet and lose won't pay John, rather they will have their choice of paying either our Club's Foundation or the Rotary International Foundation.

SO FAR ... The following members have taken up John's Challenge!

Steve Morenz and Bill Stengel - White Sox; John Oliger - KC Royals  
Doug Hultquist – Yankees Sue Rector – Guardians Frank Lambert - Cardinals  
Bud Phillis, Bob Swanson, John Wetzel, and Tom Hammar - Cubs

John Wetzel also bets on the Red Sox.

**To join the fun. Email John or Bob. This is war with braggin' rights at stake!**

[Phillipsjohn99@gmail.com](mailto:Phillipsjohn99@gmail.com) or [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net)



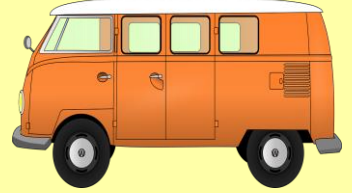


## ROCK ISLAND ROTARIANS ANSWER THE CALL!



We are happy to report that on May 6<sup>th</sup>, Jude Rowell, Brennan Hampton, Lucas Rettig, and Julian Anderson juniors, and Kai Boswell, a sophomore at Rock Island High School were chauffeured to Rotary's RYLA leadership camp at the NIU Lorado Taft Field Campus at Lowden State Park near Oregon, Illinois.

Tom Hammer was the scheduled driver, but an unforeseen conflict occurred Friday morning. After a few quick calls, Kevin Koski came to the rescue and using a luxury van provided by Mark Zimmerman drove the kids to camp.



The students spent three days in intensive leadership, team building, and service training in addition to enjoying fellowship with fellow teens from all over District 6420. On Sunday they were picked up and chauffeured back to Rock Island by Rebecca Arnold who arranged use of a M.L. King Center student transportation van. THANKS to Rebecca and Kevin for their service and to Tom for wanting to do it! Our Club and the RYLA Kids appreciate it!

## NEW CLUB ROSTER/DIRECTORY BEING PREPARED



All members received an email today requesting you to review the information we have for you prior to our submitting it to the printer for the new Club Directory. We sent you what we have along with the picture we have on file for you. If information is missing or incorrect, please by return email give us the needed correction. If you are not happy with your photo, you may email a new photo of your choice. Please make sure everything is accurate. If you have not yet replied, please do so soon! Just send a return email stating everything is "OKAY" or send corrections! Thanks for your help!

## LITERACY COMMITTEE PROJECT DRAWS TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION!

After seven months of collecting items, the Club's "Keep Them Engaged" project was wrapped up today with Club members staying after our meeting to put 300 packs together. Each child attending Earl Hanson Elementary School will receive a pack designed to provide fun and learning activities throughout the summer months. Kids will find their pack include crayons/markers/colored pencils, math/science-oriented activities, word games, mind stretching activities, construction paper/drawing paper, coloring books/puzzle books/word searches/crossword puzzles, craft supplies including stickers/beads/yarn/ pipe cleaners/felt, new or gently used books, sidewalk chalk/bubbles and other simple games for summer fun – indoors or outdoors. Below is just a portion of what was collected and went into the packs. Not shown are seven more huge shopping bags full of craft materials and three more boxes of bags!



Sue Rector (who never wants recognition) was our Club chair for the project. Sue stored all the collected items in her living room, shopped for items with money donated by members and donated much of the craft items from her own collection. Just transporting all the bags was a massive task requiring help from several members who loaded their cars to bring everything to the Botanical to be put in packs. Then Club member volunteers loaded the 300 packs into cars and delivered them to Earl Hanson Elementary school. It's great to know that this summer lots of youngsters will have fun and stay engaged through the efforts of our Club! Thanks Sue and to all who helped!



# KEEP THEM ENGAGEDS PACKS DELIVERED!

When the fellow at the door told Rotarians to just put the Packs they were dropping off in the lobby, we don't think he quite understood the magnitude of our project and **300** packs. When four carloads of bags showed up at the door they quickly redirected the drop off to a separate room. The school provided five students to help unload each car and the sea of green bags quickly filled the designated area and required placing a second layer on top of the initial delivery. Assembly of the packs took about an hour after our regular meeting concluded and then the 300 bags went to waiting Rotarian vehicles for the caravan to Earl Hanson. Below is a view of the conclusion to an exciting and big project for kids! Thanks to Eric Westphall for donating 300 nice canvas bags from MidAmerican

Energy. Each pack has a generous supply of books, puzzles, bubbles, crayons, markers, pencils, craft materials, construction paper, stickers, games and toys. The moms will be happy to get the packs because once emptied, the bags make great grocery or pool totes. We are so proud of the principal players in this huge project.

Congratulations to:  
Sue Rector



And Eric Westphall



And to all who donated items and cash in support of the project and to those who walked around and around the tables filling the packs and getting them to Earl Hanson Elementary! GREAT JOB!





## LUCKENBILL GENEROSITY FUNDS ANOTHER PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

Our club was honored to welcome Nancy Luckenbill to today's meeting. Nancy's husband Fred, served as our president in 1980-81, he received the Club's A.T. Peara Award in 1987. Fred served as our District Governor in 2003-2004. Fred and Nancy attended dozens of International and District Conferences during his 47 years in Rotary. Since Fred's passing on November 23, 2017, Nancy has continued regular contributions to the Rotary Foundation. Today she joined us to add their eleventh family member as a Paul Harris Fellow. Nancy honored their 4-year-old great-grandson, Jude Knapp, as a Paul Harris Fellow. In her comments, Nancy mentioned that years back she and Fred had the honor of making their granddaughter (Jude's mother), a Paul Harris Fellow. She could have added that prior to that they honored their daughter, (Jude's Grandmother, also as a Paul Harris Fellow. A sad note to this happy celebration was that Fred never got to meet Jude, Sadder yet is that Jude didn't get to know his great grandpa, truly a fun and interesting guy and a giant example for all as to what it means to be a Rotarian. Always generous, always caring, and always in attendance at anything Rotary hosted or sponsored. We miss Fred and are thrilled and honored that Nancy remains close to our club. Pictured above are Nancy and Fred attending a Rotary Night at the Ball Park.



## SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

### CAN YOU GIVE 3 HOURS of your time on a Saturday

**morning? Option 1:** Lynda Sargent at Heart of Hope has requested our help for Saturday, May 21st for the Heart of Hope "Clean Up, Get Ready to Move In Day!". It's essentially spring cleaning at both the Heart of Hope Outreach Center and at their NEW Giving Hope House. We will start at 9am and go until Noon. Heart of Hope will have their grill going and serve up hot dogs, chips, and beverages for lunch following the cleaning.

This would be a great service opportunity for any Rotarians willing to spend a few hours on a Saturday morning in exchange for lunch with some great people. The date is Saturday May 21st from 9:00 am until noon, with hotdogs on the grille afterwards.

If you want to join the project, please email our Heart of Hope chairman, Steve Morenz at [smorenz3@gmail.com](mailto:smorenz3@gmail.com). Heart of Hope needs to know how many are coming in order to have enough hotdogs ready to eat when the work is done!

Rock Island Rotary has partnered with Heart of Hope for many years starting with helping distribute food at their food pantry on Thursdays. That involved about 90 minutes of service. When the pandemic hit our attendance at the pantry ceased and our service switched to collecting plastic bags and donating warm winter coats to their clothing pantry. Their Giving Hope House is a new venture for Heart of Hope. The property was acquired and then the job of fundraising and total renovation began. To date they have removed the old boiler heating system, radiators, kitchen cabinets, tile flooring, bathroom fixtures, and installed a completely new HVAC system, a completely new bathroom and kitchen. They plan to replace the front and back porches, create a nice deck area; and give a fresh coat of paint to both the inside and exterior. A renovated electrical system and landscaping will complete the renovation creating a beautiful home for the neighborhood and adding value to the community. The home will serve as a place for training and re-entry services. This is a great chance for service with no request for a check or pledge!



## ON THE ROAD AGAIN

After more than a two year pause due to Covid, Bud Phillis and Bob Swanson once again packed up the Water Filter and slide show and hit the road. This time presenting our Kenya Water project to a group of about fifty at the District RYLA camp this past weekend. Many Interact Clubs from all over the district had students at the camp and the hope is that support of our Water Project will become a project for many Interact Clubs. To date three Interact Clubs have joined us. Raising \$350 is not a terribly arduous task for a student fundraiser and it is a "no fuss – no muss" answer for Clubs wanting to do an international project.



## Don't forget Birdies for Charity

If you donate using the Rock Island Rotary Code "937" your entire donation PLUS a Deere Foundation 5% or more match, will go to our **Rock Island Rotary Club Foundation**

### 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 (#104) help provide the minimum of 5% match for all participating charities.*

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 Coalton 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 RX 350**



**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](http://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.

### GUESS THE BIRDIRIES & 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.

### BIRDIRIES 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 \_\_\_\_\_