



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

June 14, 2022: Volume XXIX, Issue 49

MEETING TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



RYLA



rotary youth leadership awards

At its core, the Rotary Youth Leadership Award program, "RYLA" is intended to develop self-confidence and life-management skills in young people. RYLA programs build leadership skills, instill a lifelong commitment to service, and empower young people to make the most of their lives. This year Rock Island Rotary sponsored five students for the District 6420 RYLA camp held last month at the Lorado Taft Field Campus at Lowden State Park near Oregon, Illinois. Our five representatives were selected and recruited by our new Rock Island High School Interact faculty sponsor, Lonnie Behnke, who also was with us today. Jude Rowell, Lucas Rettig, Brennan Hampton, Julian Anderson, and Kal Boswell attended RYLA. Kal will be a Junior next fall and the other young men will all be seniors. We anticipate they will form the backbone of Rocky's Interact Club under the leadership of Mr. Behnke. An estimated 50,000 young adults participated in RYLA this spring. RYLA programs worldwide featured inspiring speakers, exercises aimed at discovering individual leadership styles, and practice with effective communication, team building, and problem solving. Other program ingredients included ethical leadership, social justice and advocacy, assessment of community needs, and the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Organizers strive to make the experience as interactive as possible by allowing RYLA participants to put their new leadership skills into practice, including writing an original skit or song to present on the last night. Typically, programs are set up to be an all-expenses-paid "award" for the selected students, with Rotary clubs footing the bill. Many participants return year after year as junior counselors or in other roles, helping younger kids navigate the program. Of the five young men we sponsored for RYLA this year, Lucas has a job and was unable to join us today, however Jude, Brennan, Julian, and Kal were on hand to tell us about their RYLA experience. It was very obvious that all four had a wonderful experience and exuded excitement and pleasure in telling us about the camp. The guys took turns stepping to the mic and each talked about the fun they had and what they learned in team building, leadership, appreciation of nature and wildlife, and the experience of being forced out of their comfort zone to face challenges and meet new people. Among the many activities they spoke of was a team building exercise where campers were required to climb over a high wall. It could only be accomplished by figuring out how to work together to essentially build a human ladder. They also had a "stranded in the desert" exercise that taught about teamwork for survival. A similar exercise was the "Real Life Mine Sweeper" where one in the group had information as to how to get through the mine field and had to lead his/her team through the maze without being able to speak with them. They also had sing-off battles and enjoyed various card games. Another challenge they received was having to build a machine using limited available resources and having to follow strict rules on what it could and could not be and what it needed to be able to do. Projects were all done in teams so learning teamwork and leadership roles was critical. The boys talked about the leadership skills they learned and how much they enjoyed the rustic and scenic setting of the campus. Also making a big impression on the boys were the camp leaders. Many of the leaders are former graduates of RYLA. The boys noted that the leaders were great guys, extremely kind and fun loving. Knowing that RYLA features several speaker presentations, the boys were asked what was their favorite presentation? We were very pleased to hear that all mentioned the Water filter presentation by our Club as the one they liked the best. They also mentioned that the first project they plan when Interact starts in the fall is raising money to purchase a Lifestraw water filter for children in Kenya. Another presentation they enjoyed was a lady that for the past 2 years has lived in a camper traveling around the country just meeting people and doing good. A third program that left a great impression was one done on business interviews. The guys learned about the importance of proper dress, demeanor, and resumes, and felt the information will be of great help to their future. Mr. Behnke summed it up well when he said the five guys came home "really pumped"! Thank you guys for a great program!

June - July Calendar

- June 21 - I-74 Bridge Final Report
- June 28 - President Justin Peterson's Final Address
- July 5 - President Cindi Gramenz Induction and Address
- July 12 - Richard Hammar - Astrophotography
- July 19 - Augie Economics Professor "Current Events"
- July 26 - Governor. Laura Kann - Official Club visit. As a former president said, "Dress Nice"



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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 welcomed two visiting Rotarians. Duncan Cameron from Naples, FL, and Ken Rohwedde from the North Scott Club both attended our meeting. Prospective Lonnie Behnke from Rock Island High School was a guest of the Club today as was prospective member Yolanda Grandberry Pugh. Cynthia and Gregg Hampton, parents of one of our program speakers were also guests of the Club. The five boys who attend RYLA were our guests and are better introduced in our front-page story. We love to have visitors and guests and welcome all to Rock Island Rotary, the Number 1 Club!
- ❑ **2022 ROTARY NIGHT AT THE BALL PARK** will be on Friday, August 12th. The night will feature private seats in the Pepsi Luge Boxes, QC Airport Tumblers given away when you enter, the River Bandits game vs. Cedar Rapids, and a great fireworks display immediately after the game. Tickets are \$25 per person which includes a \$20 Bandits Card good for concessions, merchandise, or amusement rides! Do you think Cindi can get her curve ball over for a strike when she throws out the first pitch?
- ❑ **ROTARY TRIVIA NIGHT IS SET!** Save November 11th for our 2022 Rotary Trivia Night at the Rock Island Holiday Inn. Sue Rector is already gathering items for the silent auction. If you have items or things we could include in baskets, please let Sue know.
- ❑ **OFFICER INSTALLATION – July 5th** - Incoming officers and directors for the 2022-23 Rotary Year will be installed at this meeting. District Governor David Bill will officiate and immediately after the installation, President Cindi Gramenz will present her vision for the coming year. The following are urged to attend to be installed: Cindi Gramenz, Eric Westphall, Sue Rector, Anne McGlynn, Carrie Crossen, Justin Peterson, Bob Swanson, Rebecca Arnold, David Hodge, Mariah Johnson, John Phillips, Amber Brummit, Rick Devinney, Monta Ponsetto, and Kathy Trone.
- ❑ **NEW CLUB DIRECTORIES** – Will be distributed at our July 5th meeting.
- ❑ **NEWSLETTER** – Send items for our newsletter to bobdebswanson@att.net. Committee chairs be sure to send notification of upcoming meetings.

FOUNDATION MINUTE

In its concerted effort to combat the menacing effects of COVID-19, The Rotary Foundation initiated a Disaster Response Fund. Districts can apply for a \$25,000 grant. To date, nearly \$5 million has been dispersed by TRF to nearly 200 of the 535 districts in the world. One of the recent awardees is District 6270. This district, comprising of 54 clubs in southeastern Wisconsin, has four clubs that are purchasing and delivering food to those in need, and supplying face masks, shields, and other PPEs to local first responders and fire departments. The West Bend Sunrise Rotary, WI USA, one of the four clubs, donated PPE worth \$4,000 to the Albrecht Free Clinic. TRF also awarded \$25,000 to District 6820, Mississippi, which has split the grant among seven hospitals in Central Mississippi.

Responding to the needs of those affected by COVID-19, The Rotary Club of Winnetka-Northfield, IL with a matching grant from TRF, presented a check for \$3,810 to St. Dominic Hospital for COVID-19 expenses.

Another Disaster Response Grant awarded by TRF made it possible for the Rotary Club of Potsdam, NY to donate \$1,000 to the Potsdam Neighborhood Center Food Bank for COVID-19 relief. Expressing much appreciation for the donation, the director of the Food Bank, Kristal Hayes, declared that the money will provide “a good deal of food to our clients. It takes a village, they say, and we definitely cannot do what we do without the support of great organizations like the Rotary and our community.”

Rotary is Fellowship. Real Fellowship is frank, spontaneous, full of warmth, and if you want to gauge its depth, you will find that it is the difference between “Mister” and “Bill” – “Reverend” and “Jack.” (Call Him “Bill.” The Rotarian, May 1915).

FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

V.P. Eric joined us via ZOOM and did a super job of fining and collecting Happy/Sad dollars. Cindi Gramenz paid \$1 for having to leave early today. Gary Rowe, Kevin Koski, Angela Campbell, and Kathy Lelonek all paid a fine for a newspaper story about the recent Library Fundraiser. Eric fined himself for being mentioned in a news story about the Quad City Chamber. Bob Swanson paid \$1 for an unauthorized phone interruption during the meeting and another \$1 for his challenge to Kevin Koski regarding proper pronunciation of the Finnish Rotary Club mentioned in last week's newsletter. President Justin Peterson paid a happy dollar for his son's first ever inside the park homerun. Eric offered \$5 in recognition of passing his budget goal for fine revenue this Rotary year. Dan McNeil paid \$21, \$11 in recognition of the eleven sites serving as sites for Spring Forward's summer camps and \$10 for his son completing the Country Ride cycling circuit. John Phillis offered a Happy Dollar via ZOOM for the White Sox finally winning a game! Monta Ponsetto finished off the fines with \$5 for "What the Heck!" We do sincerely thank all members who generously join in the fun. All fines go to the Rotary Foundation.

FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's raffle featured a bottle of fine wine from the Grape Life and a 50/50 cash drawing. The first lucky ticket drawn was held by Sue Rector who opted for the money and donated it all back to the Rotary Foundation. When the second ticket was pulled it was also held by Sue, who generously said, "Draw Again." The third ticket out of the first bowl was held by visiting Rotarian Duncan Cameron who gladly accepted the wine. All proceeds from our weekly raffle go to our club's Rotary International Foundation account. Thank you to all who participated in the drawing.



JOHN PHILLIPS' 2022 BASEBALL CHALLENGE!

John will make a \$100 donation to our Club Foundation if the **White Sox** do not have a better record at the end of the regular season than any other Rotarian's favorite team! But only if other Rotarians are willing to bet \$25, \$50, \$100, or more on that their favorite team will have the better record. Rotarians that bet and lose will have their choice of making a donation to our Club's Foundation or to the Rotary International Foundation.

SO FAR - Seventeen members have taken up John's Challenge!

Steve Morenz, Kathy Trone and Bill Stengel joined John - **White Sox**

John Olinger - **Royals** Duncan Cameron - **Brewers** Tracy Pugh - **Braves** Sue Rector - **Guardians**
Ruth Lee and Howard Beck - **Twins** Doug Hultquist and Pete Wessels - **Yankees**

Frank Lambert - **Cardinals** Bud Phillis, Bob Swanson, John Wetzel, Tom Hammar and Gary Rowe - **Cubs**

John Wetzel also bet on the **Red Sox**.

To join the fun. Email John or Bob. This is war with braggin' rights at stake! Phillipsjohn99@gmail.com or bobdebswanson@att.net Apparently Frank really is the only Cardinal fan in our Club?



**DON'T MISS
THE FUN SIDE
OF ROTARY!**

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY TRIVIA NIGHT

NOVEMBER 11th

ROCK ISLAND HOLIDAY INN

**What can be better than Trivia Quizzes, Good Food, your
Favorite adult beverages, a huge Silent A, and Friends!**





ROTARY NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

FRIDAY – AUGUST 12th

Tumbler Giveaway – After Game Fireworks!

Bring The Family, Invite Your Friends!

CPR [Constantly Promoting Rotary] MEETINGS START IN JULY!

Incoming president, Cindi Gramenz plans to hold monthly CPR Meetings starting In July. The meetings will be on the third Thursday of each month at 5:30pm and will continue monthly at least through December. Topics and locations are to be determined. The idea is to have an informal setting open to any Rotarian that wants to come, where good conversation along with perhaps an adult beverage and something to snack on may lead to great things new ideas for our club. We can chat about fundraisers, service projects, social events, membership, dues, or anything that might make Rock Island Rotary a better and stronger club. Bring a spouse or friend! Suggestions of topics are welcome and can be emailed to Cindi Gramenz cgramenz15@gmail.com or Anne McGlynn amfm1924@gmail.com.



BRITISH HUMOR IS DIFFERENT

These are classified ads, which were actually placed in U.K. Newspapers:

FOR SALE

COWS, CALVES: NEVER BRED
Also 1 gay bull for sale

WEDDING DRESS FOR SALE

Worn once by mistake.
Call Stephanie

FOR SALE BY OWNER

Complete set of
Encyclopedia Britannica
45 volumes. Excellent condition
£200 or best offer.
No longer needed, got married,
Wife knows everything

JOINING NUDIST COLONY!

Must sell washer and dryer £100.

SO, YOU WANT TO CHECK YOUR ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DONATION ACCOUNT? LET'S TAKE IT STEP BY STEP!

1. Get on the internet and go to rotaryinternational.org
2. Printed in blue you will see **MY ROTARY** – click on it.
3. If you have a Rotary Account, sign in using your email and password. If you don't have an account, click on **REGISTER**. Follow the instructions to register. Once your account is established, then sign in.
4. The MY ROTARY page will open, and you will see in white print, HOME EXCHANGE IDEAS TAKE ACTION LEARNING & REFERENCE MANAGE THE ROTARY FOUNDATION NEWS & MEDIA MEMBER CENTER. Drag your cursor straight down through **THE ROTARY FOUNDATION**. The print will turn from White to Gold. Drag your cursor down and to the left over to **FOUNDATION REPORTS** and click on it.
5. You will now see **Contributions & Recognition** and under that, **Donor History Report**. Below that printed in blue you will see **VIEW REPORT**. Click on **VIEW REPORT**. It can slow opening so just wait on it.
6. When the page opens you will see **INDIVIDUAL REPORTS** and under that in blue **DONOR HISTORY REPORT**. Click on **DONOR HISTORY REPORT**.
7. The next page that opens is an **OVERVIEW** of all your donations to Rotary International. Look it over.
8. At the bottom of that Overview page, you will see a blue tab **TRANSACTION DETAIL**. Click on it. That will open a page showing all contributions you have made starting with the most recent. It will also show if the donation was credited to a specific Paul Harris recipient. There may be more than one page of records. Look at the very bottom of your screen toward the right side and if you see **1 of 1+** then there are more pages. Use the little arrows to see more pages.

HOPE THIS HELPS!

BOARD HONORS FORMER PRESIDENT, JULIAN "JAY" STANLEY

Jay Stanley joined Rock Island Rotary in 1972 and served as our Club's president for 1979-80. One of our most dedicated and generous members, Jay helped with every project and donated to Rotary fundraisers. Jay suffered an unexpected and debilitating stroke causing him to cease personal attendance at meetings, but he continued as an active member for many years and sent his contributions for our fundraiser up to his death, December 7, 2021. A celebration of Life was held for Jay on May 28, 2022, and in his honor our Board authorized a \$100 donation to Arrowhead Ranch, one of Jay's favorite youth projects



Join the **DISTRICT 6420 POLIOPLUS SOCIETY** by Contributing \$100 prior to July 1st and receive recognition as a **CHARTER MEMBER!** Use the Pledge card below. Turn it in to Sue Rector.



District 6420 Polio Plus Society

Polio Plus Society Pledge Form

Full Name: _____

Email: _____

Club: Rock Island Rotary Club, Rock Island, IL

District 6420 PolioPlus Society Launch – Charter Membership Opportunity

We are excited to launch the ***District 6420 PolioPlus Society*** to support Rotary's promise and recently announced endgame strategy to achieve and sustain a polio-free world by 2026. We invite you to become a ***Charter Member***.

PolioPlus Society members pledge to donate \$100 every Rotary Year to the Rotary Foundation PolioPlus Fund until the world is certified polio-free. **To become a *Charter Member*, make your pledge and donate \$100 to the PolioPlus Fund by June 30, 2022.**

Charter Members will receive a specially designed limited edition Recognition Pin.

Please complete this and give to your club treasurer. Forward to pstromborg@mac.com