



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

June 7, 2022: Volume XXIX, Issue 48

MEETING TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



May - June Calendar

- June 14 - RYLA Report – Students who attended recount their experience
- 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 - Astro-photography
- July 19 - Augie Economics Professor "Current Events"
- July 26 - Governor. Laura Kann – Official Club visit. As a former president said, "Dress Nice"

Performing over 2500 shows in the last 18 years, GIT Improv (formerly Guys In Ties) have an amazing flawless ability to turn simple audience suggestions into priceless comedy moments. Jeff Dunham, Sinbad, Jim Breuer, Norm McDonald, Smother Brothers, and Weird Al Yankovic have used Guys In Ties as their opening act. Void of any profanity, GIT was a perfect comedy booking for Rock Island Rotary and we thank program chairman Tom Hammar for setting it up. It was spontaneous, entertaining, and hilarious, definitely unscripted, and unique entertainment and every joke is created on the spot! The entire GIT ensemble consists of twelve comedy veterans including Don Abbott, Jeff Adamson, Jim Adamson, Patrick Adamson, Rick Davis, Jeff De Leon, Nate Klaus, Andy Koski, Adam Lewis, Jeremy Mahr, Jessica Merritt, Emma Regnier, "Big G" George Schulz, Brent Tubbs, Jake Walker, and Jessica Nicol White. The cast for any give performance is determined by the size of the event and the time allotted for the show. Our own Monta Ponsetto is an alumnus of the cast! Over the years the group has been known as Comedy Sports Quad Cities and Guys In Ties. Group founder Jeff Adamson introduced the performance by setting up a scenario leaving out several key elements such as who/what they were, and why they were there. They then called on the audience to fill in the blanks. After obtaining the suggestions and just a few seconds of thought the GIT crew performed the skit with each cast member using his lines to add to the hilarity. Once through then they asked the audience for role characteristics and were given "Gothic" and "Valley Girls" and they then performed the scenario with one cast member taking on each role characteristics. The lines and how they were presented changed, but the overall scenario was a repeat of the original story line. Then they mixed it up again asking the audience for format suggestions such as mystery or drama. One of our audience suggestions was "Western" and we saw the story redone in the format of a TV western, complete with imaginary swinging doors on the saloon! Then the Guys borrowed two cell phones from audience members and proceeded to perform a skit where one of the three could say whatever he wished but the other two could only respond with lines read from the cell phone's text messages. Again, it was amazing to see a hilarious story scenario emerge! Turning to a different scenario the Guys said they were going to perform a "Things you should not say as a (blank)". Our audience filled the blank with "Funeral." The craziness that ensued had President Peterson complaining that his ribs hurt from laughing so hard! They are always fun and today was no exception. Thank you GIT Improv! .



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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 Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Club both attended our meeting. A special guest of Steven Nowinski was Dewilde Lottering from Brisbane, Australia, here to be Best Man at Steven's wedding on Sunday. He is a delightful young man and we coerced him into talking so we could all enjoy his Aussie accent! His line, "Steven was the first "Proper American he had met" got a big laugh. 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.
- ❑ **OCTOBER 24, 2022 IS WORLD POLIO DAY** - One Day. One Focus: Ending Polio! Bettendorf and North Scott Rotary Clubs have volunteered to continue the tradition we began of hosting a Joint Meeting for all Quad City area Rotary Clubs during the week of October 24-30th. Watch for details, but plan now to be a part of this important celebration!
- ❑ **TIME TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE!** – If it has been a while since you attended a meeting, now would be great time for you to return. On July 1st we will be turning the calendar to a new Rotary Year. How about a "resolution" to come!
- ❑ **NEWSLETTER** – Send items for our newsletter to bobdebswanson@att.net. Committee chairs be sure to send notification of upcoming meetings.

FOUNDATION MINUTE

As the Rotary International family looks forward to the great convention in Houston later this week, Foundation Minute would like to celebrate one district that has been garnering up awards in recognition of its humanitarian works and its manifestation of TRF's goals of advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace. The District 6000 Award Committee announces that significant award nominations selected by the current District Governor are submitted to Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation for consideration. It is a tribute to District 6000 that so many of its members have been chosen to receive RI and TRF's highest honors. All award nominations are restricted to no more than one per district with 530+ districts in the world potentially submitting candidates. Foundation Minute is proud of ALL of the members in our District as they stand in service to their communities and around the world! It is also an honor and privilege to recognize exemplary Rotarians in our District who have been recipients of Rotary International's and The Rotary Foundation's highest awards for service. It is humbling that our district has been recognized so consistently through the decades that these awards have been presented! Bravo!

Nancy Pacha of the Rotary Club of Iowa City AM received Rotary International's highest individual honor, the Service Above Self award.

Ken Noble of the Rotary Club of West Liberty is the recipient of the INTERNATIONAL Service Award for a Polio Free World.

Tony Conn of the Rotary Club of Keokuk received the REGIONAL Service Award for a Polio Free World

Congratulations to these worthy members! We are proud of your service.

FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

Eric was again in excellent form today! He first asked everyone to pay a \$1 fine as encouragement for our guest from Australia to take the microphone and tell us about his friend Steven Nowinski. That alone brought in over \$30. Mary Fislar offered Five Happy Dollars celebrating her grandson, Alex Milton, being a multi-sport athlete at Assumption High and last weekend being the goalkeeper for Assumption's State Championship win in an overtime penalty kick shootout! Great Aunt Marcy Bell admitted to being related to Mary and offered a dollar. She was asked if it was a happy or sad dollar! Holly Sparkman paid a fine for leaving the meeting early. Molly Shattuck paid a Happy dollar in honor of her "baby's first birthday. Happy Birthday Trevor! Rick Emery had a happy \$5 for his approaching retirement. One dollar for each year he has been with American Bank. Dave Hodge had a Happy dollar for Youth Hope's Summer Camp and new Creative Arts Camp that just got underway. Bud Phillis had a Happy Dollar for attending a Cubs vs. Cardinals game over the weekend and seeing the Cubbies get the win! Finally, John Wetzel gave Eighty Happy Dollars to our Club Foundation in celebration of his birthday! Hope you have a great day! Thanks to all who donated!

FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's raffle featured a 50-50 Cash drawing an Angela Campbell fabric bowl, and a bottle of fine wine. The first lucky ticket was held by Anne McGlynn who took the bowl. The second ticket pulled was held by Mark Mayeski who took the cash and promptly donated it back to our local Club Foundation. The third ticket taking home the wine was again purchased by Anne McGlynn, so she has both the wine and the bowl to carry home. Might be a good day to visit the casino! All proceeds from our weekly raffle go to the Rotary Foundation account. We appreciate and thank all who participated in today's drawing!



JOHN PHILLIPS' 2022 BASEBALL CHALLENGE!

John bet the **White Sox** will have a better record at the end of the regular season than any other Rotarian's favorite team. He agreed to make a \$100 donation to our Club Foundation if he is wrong. He invited 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 making a donation to our Club's Foundation or to the Rotary International Foundation.

Seventeen members have taken up John's Challenge!

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

John Oliger - **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 Is Frank really the only Cardinal fan in our Club?



HAPPY BIRTHDAY JUNE ROTARIANS!

Amanda De La Cruz	June 2	Jeff Dismer	June 15
Mindy Mahon	June 3	John Wetzel	June 16
John Oliger	June 4	Justin Peterson	June 20
Larry Tadlock	June 5	Dave Hodge	June 27
Mike Oberhaus	June 7	Erin Williams	June 28
Pete Wessels	June 10	Anne McGlynn	June 29
Linda Golden	June 11	James Benson	June 29
Sarah Gorham	June 14		





ROTARY NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

FRIDAY – AUGUST 12th

Tumbler Giveaway – After Game Fireworks!

Bring The Family, Invite Your Friends!



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!

DISTRICT'S WORLD SERIES OF GIVING CONTEST RESULTS ARE IN!

Alas, we didn't win! Here is the news from the District:

Good morning Rotary baseball fans. Our inaugural World Series of Giving Regular Season is over, and what a season it's been! We've seen a few teams lead their divisions for nearly the entire season, while other divisions have had almost monthly lead changes. And we've seen teams quite literally come out of nowhere to take their division's lead. It truly doesn't get much more exciting than this, except. . .we now have five division winners who will be competing for the WSOG year-end trophy, during the month of June. They include:

Representing the Mid-Central Division is the **Byron club**. During their regular season, they scored a total of two Home Runs plus a Single, at \$229.39 in per capita giving. Great job Byron!

From the South-Central Division, we have the **Ottawa Sunrise club** with two Home Runs plus a Single, at \$229.88 in per capita giving. They just nudged out the Putnam County club by less than \$2 per member! That's some hard hitting, Ottawa Sunrise!

Next in the scoring race out of the West-Central Division we have the **River Cities club** with three Home Runs plus a Triple, at \$381.44 in per capita giving. Well done River Cities!

In the current number 2 spot in total WSOG per capita giving from the Western Division is the **Moline club** with five Home Runs plus a Single, at \$526.62 per member. As many of us remember, Moline came from close to the back of the pack just 2 months ago to take their convincing and ultimately division winning lead. Way to go, Moline!

And leading the way for the past 6 innings in total per capita giving, we have from the Northeast Division the Pecatonica club with nine Home Runs, at \$905.56 in per member giving. Who would have ever guessed 12 months ago that we would have a team bring this kind of scoring firepower to this inaugural season's giving competition. . .outstanding job, Pecatonica!!!

Each of our winning teams will be receiving their Season One commemorative Louisville Slugger baseball bats within the next couple weeks. Let's join in by cheering each one of our division finalists as they battle it out for ONE ADDITIONAL INNING to see which can achieve the highest total per capita giving for this Rotary Year. Stay tuned; don't miss a minute of the action!

Your Rotary District 6420 Foundation Team

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.



WINE RAFFLE IS OVER – BUT THE WORK CONTINUED ...



Project chair Ruth Lee diligently took to the highways to deliver wine raffle prizes to Rotarians throughout our district.

On Memorial Day, she went to the outskirts of Rockford to deliver wine to Mary Osborn of the Pecatonica club. Then on Wednesday, she visited Sycamore Rotary. The goodies went to Jane Goetz, Ottawa Sunrise, and Tim Neubert, Sycamore (pictured).

Ruth gives a huge thank you to the committee (Gary Rowe, Cindi Gramenz, Tammy Weikert, Rick Emery, Jeff Rose, Justin Peterson, Kathy Ruggeberg, Bob Swanson, John Oliver, Sue Rector) for all your hard work. Thanks to our club members for your support. A special thanks to attendees at the district conference for enduring our non-stop promoting. Because of all of you, we reached our goal!

Huge thanks also to Ruth for her dedication and leadership!

ROTARY IN FINLAND

We have often heard from Kevin Koski about St. Urho and how Finland been named the happiest country in the world by the United Nations, but there is also serious Rotary business going on in Finland. There are 300 Rotary clubs and 12,000 Rotarians in Finland. Recently it was reported that every year, about 1.4 million trees, mostly spruce, are brought into Finnish homes and decorated for Christmas Eve. After the holidays, many are chopped up to fuel the family woodstove or collected for incineration at energy plants. The Rotary Club of Lappeenranta-Saimaa (Kevin, I'll donate a \$1 fine if you pronounce this for us next week!) came up with an eco-friendly alternative: sinking the trees into Lake Saimaa — one of the largest freshwater lakes in Europe — to provide spawning habitat for perch, pike, and other fish. The practice, suggested by club member Kari-Matti Vuori, a limnologist, also fosters "a water purification system" that supports organisms like algae, fungi, and other beneficial microbes, says Kaapo Pulkkinen, a club member and past governor of District 1430. "The response was surprising. We got over 600 trees," Pulkkinen says, adding that experts will follow the project's progress and report on the results.



A THANK YOU FROM OUR KENYA WATER PARTNER

For the past 5 years we have partnered with Replenish, a not-for-profit ministry based in Arlington, Texas. They obtain the water filters from Vestergaard Frandsen, the inventor and manufacture of the Lifestraw Community water filter. Located in Switzerland, Vestergaard partners with Replenish in identifying areas with no access to safe drinking water. When we order filters from Replenish they are shipped to a warehouse in Kenya and then delivered to one of the remote villages identified as in need of safe, clean water. Replenish staff in Kenya then conduct sanitation training and on the set up and use of the water filter. Periodically they return to retrain and replace the internal filter when needed. Replenish is now in their 10th year of their three-fold mission: serving God by sharing His love, providing clean water by providing purification resources, and educating the community through outreach events. Rock Island Rotary's water project has funded the purchase of more than 250 Lifestraw Community filters now providing safe, clean, drinking water for more than 17,000 children. This week we received the "Thank You" printed below from Barbara Lamb, Chairman of Replenish.

As Replenish celebrates our 10 year anniversary, we want to recognize all those who have been a part of our journey! We thank you for supporting God's mission through Replenish in so many ways, from serving as a member on the board or advisory team, partnering locally and globally by providing clean water resources, purchasing a support product, participating in a community event or mission trip, making a donation, praying for the ministry, or a combination of these things.

We give God the glory for His extraordinary work through Replenish as He continues to guide and bless our work together.

Gratefully,
The Replenish Team

Thank you for your ongoing support!


Barbara


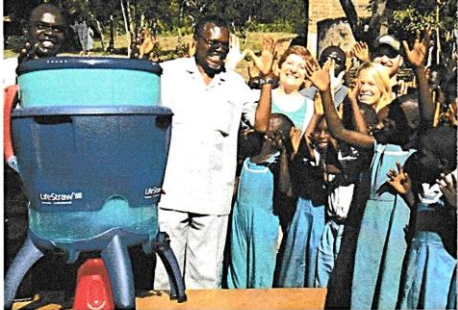



replenish

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE FEATURING OUR 10 YEAR HISTORY AND CURRENT PROJECTS

replenishwater.org @replenishwater





The "Thanks" goes to each of you who through your support of our Kenya Water Project made the purchase of the filters and the safe water they are providing to village children possible! "THANK YOU!"

BRITISH HUMOR IS DIFFERENT

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

FREE YORKSHIRE TERRIER

8 years old
Hateful little bastard.
Bites!

FREE PUPPIES

1/2 Cocker Spaniel
1/2 sneaky neighbor's dog

FREE PUPPIES

Mother is a Kennel Club
registered German Shepherd.
Father is a Super Dog
able to leap tall fences in a single bound

KEVIN MAKES FINAL REPORT ON BIRDIES PLEDGES

In record quick time, Kevin Koski reported that we exceeded our goal of 35 pledges and have confirmed 37 with one more in process. Our dollar total goal was \$5,000 and Kevin reported that the 37 confirmed pledges put us at \$5,600! So, his gentle prodding over the past month or so led us to exceed both our number of pledges and cash pledged goals! Thanks Rotarians and THANK YOU KEVIN for again heading up a successful campaign. The entire \$5,600 will come back to our club PLUS at least a 5% bonus from the Quad City Golf Charitable Foundation.



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