



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

August 23, 2022: Volume XXX, Issue 8

MEETING TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



Jared Johnson WVIK Radio

Jared Johnson is Station Manager for WVIK Radio. Jared received his BA in Communications from Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL, in 1998. He previously served as Director of Development and Community Engagement for the Quad Cities' public radio station. Originally hired as the Director of Corporate Support and Marketing in 2014, Johnson grew income from local corporate sponsors by over 50% during his four years in that role. In 2018 he was promoted to Director of Development and Community Engagement. In that capacity Johnson Helped raise \$366,000 toward WVIK's ongoing Campaign for the Future, an initiative aimed at increasing digital services and the launching WVIK's second broadcast signal in the Quad Cities (105.7 FM). He built relationships with outside organizations to launch podcasts aimed at younger audiences, including A Real Piece of Work (Junior Achievement) and LOVE Girls: The Podcast (LOVE Girls Magazine). Johnson also helped launch WVIK's annual, Intelligent Conversation starting in 2018, an event that has brought luminaries such as Krista Tippett and Nicholas Kristof to the River Center in Davenport. This year's Intelligent Conversation featuring Michele Norris, Washington Post correspondent and former host of All Things Considered, took place on March 10, 2022. He also helped develop and produce Hidden Conversations with Dr. LaDrina Wilson of Iman Consulting, Tracy Singleton with the Lincoln Resource Center, Dr. Lauren Hammond-Ford with Augustana College, and Ryan Saddler with Saint Ambrose University. Before coming to WVIK, Jared served as Director of Marketing for the Quad City Symphony Orchestra. His work with the Orchestra included managing partnerships with a variety of cultural partners including Quad City Arts, the Putnam Museum, the Figge Art Museum, Augustana College, the River Music Experience. Before moving to the Quad Cities, Johnson was Assistant Producer at 20/20 Communications, Inc. in Elk Grove Village, IL. While at 20/20 Communications he worked with such clients as the Million Dollar Round Table, Life Fitness, the American Association of Pediatrics, and the American Society of Plastic Surgeons. Also during this time, Johnson directed a short film, worked on independently produced documentaries, and even directed a music video. Jared and his wife Beth live in Davenport with their four children. WVIK broadcasts on 90.3 FM from their main studios on the Augustana College campus and 105.7 FM from studios on the Black Hawk College Campus. Both stations carry local and national programming, primarily news and music. Mr. Johnson said that they average over 40,000 listeners daily with 52% coming from Illinois and 48% in Iowa. Males compose 55% of their audience and females 45%. He also noted that WVIK is by far the most listened to PBS radio outlet in the area with Iowa Public Radio coming in a distant 2nd. Johnson also pointed out that in a survey of what is important to people moving into an area, local public radio was fourth on the list behind such things as libraries and schools. Johnson is proud of the local programming and local news presented by WVIK noting that their news won 15 awards from both the Illinois and Iowa radio broadcasting associations last year. WVIK also presents their broadcasts live stream on their website and on their app. Additionally they now offer numerous podcast in multiple areas of interest. The station also serves as the local Disaster Preparedness hub for the Quad Cities and is equipped to stay on the air when others are knocked off by natural or manmade causes.

August Calendar

- Aug 30 - Sam McCollum CEO of Steam on Wheels
- Sep 6 - Dr. Reginald Lawrence – State of The Schools
- Sep 13 - Dan McNeil Spring Forward Learning Ctr.
- Sep 20 - Mason Boyer Heart of Hope Ministries
- Sep 27 - Ty Grunder, US Bank
- Oct 4 - Club Assembly
- Oct 18 - Jennifer Hirsch, New Metrolink Fleet
- Oct 25 - Paul Plagenz, CEO Moline Foundation
- Nov 4-5 District Conference At NIU - DeKalb

See **WVIK** continued on Page 3



P.O. Box 4514
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Officers

Cindi Gramenz, President
Eric Westphall, 1st Vice Pres.
Sue Rector, 2nd Vice Pres.
Anne McGlynn, Secretary
Carrie Crossen, Treasurer
Justin Peterson, Past President

Board Members

Rebecca Arnold, Director
Amber Brummit, Director
Rick DeVinney, Director
David Hodge, Director
Mariah Johnson, Director
John Phillips, Director
Monta Ponsetto, Director
Kathy Trone, Director
Bob Swanson, Sergeant at Arms

Program Chairs

2022-23

July	-	Tom Hammar
Aug-Sept	-	Tyla Sherwin-Cole
Oct - Nov	-	Rebecca Arnold
Dec-Jan	-	John Wetzel
Feb-Mar	-	David Hodge
Apr-May	-	Gary Rowe
Jun-Jul	-	Tom Hammar

Club Notes & Announcements!

- ❑ **WELCOME GUESTS** – Today we welcomed three visiting Rotarians, Duncan Cameron from Naples, FL; Amber Wood from the Monmouth, IL Club (she will be transferring her membership to our club very soon!), and Laura Davis President of the Moline Rotary Club. Our final guest was Annie Hewitt from Senator Neil Anderson's office. We love to have visitors and guests at "the Number 1 Club"!
- ❑ **SIGN UP TO HELP AT THE HARVEST FESTIVAL** - Rock Island Rotarians will be selling walking tacos and grilled sweetcorn at the Milan Harvest Festival September 1st – 5th. Please check the article on page 5 of this newsletter for details and the available time shifts for helping. Shifts are just 3, 3½, or 4 hours. Just a few slots remain to be filled!
- ❑ **LABOR DAY PARADE** – On September 5th Rock Island Rotary will have a float and cars in the Rock Island Labor Day Parade. We need members who will walk with our float and hand out candy to kids. We will provide the candy! If you prefer, you may ride a bicycle along with our Club float and the cars driving our officers and award winners. Sign up at the Sergeant's table.
- ❑ **LEGACY COMMITTEE MEETING** – Immediately after our regular meeting next week, August 30th.
- ❑ **PUMPKIN PALOOZA** – We will be taking Earl Hanson 1st & 2nd Grade students to The Corn Crib Pumpkin Patch just south of the Quad City Airport on Route 150 on October 21st. Rotarians are needed to help guide the children. Arrive at 9:45am. Sponsor also needed for the shirts given to the kids. \$100 to sponsor.
- ❑ **FESTIVAL OF TREES** – As yet another way to serve our community, our Club will be doing a tree for this year's Festival of Trees. The Club has purchased a 7.5 foot tall, pre-lit tree. Now our task is to decorate it in. Our tree will be one of approximately 150 on display at the River Center from November 19-27th. It will then be auctioned as part of the Festival of Trees festivities with the proceeds going to Quad City Arts. We now need volunteers to help chair Monta Ponsetto come up with a design and decorations to pull in the high bidders!
- ❑ **NEWSLETTER** – Send items for our newsletter to bobdebswanson@att.net. Committee chairs be sure to send notification of upcoming meetings

SAVE THE DATE!

The Quad Cities Area Rotary Clubs are joining together again this year to present an outstanding World Polio Day (week) program. This year's program will take place on:



October 29, 2022
Rock Island Botanical Center

5:00 p.m. social hour, followed by dinner & program



Get this on your calendars now. You don't want to miss this event! More details will follow soon.

WVIK – Continued

WVIK also does April – the Radio Reading Service. They have more than 100 volunteers that come to the studio and read news, Everything from local obituaries to birthday and anniversary notices, local news, sports, and weather. This service is a lifeline for a significant number of vision impaired listeners. The station also offers News Fellowships each year. These are paid positions providing six months to one year of broadcasting training for college students. Many then go on to productive careers in commercial and public broadcasting. Although public radio is “commercial free”, they do rely on a substantial number of sponsors to underwrite the costs of programming. Programs are not interrupted with ads as they are in commercial broadcasting, but there may be an announcement at the beginning or end of the program stating, “The following program (or preceding) was made possible by a grant from the XYZ Corporation.” Many businesses find public radio a cost-effective way to get their name in front of the public while at the same time providing a service to the community. Currently WVIK is a mixed format station. They move back and forth from the News/Talk format and the Classical Music format three times a day, sometimes more on the weekends. WVIK has made the decision to separate the two formats, putting News/Talk onto our 90.3 FM and HD1 signal while launching a 24/7 Classical Music format on 105.7FM our HD2 signal. That transition will occur in the near future. We appreciate the information and update and thank Mr. Johnson for a very informative program.



5 Card Draw Game Comes to an End

2nd VP Sue Rector dealt the first cards for our 5 Card Draw game of chance seven weeks ago. Each week since then Club members could purchase a card for \$1 to build the best poker hand possible. With last week's 6th card, participants had to discard one card and presented their best poker hand to Sue at today's meeting. The winner was John Wetzel with two pairs. He then had the chance to “spin the wheel” to see what his prize would be. Lucky John took home a gift card with compliments of Rock Island Rotary. Coming next month --- Rotary Bingo!

FOUNDATION MINUTE

Welcome to Week 3 of RI's Membership & Extension Month.

The Rotary Foundation Disaster Response Grant is a grant opportunity provided by The Rotary Foundation to support disaster relief and recovery efforts in areas devastated by natural disasters. Grant funds are used to provide basic items such as water, food, medicine, and clothing. The Pikeville Rotary Club (KY) responded to the recent devastating Eastern Kentucky flooding by setting up a disaster committee under the leadership of PDG and Chair of the District Foundation, Dr. Rakesh Sachdeva. “We got a tremendous response,” Sachdeva said. “We made the call to action and within two weeks, people nationwide began to respond.” At the end of its efforts, and with encouragement from RI President, Jennifer Jones, the Pikeville Rotary Club qualified for TRF Disaster Relief Grant of \$25,000. “When I saw the huge semis pull into the unloading area packed with goods for disaster aid,” Club President, Kay Hammond said. “I was so proud to be a Rotarian. It has been a great effort. Thank you, Rotarians, for reaching out to hurting flood victims in Eastern Kentucky.”

Dr. Rakesh Sachdeva believes that compassion for one another “is what connects us all as human beings; the support we have received all over the nation for our neighbors in Eastern Kentucky has been very generous... “It's so important to give to the community. Much is asked of those to whom much is given. But, not just in terms of finances, but in terms of day-to-day security. There are thousands of people who lost everything, we need to help them in their hour of need. It is expected of us as good human beings.”

In her own statement, Dr. Seema Sachdeva is pragmatic, yet hopeful. “The road to recovery is expected to be painful and protracted as these are unusual times that are being met by unusual acts of kindness by fellow Rotarians.”

FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's foundation raffle featured a bottle of fine wine and a 40/40 cash drawing. The first winner was held by Frank Lambert who took the cash and promptly donated it back to the Rotary Foundation. The second winner was Jeff Dismar who has a brand-new bottle of fine wine to enjoy with dinner tonight! We thank all that participate and note that all proceeds from our weekly raffle go to support the Rotary International Foundation





**BACKWATER GAMBLERS
WATER SKI SHOWS**

Rock Island Rotary Night At Backwater Gamblers



Sunday, August 28th Lot opens at 5:30, Show Starts on 6:30.

Admission Free for Rotarians and their Guests – Signup for Seats

Look for the Rotary Reserved Seating Section

CONCESSIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE

**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 Auction, and Friends! A highlight of the evening is always our huge Silent Auction. Sue Rector is starting a stash of items to put together silent auction packages for Trivia night. The online platform that we use for our Trivia night online auction has made some great improvements. We are planning to again do an online auction for some packages prior to Trivia night. We were able to raise close to \$1000 from the online auction last year.

Let the closet diving begin -start looking for great, unusual, fun things that we could use in auction packages either online or in person. Does anyone Have any connections for donations of Fun experiences-they are always a hit! Tickets for games, concerts, programs, hotel rooms, timeshares, river cruises, nights out on the town. How about gift cards you were given and won't use!

Alcohol and wine are always a hit!!

Sue will bring baskets as we get to fall – She has lots of baskets if someone wants to do their own!

CLUB MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Club secretary, Anne McGlynn recognized members for perfect Rotary meeting attendance, noting that with covid, things were interrupted. She has many attendance awards to present and just started today with several recognized for 1 year of perfect attendance and one for a much longer stretch of perfect attendance.

Kim Calhoun, Thom Hammar, Frank Lambert, and Sue Rector were each awarded 1-year perfect attendance pins. Bud Phillis was recognized for 34 years of perfect attendance. Congratulations and thank for your dedication!



Kim



Tom



Frank



Sue



Bud

Anne mentioned that in congratulating Bud he told her when he joined Rotary he decided he was going to be fully committed or he wasn't going to do it. We are very thankful that you made the decision to be a full-time ROTARIAN!

SAVE THE DATE

ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY PLANS SET!

Wednesday, **December 7th** is the date for our 2022 Circa 21 Holiday Party for Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*. Circa subscribers make your reservation through Rotary to join our party group. (You will only pay for gratuity.) Non-subscribers can use your Dining Book Circa 21 Coupon. All will receive our group rate. We will have a private pre-show party in the Circa 21 Salon with complimentary hors d'oeuvres. The cost for party, dinner, Bootlegger pre-show, and the main stage presentation of *White Christmas* is \$71.21 for 2 using the dining book coupon; \$54.75 per person with no coupon. Kiwanis will also be joining us.

PAST PRESIDENT MARK MAYESKI GRANTS PAUL HARRIS PLUS HONORS

Past president Mark Mayeski has passed another milestone having previously earned his own Paul Harris Fellow honor and then earning additional Paul Harris honors for his wife, daughters, parents, and nephews, today added two more to his list earning Paul Harris Fellow recognition for his aunt and uncle, Janet Silies and Mike Silies. Unofficially, we believe that to be the 10th and 11th Paul Harris Fellow recognition earned by Mark. He noted that our club places emphasis on supporting the International Foundation and unlike most clubs provides assistance as an incentive for our members to become Paul Harris Fellows. To earn such recognition requires \$1,000 in contributions to the Rotary Foundation. Rock Island Rotarians receive a \$400 match for each \$600 donated. Mark urged others to strive to become Paul Harris Fellows.



SAVE THE DATE – HELP FELLOW ROTARIANS

The **Illinois Quad Cities Rotary Club** has been extremely helpful and supportive of our Club. They annually purchase a number of our Wine Raffle tickets and have partnered with us recently taking over the maintenance and servicing of several of our Little Libraries. Now they are asking for our help and support.

On **October 6th** they are hosting a Wine Tasting event with all proceeds going to the **Rock Island County Children's Advocacy Center**. The event will be held at the newly opened **Old Oaks Winery** on Route 67 just south of Milan. Tickets are \$50 per person and include a 4-wine sample tasting, one bar ticket good for one drink, heavy hors d'oeuvres, music, and fellowship. Mark your calendar for this fun and very worthwhile event.

ROTARY FOOD TENT AT MILAN HARVEST FESTIVAL

**WHEN ARE YOU HELPING – CHECK THE SCHEDULE BELOW – BRING A LAWN CHAIR
PLEASE ARRIVE 10-15 MINUTES PRIOR TO YOUR SHIFT FOR BRIEF INSTRUCTIONS**

Thursday 4:30pm – 7:30pm

Amber Brummit
Kathy Ruggeberg
Anne McGlynn
Kim Calhoun
Gary Rowe

Thursday 7:30pm – 11pm

Sarah Gorham
John Oliger
Tracy Pugh
Yolanda Pugh

Thursday is September 1st
Friday is September 2nd
Saturday is September 3rd
Sunday is September 4th
Monday is September 5th (Labor Day)

Friday 4:30pm – 7:30pm

Amber Brummit
Anne McGlynn
Tom Hammar
Sue Hammar

Friday 7:30pm – 11pm

Marcy Bell
Mary Fislar
Dick Fislar
Mariah Johnson
Jennie Newberry (Mariah's guest)

Saturday Noon – 3:30pm

Rick Emery
Carrie Crossen
Rick Devinney
Nancy Devinney

Saturday 3:30pm – 7pm

Molly Shattuck
Molly Shattuck family
Jim Moran
Tracy Pugh

Saturday 7:00pm – 11 pm

Avalon Thomas-Roebel
Cindi Gramenz
Bob Swanson
Sue Rector

Sunday Noon – 3:30pm

Eric Westphall
Holly Sparkman
John Oliger
Bill Stengel

Sunday 3:30pm – 7pm

Anne McGlynn
Fred McGlynn
Steve Morenz
Dawn VandeMoortel

Sunday 7:00pm – 11 pm

Sue Rector
Rick Rector
Ruth Lee
Bob Swanson

Monday Noon – 4:00pm

Frank Roe
Rose Roe
Gary Vogelgesang
Joan Vogelgesang
Trista Foster

Wear a Rotary Shirt if you have one. Otherwise, a blue shirt or top will give us somewhat of a uniform look. Rotary Aprons will be provided for you.

THIS SUNDAY 6:30PM

ROTARY NIGHT AT BACKWATER GAMBLERS

**PARKING LOT OPENS AT 5:30
SKI SHOW BEGINS AT 6:30
LOOK FOR ROTARY RESERVED SEATS**



FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

V.P. Sue Rector had another good day of fines and happy/sad dollars. Kathy Lelonek paid a \$1 fine for leaving early. Ruth Lee was fined \$2 for a Letter to the Editor she co-authored, and for her husband Dan Lee's editorial column appearing in the same issue of the local papers. Kai Swanson was fined for his photo and article also in the paper. Kevin Koski who joined us on ZOOM was fined for a recent Q.C. Times article about the Finnish Arctic Tree Hugging Team. Kevin was seen cheering on his ZOOM screen! Dr. Reginald Lawrence and Holly Sparkman were fined for their involvement with the "Rally at the Rock" celebration which was featured in a full page pictorial newspaper article with a photo of Dr. Lawrence competing in the tug o war competition. Holly Sparkman paid an additional Happy Dollar in celebration of the new playground at Earl Hanson Elementary which will be dedicated this Friday at 10:30. Rotarians are invited to the ribbon cutting! Monta chipped in a dollar on this one too as the major contribution to build the playground came through the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation. John Wetzel had a happy dollar for Mark Zimmerman who is at the Little League World Series to watch his grandson and the Davenport team continue toward a national championship. Bud Phillis had a sad dollar for news that in some US zip codes as few as 37% are vaccinated against polio at a time when cases are again showing up in the US. Finally, Molly Shattuck had \$13 Happy Dollars in celebration of her 13th wedding anniversary. Thanks to all who paid fines and gave dollars in support of the Rotary Foundation account!

Now is the Time to Contribute to Our Water Project

One of our Club's proudest achievements is establishing our International Water Project that is providing safe drinking water to village children in Kenya. Each filter costs \$350 and we periodically order more filters as funds allow. We are currently preparing a Filter order. Past President Justin Peterson asked that we purchase a Filter in his name rather than providing him with the traditional diamond studded Past President's Pin. That along with other donations will be part of the order we are currently preparing. If you have been considering a donation to our Water Project Fund, now is the time. We will place the order next week. See Bob Swanson or Carrie Crossen to join the effort! Get your donation in NOW!



SUE RECTOR LAUDED FOR THREE MORE PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS

2ND Vice President Sue Rector earned Paul Harris Fellow recognition and recently present the pins and certificates to her son and daughters. Congratulations to Christopher Werner, Emily Lechelt. And Richard J Rector, our most recent Rock Island Rotary Paul Harris Fellows. Congratulations and our thanks to Sue for her generosity and dedication to the Rotary International Foundation and the wonderful work they do. As our Club's Foundation Chair, Sue urges every member to make the commitment and start working toward your own Paul Harris Fellow award. Every little bit adds up and does so much good in the world!



MOLINE ROTARY PRESIDENT PAYS US A VISIT

We were pleased to welcome Laura Davis, President of the Moline Rotary Club, as a visitor at today's meeting. Laura came with a message and an invitation.

Moline Rotary is sponsoring a Golf Outing on Monday, September 12th at Short Hills Country Club. Total cost is \$80 which includes, golf, cart, and lunch. If you haven't played Short Hills, here's your chance and at the same time lets you support Rotary! Grilled Lunch is at noon and the golf shotgun start will be at 1:30.

If interested in playing or entering a foursome, contact Deni McCarter at 563-349-1905 or email Deni at mccard15@live.com



TRANSFER MEMBER APPLICANT

Amber Wood a current member of the Monmouth, Illinois Rotary Club has applied to transfer her membership to our club. Amber is Director of Development for SAL Community Services located in Moline. Amber lives in Orion, Illinois. Please direct any comments to President Cindi Gramenz cgramenz15@gmail.com or Membership Chair, Mary Fislar mlfrlf1315@yahoo.com.