



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

October 11, 2022: Volume XXX, Issue 15

MEETING TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



## REBECCA ARNOLD ~ZAMBIA~

With our scheduled speaker called away for a family emergency, Rotarian Rebecca Arnold answered the call and provided an entertaining and fascinating

program about her trip earlier this year to visit friends in Zambia, a nation located in southern Africa, is a landlocked country of rugged terrain and diverse wildlife, with many parks and safari areas. On its border with Zimbabwe is famed Victoria Falls – indigenously called Mosi-oa-Tunya, or "Smoke That Thunders" – plunging a misty 108m into narrow Batoka Gorge. Zambia is a landlocked country taking its name from the Zambezi River. It is bordered by the Congo, Tanzania, Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Namibia. The official language is English a carry over from British colonial times, however many languages and dialects are spoke throughout the country. Rebecca Arnold was born and raised in Rock Island. She has lived elsewhere for most of her adult life – including 10 years in Chicago, and a total of more than 12 years in 5 different countries: Turkey, Indonesia, Madagascar, Tanzania and Bangladesh – and has come back to live in Rock Island twice so far, for family reasons. She has a 17-year-old son, Darius Tongo, who is a senior at RIHS. Rebecca earned a BA from Northwestern University, and a Master of Public Health degree with a concentration in Community and Behavioral Health from the University of Iowa. Most of her career has been spent working in public health in a global setting. Most recently she managed a USAID-funded project in Bangladesh while working for Johns Hopkins University. Currently she works at the Martin Luther King Jr Community Center as Resource Development Manager. She is also adjunct faculty at St Ambrose University in the Master of Public Health Program, and the Women & Gender Studies Department. Rebecca also serves on the Board of Directors for Thrive, an organization that feeds schoolchildren in Bangladesh and the Philippines. Rebecca, spent three years in Africa as a Peace Corp volunteer followed by three more years working in an agency in Africa, went to visit fellow former Peace Corp volunteer friends who had married and remained in Africa. Rebecca's previous experiences in Africa were in large cities or in countries not populated by large African mammals. Her friends, now residing in Zambia are in the heart of the domain of large African wildlife. She told of looking out the home's door and seeing giraffe walking past, stepping over large deposits of elephant dung just outside her guest quarters, and being awakened by baboons jumping on the metal roof of the home. She also noted that prior to going to bed each evening her hosts would accompany her to her quarters and conduct a search to make sure scorpions had not entered the home during the day. In addition to elephants and giraffes, Rebecca also had close up views of hippopotamus, cheetahs, zebras, crocodiles, and lions. She displayed photos of each including a photo of a male and female lion enjoying a meal of fresh giraffe, with vouchers patiently waiting for the lions to finish, and hyenas in line for dining on the bones after the vouchers had picked them clean. She also had some beautiful photos of Victoria Falls, the world's greatest sheet of falling water and significant worldwide for its exceptional geological and geomorphological features and active land formation processes with outstanding beauty attributed to the falls i.e. the spray, mist and rainbows. The falls extend over a mile in width and drop one-hundred feet to a narrow gorge. Rebecca said one of her life's top five experiences was taking a boat to an island near the edge of the falls and then being guided out on stepping stones to an natural overlook dangling on the edge of the falls. She was drenched by the water and said had she known what she was being asked to do would probably have declined, but ultimately said it was a spectacular and thrilling experience. She urged us if in similar circumstances not to think too hard, and to just say "Yes". We thank Rebecca for her "last minute", fill-in performance. It was outstanding!

### Oct. – Nov. Calendar

- Oct 18 - Jennifer Hirsch, New Metrolink Fleet
- Oct 25 - Paul Plagenz, CEO Moline Foundation
- Oct 29 - World Polio Day Banquet
- Nov 1 - Pastor Peter Petit, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Davenport
- Nov 4-5 District Conference At NIU – DeKalb
- Nov 8 - Heidi Huiskamp Collins – "Philanthropy"
- Nov 15 - Tracy Singleton, Lincoln Resource Center

Photos provided by Rebecca are on Page 3



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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 Rock Island Rotary welcomed visiting Rotarian Duncan Cameron from the Naples, FL club. Other visitors were Dr. Annetta Clevenger Executive Director of Narratives Q.C. a guest of Dave Hodge. Kenda Burrows, her final time as a “visitor” prior to becoming a Club member, She was a guest of Sue Rector. We are always delighted to welcome guests to Rock Island Rotary. Have you invited a guest recently?
- ❑ **PUMPKIN PALOOZA DATE CHANGE**– We will be taking Earl Hanson 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade students to The Corn Crib Pumpkin Patch just south of the Quad City Airport on Route 150 on Friday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>. The date was changed from the 21<sup>st</sup> because of the unavailability of buses on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Rotarians are needed to help guide the children. Arrive at 9:45am. Sponsors are needed for the shirts given to the kids. This sponsorship is not part of the new “bundled sponsorship” plan because it is not a fundraiser. See Sue Rector to be a sponsor. The fee is \$100.
- ❑ **ROTARY CPR MEETING** – CPR – Continuously Promoting Rotary. Our next social CPR meeting will be Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. At 5:30pm. Location is yet to be determined. Watch for information, but mark the date on your calendar. All members are welcome for an informal social gathering of Rotarians and their guests. Spouses are welcome. It's a chance to kick back, have a beverage or two, enjoy some snacks and chat about our Club and how to make “Number 1” even better. If you have not attended a CPR, make this one your first!
- ❑ **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** – will meet at 1pm next week immediately after our October 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Members Howard Beck, John Daly, Tom Hammar, Anne McGlynn, Gary Rowe, and Bob Swanson, please make arrangements to remain after the regular meeting. Mary Fislar is chair. All interested Club members are welcome to participate.
- ❑ **WORLD POLIO DAY GALA** – October 29<sup>th</sup> at the Q.C. Botanical Center. RILEE a real Iron Lung exhibit and keynote speaker Bob Taylor, a Polio survivor and former District Governor from Western Nebraska will be there! He is the Rotary International Regional End Polio Now Coordinator. Mark your calendar!
- ❑ **NEWSLETTER** – Send items for our newsletter to [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto: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.





Above – How would you like to see this little guy outside your backdoor window! Not an uncommon site for Rebecca on her trip to Zambia. This is just one of the wildlife specimens Rebecca witnessed daily. Others common “visitors” were giraffes and baboons.

In this photo Rebecca stands on the edge of Victoria Falls, soaking wet from the water and mist created by the huge tumbling tons of water. Multiple rainbows are a constant site when the sun is out at the falls.

## FEELING LUCKY?

# TRY YOUR HAND AT ROTARY BINGO

The game is started but there is still plenty of time to jump in. All money going in the fine pool. See Sue Rector for your card & catch up numbers.

- 1] You buy a Bingo card for \$1. You can buy multiple cards!
- 2] Throw in \$1 each week to play.
- 3] Two numbers will be pulled each week and we will continue until someone gets a bingo. If that happens in the first two-three weeks we will start a new game.
- 4] \$1 on the first day to get a card - And \$1 first and subsequent weeks to play two numbers. You may purchase multiple cards
- 5] Five in a row Bingo may be vertical, horizontal, or diagonal.
- 6] Winner spins the wheel to see which prize you win!

## B I N G O

14	24	44	53	68
7	28	31	54	73
2	26	★	51	67
3	22	39	57	75
9	20	37	50	71



## FOUNDATION MINUTE

Welcome to Week 1 of RI's Month of Economic and Community Development.

Nothing much can happen in the economic advancement of any nation, if a majority of its population is incapacitated by horrible diseases like the polio. October 24 of every year has been designated as Polio World Day. The eradication of this debilitating disease is one of TRF's major goals. On World Polio Day, global health experts share Rotary's progress on the road to polio eradication. Since the declaration to eradicate poliomyelitis was adopted in 1988, billions of children, under the auspices of TRF, have received the gift of a polio-free life.

- RI has helped reduce polio cases by 99.9%
- More than 2 billion children across 122 countries immunized
- In 2020 alone, 370 million children vaccinated in 30 countries
- In August 2020, the WHO certified Africa region polio-free
- The wild polio virus remains endemic in Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- Rotary International, through TRF, is raising \$50 million to help fight polio this year.
- The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is offering an additional \$100 million if that goal is reached.

"But remember that as long as polio exists anywhere, it is a threat to people everywhere, especially to young children."

Ian H.S Riseley, Foundation Trustee Chair

## FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's raffle featured a bottle of fine wine from the Grape Life Wine Store in Davenport, a 50/50 cash drawing, and an Angela Campbell fabric bowl. The first ticket pulled was held by Molly Shattuck who took the bowl. A second ticket was pulled, and the wine was claimed by Tracy Pugh. With one chance left a third ticket was drawn and lucky Frank Lambert took home the cash!

We thank and appreciate all those who participated. Proceeds go to the Rotary Foundation.





## FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Sue Rector added to the Foundation fund with fines and happy/sad dollars. She started with a fine to Ruth Lee for several editorials written by husband Dan Lee, a regular columnist for the Dispatch/Argus. Holly Sparkman was fined for recent recognition for her School Safety program. Jeff Dismer received a fine for the “beautiful photos” he posted on Facebook of his son Colin’s marriage to Lauren Vanspeybroeck. Jeff upped the fine from \$1 to \$10 saying he was changing it from a fine to a very Happy Dollar! Holly Sparkman and John Wetzel were both fined for needing to leave our meeting early today. Sue offered her own happy \$10 for the coming inauguration of new Augustana president (and fellow Club member) Dr. Andrea Talentino. Sue noted that Andrea is just the 9<sup>th</sup> president in the school’s 162-year history. She added a second very “sad” \$10 donation in honor of the death of Lorian Swanson, mother of Club member Kai Swanson.- Kathy Trone offered a happy dollar in recognition of fellow member Tyla Sherwin-Cole being named the Athena Woman of the Year. Doug Hultquist offered happy dollars for both Dr. Talentino’s inauguration and for Augustana’s football team who beat Millikan’s “Big Blue” 70-0 on Saturday. Rebecca Arnold offered happy dollars both for her own return from several weeks of medical absence and for her son who is recuperating from a football knee injury and is working hard in rehab hoping to return to his Rock Island Rocks team before the end of the season. Thanks to all who paid.

## PLEASE PICK YOUR REPLY CAREFULLY

In the course of each week, we all get many emails. Often we are asked to reply. When you do reply note that you have TWO OPTIONS: **REPLY** and **REPLY TO ALL**. If you just need to reply to the person sending you the email please use **REPLY**. If you use **REPLY TO ALL** then everyone who received the email also gets your reply and not everyone needs to know that you want a jar of pickles, or a seat at Circa 21. Some members use their business email for Rotary, and you may cause them issues with their employer from receiving too many non-business emails. PLEASE BE COURTEOUS AND LIMIT USE OF **REPLY TO ALL** TO WHEN IT IS REALLY REQUIRED. Thanks!

## BELL RINGING JUST AROUND THE CORNER!



Mark Mayeski announced that Rock Island Rotary’s day for ringing the Salvation Army Bells and staffing the kettles at the Rock Island HyVee is Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. Shifts will be 1 hour and will begin at 9am and run to 3pm. We will be staffing both entry doors and want 2 people at each door. You can call or email Mark 309-788-0399, [mark.mayeski@edwardjones.com](mailto:mark.mayeski@edwardjones.com), to sign up if you want to reserve a particular time. Or you can just sign up and Mark will schedule you for an open slot. It’s always fun and is a wonderful way to serve our community and only requires a one-hour commitment.

## ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY



Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> 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.) We will have a private pre-show party in the Circa 21 Salon with complimentary hors d'oeuvres. Cost for party, dinner, Bootlegger pre-show, and the main stage presentation of White Christmas will be the group rate of \$54.75 per person (under 18 \$36.50) tax & tip included. Grab your favorite sweetheart and make it a holiday date! Sign up with Bob Swanson.

# John Phillip's Baseball Challenge Raises \$\$\$\$

Way back in April with the Major League Baseball season just getting under way, John Phillips challenged all baseball fans in our club to put a wager on their favorite team. The bet was that John's beloved Chicago White Sox would finish the season with a better record than any other team Rotarians were willing to bet on. The bet winner would owe nothing, any better who lost would pay whatever amount they bet to either our Rock Island Club's Foundation or to the Rotary International Foundation. Eighteen Rotarians took up the challenge. Howard Beck, Duncan Cameron, Tom Hammar, Doug Hultquist, Frank Lambert, Ruth Lee, Steve Morenz, John Oliger, Bud Phillis, Tracy Pugh, Sue Rector, Gary Rowe, Bill Stengel, Bob Swanson, Kathy Trone, Pete Wessels, John Wetzel along with John Phillips bet on their teams. The regular season is over, and the results are in! The winner == **Tracy Pugh** == who bet on the Atlanta Braves. But the bigger winner == our Club Foundation and the Rotary International Foundation! John's challenge raised \$1,450.00 for these great philanthropic foundations. Thanks to those who participated and thanks again to John for making the challenge.!



Our **District Conference** is right around the corner and online registration is open! CLICK ON THIS link to the registration site - <https://bit.ly/3Q9KGxH>. Early bird registration: \$90 until October 20, 2022. Standard registration: \$110 from October 21 – 28, 2022. No registrations on site.

The registration fee includes the District's annual Foundation Dinner on Friday evening, plus lunch, dinner, and snacks on Saturday. A cash bar will be available both evenings. Free parking will be available at the conference venue.

On Friday, November 4 check-in will open at 4:30pm with a cash bar from 5:00-7:00. The program will begin at 6:00pm. On Saturday, November 5, check-in will open at 8:30am and the program will begin at 9:00am. Start the weekend off right and register for the November district conference... Scan QR Code below and register today! **WANT TO GO? ROCK ISLAND ROTARY WILL REIMBURSE YOUR REGISTRATION IN FULL.** JUST SUBMIT YOUR REGISTRATION RECEIPT FOR REIMBURSEMENT! LET'S HAVE A BIG ROCK ISLAND ROTARY REPRESENTATION! DEKALB IS A GREAT UNIVERSITY TOWN!

IMAGINE  
ROTARY

Only 24  
Days!

2022-2023  
District 6420 Conference

Register Now!

SCAN ME

Don't do scanning and prefer to register online, control/click on this link, and follow the instructions  
<https://www.crsadmin.com/EventPortal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=dca660f6-17ea-4189-9ae1-c46f4061fc53>

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY OCTOBER ROTARIANS!



*Steve Morenz    October 8*  
*Mike Thoms     October 26*  
*Kenda Burrows   October 27*  
*Sam Doak        October 27*

# happy birthday

## FORMER MEMBER RETURNS TO CLAIM OUR BIRDIES FOR CHARITY PRIZE



Each year part of our Birdies for Charity fundraiser is a \$50 prize for the Rotarian who come closest to guessing the actual number birdies the PGA pros will score in the John Deere Classic Tournament. This year's winner was a very loyal former member, Dr. Tricia Barron. After retiring from her medical practice, Dr. Barron moved to Colorado. She remains very loyal to our club and visits us anytime she returns to the Quad Cities. She also is very supportive of all of our fundraisers, including the Birdies for Charity. Today she happened to be in town and joined us for lunch. She was then given word that she won our \$50-dollar prize. In her usual fashion of generosity, Tricia turned her winnings into a memorial donation in honor of Dr. Larry Tadlock's recent death. The award is usually presented by our Birdies Chairman, Kevin Koski. Today he joined the meeting via ZOOM, so the award was presented in his absence by President Cindi Gramenz. There is a rumor circulating that Kevin was caught nodding off on ZOOM by a fellow member with a camera! That being noted, Congratulations and Thank You, Tricia!

## Our Own "International" Entertainer Sings

Former Club President, John Phillips, recently returned from a vacation in Ireland where the word leaked out that he is a popular singer, guitarist, and songwriter from the United States. In no time he was asked to perform in an Irish pub first with a local group and then as a solo artist. Now back home he has been asked to debut his newest original composition, a song inspired by reading the local newspaper's sports page, at the upcoming Bucktown Review. John said he noticed the many phrases used over and over by coaches as they talked about their sport and their teams. Statements like "You've got to leave it all on the field", and "It ain't over 'til it's over". John wondered, "Is there a song in there?" In no time he proved that there is, and we were the fortunate first audience to hear the new creation. Looking at the advance publicity for Bucktown, we see the following:

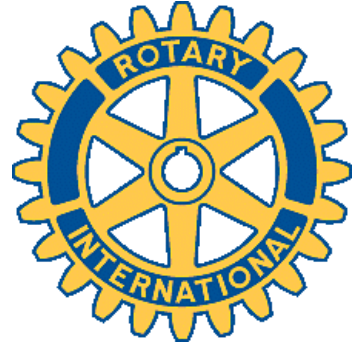
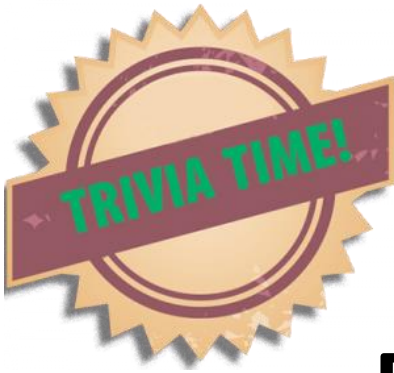


The Bucktown Revue will host a spooky (well, just a little) Halloween show 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21, at Davenport Junior Theater, 2822 Eastern Ave., Davenport, Iowa.

- Wear a costume (optional!) and you could win free tickets!
- Guests include singer/songwriter Jenny Ferrell, **folksinger John Philips**, and the QuarterMoon Tinsnips bluegrass band.
- Special thanks to our season sponsor **Picture Perfect Travel**.

Neat to see John listed as one of the featured performers and also to see Picture Perfect Travel, owned by our own Mary Fislar and hubby Dick as the season sponsor of the Bucktown Review!





**Rock Island Rotary**

# **TRIVIA NIGHT**

**Friday, November 11th at 6:30pm**

SAVE the DATE and get your team together for Rock Island Rotary's annual fundraiser! Cash prizes, cash bar, 50/50, silent auction and TONS of FUN!!!

**This fundraiser supports Earl Hanson Elementary School and RI Rotary Community Youth Activities. Corporate Sponsorships are available!**

When: Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Where: Milan Community Center, 2701 1st Street East, Milan

Time: 6:30pm START time, doors open at 5:45pm

Cost: \$100 a table, up to 10 players

RSVP: Kathy Trone 309-794-9400 or [kathy@wesselspc.com](mailto:kathy@wesselspc.com)

Online Silent Auction will start Monday, November 7, and end at Trivia Night on November 11.  
Plus - a few items will only be available by silent auction at Trivia night!

Sue Rector and Kathy Trone are collecting auction packages, donated services, gift cards, recycled treasures, anything, and everything that you believe we could use to put together a great package! Bring items to a Rotary meeting or Sue can come and pick things up from your home or business.

Sue has baskets for your use and will bring some to distribute at an upcoming meeting.

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## **ORGANIZE YOUR TEAM**

**Teams may consist of up to 10 players.**

**Registration fee is \$100 for a table.**

**Doors open at 5:45pm and Trivia starts at 6:30pm.**

**Bring your own snacks, beverages must be purchased on premises.**

**Email Kathy Trone to reserve your table and enter your team: [kathy@wesselspc.com](mailto:kathy@wesselspc.com)**