



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

November 8, 2022: Volume XXX, Issue 19  
MEETING TUESDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



## PHILANTHROPY HEIDI HUISKAMP COLLINS



Heidi Huiskamp Collins is a Quad-Cities girl. She grew up in Rock Island and graduated from Augustana College, with honors, with a B.A. in Business Administration and a minor in Economics. After graduation, she re-located to the Chicagoland area and went to work for a large bank. She later moved to the San Francisco Bay area where she worked for a nationwide financial firm. She moved her family back to the Quad-Cities in the early 1990s to raise her children and returned to work at Blackhawk Bank & Trust where she had worked summers and school breaks as both a high school and college student. In 2005, Ms. Collins earned her Series 7 and Series 66 securities licenses and started the Wealth Management Division at Blackhawk Bank. She served as a financial advisor and Manager of the Trust and Investment Departments. In 2006 she received her master's degree at the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin/Madison where she was Valedictorian and President of her class. In May 2017 Heidi started Huiskamp Collins Investments, LLC. Beyond her professional 40 plus years in investing and 20 years in financial planning. Huiskamp Collins has made a major mark in the Illinois Quad Cities as a philanthropist and community leader. She is a director of the W Gerard & Colleen A Huiskamp Foundation and co-chaired the fundraising campaign for the new Rock Island 30<sup>th</sup> Street Branch Library. She single-handedly funded the new playground at Earl Hanson Elementary School. The donation was more than \$150,000. "A big part of my philanthropy is modeling for women that they can step into their power and show how women philanthropists can make an impact," said Huiskamp Collins. A few examples of her many other philanthropic ventures include: a gift of \$100,000 to the Center for Youth and Family Solutions (CYFS), a nonprofit counseling and child welfare social work agency in the Quad Cities to fund a Police Social Work partnership project that has been created in conjunction with the City of Moline Police Department. She was a major donor to purchase the Heart of Hope Ministries a new "Giving Hope Truck" used to deliver food and toiletries to the elderly and disabled. Heidi also provided a \$100,000 donation as a match to any donation supporting Born Learning Academies for kindergarten readiness. She began her comments stating that November is National Philanthropy Month. She then thanked Rotary for the philanthropy and service we provide to our community and the world. She noted that philanthropy involves much more than giving money, commenting that giving time and talent as equally important. She said, "Philanthropy is not just writing checks. We can all be philanthropists". You give what you can give. She told of her earlier years when the most she could give was her time and talent, so she served on Boards and mentored young girls. As her abilities changed she began giving her treasure along with her time and talent. Ms. Huiskamp-Collins spoke particularly of the impact women can have in philanthropy, pointing out that women control more wealth in the United States than men. She said women need to, "Step up". She also pointed out that in 2017 women accounted for 29% of all new entrepreneurship and that last year that number had grown to 49%. She stated that women tend to live longer than men and tend to marry men who are older therefore substantial amounts of wealth are being transferred to women via inheritance. She stated that philanthropy changes lives. She closed saying, "With great blessing comes great responsibility" and urged all to be philanthropists whether by time, talent, or treasure. Thank you Heidi for a wonderful message!

### Nov. – Dec. Calendar

- Nov 11 - Rotary Trivia Night
- Nov 15 - Tracy Singleton, Lincoln Resource Center
- Nov 22 - Gaye Burnett, Dir. of Azubuike Council for the Arts
- Nov 29 - Dr Kit Ford, Director of Argrow's House
- Dec 4 - Rotary Reindeer Ramble 5K
- Dec 6 - Rock Island High Chamber Singers
- Dec 7 - Rotary/Kiwanis Circa 21 Holiday Party
- Dec 10 - Rotary Rings the Bells for Salvation Army at Rock Island HyVee



P.O. Box 4514  
Rock Island, IL 61204  
[www.rirotary.com](http://www.rirotary.com)

## 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

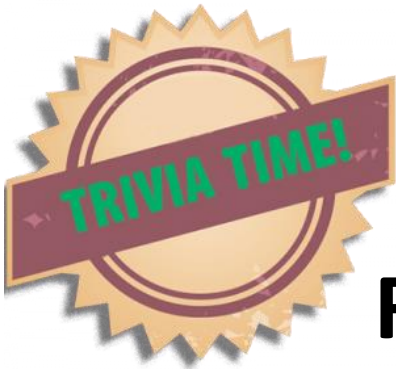
# Club Notes & Announcements!

- ❑ **WELCOME GUESTS** – Today Rock Island Rotary welcomed four Jr. Rotarians from Alleman. Annie Rouse, Kate Rector, Charles Jagusah, and Jason Bowker. and their faculty sponsor Lindsey Honert, Marketing Director for Alleman. We also had two Jr. Rotarians from Rock Island High, Lucas Rettig and Julian Anderson. We love having guests at Rock Island Rotary, “The Number 1 Club”! We hope you enjoyed our meeting and will join us again.
- ❑ **THE FESTIVAL OF TREES** Committee needs volunteers to help set up our display this Saturday morning, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 9am. Let Sue Rector know if you can help!
- ❑ **FOUNDATION RAFFLE WINE SUPPLY RUNNING LOW** – Gladly accepting donations of wine to replenish our coffers. Bring to Sergeant’s or Raffle table.
- ❑ **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH FROM 1PM TO 4PM** we will be stringing Christmas Lights at the Botanical Center. Donuts and hot chocolate for all who help at the end of our shift! Bring the family, it’s fun for all who help!
- ❑ **CIRCA 21 HOLIDAY PARTY** is December 7th. Your reservation includes a gala pre-show Salon Party with hors d’oeuvres, plus dinner, the Bootlegger Performance, and the main Stage show, **WHITE CHRISTMAS**. Email [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net) to sign up.
- ❑ **“A FEW GOOD ROTARIANS”** are needed to Ring the Salvation Army Bells at HyVee on December 10th. Email Chairman Mark Mayeski for a 1-hour time slot, [markmayeski@hotmail.com](mailto:markmayeski@hotmail.com). Just 5 slots remain to be filled.
- ❑ **TRIVIA NIGHT SILENT AUCTION ITEMS** must get to Sue Rector immediately! The Auction goes on line before our next meeting. Contact Sue NOW. Email her at [srector3614@gmail.com](mailto:srector3614@gmail.com) to make arrangements to get your item(s) to her. If you need a basket, Sue will provide it. Just bag up your contents and get it to her. Thanks!!
- ❑ **NEWSLETTER** – Send items for our newsletter to [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net). Committee chairs be sure to send notification of upcoming meetings

## WINTER NIGHTS – WINTER LIGHTS!

Rock Island Rotary will once again be helping to create one of the Quad Cities most popular holiday destination sites by hanging Christmas Lights all over the Botanical Center Gardens. Our shift is this SUNDAY, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 4pm. Plan to stay afterwards for hot chocolate and donuts! This is a project that Rotarians, spouses, friends, and kids can work on together. It’s always fun and so rewarding to see the incredible light display we will be helping to create. No skill is needed. Botanical Center personnel will have the lights ready and will show us exactly where they need to be placed. There is a wide variety of help needed from simply laying lights on the ground, to stringing them on small trees and shrubs, to hanging them on taller trees and arches. You do only what you are comfortable doing! We need to know how many we will have, so **please sign up at the Sergeant’s table or email [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net)**.





**Rock Island Rotary**

# **TRIVIA NIGHT**

**This Friday at 6:30pm**

You can still sign up to play or enter a team (up to 10 people)  
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.**

When: Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Where: Rock Island Holiday Inn - 226 17th Street, Rock Island

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

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

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

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

## **For those coming AND those who can't come ...**

Our Trivia night Silent Auction **IN OPEN NOW** online and will end during Trivia Night on November 11 at 8:00 pm. All packages online will be available for bids in person on Trivia night. There will be additional packages available **ONLY** in person for those at trivia night. Want to see the auction items? Control/click this link <https://www.32auctions.com/RIRotary2022> then scroll down and click "View All Items". You can enter your bids online now and keep an eye on your favorite baskets until bidding closes Friday at 8pm.



# ROTARY BINGO HAS A WINNER!

## CONGRATULATIONS

~ANNE MCGLYNN~



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

WATCH FOR A NEW GAME COMING SOON!



### FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's raffle featured a bottle of fine wine, a 50/50 cash drawing, a beautiful Angela Campbell fabric bowl, and a copy of the new Rotary District 6420 Cookbook. The first ticket pulled was held by Pete Wessels who took the bow and donated it to his office manager, Kathy Trone. The second ticket was pulled, and Gary Rowe had the winner. He took the cash and donated it to the Rocky Interact Club. Sue Rector had the third winner and grabbed the cookbook. The final winner and taking the wine was Marcy Bell. Congratulations to all!

## FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

Sue Rector had Another good day bringing in fine and happy dollar revenue! Kathy Lelonek and Angela Campbell were fined for appearing in a frontpage story in all three local papers regarding the new 20<sup>th</sup> Street Library. Ruth Lee again had to pay for husband Dan's recent newspaper column. Sue then perhaps feeling a bit guilty chapped in her own \$15 in fines. \$10 for handouts promoting an upcoming CASI fundraiser and \$5 more in honor of Veterans Day. John Wetzell had a happy dollar for hopefully no more political commercials after today's elections end. Jim Moran had \$2 happy dollars for his granddaughter Kaitlin, who was named Volleyball Player of the Year for the State of Georgia and for leading her team to their 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive State Championship this time in class 2A. Dave Hodge had \$3 happy dollars celebrating the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of welcoming their foster daughter into his home. Monta Ponsetto put in \$2 happy dollars noting that Comedy Sportz' return to the Quad Cities debuts this Friday and Saturday at the Spotlight Theatre in Moline. Kevin Koski had a happy dollar for taking part in his first "Storm the Field" event after a football game with his grandson this past week. Then Sue added her own happy dollar in celebration of Iowa's football and basketball teams both getting wins this past weekend. All fines and Happy/Sad Dollar donations go to the Rotary Foundation fund. Thanks to all who contributed!

## JOHN DALY HONORS DAVID HODGES WITH PAUL HARRIS FELLOW AWARD



John Daly



David Hodge

John Daly has made significant contributions to the Rotary International Foundation and has accumulated Foundation Recognition Points for his generosity. John chose to honor Dave by transferring his points to David's name, noting that Dave works for a non-profit organization, has a young family, and has distinguished himself as an outstanding Rotarian. The transfer was enough to gain Paul Harris Fellow recognition for Dave. Dave was humble in his acceptance saying he was "highly honored" and looks forward to a time when he can do the same for others. Congratulations to both Great Rotarians!



## **~IMPORTANT MEETING NOTICE~**

Chairman Frank Lambert has called a meeting of the Community Grants Committee for 11:15am next Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> prior to our regular Club meeting. Thirteen requests for funding have been received and decisions need to be made. Committee members Tyla Sherwin-Cole, Clarence Darrow, Dave Hodge, Kevin Koski, Jim Moran, Sue Rector, and John Wetzel are asked to attend. Other interested Rotarians are welcome to join the meeting which will be held in our main dining room at the Quad City Botanical Center. The requests significantly exceed the budget available so discussion and committee member input will be essential in making the decision of who will be granted Rotary funding and in what amount.

## **BIRTHDAY BOOKS NEXT WEEK**

Because of the Thanksgiving holidays from school, we will be doing our November Birthday Book celebration at Earl Hanson Elementary School 1 week earlier than normal. Please plan to help with the celebration on Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Please arrive at 2:15pm, let the secretary at the door know you are there for Rotary Birthday Books and proceed to the library on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. You will help the children select their book gift, write a short "Happy Birthday" message, and autograph the book. Then join in refreshments and singing "Happy Birthday"!

## **ROCK ISLAND INTERACT MAINTAINS SCHOOL GARDENS**

Earlier this year the Rock Island High School Interact Club ask for Rotarian help in weeding and cleaning up a garden plot at the High School that had been more or less deserted. Interact took renovation of the garden on as a service project for their school. Below Interact sponsor Lonnie Behnke shows off the "fruits" of their labor!







Sponsored by the Rock Island Rotary Club

Sunday, December 4, 2022 @ 9:00am

START & FINISH – CIRCA 21, 1828 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Rock Island, IL 61201

COURSE - Flat & Fast, scenic, accurate, wheeled distance.

SHIRTS - Size guaranteed to pre-registered runners and walkers

RUNNER'S AWARDS -- Overall male and female 3 awards per ages 0-14, 15-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65-74, 75+

WALKER'S AWARDS -- Overall male and female, 3 awards per age groups 0-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+ ALL THIS PLUS GREAT FOOD & DRINK!

REGISTER ONLINE! – [www.GetMeRegistered.com/RotaryReindeerRamble](http://www.GetMeRegistered.com/RotaryReindeerRamble)

REGISTRATION FEES – Pre-registered \$25.00 After Nov 20, \$30.00 for all.

PACKET PICKUP & REGISTRATION 7:45AM to 8:45AM RACE DAY

If you have questions call Kathy Lelonek (309) 752-3014 or email [kathylelonek@mchsi.com](mailto:kathylelonek@mchsi.com)

-----CUT HERE-----

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM (MAY BE DUPLICATED) PLEASE PRINT!!!

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Mid \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age race day \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Run \_\_\_\_\_ Walk \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Circle shirt size S M L XL XXL (ADD \$2.00 for XXL) No shirt option \_\_\_\_\_ deduct \$5.00 if you choose no shirt!

**WAIVER (MUST BE SIGNED)** In consideration of the acceptance of my entry, I for myself, my executors, administrators, and assignees, do hereby release and discharge Rock Island Rotary, the City of Rock Island, any sponsors, supporters or volunteers, for all claims of damages, demands, actions whatsoever in any manner arising or growing out of my participation in the ROTARY REINDEER RAMBLE 5K Run or Walk. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this event, am physically fit, and sufficiently trained to participate in this event.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Participant, or Parent or Guardian if under 18 years of age.

Make checks payable to **RI Rotary** & mail entry and payment to: RI ROTARY, PO Box 4514, Rock Island, IL 61204.  
No refunds! Race will be held regardless!

# ROCK ISLAND ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY 2022



**WEDNESDAY  
DECEMBER 7<sup>th</sup>**

A Circa '21 family favorite returns in this Irving Berlin classic! Two World War II vets, Bob Wallace and Phil Davis, have become partners in a song-and-dance act after the war. Looking for love, they follow a duo of beautiful singing sisters to a gig at a lodge in Vermont, only to discover that the nearly bankrupt lodge where they were hired to perform is owned by their former commanding general. The classic holiday movie is brought to life onstage, filled with dancing, laughter, and some of the greatest songs ever written. The score features beloved songs "Count Your Blessings Instead of Sheep," "Sisters," "How Deep is the Ocean" and the ageless title tune. This promises to be a merry and bright theatrical experience for all ages.

**RESERVE TODAY – PAY LATER!**

Tickets include a private pre-show Salon Party  
with Complimentary Hors D'oeuvres and Cash Bar (5:00-6pm)

Buffet Dinner (5:45-7:00pm)

Bootleggers Warm-up Show (7:15pm)

White Christmas (7:30pm)

## GROUP RATE

ONE ADMISSION (NO COUPON) \$54.75

TWO ADMISSIONS (NO COUPON) \$109.50

\*Tax & Tip included (not including deserts & bar)

**Circa Subscriber? Pay Just \$3.50 per person for gratuity**

**RESERVE AT SERGEANT'S TABLE TODAY!**

**Will you lend a hand – NO MONEY REQUESTED – to help a young lady with ties to Rock Island, Augustana College, our International Project, and one of our current members? Read this incredible story ....**



Nelly Cheboi grew up in a rural village in Kenya (Kenya is a link with our water project helping children in rural schools). The situation there was dire. Circumstances forced Nelly to raise her younger sister when Nelly was just nine years old. She desperately wanted to change the narrative of kids growing up in communities like hers. She wanted to fix poverty! (Sounds like Service Above Self!)

Through arduous work and determination, Nelly landed a full scholarship to Augustana College. Coming to the United States and studying computer science gave her the platform to accelerate her impact. As an undergrad, she invested all her income from various campus jobs into her community back in Kenya. She built a school, Zawadi, in Kenya and later started *TechLit Africa*. She also competed on the Augustana Women's Cross Country Team and the Augustana Women's Track & Field team. Nelly graduated from Augustana in 2016. While there she received the *Richard Swanson Humanitarian Award*, named in honor of fellow Rotarian Kai Swanson's father.

TechLit Africa is a non-profit American organization that redistributes recycled technology to build computer labs in African schools. Nelly's organization has already built 10 computer labs in rural Kenya school and is currently working on her next 100 labs. Nelly reports they already are serving 4,000 students and 20 teachers. By next year she will have around 40,000 students and 200 teachers!

TechLit Africa is unique. They teach classes that are relevant and hire local teachers to make sure of it. They train their teachers to run the computer labs in their own community, and they meet every day to improve their classes. Nelly said, "We are unlocking a world of opportunities to these kids. They will be inspired to take on a dozen careers: they will have the skills to tap into the global economy straight from the village." She added, "This is my life's work because I know firsthand how awful poverty is. We plan to do this for the whole of rural Africa, positioning ourselves to 10x our growth year after year. TechLit is my opportunity to fix poverty and for good this time." Recently she traveled to Mogotio, a township in Kenya and said she had the "Joy and the privilege of teaching over 1000 kids. Most of them would have most likely never seen a computer their whole life. I myself first used one when I was eighteen. We also just shipped 200 workstations this past week for our next 10 computer labs."

Last December, Forbes named Nelly to their honored, "30 Under 30" list. She was also named a CNN Hero of the Year candidate and has recently been notified that **she is one of ten finalists for CNN Hero of the Year**, an award that provides \$100,000 plus well-deserved recognition and help with further growth.

**We can help Nelly win! The decision is made by public vote. We can each vote every day at [CNN.com/heroes](https://www.cnn.com/heroes). You get ten votes per day this month to allocate as you wish among the finalists. (Use the slider you'll see on the screen to increase the number of votes). We suggest you give all 10 to Nelly every day this month! Make a note to remind yourself to vote every day!**



# ROCK ISLAND ROTARY AT DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Last Friday and Saturday members of our Club attended the District 6420 Conference held on the campus of Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. President Cindi Gramenz, and Sergeant at Arms Bob Swanson were both members of the Conference Planning Committee and participated in portions of the Conference program. Fellow members Gary Rowe, our Assistant District Governor and Kimberly Calhoun filled out our Club's representation at the annual conference. The speakers were outstanding from top to bottom and provided an informative and inspirational weekend. Entertainment provided by the NIU Steelpan Combo; a five-person steel drum ensemble provided a fantastic pre-closing banquet performance. Pictures are worth many thousands of words, so thank you Kimberly for sharing!

Entering the main atrium of the NIU Alumni Center our members were greeted by a friendly registration staff, a silent auction, and the Big Rotary "Wheel".



On one side of the atrium was the friendship and Club Display room. There were 22 displays from the District and from member clubs from all over the district. Our representatives set up our Club's Display (which was also on display at today's club meeting) and took a moment for a "selfie" in front of the display. We didn't realize how short our president is until we saw this photo!



In a beautiful main dining room, we found tastefully decorated tables prepared for the crowd of nearly 200 Rotarians in attendance.



Rock Island Rotary received recognition for our outstanding support of Rotary's Polio Plus Campaign. Pres. Cindi accepted the award on behalf of our members!



President Cindi Gramenz provided the Invocation prior to Friday evening's Rotary Foundation Banquet.



In addition to what we have shown in these photos there were other noteworthy aspects of the Conference. The Silent Auction raised \$3,365 for PolioPlus. A basket donated by our club featuring wine from our Nimble Vineyards wine auction last year was a popular item in the auction!

A bookfair service project conducted at the Conference for two schools in Chicago's Ukrainian Village that have been overwhelmed by Ukrainian children fleeing the war in their country raised a whopping \$10,000!!!! With a match from Usborne Books and More we will be donating \$15,000 worth of books to the two schools.

**If you didn't attend this year, make a mental note to ATTEND DISTRICT CONFERENCE NEXT YEAR!**

## FIRST READING OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE'S SLATE OF OFFICERS & DIRECTORS FOR 2023-24

In accordance with the Bi-Laws of the Rock Island Rotary Club, the Nominating Committee consisting of Chairman Gary Rowe, Ruth Lee, Anne McGlynn, and Amber Brummit presented the following nominees for election to office for the 2023-2024 year. There will be a second reading at our meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Additional nominees from the floor will be accepted followed by an election vote.

For President  
Eric Westphall



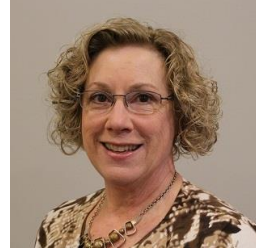
For 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President  
Sue Rector



For 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President  
John Oliger



For Secretary  
Anne McGlynn



Past President  
Cindi Gramenz



For Co-Treasurer  
Tom Hammar



For Co-Treasurer  
Molly Shattuck



For Co-Treasurer  
Cindi Gramenz



For Director 1 yr. Term  
Dave Hodge



For Director 1 yr. Term  
John Phillips



For Director 1 yr. Term  
Rebecca Arnold



For Director 1 yr. Term  
Open

For Director 2 yr. Term  
Tracy Pugh



For Director 2 yr. Term  
Amber Brummit



For Director 2 yr. Term



For Director 2 yr. Term  
Ruth Lee



For Sergeant at Arms  
Bob Swanson



Those elected will take office in July of 2023. Because the 4<sup>th</sup> of July falls on Tuesday, in 2023 it is likely that the installation of the new officers and board members will take place either at our last meeting in June or at our first meeting in July which will be on July 11, 2023.