



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



January 17, 2023: Volume XXX, Issue 29  
MEETING MONDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



## “A Trip Through the South” With Kai Swanson

Today Rock Island Rotary had the pleasure of hearing a program presented by one of our own members. Kai Swanson a life long Rock Island resident joined our Club in 2018 as part of the Augustana College corporate membership. Kai is special assistant to Augustana College's president, a position he's held since 2005, though he's been on the staff of the college since his graduation in 1986. He grew up in Rock Island, just across Lincoln Park from the Augustana campus. His past positions at Augustana include news editor for WVIK-Augustana Public Radio, public relations director for the college, and editor of the Augustana College Magazine. In 2011, he served as interim general manager of WVIK, then in 2014 was interim director of the Augustana Teaching Museum of Art. Kai serves on the Rock Island County Board, is president of the Rock Island County Forest Preserve Commission, and chairs the board of Visit Quad Cities. He is a board member and past chair of the National Association of Presidential Assistants in Higher Education and serves on the Board Professionals Leadership Group of the Association of Governing Boards. Since 1996, he has presented Concert Conversations prior to each Quad City Symphony Orchestra concert, and is the radio voice of the QCSO on WVIK. Today Kai told us about a trip he and his son Evan took through the South on what is called "The Civil Rights Trail". Along with his vivid description of the sights they visited Kai presented a collection of photos for our pleasure. Their trip began with a hope to find Charles J. Stolbrand, an immigrant that settled near the Quad Cities who came to this country in 1850 and entered service as captain of Battery G of the Second Illinois Light Artillery, a unit with nearly three dozen Swedish members. Stolbrand later became chief of artillery of the XV Corps and eventually was promoted to brigadier general. One of the first stops on the trip was at the Vicksburg Battle Field. Kai noted that viewing that area and the graves and memorial brought home the immense costs in lives and economic commitment to end slavery in America. Another stop was Birmingham, Alabama which was reported to have arisen after the war as a booming center of iron mining and smelting. History shows that the city rose after the war on the backs of black citizens who were frequently arrested as "vagrants" held for months prior to having a trial to dispute the charge, and during that time were forced to work in the iron plants without pay. A clever way for "slavery" to continue after slavery was made illegal. Kai and Evan visited Kelly Ingram Park in Birmingham. The park, just outside the doors of the 16th Street Baptist Church, served as a central staging ground for large-scale demonstrations during the American Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. It was here in 1963 that Birmingham police and firemen, under orders from Public Safety Commissioner Eugene "Bull" Connor, confronted student demonstrators, almost all of them children and high school students, first with mass arrests and then with police dogs and firehoses. Images from those confrontations, broadcast internationally, spurred a public outcry which turned the nation's attention to the struggle for racial equality. The duo visited the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Baptist Church where on Sunday, September 15, 1963. Four members of a local Ku Klux Klan chapter planted 19 sticks of dynamite attached to a timing device beneath the steps located on the east side of the church. Described by Martin Luther King Jr. as "one of the most vicious and tragic crimes ever perpetrated against humanity, the explosion killed four young girls and injured between 14 and 22 other people. Moving on to Montgomery, Alabama they visited the Legacy Museum.

*Continued page 3*

### Jan.- Feb. Calendar

- Jan 24 - Laura Eberlin & Brent VanDamme, Deere & Company
- Jan 24 - The Membership Committee will meet at 1pm
- Jan 31 - John Lohman - Quad City Regional Business Journal
- Feb 7 - Club Assembly – President Cindi Gramenz Leading
- Feb 7 - Awards Luncheon Committee will meet at 11:15
- Feb 14 - TBA
- Feb 21 - TBA
- Feb 28 - TBA



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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 two guests. One the wife and guest of our speaker Kia Swanson was Jenni Swanson, also a Visiting Rotarian from the Moline Club. Our other guest was Virginia Houlton wife of our past District Govern, Past President, and current Honorary Member, Fred Houlton. We love having guests at our meetings and encourage all members to invite a friend or colleague who might be a potential Rotary member to visit at a future meeting of *The Number 1 Club*, Rock Island Rotary!
- ❑ **ANNUAL ROTARY RAFFLE COMING SOON!** – For the past several years our wine raffle has been a major club fundraiser, largely responsible for funding our “Service Above Self” scholarship for Rock Island High School students. The committee has come up with some new and exciting details for this year’s raffle. Be sure to be on hand next week to hear what is planned for 2023!
- ❑ **ROTARY’S 2<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL ROCK N ROLL BINGO** – is set for Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at the Rock Island Holiday Inn Ballroom. Details will be coming so SAVE THE DATE. It is a fun filled, fast paced evening that everyone can enjoy. You don’t have to be a music trivia buff to participate and compete for prizes! You just need to enjoy having fun and raising money for Rotary projects and grants!
- ❑ **ROTARY BLOOD DRIVE** – What better way to celebrate Valentine’s Day than to open your heart and share the gift of life. The folks from *ImpactLife* will be at our February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting! *ImpactLife* is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, independent, community blood center, founded in 1974 as Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center in Davenport, Iowa. Over the years, They have extended into Illinois, Missouri, and Wisconsin, and in 2021, united under one new name: *ImpactLife*. Sign up for a time slot to donate at an upcoming Rotary meeting. Email project chairman John Phillips to sign-up and provide your desired appointment time between 10am and 2pm. John will get you in as close to your preferred time as possible. You don’t have to be a Rotarian to donate so sign up your spouse, friends and associates that want to help out
- ❑ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** – Send to [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net)  
The Weekly Review is distributed each Tuesday afternoon. To ensure inclusion in the next issues it must be received by 10am Tuesday morning.



## FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today our raffle offered a 50/50 cash prize, a beautiful Angela Campbell fabric bowl, and a bottle of outstanding wine. Our first lucky winner was John Daly who took the cash and donated his winnings to the Rotary Foundation. The second winner was Tammy Weikert who snatched the bowl! Taking home the wine was Kathy Trone. Thanks to everyone who participated!



## FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

VP Sue Rector had a good day levying fines and accepting happy/sad dollars. Marcy Bell and Justin Peterson each paid an early leavers fine. Next fined was president Cindi Gramenz who recently appeared on Channel 8 News on behalf of Christian Care being the recipient of the “3-Degree Guarantee” donations for the month from WQAD weather forecasts. Justin Peterson was fined for a recent Facebook article showing a newspaper story and photo from 1999 about Justin’s success as a Rocky football lineman. Bob Swanson was fined for being Justin’s Athletic Director at the time. Rebecca Arnold offered a fine for all the publicity the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center received over the past weekend arising from their MLK Day celebration and presentations. Kathy Trone had a happy dollar for the Dallas Cowboy’s 31-14 playoff win over Tampa Bay. Ruth Lee had a sad dollar for the Minnesota Vikings early departure from the playoffs, losing 31-24 to the Giants. Bob Swanson offered a happy/funny \$1 noting that speaking with our caterer prior to the meeting she mentioned that Kiwanis, who she also serves, is very different from our Club. She said they seem to an older group! Finally, Virginia Houlton announced that today was Fred’s 96<sup>th</sup> birthday and that he wanted to celebrate with his Rotary Friends. She donated 96 very happy dollars in his

Situated on a site where enslaved Black people were forced to labor in bondage, the Legacy Museum offers an immersive experience with cutting-edge technology, world-class art, and critically important scholarship about American history. The museum is the site of National Memorial for Peace and Justice and causes visitors to reckon with challenging aspects of our past. A Transatlantic Slave Trade wing includes more than 200 sculptures and original animated short films. A wing of the museum explores the economics of enslavement, the violence of slavery, sexual violence against enslaved black women, and the desperate efforts enslaved people made to stay connected to loved ones. A very moving display for Kai and Evan was the museum's expansive content on lynching. Facts about the lynching of children helped visitors understand the scale of terror and violence many families endured. It also houses an exhibit containing 800 jars of soil collected around the country as part of EJI's Community Remembrance Project. The soil samples were each collected from a confirmed lynching site. From Montgomery the two traveled to Selma, Alabama and the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

On March 7, 1965, a then-25-year-old activist John Lewis led over 600 marchers across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama and faced brutal attacks by oncoming state troopers, footage of the violence collectively shocked the nation and galvanized the fight against racial injustice. In January 1965, Martin Luther King, Jr., came to the city and gave the backing of the Southern Christian Leadership Council (SCLC) to the cause. Peaceful demonstrations in Selma and surrounding communities resulted in the arrests of thousands, including King. The march across the Pettus Bridge in March has been dubbed "Bloody Sunday". It was in support of voting rights. At the time African Americans made up more than half of the population, yet accounted for just 2 percent of registered voters in the county. Kai and Evan made the walk across the bridge but felt the emotion of being at the location where hundreds were beaten, showered with tear gas, knocked down, and chased by dogs, horses, and helmeted state, county, and local police. Television cameras captured the entire assault and transformed the local protest into a national civil rights event. When it aired that night, Americans were appalled at the sights and sounds of "Bloody Sunday." Moving on, the Swansons traveled to Jackson, Mississippi and visited the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. There they were taken by an exhibit of "Separate but Equal" with photos demonstrating how the policy was administered and impacted black citizens. A section of the museum houses a segregated classroom, which juxtaposes the different experiences white and black children had during this period. Kai and Evan visited the Illinois Monument in Vicksburg National Military Park in Vicksburg, Mississippi. It honors the Union Army soldiers from Illinois who fought in the siege of Vicksburg during the Vicksburg campaign of the Civil War. There they found in the carved inscriptions "Captain Charles J. Stolbrand, Battery G of the Second Illinois Light Artillery, and Chief of artillery of the XV Corps". Sixty bronze tablets line the interior of the memorial and bear the names of all 36,325 Illinois soldiers who participated in the campaign. A bronze statue of a bald eagle sits atop the memorial. The eagle and lettering and other details on the interior are gold gilded. The final "Southern stop of the trip was Memphis, Tennessee the location of the National Civil Rights Museum. The museum is a complex of museums and historic buildings. Its exhibits trace the history of the civil rights movement in the United States from the 17th century to the present. The museum is built around the former Lorraine Motel, which was the site of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968. Two other buildings and their adjacent property, also connected with the King assassination, have been acquired as part of the museum complex. Kai stated that the Rev. King's motel room has been preserved and restored to exactly as it looked when he occupied the room. The wall of the adjacent room was removed and replaced with plexiglass so visitors can clearly see the room and by looking out the balcony window can see the location from which the assassin fired his gun. There is also a reconstruction of the Birmingham jail cell in which Dr. King was incarcerated and an exhibit in tribute to Rosa Parks including a replica of the bus Rosa Parks rode in Montgomery, Alabama, in which she refused to move to the "back of the bus" and initiated the Montgomery bus boycott of 1955–1956. The museum has exhibits tracing the entire Civil Rights movement from slavery to current day. The final stop on the two man trip was Springfield, Illinois. There Kai and Evan visited the tomb of President Abraham Lincoln. Kai said after seeing all of the rather emotionally depressing sites and reminders of the plight of blacks in America, they wanted to conclude the trip by paying homage to Lincoln, who ended slavery and started the nation down the road toward civil rights and equal justice. Exhibited on the tomb walls are inscriptions of speeches made by Lincoln, who Kai referred to as "Our Greatest President". He noted the inscription on the wall over the tomb, "Now he belongs to the ages," reputedly spoken by Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton at the time of Lincoln's death. Kai also recommended that when visiting Washington, DC one should go to the Lincoln Memorial at night and take time to read and contemplate Lincoln's Gettysburg Address inscribed on the wall of the South Chamber and his Second Inaugural Address speeches inscribed on the North Chamber wall. It is truly inspirational, according to Kai. We greatly appreciated Kai's presentation and regret that without the many photographs and Kai's special skills in elocution, this written record is truly woefully inadequate in expressing the wonderful message he conveyed to all present. Thank you Kai!



## Membership Committee Meeting

The Membership Committee will meet next **Tuesday, January 24**, at 1pm following our regular Club Meeting. Topics to be discussed are Member Retention, Member Recruitment and Speaker Contacts.

All Club members are welcome to attend this meeting. Come share your thoughts and ideas. A committee meeting counts as a make-up if you need one! Committee members Howard Beck, Marcy Bell, John Daly, Tom Hammar, Anne McGlynn, Gary Rowe, and Bob Swanson please plan to attend.

Mary Fislar, Membership Chair

## Time to Brush Up on Your Trivia Skills!



VP Sue Rector has come up with another fun game that will be kicked off at Next Week's meeting. Members will pay \$1 to enter. Each week Sue will provide those who enter a sheet with several multiple choice trivia questions. Players will complete the sheet and turn it in to Sue before the end of our meeting. Participants will be "on their honor" to do their own work and not seek or accept help from others, google, etc. Sue will keep a tally of correct responses for each player. There will be 6 weeks of play. Questions will be a mix of American and Rotary Trivia. The winner(s) will spin the prize wheel after the sixth week. All proceeds will go to the Rotary International Foundation. Be ready to start next Tuesday and ask Sue for your sheet.

**SAVE THE DATE! March 24th**

**RI Rotary Fundraiser-  
Holiday Inn, Rock Island,  
6pm start**

**R & R BINGO** 🤗 🤗



## ANNUAL ROTARY RAFFLE HAS A NEW TWIST!



For the past several years Rock Island Rotary has held a successful raffle with the prizes being \$500, \$300, and \$200 in wine. Hoping to make 2023 even bigger and more successful, the raffle committee had decided to make more participants winners and to add variety to the prizes. For 2023 five area business establishments have been selected and a \$200 gift certificate from each will be raffled. Five lucky winners will be able to wine and dine, perhaps multiple times with their \$200 gift card. More details will be coming including naming the businesses, kick off date and drawing date for the raffle!

*The Rotary Raffle*



## LITERACY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Basic education and literacy are one of Rotary's major areas of focus. Our Club has long been a champion of literacy and has multiple District Literacy Awards for our efforts. This year the Literacy committee under the leadership of 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. Sue Rector has continued and expanded our literacy footprint in our community. Just to highlight a few of our Club's literacy initiatives so far this year, Rock Island Rotary was quick to join the District project when Governor Laura Kann asked that every Rotarian in our district to purchase and donate a book to be distributed to our local libraries. We have collected books and money throughout the first half

of this Rotary year to fulfill that request. We continued our commitment to Early Hanson children with the Pumpkin Palooza field trip and this year arranged to have the Mobile Library join us making books available to the children. We continue the upkeep and stocking of our 13 area Little Libraries that provide free books to all children. For the first time Rotary participated in the Festival of Trees with our entry focused on literacy. Our tree included a bookcase and several dozen books. We continued our Birthday Books monthly celebration at Earl Hanson chaired by Molly Shattuck. Through that program we donate new books to every Early Hanson student during the month of their birthday. Summer birthdays aren't forgotten. We include them in the May and August celebrations. Our Club provided a financial grant to bring the Spring Forward after school program to Earl Hanson. We also donated \$300 to Earl Hanson teachers to support their efforts at the end of the year to host a family evening of crafts and treats. Rotarians helped at the Earl Hanson "Trunk or Treat" event donating both "goodies" and books to the children. Currently the Literacy Committee is looking into a proposed spring fun night at Hanson Elementary and the possibility of hosting a free book fair. Literacy is one of our most active Committees and one that directly touches our community and falls within Rotary International's areas of emphasis. Thanks to Chair Sue and her committee, Rebecca Arnold, Angela Campbell, Mary Fislar, Kathy Lelonek, Dan McNeil, Mark Poulos, Kathy Ruggeberg, and Holly Sparkman. The Birthday Books Committee, Molly Shattuck, Trista Foster, Tom Hammar, and Anne McGlynn. And many other Rotarians that volunteer and work on the individual literacy related projects including Marcy Bell, Amber Brummit, Cindi Gramenz, Beth Kauzlarich, Bud Phillis, Monta Ponsetto, Bob Swanson, Tammy Weikert, and Eric Westphall. Apologies to those who may have been missed. Your dedication and work is greatly appreciated!

## FOUNDATION MINUTE

Welcome to Week 3 of RI's Month of Vocational Service

Rotarian Bhagavan, a past president of Rotary Club Bangalore Southwest (RID 3190) narrated how, back in 2010 he visited the pediatric oncology department of Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology and recalled "It was heart-wrenching to see the helplessness of parents who painfully witnessed their little ones succumb to cancer because of lack of funds. We decided right there to provide free or subsidized medicines to children suffering from cancer." Thus, was born RHFL (Rotary Health for Life) with an initial capital of \$1,000. "We raised \$43,000 through matching grants to provide pediatric chemotherapy to 43 patients at Kidwai; 37 children survived translating to a survival rate of 86 per cent."

Encouraged by the project's outcome, the club applied for a Global Grant in the first year of its launch from TRF, and with support from RC Redmond, RID 5330, USA, raised \$63,000 for the cause. Under RHFL2, which was carried out from 2015 to 2019 at Kidwai and St John's Medical College Hospital, "we helped treat 102 children; 84 of them were successfully cured," says Bhagavan. Heartened by the promising results of both versions, the club applied for another GG in partnership with RC Richmond, RID 5080, USA, for \$75,000. As the need to support more children became acute, the club joined hands with RC Bangalore Indiranagar to raise funds under guidance from the then DG Dr Sameer Hariani. Funds were raised through [www.fueladream.com](http://www.fueladream.com), a crowdfunding platform. Bhagavan recalls the successful treatment of Krishna, son of a small farmer, Thippa Reddy, from Andhra Pradesh. Krishna was diagnosed with leukemia, a curable cancer, in Feb 2021. He completed his intensive chemotherapy in Oct 2021 at St John's Hospital through the RHFL project and is now on regular follow up. "Success stories such as these push us to do more and save many more lives."

(Source: <https://rotarynewsonline.org/rc-bangalore-southwests-fight-against-paediatic-cancer/>)

# 4 9 3 NUMBERS CAN BE CONFUSING 7 2 8 !

Rotary is no exception to that statement. Two sets of numbers are frequently used to describe Rotary's worldwide work. We have our **5 Avenues of Service** and our **7 Areas of Focus**. Sometimes we mean one and say the other or is it we say one and mean the other? At any rate it can be confusing so here is a brief attempt to sort it all out.

Established in 1924 originally as Rotary's Pathways to Service and later changed to Avenues of Service. there were just four Avenues of Service (Club Service, Vocational Service, Community Service, and International Service). In 2010 Rotary Amended the Avenues of Service and added the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Youth Service) Today the Avenues of Service are commonly listed as:

## Rotary's 5 Avenues of Service

Club Service – the First Avenue of service

Vocational Service -- the Second Avenue of Service. ...

Community Service -- the Third Avenue of Service. ...

International Service -- the Fourth Avenue of Service. ...

New Generations Service -- the Fifth Avenue of Service. Youth Services.

Club service works to strengthen fellowship of members through training and hospitality. Clubs have serious topics to work toward, so having various social events that bring members and their guests informally and for fun, contributes to genuine fellowship.

Vocational Service encourages members to serve other people through their vocations, education, skillsets, which encourages high ethical standards. October is Vocation Service Month when the many club service projects are celebrated.

Community Service is exactly what the name implies — projects and activities each club undertakes to improve community life. There are many projects in the Santa Ynez Valley in which all four Rotary Club volunteers have been involved: Sunny Fields Park, Senior Centers, scholarships, and more.

International Service volunteers work to expand the Rotarians' humanitarian work around the world. This important service promotes understanding and peace, sponsors projects in other countries and works with international partners to support projects in their communities.

New Generations Service works to engage youths and young adults in leadership roles. Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is a training program for young people, ages 14 to 30. The award emphasizes leadership and citizenship. Rotaract is an International Youth Program is for ages 18 to 30 while Interact focuses on international service for youths 12 to 18.

Keep in mind Service Above Self is our motto. The ***Avenues of Service are the venues in which we provide service,*** and the ***Areas of Focus are the major services in each of the venues.***

## Rotary 7 Areas of Focus

Promoting Peace

Fighting Disease

Providing Clean Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Saving Mothers and Children

Supporting Education

Growing Economies

Environment

The Rotary eClub of Florida came up with a clever way of putting the two in perspective. They suggest selecting an Avenue of Service and then thinking how you (or we) can serve to promote each Area of Focus. For some areas the answer might be by how we act; other areas might be by money we can donate; others might be by time or labor we can give. Some Areas of Focus fall primarily under one or two specific Avenues of Service. For instance serving our community might be the best avenue for supporting education, growing the economy, or improving the environment. Another Avenue of Service such as International Service might be the best avenue for promoting peace, fighting disease, and providing clean water, sanitation, and hygiene. The Vocational Avenue might best be served by growing the economy, protecting the environment, or saving mothers and children. Each of us can make our own decisions as to which Avenue of Service and which Area of Focus we want to concentrate on.



## KATHY TRONE TAKES ON DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES!

Apparently the District has learned what we've known for many years, Kathy Trone is a great organizer, leader, and worker! She was recently asked to serve as Co-Chair of the Rotary District 6420 TASK FORCE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING. Kathy has attended training sessions and now will be training others and making presentations at other Rotary Clubs in the District. She is slated to become Chair of the Task Force in August. We congratulate Kathy on the new position and know she is very passionate about this cause. Thank you for donating your time and talents to help teacher awareness of Human Trafficking and to lead our District's efforts to put an end to it! We also congratulate our District for making an outstanding decision in recruiting Kathy for the job!



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY FRED!

Fred Houlton joined Rock Island Rotary in 1963. This year he celebrates 60 years of Rotary membership! Today he attended our meeting with wife Virginia and celebrated his 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. Fred served as our club president for the 1970-71 Rotary year and was awarded our club's highest honor, the A. T. Peara Award in 1984. He was selected as our District Governor for the 1985-86 Rotary Year. He served as our Foundation Chair for many years as well as chairing and serving on dozens of our club committees and projects. In June of 2018 we were among the first members of our Club to fund the entire cost of a water filter for our Kenya rural village water project.



Fred celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with us six years ago and was surprised when he was presented with his very own cake. He shared it with his table and the cake was gone in no time!

Today he surprised us and unfortunately we didn't have a cake on hand to present to him, but we did have our voice and sang "Happy Birthday" to our longtime friend and fellow Rotarian who amassed 53 years of perfect attendance prior to the pandemic. He was also the recipient of dozens of well wishes and handshakes from club members.

In June of 2021 Fred and Virginia created the "Share Foundation" with a very substantial donation to the Rotary Foundation. They were recognized as Rotary International

Major Donors – Level III (signifying a contribution of \$50,000 to \$99,999.00). They were honored at our June 29, 2021 meeting by District Governor Tom Brooks, District Governor Elect David Bills, and District Foundation Chair and Past District Governor Kathy Kwiat-Hess who all came to recognize Fred and Virginia. Ms. Hess presented Fred with his Major Donor Level III pin and Virginia received the Major Donor Level III Lavalier. The couple was also given a beautiful cut glass crystal with their names etched in the glass. The Share Foundation makes grants available to all clubs in our District for various worthy projects.



## OUR NEWEST PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

Fred has also continued his dedication to the Rotary International Foundation and the Paul Harris Fellow program having long ago becoming a Paul Harris Fellow himself and since has honored 12 family members including Virginia with the Paul Harris Fellow designation. **He continued that dedication today as he funded yet another Paul Harris Fellow, his thirteenth, this time honoring his great-granddaughter, Finley Knox.** Congratulations Fred, Virginia, and Finley.

Fred, we hope you have a wonderful birthday and promise to have a cake on hand if you join us next year for your 97<sup>th</sup>! (Just let us know you're coming.)

# ROTARY BLOOD DRIVE FEBRUARY 14TH



Rock Island Rotary WILL hold our annual Club Blood Drive Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> here at the Botanical starting at 10:30 am. Donations may be made before, during and after our meeting. Under the leadership of chairman John Phillips, we have set a goal of 14 units. Prior to the pandemic we set a record with 23 units. So let's get back on track with "the gift of life" and make sure we meet and exceed this year's goal! We sponsor the drive, but donors need not be Rotarians. Ask your spouse, special friend, and work colleagues to join us. You can sign them up! Just email John Phillips with the donor's name and the time they would prefer between 10:30am and 1pm. John's email is [phillipsjohn99@gmail.com](mailto:phillipsjohn99@gmail.com)



Donating is simple and painless, and you even get a free cookie! We will have a sign up sheet at next week's meeting if you are not a fan of emailing. But be sure to sign up, one way or the other! And RECRUIT – Treat your spouse, friend, or associate to lunch on Valentine's day if they will come with you and join the blood drive! There are even some special prizes for donating and even bigger awards for first time donors!

Give and get \$10 gift card or t-shirt.  
First time donor with ImpactLife?  
Choose \$25 gift card or t-shirt.



## ***A message from Mark Mayeski, Rock Island Rotarian and our District 6420 Paul Harris Society Chairman***

The District is looking to add more individuals to the Paul Harris Society.

The Paul Harris Society recognizes Rotary members and friends of The Rotary Foundation who elect to contribute \$1,000 or more each year to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus Fund, or approved global grants. The purpose of the Paul Harris Society is to honor and thank individuals for their generous, ongoing support of The Rotary Foundation. Rotary districts often honor new members of the Paul Harris Society by presenting them with a certificate and chevron at a district or club event. I participate in the Paul Harris Society because I care. These contributions demonstrate our commitment to serve others. Call or email Mark if you are interested or want information.

By giving from your heart each and every year, you'll support families and change lives. Paul Harris Society gifts have helped provide:

- Vocational training for teachers establishing an early childhood education center in South Africa
- Water filters, toilets, and hygiene training to prevent fluorosis, diarrhea, and other diseases in India
- A scholarship for a medical professional in Italy to research treatments that minimize mortality rates among premature babies
- Peace-building seminars for 200 teachers and 1,300 students in Uganda
- Treated mosquito nets and medical services that prevent malaria in Mali

**Call or email now! Mark E. Mayeski, Phone 309-788-0399 Email [mark.mayeski@edwardjones.com](mailto:mark.mayeski@edwardjones.com)**