



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



February 21, 2023: Volume XXX, Issue 34  
MEETING MONDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



## Thurgood Marshall Learning Center Principal Tia-Farah Edwards

Tia is a graduate of Rock Island High School and says, she bleeds red and gold. As a Rocky student, she received the District's Medal of Honor and was named Student Citizen of the Year in Rock Island. She received the Illinois Quad City Chamber of Commerce Student Achievement Award and the M.L. King Center's Tia Farrah-Rice Award named in her honor. Tia also received the NAACP's 2018 Freedom Fund Award for excellence in education, and the Greater Antioch Church 2019 Educator Recognition Award. She was a 2022 recipient of the Rock Island Rotary Professional Excellence Award. She is now in her 16th year as an educator in the Rock Island-Milan School District. She earned her BS Degree in English at Old Dominion University and her MS in Education Administration from Western Illinois University and is currently working towards her doctorate degree in educational administration. She began her career as an English teacher at Rock Island High School. She then moved into administration as a Dean at Rocky, then as an Assistant Principal at the Rock Island Academy, and then to her current position as principal of the Thurgood Marshall Learning Center. In each phase of her career, Ms. Edwards displayed Excellence in leadership, motivation, and empathy. The Marshall Learning Center is perhaps the most challenging administrative assignment in the district. When students seeming cannot achieve in the traditional school setting as a result of discipline, emotional, or social issues, they are "sent" to the Marshall Center housed in what was formerly Grant Elementary School. Tia's team of educators have the special abilities and training to deal with the issues and behaviors their students exhibit. As leader of the team, Tia has the personality, knowledge, and empathy to connect with her students. It is said, "Student's don't care how much you know until they know how much you care". Tia is well known in the District as a teacher/administrator that truly cares about her students. She began her comments stating that the Marshall Center receives students from 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. She noted that many of the Marshall students are dealing with trauma in one form or another. She gave examples without names including a student who scored "As" and "Bs" in class but hid in the restroom during lunch period, others have behavior issues, some lack any reasonably reachable guardian or adult mentor. Others have emotional issues or socialization issues. Some would prefer to be marked absent that to attend and answer a roll call. When students are referred to the Marshall Center, each goes through an enrollment interview. All building teachers, the student, and their parents/guardian, the principal, and counselors are present. They don't dwell on why the student was referred, but concentrate on asking the student what they hope to accomplish, what goals they have, and what issues they believe they need to overcome. They then work to develop a program that directly meets the needs of that student. Ms. Edwards said they also have a daily check in procedure that ensure that the student is greeted, is spoken with, and lets Ms. Edwards know if the student is happy, depressed, not feeling well, or agitated. She believes this is very important and gets the student's day started off well. She said if students miss their bus or have transportation they know to call and they will be provided with a way to school.. Ms. Edwards then introduced one of the Marshall Center Teachers, Chris Britton (also a former member of our Club). He spoke of how he teaches his "Hip Hop, Creative Writing & Art" class. He plays Hip Hop music in the background during class. He believes it encourages the students to listen rather than take, or disrupt. He asks the kids what they believe others think of them which lets them start to open up emotionally get things off their mind. He then sets lofty and rigorous goals for the class and lets the students know that together they will achieve those goals. He encourages the students to write what they are thinking and to share their thoughts with the class. He teaches students to be respectful of other's feelings and trust is gained as the kids begin to express themselves. Last year he told them their writings would be published in a book. He was able to get the book printed and they had a book premiere party for the class. He said many of the students make up past lost credits, graduate, and become productive citizens. Thanks to Chris and Tia for a very interesting program.

### Feb. – Apr. Calendar

- Feb 28 - Amy & Liam Haskill Closet 2 Closet
- Mar 7 - Laura Eberlin – Deere & Company
- Mar 14 - Jerry Jones - West End Revitalization
- Mar 21 - Juan Valtierra Youthhope CRE8 Studios
- Mar 28 - Haley DeGreve - The Gray Matters Collective
- Apr 4 - Laura Mann – NEST Cafe
- Apr 11 - Bert Blood Scholarships
- Apr 18 - Rotary Awards Luncheon



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[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** – Duncan Cameron, visiting Rotarian from Naples, FL joined us via zoom today. Other guests were Raylondo Smith, a guest of Tracy Pugh; Julie Larson a guest of Eric Westphal; Jan Osing and Christopher Britton were guests of Dave Hodge. We were also pleased to welcome Honorary Members, Ernie Beane. We also had three Alleman student Junior Rotarians, but did not get guests cards to report their names. We'll get them next week! Rock Island Rotary loves to welcome guests to meetings of the Number 1 Club!
- ❑ **ROTARY AWARD NOMINATION FORM** – Is included on the last page of today's newsletter. Please copy as many as you need and NOMINATE! You can return them to Bob Swanson or Sarah Gorham or, if you prefer, return the form via email to Sarah Gorham, [sgorham@sbrlawfirm.law](mailto:sgorham@sbrlawfirm.law). We will also have copies available at the Sergeant's table.
- ❑ **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.
- ❑ **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** – A GREAT SUCCESS- 20 DONORS!! ImpactLife was here and Rotarians were donating. We even recruited our Botanical Center hostess, Brit Gray to join the drive! If you didn't donate and would like to be a part of our drive, see John Phillips or call ImpactLife and they will tell you how and where you can donate. If you tell them you are donating for Rock Island Rotary, we can still receive credit for your donation. Call ImpactLife at 1-800-747-5401 or find a location and signup online at [www.bloodcenter.org](http://www.bloodcenter.org).
- ❑ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** – Send to [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net)  
The Weekly Review is distributed each Tuesday afternoon.

## FOUNDATION RAFFLE



Today our Foundation Raffle offered a 50/50 cash drawing and a bottle of fine wine. Bud Phillis handles the drawing and the first ticket pulled belonged to Dr. Reginald Lawrence. Bill Stengel accepted on behalf of the Reggie who was called out of the meeting, took the money and donated it back to the Foundation. The second ticket was held by Sue Rector who is not a wine drinker, so she said "Draw again". Frank Lambert was pleased that she passed as he held the next winning ticket and got the wine!



## FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

Another good day for V.P. Sue Rector who relied on the Mardi Gras program to fine Bob Swanson, Clarence Darrow (for his wife Lili), Holly Sparkman, Kathy Lelonek, Gary Rowe, and John Phillips (for his wife Karen). Amber Brummit paid a happy dollar for her son announcing he will continue his baseball career at Knox College. Justin Peterson added a happy dollar for his son who tried out for a local AAU boys basketball team and made the team! Unfortunately, the game schedule conflicts with his summer baseball schedule, so basketball will have to wait until the fall. Justin also paid a fine for needing to leave the meeting early today. Fines and happy dollars go to support the Rotary Foundation. Our Club thanks and appreciates all who participate knowing that the fines are all in fun and the money goes to a great cause!

## ARE YOU PLAYING ROTARY TRIVIA?



You can join the fun with just a \$1 contribution. See Vice President Sue Rector to get your Trivia Questions each week. Those who enter will get 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 agree "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 sure to ask Sue for your sheet.



**SAVE THE DATE! March  
24th**  
**RI Rotary Fundraiser-**  
**Holiday Inn, Rock Island,**  
**6pm start**  
**R & R BINGO** 🍷 🎲

## FOUNDATION MINUTE

### RI's Month of Peace & Conflict Resolution

As of midnight on Saturday, February 11, 2023, the projected casualties of the devastating earthquake that hit Turkey and Syria had risen to over 30,000 men, women, and children dead. Additionally, millions have been rendered homeless in the bitterly frigid winter weather. The Rotary world responded to this catastrophe immediately. According to RI's website, President Jennifer Jones activated our disaster response efforts, communicated with the affected districts, and encouraged governors in those regions to apply for disaster response grants and share information about their relief efforts so that Rotary can amplify the calls for support. Many Rotary members are asking how they can help. Here is how to have the greatest impact:

1. You can give directly to our Rotary partner ShelterBox, which is mounting a massive emergency shelter response program in the area: <https://shelterbox.org/turkey-earthquake/>
2. You can give to the Rotary International Disaster Response Fund, which will soon be targeting Turkey and Syria as designated areas for help: <https://my.rotary.org/en/disaster-response-fund>

No matter which way you decide to give, your contributions are greatly appreciated and will help the people in those affected areas. Thank you for opening your heart to helping the people affected by those earthquakes!

This is hoping clubs in all districts will contribute one way or the other to lessen the gravity of this incredible tragedy.

## WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Three new members were approved by our Board of Directors at a special meeting held today. Please give a warm welcome to each as you meet them.



**Hannah Carr**

Hannah is Development Director for Youthhope. Hannah lives in Moline with her husband, Blake, and their three young children.



**Jennifer Osing**

"Jen" as she prefers to be called is Program Director for World Relief. She and husband Tanner reside in Rock Island.



**Todd Thompson**

Todd is the Rock Island City Manager. Todd lives in Rock Island with his wife of 29 years, Leslie. The Thompsons have two grown sons,

*Isn't it great to be part of a "GROWING" Club!*

## OUR MOST RECENT PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

Foundation Chair, Sue Rector, had the pleasure today of welcoming **Doug Hultquist** as our most recent Paul Harris Fellow. Doug originally joined Rotary as part of the Quad City Bank and Trust corporate membership. He since has become an independent active member, primarily so he could establish a Rotary account and join in the great work of the Rotary International Foundation. He was honored for his dedication and contributions and encouraged others to do all they can to support Rotary and the service we provide locally and internationally. Congratulations Doug and thank you for your commitment to "Service Above Self".



Happy  
Birthday



## MOLLY IS CALLING FOR HELP!

This Thursday will be the February Birthday Book celebration at Earl Hanson Elementary School. Rotarians are needed to help Molly hand out and autograph books for the kids celebrating their birthday this month. Please arrive at 2:15, enter the front door and identify yourself to the school secretary as a Rotarian going to help with Birthday Books. Proceed up the stairs. The library is the first door on your left as you enter the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Everything will be there for you including the books Rotary provides for the kids, cookies, and a bunch of smiling, happy faces. You'll be done and on your way by 3pm.

## SWANSON EARNS RUBY PAUL HARRIS FELLOW PIN

Foundation Chair announced that today she had the pleasure of presenting her first Ruby clad Paul Harris Fellow pin. Bob Swanson was called forward to receive the pin in recognition of reaching the Paul Harris +6 level indicating \$6,000 in donations to the Rotary International Foundation in addition to his original Paul Harris Fellow donation of \$600 plus \$400 provided by our club. Bob said that his father encouraged him to become a Rotarian many years ago and that it was great advice! He said in his younger years the contributions were small, but they all add up and over the years a little can become a lot. Congratulations Bob! Maybe a second ruby some day?



## Nice To Have a Rotary District Coordinator in Our Club!

The many distinct categories of giving offered by Rotary International can be confusing. That's when having a District official in our club really comes in handy! Mark Mayeski is the Rotary District Paul Harris Society Coordinator. Today he provided a great clarification on what is often confusing. He noted that a Paul Harris Fellow award is given when a Rotarian has donated \$1,000 to the Rotary International Foundation. He also explained that our club is one of a very few that offer members help achieving that award. Once a member has given \$600 our club contributes the last \$400 as our commitment in support the Paul Harris Fellow program. As a member contributes more for each additional \$1000 they receive jeweled pins recognizing Paul Harris +1, +2 and on up. He contrasted that with joining the Paul Harris Society. To join a Rotarian makes a written commitment to donate \$1,000 or more each year to the Rotary Foundation. There is no "consequence" if circumstances cause an interruption in the giving. Mark has the necessary documents for anyone wishing to become a Society Member. He also noted that the Rotary International Foundation provides services internationally and returns a portion of the money given to Rotary District to use for District grants. We also have a Rock Island Club Foundation. Contributions to that entity are used exclusively for projects to better the lives of the citizens of Rock Island.



SELLING IN THE LOBBY MARCH 7, 14, & 21 AS YOU ENTER FOR OUR MEETINGS

## Kiwanis Club of Rock Island, IL

QUAD CITIES KIWANIS CLUBS  
ANNUAL ROSE DAY • APRIL 26, 2023

PLEASE PRINT

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PICKUP LOCATIONS (circle one)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

SELLING MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_

### **Kiwanis** Rose Day

IN HONOR OF  
**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S DAY**

PLEASE BRING THIS RECEIPT when you pick up  
your roses. Your purchase supports Quad-Cities  
area youth programs.

**Our Kiwanis Club Sincerely Thanks You!**

TO BE PICKED UP ONLY ON  
**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023**  
AT LOCATION MARKED  
BETWEEN 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM

- 1) ☐ COLMAN FLORISTS, 1203 Jersey Ridge Rd, Davenport IA
- 2) ☐ FLOWERS BY JERRI, 616 W Kimberly Rd, Davenport, IA
- 3) ☐ MEL FOSTER, 2300 Cumberland Square Dr, Bettendorf, IA
- 4) ☐ HIGHLIGHT'S FLORISTS, 367 Avenue of the Cities, East Moline, IL
- 5) ☐ WHARTON FIELD HOUSE, 1800 20th Ave, Moline, IL
- 6) ☐ COLMAN FLORISTS, 1623 2nd Ave, Rock Island, IL
- 7) ☐ STECKER GRAPHICS, 2215 4th Ave, Rock Island, IL

**FAILURE to pick up Roses on the pickup date  
will result in the flowers being given to a  
local nursing home.**

ALL LOCATIONS WILL FOLLOW COVID SAFETY GUIDELINES

**\$20.00 Per Dozen**

**Help us to Serve the Children of the World, One Child, and One Community at a Time!**

# ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CLUB 2023 AWARDS NOMINATION



Rock Island Rotary's annual Awards Luncheon is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>**. The Awards Committee seeks nomination for the following awards:

1. **Excellence:** Recognizes distinction or superiority in a field of endeavor. This can be for a single accomplishment or for achieving high standards of achievement or performance over a sustained period of time.
2. **Community Service:** Recognizes individuals or organizations who have worked effectively for the betterment of our community.
3. **The Luckenbill-Wray Award:** Recognizes a current Rock Island Rotarian for outstanding service and dedication to our club over the past year.
4. **A. T. Peara Award for Service Above Self:** Recognized the Rock Island Rotary member who has exhibited the dedicated service and faithful commitment to the ideals of Rotary that were personified by A.T. Peara, for whom the award is named.

The first two awards are **open to any individual or organization** that has demonstrated excellence or worked for the betterment of the Rock Island community. The Excellence Award applies to all lines of work and to all ages.

The **Luckenbill-Wray and A.T. Peara awards are limited to current members** of Rock Island Rotary. The A.T. Peara Award is a one time, life-time recognition, previous winners are not eligible for that award. See list on back of this form.

To ensure that our committee has adequate time to evaluate, consider, make the selections, and have awards prepared, the deadline for nominations is Noon, Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. Please consider making one or more nominations using the lower portion of this form. Additional copies are available if you need them, or feel free to print your own. We greatly appreciate your participation and assistance.

Submit nominations to Sarah Gorham: [sgorham@sbrlawfirm.law](mailto:sgorham@sbrlawfirm.law)

**NOMINEE NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ EXCELLENCE AWARD    \_\_\_\_ COMMUNITY SERVICE    \_\_\_\_ LUCKENBILL-WRAY    \_\_\_\_ A.T. PEARA AWARD

Reasons in support of your Nomination:

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The following Club Members are Previous A. T. Peara Award Recipients and are not eligible for that award.

Dr. Tricia Barron 2015	Tom Hammar 2004	Anne McGlynn 2013	Gary N. Rowe 2000
Stan Coin 1998	Fred Houlton 1984	Jim Moran 2022	Molly Shattuck 2021
Carrie Crossen 2020	Frank Lambert 2002	Steve Morenz 2018	Holly Sparkman 2012
Jeff Dismer 2010	Ruth Lee 2009	John Phillips 2019Dr.	Bob Swanson 2014
Mary Fislar 2006	Mark Mayeski 2020	Richard (Bud) Phillis 1991	John Wetzel 2011