



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



February 28, 2023: Volume XXX, Issue 35  
MEETING MONDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER



ALI HASKILL

## Closet2Closet

Q.C. Closet2Closet is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that was formed by the Haskill family based on an idea arising from the adoption of preteen foster children. Just seven years old, twin sisters Amy and Amber entered the Illinois Foster Home system. They were split up and moved from home to home. In 2011 Amy, was sitting in school and was told, "Get your backpack. You're moving to a new home." With nothing but her backpack of schoolbooks and supplies she was transported to Rock Island and joined the Haskill household. A traumatic move and experience, but one with a silver lining. Her twin sister, Amy was already a foster child in the Haskill home. Joining mom and dad Ali and Dan and the Haskill's sons, Liam and Logan the two girls were reunited. The girls began a new life in Rock Island. The two were later adopted by the Haskills. Through their experience, this family became intimately aware of specific challenges that some youth in foster care face. Mrs. Haskill noted that the average US foster child moves 3 times per year and estimated that at any one time there are an average of 500,000 foster children in the United States. When moved the children usually leave all their property behind including their clothing. When in junior high the twins got the idea of a project to seek clothing for others experiencing what they had endured. They anticipated a small clothing drive that might gather 100 items. The project brought in over 2,000 items. From there it grew. From storing items in the Haskill basement to today's well stocked "store". Closet2Closet offers free of charge, all-season clothing, accessories, hygiene items, and other surprises exclusively for their clients- they are not open to the general public. They offer a popular customized care package option for registered clients who are not able to attend their regular shopping hours, which are 4-8 pm each Thursday at 2623 5th Ave., Unit 102 in Rock Island, in the former Seaford Clothing Factory building. Clothing sizes are for infants, toddlers, children, and young adults up to 20 years old for all genders. Offered are new socks, underwear, blankets, and hygiene items as well as books and school supplies, plus new or gently used stylish clothing. The clothing comes from a variety of sources, including clothing drives organized by local high schools, colleges, and youth groups, private donations, and donations from department stores. Closet2Closet serves mostly foster children, about 90% of their clients. Others are children saved from trafficking, refugees referred from World Relief, and homeless youth who move frequently as well. When children in these vulnerable groups move, they often lose their belongings. Foster families receive very little financial support to purchase clothing, in Illinois the Haskills got \$28 a month. The children also need accessories and hygiene items. That is where Closet2Closet comes in! Area social workers, school counselors, homeless shelter staff, foster care summer camp directors, and foster parents refer children for service. They welcome children from a 9-county area of eastern Iowa and western Illinois to be part of the program. QC Closet2Closet has been operating for ten years. They began by offering quarterly shopping events and later expanded to include a care package delivery option. Care packages consist of seasonal stylish outfits, blankets, outerwear, toiletries, and accessories. Mrs. Haskill said, "The organization was founded by teenage twins who lived in foster care for five years before being adopted. Their experience was the inspiration for the organization. Thank you Ali for a great presentation!"

### Feb. – Apr. Calendar

- 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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## 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 were pleased to welcome two visiting Rotarians, Maria Osterberg from the Bettendorf Club and Paul Plagenz from the Moline Club. Frank Perez was a guest of Char Flickinger. We also had three Jr. Rotarians from Alleman High School, Madeline Coleman, Deangelo Ferrari, and Gunner Jacks. Last but not least was Lindsey Honert the Alleman faculty sponsor. 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 featured a 50/50 cash drawing and a bottle of fine wine. Bud Phillis handled the drawing and Clarence Darrow drew the tickets. The first ticket pulled belonged to John Oliger who quickly opted for the wine. The second ticket was held by Steve Morenz (joining us in person today!). Steve took the money and donated it back to the Rotary Foundation. Thank you to all who participated and to our winners for their support and generosity. If you didn't get tickets this week, don't miss out next time!!



## FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

When Sue, our "Finer and Chief" said she didn't have anything today and saw nothing in the newspapers and had no tips from other members, we thought we might have escaped this week. Then she said, "So, we'll have a pin check. Everyone not wearing your Rotary pin, pay \$1. So, it ended up being another good day for the Foundation! Turning to Happy/Sad dollars, more rolled in. Angela Campbell had a happy dollar for the Grand Opening of the new 30<sup>th</sup> Street branch library. Tom Hammar had a happy dollar for the Moline basketball team playing in the State Sectional semi-final tonight at home. John Wetzel had \$3 happy dollars and a sad dollar. Happy for his granddaughter's wonderful recovery from heart transplant surgery; Iowa's mens basketball win over Michigan State; Iowa's women's basketball win over 2<sup>nd</sup> ranked Indiana, and sad for Augustana's women being overlooked for the NCAA Division III tournament. Gary Rowe had a happy dollar for last week's orchestra concert at Rocky. Steve Morenz had a happy dollar for being here in person today. Mary Fislar had a happy dollar for Iowa's basketball's win, and Justin Peterson had a happy dollar for his daughter's first dance competition. She came home a winner!



## FOUNDATION MINUTE

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

Even as the Rotary Foundation continues its efforts at advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace by providing relief, especially right now, to victims and survivors of the Turkey-Syria devastating earthquake, it is a good time to reflect on what the Foundation has achieved in the last service year. The following is a Summary of Rotary Foundation Grants for the 2021-2022 Service Year:

By Dollars Distributed:

- 478 District Grants (\$27 Million)
- 1,199 Global Grants (\$73 Million)
- 207 Disaster Response Grants (\$8 Million)
- Programs of Scale Grants (\$2 Million)

By Areas of Focus:

- Basic Education and Literacy: 104 grants
- Disease Prevention & Treatment: 570 grants
- Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention: 67 grants
- Environment: 33 grants
- Community Economic Development: 148 grants
- Maternal and Child Health: 90 grants
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) :187 grants

The Rotary Foundation still maintains the highest rating: a 4 Star rating on the Charity Navigator scale with 91% of funds spent on program awards and grants.

Please keep funding your Foundation so that TRF can continue to improve the health, provide quality education, upgrade the environment and alleviate poverty among citizens of the world.

## INSPIRED BY THE HASKILL STORY?

You can help **CLOSET2CLOSET** in several ways.

- Donate Hygiene Supplies – Toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, body wash etc. are always in short supply
- Donate NEW underwear, socks, and blankets. All sizes are needed for infants through teenaged young adults.
- Donate gently worn clothing (keep in mind we are outfitting children and teenagers). If your child has outgrown something and except for size would still wear it, it is a prime item for donation.
- Donate cash – The Haskills buy items when supplies run low whether by size, age needs, etc. A donation will help defray those costs.
- Donate your time. They always need help sorting clothing and helping “shoppers” find what they need. They also mentor the shoppers to make sure the young ones don’t forget to take the things they need in addition to the things they like. Underwear isn’t high on a 7-year old’s list, but obviously is needed.

Here is how to donate:

- The easiest and probably the most fun way is to drop it off in person at the Closet2Closet store in the former Seifert Clothing factory just across the parking lot from the Botanical Center. The address is 2623 5th Ave., Unit 102 in Rock Island, Illinois. They are there every Thursday from 4-8pm.
- To volunteer your help at the store, just show up any Thursday between 4 and 8pm!



## OUR DISTRICT GOVERNOR HONORED

Rotary International really is a great organization. A big part of Rotary is The Rotary Foundation. Through the Foundation, Rotarians can do great things.

Rotary International allows for recognition of Rotarians who contribute to the Foundation. Many of us are familiar with the Paul Harris Fellowship program. Recognition is given to those who contribute \$1,000 to the Annual Fund or PolioPlus (or a combination of those programs.). A Rotarian who contributes \$1,000 each year can be a member of the Paul Harris Society.



A Rotarian whose combined giving reaches \$10,000 (Level 1) is recognized as a Major Donor. Additional recognition is given for cumulative gifts of \$25,000 (Level 2), \$50,000 (Level 3), and \$100,000 (Level 4).

When cumulative donations reach \$250,000, recognition includes an induction ceremony, and the Rotarian's picture and biography in the Arch Klumph Society interactive gallery at the Rotary International Headquarters in Evanston.

We have just learned that our District Governor, Laura Kann, and her husband, Wick Warren, have become members of the Arch Klumph Society. She has been a great leader for our District, and now has, through her contributions, challenged all of us to do what we can, through Rotary, to make our world better. Laura is modest and is not looking to her District members for recognition; she would certainly say this is not really about her. But all of us in District 6420 should be inspired by her leadership to do more, if we can, through Rotary.

Arch Klumph was the sixth president of Rotary International and is sometimes called the father of The Rotary Foundation. He was a founding member of the Rotary Club of Cleveland in 1911. He was club president in 1913. Mr. Klumph served as president of Rotary International during the 1916-1917 Rotary year. As president of Rotary International, he laid the groundwork for the Rotary Endowment Fund, which became The Rotary Foundation in 1928.

We commend Laura Kann for her leadership of our District and her commitment to Rotary International, we thank her for inspiring us, and add our congratulations for recognition well deserved!

## ROTARY AROUND THE WORLD!

A recent email from Kathy Trone brought to mind the fact that as Rotarians we are welcome to attend Rotary meetings in over 33,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries. We have the luxury of not being "strangers" almost anywhere we go. Pictured is Kathy at the Coronado, California Rotary Club. We are so impressed with the photo that our Weekly Review will start a new tradition. Anytime any of our members visit a Rotary Club other than our own, snap a photo and send it in. It must picture you at the club meeting. We will print it in the next issue of our newsletter. If you know in advance that you will be visiting another Club. Take one of our Rock Island Club Banners with you to present to Club you are visiting. Just ask at the Sergeant's table for the banner. Kathy did that and brought back a banner from California. It will be fun to see the various locations near and far where our members visit other Clubs. So, whether Moline or Timbuktu, snap a photo and send it in!



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT ON CHAR FLICKINGER

We knew that Char Flickinger is one of our newest members and that she is the Vice President of Development for The Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation. Today she entered the spotlight and told us some things we didn't know. For instance, she was raised in the suburbs of Chicago near the Indiana Border. She attended Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin earning a degree in Political Science. She took a job with the Illinois Housing Authority and for 26 years worked on development of affordable housing. She attended the University of Illinois Chicago School of Law at night, earned her JD degree, and passed the Illinois Bar Exam. She established a law office serving Chicago and Springfield until the pandemic disrupted business. She closed her new business and accepted a position with the Growth Corporation this past January. We're glad she did and are pleased to have her as a Rock Island Rotarian!



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