



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review



March 14, 2023: Volume XXX, Issue 37  
MEETING MONDAY NOON - QUAD CITY BOTANICAL CENTER

## JERRY JONES West End Revitalization



As Executive Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center in Rock Island, Jerry Jones has a vast amount of knowledge regarding the West side of Rock Island, both in terms of what is needed and what might be the most effective revitalization measures. The King Center serves hundreds of families and children who reside in the area loosely referred to as the “west end”. Most citizens think of the area running from 11<sup>th</sup> Street west to the western boundary of Rock Island. Generally the neighborhood is one of the older areas of the city. Officially the West End area generally covers the Douglas Park, Old Chicago and Longview neighborhoods, although some involvement for the neighborhood extends to the area south of 18th Avenue. Much of the neighborhood organizing activity in the three neighborhoods has been supported by the Community Caring Conference and the King Center. The term “West End” was unofficially used for decades and even appeared in surveys and official city documents dating to the 1960s. It was during the City’s active neighborhood planning period in the 1990s, that the names Longview, Old Chicago and Douglas Park were selected by residents for smaller areas when planning documents were created and neighborhood associations were formed. But the new group liked the idea of not running away from a name, and turning what was once a negative term into a positive dynamic. So, the name “West End” was once again tapped as the moniker, combining the efforts of residents in all three neighborhoods. Jerry reported that a generous donor funded a study starting in 2019 which was interrupted by Covid and completed in 2022. The study involved seeking community input of much information. From that came a plan and a vision. “The vision is to see the West End of Rock Island to be the preferred place to live and to thrive. That’s what ultimately I’d like to see from the results of this assessment, of this plan and this work,” Jones said. The study identified some key “disparities,” including limited access to healthy food, low economic security, and a severe lack of safe, quality housing. Jerry pointed out the if we don’t have basic needs met, then we can’t progress. People struggling for survival, cannot plan to live a life. Jones says the next step is to work with West End residents and businesses to put the strategies into action. He noted that the opportunity for progress improved dramatically in 2022 with an influx of funding in CARES grants related to the pandemic, school district improvements, the increase in the minimum wage, and more community attention given to the West end. The plan included recommendations to increase civic capital in the area, build residents assets and income, improve housing stability and quality, increase the economic vitality of the area, and improve the neighborhood infrastructure. Mr. Jones acknowledged that the task is huge and the goals are lofty, but with what he called “collective impact”, bringing people together to work on a common vision, he believes the challenge can be met. He said a group of dedicated and passionate citizens are serving as the leadership task force to implement the plan. We thank Jerry, a fellow Rock Island Rotarian for his report and for acting as facilitator of the revitalization effort.

### Mar. – May Calendar

- Mar 21 - Hannah Carr, Youthhope CRE8 Studios
- Mar 28 - Haley DeGreve - The Gray Matters Collective
- Apr 4 - Laura Mahn – NEST Cafe
- Apr 11 - Bert Blood Scholarships
- Apr 18 - Rotary Awards Luncheon
- Apr 25 - Dr. James Patterson “Getting to Yes or No”— negotiating skills
- May 2 - Mary Ann McLeod - “Living in the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter with No Regrets”
- May 9 - Sara Leonard - Earl Hanson School
- May 16 - Ed Tibbetts – Community Journalism
- May 23 - Sara Cross - First Tee Quad Cities update.
- May 30 - The I-74 Bridge Demolition - Image Consultants



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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 visiting Rotarian. Jenni Swanson from the Moline Club; and Pastor Gregg Hampton from The House a non-denominational church just across our parking lot adjacent to Closet 2 Closet. He was a guest of Dave Hodge. Rock Island Rotary loves to welcome guests to meetings of the **Number 1 Club!** We hope you enjoyed our meeting and will join us again soon. We are always on the lookout for
- ❑ **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING** - The next Membership/Mentoring Committee meeting will be next **Tuesday, March 21 at 1pm** immediately after our Club meeting. We will be discussing updates to the New Member packet as well as planning a Mentor packet. Committee members are Howard Beck, Marcy Bell, John Daly, Tom Hammar, Anne McGlynn, Gary Rowe, and Bob Swanson. All club members are welcome to attend. Please come and share your ideas. Mary Fislar is our Membership Committee Chair.
- ❑ **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 TICKETS AVAILABLE!** – Get your raffle tickets from Gary Rowe. Proceeds fund our "Service Above Self" scholarship for Rock Island High School students. Tickets are \$5 or 5 for \$20. There are FIVE prizes, each for a \$200 gift card for a local Wine & Dine establishment!
- ❑ **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. **SAVE THE DATE and SIGN UP NOW.** 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!
- ❑ **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 raffle featured a 50/50 cash drawing and a bottle of fine wine. John Oliger had the first lucky ticket and took the wine. Ruth Lee has a repeat from last week and won the cash and again donated all her winnings to our Club Foundation. Thanks to everyone who participated. Proceeds go to the Rotary international Foundation account.



## FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

Once again V.P. Sue began her fining saying, "I don't have anything" and then proceeded to President Cindi for forgetting to introduce Eric Westphall to introduce guests and instead introducing Sue Rector as Sue "Westphall". (That's the second time she's made that slip. The she fined Kimberly Calhoun for needing to leave early today. Kevin paid a Happy Dollar to remind us that Thursday is St. Urho's day (see more page 4). Rick Devinney had \$100 happy dollars in celebration of Moline's State Basketball Championship. Congratulations Maroons! And thanks Rick! Bud Phillis had a happy dollar for being a write-in candidate [RICHARD PHILLIS] for Rock Island School Board. Then offered a said dollar "for being a candidate for Rock Island School Board". Ruth Lee had two Happy Dollars, one for her son-in-law having a job in the Silvis school system after recently moving back from California. The second dollar was for her friends "Four Shillings Short" appearing in Cordova tomorrow [see more page 4]. Tyla Sherwin-Cole donated a very happy dollar announcing that Grant Applications for Doris & Victor Day Foundation Grants opened today. Gary Rowe had a sad dollar for "the landlord" and I'm not sure why? Kathy Trone put in a Happy Dollar noting that Rock N' Roll Bingo is just 10 days away! Jim Nordquist presented a North Shore, Alabama Rotary banner from his recent visit there. Hanna Carr put in a Happy Dollar for the upcoming Youth Hope, "Hope In Motion" fundraiser, [see more page 4]. Thanks to all contributors!



**Bring your own food/snacks. Beverages must be purchased at the event.**

**invite friends and if you want to sit together “purchase” a table for 8. Others are seated on a first come basis.**

**There are no teams, everyone plays on their own.**

**The cost per person is \$20 which includes two Bingo Cards. A table for 8 is \$125 with 2 cards for each person.**

**Unlike Bingo Cards, these cards have song titles listed rather than numbers.**

**The emcee plays the music and if you have that song on your card you mark it. You don’t have to be a music trivia buff. You are told what you need to know about the songs. Five in a row up, down, across, or diagonal wins prizes!**

**It’s fun! You hear lots of your favorite music, socialize with friends, and there are fun side contests mixed in throughout the evening.**

**you can sign up by scanning one of these Codes**

**OR, email Kathy Trone to sign up: [Kathy@wesselspc.occ](mailto:Kathy@wesselspc.occ)**

**Table of 8-two cards each**



**Single Player-two cards**



## FOUNDATION MINUTE

### RI’s Month of Water and Sanitation

The Rotary theme for March, Water and Sanitation, asks us to focus on the life changing improvements that we can make through these international projects to provide a more readily available and healthy supply of water to all people. This week’s Foundation Minute is an excerpt from this month’s message by TRF Trustee Chair, Rotarian Ian H.S. Riseley, published in Rotary.

“Water is essential for life no matter where we live. Yet many of us take it for granted. Think of all the times today you turned on the tap. About 1 in 4 people in the world have quite a different experience when they do -- if they have a tap at all. Today, 2 billion people lack access to safely managed drinking water, according to the United Nations. It is heartbreaking that each year, about 300,000 children under age 5 die from diarrheal diseases caused by poor sanitation, poor hygiene, or unsafe drinking water -- all preventable circumstances.

This is where Rotary comes in. Through your support, The Rotary Foundation provides water and sanitation for countless communities around the globe. Foundational grants have ranged from providing toilets and hygiene education for villages in the Philippines to building infrastructure for year-round access to safe, affordable drinking water in Brazil. The water and sanitation problems that we face are too great for any of us to solve alone. But whether we work with global grant partner districts across the world or with large agencies such as USAID, we are making a difference.”

Keep in mind that our own Club has an ongoing water project serving children in remote villages of Kenya. Have you donated toward or purchased a water filter recently? Many of our members bought filters or made donations to our water filter project several years ago. Some of our members purchase a filter (\$350 donation) each year. Checks can be made payable to Rock Island Rotary with a note on the memo line, “Water Project” and given to our treasurer. We will order filters in groups of five each time the account reaches \$1,750.00. So far through the generosity of our members, many partner Rotary clubs, individual Rotarians, Interact, and EarlyAct Clubs in Western Illinois and Eastern Iowa we have purchased 240 filters and are providing safe drinking water to over 17,000 children. Unfortunately, the latest data shows 2 billion people in the world live without access to safe water and 1.7 billion lack basic sanitation. Over 800 children under age 5 die every day from diseases linked to unsafe drinking water, poor sanitation or poor hygiene.



## OUR CLUB'S FAVORITE "FINN" STRIKES AGAIN!

It is once again March and as eagerly anticipated Kevin Koski made his annual plea for observance of St. Urho's Day noting that Urho is the "Patron Saint of Finland. Kevin recited the legend of St. Urho saying he chased the grasshoppers out of ancient Finland, thus saving the grape crop and the jobs of Finnish vineyard workers. He did this by uttering the phrase: "Heinäsiirikka, heinäsiirikka, mene täältä hiiteen" (roughly translated: "Grasshopper, grasshopper, go to Hell!"). However according to Wikipedia, the legend of Saint Urho was the invention of a Finnish American named Richard Mattson, who worked at Ketola's Department Store in Virginia, Minnesota in the spring of 1956. The Day is not celebrated in Finland, but does give the Finns in America a chance to "one up" the Irish, celebrating St. Urho's Day the day before St. Patrick's Day. Kevin also said if you take a Finn to lunch on St. Urho's day you will have a year of good luck! He said he has four slots available 11, 12, 1, and 2pm! Better call quickly! Pictured are Kevin's socks worn at today's meeting. "SUOMI" is "Finland" in Finnish.



## Four Shillings Short



Friends and house guests of Ruth Lee are professionally known as **Four Shillings Short**, but Ruth knows them as Aodh and Christy. They perform all over the world presenting Celtic and American folk, inspired by Indian Raga and Ethnic idioms; a diverse and inventive Traditional Music Experience. The husband/wife duo of Aodh Og O'Tuama from Cork, Ireland and Christy Martin from California, have been performing together since 1995. They tour in the US and Ireland, are independent folk-artists with 13 recordings, perform 100 concerts a year and live as the Troubadours of old traveling from town to town performing at music festivals, theatres & performing arts centers, folk & historical societies, libraries, museums and schools. Today they performed at the Rock Island Public Library. For those wanting to hear them, you can join Ruth tomorrow at the Cordova Public Library for a noon lunch followed by the concert. Aodh Og O'Tuama: vocals, tin whistles, doumbek, spoons, gemshorn, bowed psaltery, recorders, crumhorn, Native American Flutes, and many others. Born in Cork, Ireland, Aodh Óg (pronounced, ayog) studied Medieval and Renaissance music in college. He received a music fellowship to study at Stanford University in 1983. Played in a group called Drivelling Druids before forming the group Four Shillings Short. Christy Martin: vocals, hammered dulcimer, mandolin, mandola and bouzouki, banjo, North Indian sitar, guitar, charango, bowed psaltery, ukulele and bodhran. She is a multi-instrumentalist and vocalist Christy was born into a musical family. She played the sitar for 10 years, starting at the age of 16. Took up folk music in the '80's. Has been playing hammered dulcimer since 1993. She was formerly in a band called Your Mother Should Know.

## HOPE IN MOTION

New member Hannah Carr contributed her first Happy Dollar today to tell us about the YouthHope "HOPE IN MOTION" fundraiser banquet scheduled for April 13<sup>th</sup> at the Bend Expo in East Moline at 6pm. Tickets are \$35 or \$350 for a table of 10. They need your RSVP by March 17<sup>th</sup>. The evening will include Diner, Live & Silent Auctions, and "Amazing Youth Testimonies!" The flier for the event features a photo of a portion of the Mural our club funded which was painted on the North side of the Rock Island Youth Hope facility last fall. Hannah invited all Rotarians to join her for Dinner and a fun evening in support of a great cause!







**FINAL WEEK** SELLING IN THE LOBBY MARCH 21 BEFORE 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