



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

Rock Island Rotary

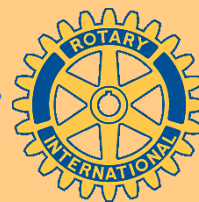
Rock Island, Illinois

WEEKLY REVIEW

July 11, 2023

Volume XXXI, Issue 1

Meeting Tuesdays at Noon – Quad City Botanical Center



THE 2023-24 ROTARY YEAR

Today marked our first meeting of the new Rotary Year. We celebrated with District Governor David Emerick installing our officers and directors and the distribution of the 2023-24 Roster Directory. As with the look of our newsletter, much has changed and yet much is the same. Cindi Gramenz remains our Club president, although in an altered role. Cindi will preside at Board meetings and guide our Club leadership throughout the year. Occasionally she will preside at our Tuesday membership meetings, but most of those duties will be shared by a team of our past presidents. Each will bring their own style and skills to the rostrum, giving long time members a nostalgic look at prior years and newer members an insight into our proud and past history. Here is our leadership team for the coming year installed today.:



President Cindi Gramenz 1st Vice-Pres Sue Rector 2nd Vice-Pres John Olinger Secretary Anne McGlynn Co-Treasurer Tom Hammar Director/1yr. Co-Treasurer Molly Shattuck



Past-President Frank Lambert Sgt. at Arms Bob Swanson Director 1yr. Rebecca Arnold Director 1yr. Dave Hodge Director 1yr. John Phillips Director 2yr. Amber Brummit



Director 2yr Ruth Lee Director 2yr racy Pugh Director 2yr Tyla Sherwin-Cole

New Rotary District Governor Dave Emerick presided over the Installation of our Officers and Directors at today's Club meeting. He began by praising Rock Island Rotary for all we do for our community and Rotary in general. He then told of attending Rock Island Rotary meetings and events with his Grandfather who was a member of our Club. He also said that when he was recently installed as our District Governor he wore his grandfather's Rock Islnd Rotary pin next to his own Rotary pin. He then called forward our officers and directors elected for the 2023-24 Rotary year. He excluded incoming president Cindi Gramenz and after completing the installtion of the other officers and directors called Cindi forward and installed her as our Club president for 2023-24. He also noted that he was most impressed by the support Cindi received from the numerous past-presidents who have volunteered to share presiding duties at our meetings during the coming year. He said that really says much about the commitment and dedication our members have to Rotary. Today, former president John Phillips presided. John served as our president for the 2015-16 year. He showed he hasn't lost his leadership abilities!



Governor Emerick

July - August Calendar

- July 18 - Richard Hammar - Amateur Astronomy
- July 25 - Kathy Trone - Human Trafficking
- Aug 1 - Katrina Kuening - Digital Marketing Storyteller for Visit Quad Cities
- Aug 8 - Mike Petersen - Illiniwek and Amôwa Forest Preserves Ranger
- Aug 15 - Sheriff Darren Hart - RI County EMA director
- Aug 22 - Brian Baxter - QCSO Exec. Dir. - Pops Concert and 2023-24 season
- Aug 29 - Patrick Allie - Rock Island Arsenal Museum

Rotary

Club of Rock Island



P.O. Box 4514
Rock Island, IL 61204
www.rirotary.com

Officers

Cindi Gramenz, President
Sue Rector, 1st Vice Pres.
John Oliger, 2nd Vice Pres.
Anne McGlynn, Secretary
Tom Hammar, Co-Treasurer
Frank Lambert, Past President
Bob Swanson, Sgt. at Arms

Board Members

Rebecca Arnold, Director
Amber Brummit, Director
David Hodge, Director
Ruth Lee, Director
John Phillips, Director
Tracy Pugh, Director
Molly Shattuck, Director/Co-Treas.
Tyla Sherwin-Cole, Director

Program Chair 2023-24

Rebecca Arnold
Presenters

July:	Tom Hammar
August:	Kai Swanson
September:	Rebecca Arnold
October:	Holly Sparkman
November:	Rebecca Arnold
December:	Bob Swanson
January:	John Wetzel
February:	Kai Swanson
March:	Angela Campbell
April:	Gary Rowe
May:	Gary Rowe
June:	Tom Hammar

Club Notes & Announcements!

- ★ **WELCOME GUESTS** – We had two visiting Rotarians as guests at today's meeting. Duncan Cameron from the Naples, Florida Club; and our District Governor, Dave Emerick from the East Moline-Silvis Club. We love having guest visit the No. 1 Club! We hope you enjoyed your visit and will come back to see or join us again! Hey members, when was the last time you invited a guest to join you at Rotary?
- ★ **ROTARY NIGHT AT THE BACKWATER GAMBLERS THIS SUNDAY!** – Don't miss the chance to see one of our area's finest outdoor entertainment events with action on the water from high flying ramp jumping to four high pyramid skiing, ballet on the water, and barefoot speedsters! The action starts at 6:30pm this Sunday in Williamson Park at the intersection of 44th Street and the Rock River in Rock Island. Parking opens at 5:30. Reply today by email to reserve seats for you, your family and friends you want to invite!
- ★ **MAKE EVERYONE FEEL WELCOME!** We are very fortunate to have gained several new members in the past few months. If you see a face you don't recognize, take a moment to say "Hello", shake hands, and become acquainted.
- ★ **NEW CLUB DIRECTORIES WERE DISTRIBUTED TODAY.** Each member is entitled to take one. If you didn't get yours today, be sure to stop at the Sergeant's table next week and get your copy. Be sure to check page 35-38 to see your committee assignments. Every member is on at least one Club committee and most are on two or more!
- ★ **A WORD ABOUT LUNCH** – We have heard your comments regarding the buffet. We have requested that chicken and green beans be served on a less regular basis. Bridges does an excellent and reliable job for us each week and as we all know food costs have risen dramatically over the past 3 years. Our cost for lunch has not increased during that same time. We are trying very hard to avoid a dues increase. Let us know what you do and don't like and we will pass the information on to Bridges. They will do their best to accommodate us.
- ★ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** – Send to Bob Swanson at bobdebswanson@att.net. The Weekly Review is distributed via email each Tuesday afternoon.

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY PROUD OF OUR INTERNATIONAL WATER PROJECT!

When Rock Island Rotary founded the Western Illinois – Eastern Iowa Water Project in 2017 with a goal of supplying impoverished children in rural villages of Kenya with safe drinking water, we had no idea how, or if, the idea would be received. Fast forward 6 years and note that we just ordered 17 more water filters at a cost of \$5,950. That brings our total number of filters provided since 2017 to 261. Each filter is placed in a village school and serves up to 70 children. We have provided multiple filters to larger schools and have placed a few in village churches.

Rock Island Rotarians are very proud to now be providing safe water to over 18,000 children! We are also proud that our Jordan Earlyact Club and Rock Island High School Interact Club have joined the project and funded filters. Another great source of pride for our club is the support and encouragement from Rotarians from 12 other Rotary Clubs, 3 Interact Clubs, and an Earlyact Club in Western Illinois and Eastern Iowa who have joined our project. We are most proud that 16 of our members have individually purchased one or more filters and many more have made contributions toward the purchase of filters.





ROCK ISLAND ROTARY JULY BIRTHDAYS

Ernie Beane	July	3
Holly Sparkman	July	7
Kevin Koski	July	12
Frank Lambert	July	15
Todd Thompson	July	15
Lindsey Honert	July	17
Doug Hultquist	July	28



A Message from our Rotary International President Scotland's Gordon McNally

Even as we face new and serious challenges, Rotary takes care of its members and those we serve, works to build lasting peace, and embeds belonging and inclusion in everything we do. That is why I am asking everyone in Rotary to Create Hope in the World.

This year, we're prioritizing projects to support mental health. This effort is deeply personal to me. I know what it's like to see someone suffer in silence. I have also witnessed the power of personal connections, the value of discussing emotional and mental well-being, and the lifesaving impact of preventive care and treatment.



Research shows that performing acts of kindness is an effective step any of us can take to protect our well-being. And by building peace within, we become more capable of bringing peace to the world.

Building peace is the essence of Rotary. Many of our service projects foster the conditions for Positive Peace. We work tirelessly to overcome barriers and create new connections. This year, we'll promote virtual international exchanges for members to strengthen those vital connections.

Peace isn't a dream, and it's not passive. It's the result of working hard, earning trust, and having open conversations that may be difficult. Peace must be waged persistently — and bravely. Everything we do across our areas of focus has the potential to foster the hope that can make peace possible.

THE FOUNDATION MINUTE RI's Month of Transition

It's July, the Rotary International Month of Transition; and transitioning is what's been happening in every Rotary Club around the globe. New club presidents and board members in more than 45,000 clubs worldwide are geared to continue the business of advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace. This week's FM is culled from the message of the new Foundation Trustee Chair, Rotarian Barry Rassin, published in the current issue of Rotary.

In a nutshell, TRF in the last 5 years, has helped 100 million beneficiaries, and while that may be staggering, Rassin reminds Rotarians that the organization could reach twice as many in the next 5 years. He explains how this could be done: "The Rotary Foundation Trustees have set an ambitious goal for giving of \$500 million, our highest ever. This breaks down to \$150 million from the Annual Fund to help fund grants and \$50 million for polio eradication, to be matched 2 to 1 by \$100 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. For the Endowment Fund and our future, we are targeting \$60 million in outright giving and \$80 million in commitments, totaling \$140 million. And we want to collect \$60 million in other contributions, such as direct giving, cash for global grants, and Disaster Response Fund donations. To make this happen, we need all of you---each and every Rotarian and Rotaractor."

FINES & HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

Newly installed 2nd Vice-President, John Oliger, was greeted by a particularly enthusiastic chorus of “Boos” as he took the rostrum for his first opportunity to levy fines and accept donation dollars. He began by saying how much he dislikes asking for money and levying fines, and then proved to be highly successful at those skills. Sue Rector was fined under the “Austin Rule” for having her name in the paper. Sue confessed that it was “the other Sue Rector”, but noted the name was mentioned at least five times so she paid a \$5 fine. John Wetzel offered \$54 very happy dollars in celebration of “my wife’s wedding anniversary”. Congrats Marcia! Somehow we suspect John was involved too! Then Mark Mayeski gave twenty-three happy dollars in celebration of his wife’s retirement from Deere & Company. Carrie Crossen put in her very happy dollar to be seated out among the general membership after serving as our Club’s Treasurer for the past 15 years. Thanks for the donation and even more thanks for your years of outstanding service as our treasurer! Bud Phillis had \$5 happy “Cubbie” dollars for the Cubs finishing the month of June ahead of the Cardinals. He then added Happy dollars in celebration of his recent family reunion in which 42½ family members attended. We are assuming one attendee might be with child, At any rate that many of the Phillis clan gathered down south for a Tennessee reunion and all stayed in one cabin! If you’re thinking a Lincoln type cabin, think again. This one was three storeys tall, had a swimming pool, billiard room, etc. We’re sure a great time was had by all! Sue Rector added a second \$5 happy dollars celebrating her son’s passing the 2nd test toward earning his CPA designation. Now studying begins on the phase 3 test. Kimberly Calhoun offered a happy dollar and offered a challenge. She noted that our club often talks about and celebrates various sports and sporting events. She noted that the Quad Cities is full of great theater opportunities and mentioned Circa 21, Quad City Music Guild, Genesis Theatre Foundation, and Richmond Hill Players. She urged Rotarians to get out and see the great entertainment that is available in our community. Closing things down, presiding “past-president” John Phillips offered a \$1 fine for taking his name badge home. Not a bad opening day VP Oliger. Very worthy of even more “Boos” next week!



FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today our raffle featured a 50/50 cash drawing and a bottle of exquisite wine. Former Club Treasurer Carrie Crossen assisted Bud Phillis in pulling the winning tickets. The first lucky ticket holder was Doug Hultquist who took the cash and donated it back to the Rotary International Foundation. The second winner was Amber Wood who took home the wine! We thank every Rotarians who participated and remind everyone that proceeds from our raffle go to support the Rotary Foundation.

PROGRAM CHAIR REBECCA ARNOLD LEADS DISCUSSION



With the Installation of officers over and done, Rebecca Arnold was called to the rostrum to lead a discussion about our meeting programs. In the past various members volunteered to serve as program chair and each served for two months and were pretty much on their own to line up programs of their choice. Starting last year Rebecca was named Program Chair for the year and acted as a supervisor/coordinator of our programs. Moving forward various members will serve as program “presenters” lining up and introducing our guest speakers. Rebecca will provide a data base of all programs we have had going back five or more years. Presenters can see when a speaker was last at our Club and use the list for ideas on who to invite and who to avoid because they recently spoke to us. Rebecca also has a list of prospective speakers and will offer suggestions to presenters as they decide who to invite.

After giving an excellent explanation as to how the new system works, Rebecca invited Club members to name some of the past programs that were most memorable or impactful. She also requested suggestions on the type of programs members would like to see or specific speakers they would enjoy hearing. It was an excellent discussion with numerous great suggestions coming from the membership. We look forward to the coming year and are confident with Rebecca’s leadership we will have an excellent variety of speakers and topics ranging from pure entertainment to education, history, business, community events and service projects. It is going to be a great year to be a Rock Island Rotarian!