



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

Rock Island Rotary

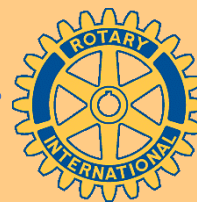
Rock Island, Illinois

WEEKLY REVIEW

July 25, 2023

Volume XXXI, Issue 3

Meeting Tuesdays at Noon – Quad City Botanical Center



HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**KATHY TRONE
and
JULIE GELAUDE**



Kathy Jo Trone has managed Wessels & Wierman Law Practice in Rock Island for over 23 years. She resides in East Moline and has two adult children, Adam & Dylan. She is also blessed with grandchildren- Tegan, Easton and Baker. She travels as much as she can and is looking forward to starting golf lessons soon. Passionate about volunteering, she has previously had leadership roles in Silvis PTO, East Moline Silvis Soccer Club, United Way and has taught Junior Achievement for 10+ years. Kathy has been a RI Rotarian since 2007. She has been an active member- on the executive board three times, chaired the fundraising committee the past 15 years, chaired new member orientation for 12 years, and just received the Clubs highest honor as the 2023 AT Pears Award winner. Most recently she was asked to become District Chair for the Human Trafficking Awareness Task Force. She is passionate about spreading awareness and hopes to grow the task force and speak to all the clubs in the district by mid-2024. She is thrilled that Julie shares this passion and they have partnered together to spread the word. Julie Gelaude, MOL, Director, Business Training Center at Black Hawk College. Julie Gelaude holds a Master's of Organizational Leadership from St. Ambrose University, a Bachelor's in

Marketing from Augustana College and an Associate's degree from Black Hawk College. She has worked in higher education doing customized contract training and program development for the workforce at Black Hawk College for over 24 years. She also serves on the Board of the Black Hawk College Foundation—QC, Quad Cities Missing Person's Network (QCMNP) and the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC), local chapter #50 serving as the Scholarship Chair. She is also a member of the Rock Island Rotary. She is driven to share the value of education and being a lifelong learner. Julie lives in Moline with her husband of 27 years, Ron. Together, they have two grown sons; Braxton, 26 and Chase, 24. In her spare time, Julie loves to spend time with her family and friends, traveling, and reading, and/or seeking work. Kathy led off with a description of how she and Julie got involved in the effort to fight Human Trafficking and said it could be traced back to the Rotary International Convention in New Orleans in 2011. There a presentation about Human Trafficking made a great impression on River Cities Rotarian, Toni Lucas. She approached then District Governor Ruth Lee and said we should have a District Task Force to fight Human Trafficking. Ruth said "Go do it" and Toni did. The task force was established and has been growing, receiving training, and making presentations ever since. In 2022 Toni passed the reins of the Task Force to Kathy Trone and she enlisted the help of Julie Gelaude and the two Rock Island Rotarians have been hard at it ever since! Kathy reported that so far only two other District Rotarians have joined the Task Force to work with Kathy, Julie, and Toni, but they are making progress. They set a goal of making presentations to every Club in District 6420. That will require 43 presentations and lots of travel. But the Task Force members are committed to get it done. Kathy and Julie presented some very disturbing data noting that Domestic Servitude is an 8 billion dollar industry, Forestry and Farming servitude is a 9 billion dollar industry and Sexual servitude is now bringing in 99 billion annually! Statistics for 2021 showed 10,000 cases of reported Human Trafficking. Most disturbing was a reported 690 cases reported in the Quad City area. Julie provided information on how to spot possible trafficking and what to do if you see evidence of it. They also displayed stickers they are distributing for placement in public restrooms that advise victims how to get help. Often restrooms are the only area where victims are momentarily free from the person controlling their freedom.

See Trafficking page 3

July - August

- Aug 1 - Katrina Kuenig – 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
- Aug 31-Sept 4 – Milan Harvest Festival Camden Park

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 four guests today including visiting Rotarian Duncan Cameron from the Naples, Florida Club. Ella Hansen our 2023 Service Above Self Fred Houlton Scholarship recipient and her grandmother Ann Austin attended as guests of the Club. Marti Wood from Morrison, Illinois was a guest of daughter, Amber Wood. We hope you enjoyed your visit and will come back to see or join us again!
- ★ **NEW CLUB DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE.** Each member is entitled to take one. If you didn't get yours be sure to stop at the Sergeant's table next week and get a 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! Your help to make committees successful is vital!
- ★ **KNOW YOUR CLUB TRADITIONS** – The "Austin Rule". Charlie Austin (Charles O. Austin, Jr.) was a long-time member of our Club. Charlie devoted countless hours to Rotary. He joined Rotary in 1947 in Clarion, Iowa. He was a Paul Harris Fellow in 1973; received the Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service in 1974; served as governor of Rotary District 642 from 1976 to 1977; received the Rock Island Rotary Service Above Self award in 1977; received the Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award for 1977-78, the Rock Island Community Service Award in 1984, the Rotary District 642 Service Award in 1984, and the Rock Island Rotary A.T. Pears Award in 1985; was recognized as Benefactor of Rotary Foundation in 1989; and received the 50-year Perfect Attendance Award in 1999. He honored a dozen of his family member as Paul Harris Fellows. His son, Charles III (Chuck), was also a member of our Club until his tragic death in an accident while serving as a volunteer at the John Deere Classic. Charlie started a tradition of watching the papers for any mention of an "Austin". No matter who it was Charlie would "confess" that they were a long lost relative and pay a fine to Rotary. In the 70s and 80s Tracy Austin was the Number 1 women's tennis player in the world and in the papers almost weekly. Charlie paid a fine each week saying under the "Austin Rule", you pay for any Austin. That rule spread and to this day any time your name appears in the paper (whether you, a relative, or no relation at all), you may be fined. We lost Charlie in October of 1999, but knowing he did everything he could to support Rotary and the Rotary Foundation we've kept his "rule" as a tribute to his memory.
- ★ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** – Send to bobdebswanson@att.net. The newsletter goes out each Tuesday afternoon.

The Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The Four-Way Test

(of the things we Think, Say or Do)

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

JULY MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Ernest 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

PAST PRESIDENT, ERNIE BEANE HONORED



At last week's Club meeting Club past-president Ernie Beane came to hear our guest speaker. Ernie joined Rotary in 1982. He was elected president of Rock Island Rotary for the 1998-99 Rotary year and is well remembered by "senior" members of our Club for his humorous weekly reading of "Tales From the Tabloids", a combination of actual news (this was before google, Facebook, etc. when people really read newspapers) and some of the "Can you believe this" type stories in the tabloids. Ernie had a long and distinguished career as a Director and Chief Legal Counsel for Modern Woodmen of America. He also earned Paul Harris Fellow honors and has continued his membership in Rock Island Rotary for 41 years. A few years ago Ernie and wife Carol moved from Rock Island to senior living in Bettendorf. As a



result he is unable to attend regularly, but still maintains many friends and periodically gets to a meeting. Some time back our Board of Directors voted to bestow Honorary Membership honors on Ernie and he expressed his appreciation and graciously accepted the honor. However we had never presented Ernie with his gold Honorary Member pin or officially sworn him in as a Honorary Member. Seizing upon his attendance at our meeting, President Cindi took the microphone to his table, made the official proclamation lauding Ernie's long and dedicated commitment to Rotary and present him with his pin. We congratulate Ernie and once again thank you for your service, dedication, and friendship. You will always be welcome at Rock Island Rotary!

THE FOUNDATION MINUTE

Welcome to Week 3 of RI's Month of Transition

Disease prevention and treatment is one of TRF's 7 areas of focus. Over two months ago, two dedicated Rotarians left their homes in Iowa in a single engine plane which they bought with their personal funds, for a trip around the world. Their sole purpose was to raise awareness for worldwide eradication of poliomyelitis, a crippling disease targeting the nervous system. John Ockenfels, Past District 6000 Governor and Peter Teahen, a member of District 5970, have so far, visited over 20 countries during their 90-day flight for the opportunity to enlighten interested minds about polio. Their listeners got to know that Polio:

- Mainly affects children under 5 years of age
- Has no cure, but is preventable by vaccine
- Is endemic in only TWO countries
- Has been reduced by 99.9% since 1988 by Rotary International
- Remains a threat until ALL children are vaccinated.

This charitable trip around the world ends July 30, 2023. In the meantime, you too can support this unique trip by donating to the noble cause of totally eradicating polio from the face of our planet. All monies realized from the trip will be donated to the PolioPlus..

Trafficking – Continued

They advised that victims are often "branded" by tattooing or other means to make it abundantly clear that the person is owned by some other person. There may be marks or other evidence of mistreatment on the body of the victim. There may be just a feeling because of appearances or age difference that the two don't seem to go together. You might overhear something indicating a possible enslavement. If you see it, report it. Those most susceptible to trafficking are young runaways, those that have been victims or witnesses of domestic violence, and those that have been brought from foreign countries with promises of the "good life" in America. The ladies noted that three websites, TikTok, Snapchat, and Kiik are under investigation as prime areas where predators fish for and recruit trafficking victims. Such predators pose as children and seek to build friendships and trust with unsuspecting youngsters. Over time the friendship grows and may lead to sending a compromising photo or even going to meet the supposed friend. The photos can turn into blackmail when the predator threatens to send the photo to the victim's parents or to air it publicly unless the victim delivers drugs or performs other servitude for the predator. Going to meet the predator can lead to forced sexual acts, photos, or forced drug usage, followed by blackmail or forced behavior to satisfy addictions. Today's presentation was disturbing, eye opening, and something that all parents, grandparents, and caring citizens need to hear. We wish the greatest success for Kathy, Julie, and their Human Trafficking Taskforce. They will be sponsoring a "Walk for Awareness" locally on October 14th, we urge all Rotary members to participate. Thank you Kathy and Julie. We appreciate and salute your commitment and passion!!

FINES & HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

V.P. John Oliger has really hit the ground running in his duties as our fine assessor and collector. Today he pulled a surprise by calling up Holly Sparkman, John Wetzel, and Anne McGlynn and gave them a "Free Fine Chip" for ratting on fellow members! Then he fined Kevin Koski for the "Koski Garden" at the Botanical Center, Then he fined Cindi Gremanz and Anne McGlynn for needing to leave early today; Calling for Happy/Sad Dollars he started with his own Hppy Dollar for his son's involvement with RAGBRAI celebrating its 50th Year. It remains the largest bike-touring event in the world! Frank Lambert had a Sad Dollar not saying specifically what it was for, but we all know it was for the Cardinals losing 3 or 4 to the Cubs last week. Bud Phillis follow with Happy Dollars celebrating the Cubs success over the Redbirds! Jim Moran had a Happy Dollar for his granddaughter Katlyn who was selected to age group US Volleyball team and won the Bronze Medal for the Southwest Region. She also was named to the All Tournament team. Amber Brummit had a Happy Dollar for her son's Rock Island Legion Baseball Team for winning the Legion District Tournament. Kathy Trone had 2 Happy Dollars for Jim Moran and Cindi Gramenz for wearing their "Stop Human Trafficking" tee shirts. Molly Shattuck had 3 Happy Dollars. One for her daughter Nora, who played in her first soccer game last week. One for her son Brady who completed his first successful season of travel Baseball, and One for her company, Centennial Accounting, who was named the top accounting firm in the Region by the Quad City Business Journal. Monta Ponsetto had a Happy Dollar for 4 year old granddaughter, Nora, who played in her first soccer game last week. Monta had a second Happy Dollar for the Education Foundation's "Prime Grants" and said we would hear more next week. John Wetzel had a Happy Dollar for returning to Circa 21 for the first time since covid to see "Margaritaville. Thanks to all the generous Rotarians who nitched in this week!



FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's Foundation Raffle offered a 50/50 Cash Drawing and a bottle of fine wine. The first lucky winner was Ruth Lee who took the money and donated it to our Club's Kenya Water Project. The second winner taking home the wine was Gary Rowe. Congratulations to our winners and thanks to all who played!



MEET ELLA

It is difficult to find Ella Hansen when she is not reading or studying. That is one reason why she is our 2023 recipient of our club's Fred Houlton Service Above Scholarship. A straight "A" student, Ella took numerous Advanced Placement Classes and finished 3rd in her graduating class. She also found time to be a member of the elite Chamber Choir, the Marching Band, Symphonic Band, was in multiple musicals and plays, and served as President of the National Honor Society. Ella also was elected 2022-23 Homecoming Princess by her fellow Rocky students. She is active in various Community services, and our scholarship is not Ella's only



connection to Rock Island Rotary. Her grandfather, Chuck Austin, was a member of our club up to his untimely and tragic death while volunteering at the John Deere Classic in 2017. Ella's great-grandfather, Charlie Austin (see the "Austin Rule" page 20). served as our Club President and as Governor of our District. He had 50+ years of perfect Rotary attendance prior to his death. If you wonder where Ella got her drive and outstanding scholarship, you might consider that Great-grandfather Charlie was a principal at Rock Island High School and later Superintendent of our School District. Grandfather Chuck was a long-time math teacher at Rock Island High School and also coached several sports and officiated track and cross-country. Her parents, Paul and Julie Hansen, instilled in their daughter the value of education. Both are teachers. Ella has been accepted at her "Dream College" and with our assistance will be attending Washington University in St. Louis.



We congratulate "Princess" Ella and know that Grandpa Chuck and Great-Granpa Charlie are extremely proud of you! We wish they were here to see you receive the Rotary "Service Above Self" Scholarship!

PAUL HARRIS FELLOW HONORS GRANTED



Today was a special day at Rock Island Rotary, Rotarian Amber Wood brought her mother, Martha Wood as a guest for lunch. Then Amber was called to the rostrum by Foundation Committee member Bud Phillis. Bud explained that a Rotarian who donated \$1,000 to the Rotary International Foundation is named a Paul Harris Fellow after Rotary founder Paul Harris. Once a Rotarian earns the honor, they can bestow the honor on someone else by contributing another \$1,000. Today Amber called her mom "Marti" to join her at the podium and bestowed Paul Harris Fellow honors on her mother. Amber said her strong commitment to Rotary and to service came from watching and learning from her mother who set a very high example. Congratulations Marti and Amber, now both Paul Harris Fellows!

Bettendorf • Davenport • East Moline-Silvis • Geneseo • Ill Quad Cities • Iowa Quad Cities
Moline • Muscatine • North Scott • River Cities • Rock Island • Twin Rivers RAH

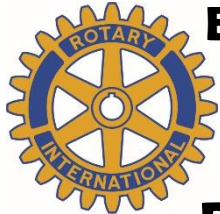


ROTARY NIGHT AT THE Q. C. RIVER BANDITS

A Joint Quad City Area Rotary Event

FRIDAY – AUGUST 11, 2023

Bring your family, friends, and prospective Rotarians!



Gates open at 5:45pm – Game time 6:30pm



RIVER BANDITS vs CEDAR RAPIDS KERNELS
SPECIAL ROTARY RESERVED BOX SEATS SECTION
TICKETS JUST \$10!

Stay in your seats for after game FIREWORKS!



See John Oliger for Tickets

**Must sign up and pay in advance to get the Special Rotary
Group Ticket Rate!**

You can email your ticket request to :

John.Oliger@modern-woodmen.org

CARAMEL APPLES

Nuts Optional 50¢

\$4

\$4



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**MAJOR ROCK ISLAND ROTARY FUNDRAISER - SIGN UP
TO HELP STAFF THE MILAN HARVEST FESTIVAL TENT**