



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

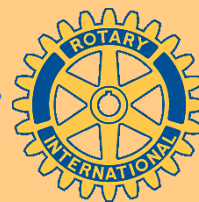
Rock Island Rotary Rock Island, Illinois

WEEKLY REVIEW

August 8, 2023

Volume XXXI, Issue 5

Meeting Tuesdays at Noon – Quad City Botanical Center



RANGER MIKE PETERSEN ILLINIWEK AND AMŌWA FOREST PRESERVES



Mike Petersen joined the Rock Island County Forest Preserve District staff in March of 2011 and serves as the Ranger/Superintendent of Illiniwek and Amōwa Forest Preserves in Northern Rock Island County. Peterson holds a bachelors degree in Forestry from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. Illiniwek Forest Preserve located near Hampton, Illinois offers family friendly campsites, trails, fishing and scenic views of the Mississippi River. The 174 acre park allows for an assortment of activities and adventures. Amenities include 60 camping pads with water and electric hookups; 25 primitive camping pads; hiking and biking trails; Picnic shelter and playground; and boat ramp access to the Mississippi River. The Great River Hiking and Biking Trail runs through Illiniwek. Amōwa Forest Preserve located along Interstate 80 and Illinois 92, on Hubbard Road, East Moline concentrates on preserving biodiversity and protecting our natural environments. “Amōwa” (pronounced uh-MOE-wah) is the Sauk word for “bee.” The name honors the Sauk people while also tying into the park's purpose to provide and pollinators. The Amōwa Forest Preserve offers approximately 179 acres of protected land for visitors to explore and habitat for species that are in rapid decline due to loss of quality habitat. Quality habitat loss is a significant contributing factor for the decline of pollinators like the endangered Rusty Patch Bumblebee and vulnerable American Bumblebee. Amōwa does not allow off-road motorized vehicles, horses, drones, aircraft or remote-controlled items, fires or fireworks, and dogs must be on a leash at all times. Permitted activities include hiking, biking, bird watching, and wildlife viewing. Going back a few years, Petersen stated that up until 2016 Illiniwek Preserve had 65 acres along the Mississippi that was just mowed grass. It wasn't being used and served no real purpose. He proposed that it be returned to native prairie with native grasses and flowering plants to create a habitat for all sorts of insects, birds, and wildlife. With the help of Rotarian and Country Board member Kai Swanson, Ranger Peterson received permission from the Forest Preserve Commission and started the conversion. Over five years starting in 2017, 25 acres of mowed grass was removed and replanted with prairie grasses and plants. Another 10 acres was planted with hickory and oak trees reestablishing the native forestry. Petersen noted that it takes three to four years for a prairie to be established with plants and animals. However, in 2019 in the newly established prairie field a Rusty Patch Bumblebee was discovered. They are extremely rare and on the endangered species list. Petersen said that they are no longer found on 98% of what was their native habitat. Illiniwek is now an important part of the 2% of habitat where they remain and after genetic testing it was established that the Illiniwek Rusty Patch Bumblebee is strong, healthy, thriving, and most importantly mating and expanding the population. In addition to the prairie, Illiniwek also has 100 acres of forest that was extensively filled with invasive undergrowth including lots of honeysuckle trees. Peterson's staff has been working hard clearing out the undergrowth so that wildlife can return to the preferred habitat. To determine what was in the forest bat monitors were placed that can hear the calls for bat species that are inaudible to humans. That study revealed that two more endangered species were inhabiting Illiniwek and could be identified by their calls. The Indiana bat and the Northern Long Eared bat were both identified. Not long after that discover the American Bumblebee was also discovered in the preserve, the fourth endangered species creature found to date in our County's preserve.

Aug – Sept Calendar

- Aug 15 - Sheriff Darren Hart - R. I. County EMA director
- Aug 19 - M.L. King Center Fun Day Parade 10am
- Aug 22 - Brian Baxter – QCSO Exec. Dir. – Pops Concert and 2023-24 season
- Aug 22 - Rotary Foundation Committee Meeting 1pm
- Aug 29 - Patrick Allie – Rock Island Arsenal Museum
- Aug 31-Sept 4 – Milan Harvest Festival mden Park
- Sep - 4 State of the Schools
Alan Boucher, Interim Superintendent

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 Olinger, 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 guests today, both visiting Rotarians. Rotarian Duncan Cameron from the Naples, Florida Club joined as he does through much of the summer while back in his Bettendorf home. Former District Governor Laura Kann from the Princeton, IL Rotary Club also joined us. Club members are urged to invite a friend or colleague who might be a prospective member to visit Rock Island Rotary for a complimentary lunch.
- ★ **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 is needed to make committees successful!
- ★ **KNOW YOUR CLUB TRADITIONS – Expressing Our Care.** When we are made aware of a member struggling with a serious illness our Club expresses our concern with a card signed by as many as are available. When a member loses a parent or immediate family member our Club expresses our sorrow with a card signed by as many as are available. When a member passes our Club sends a card expressing our sadness to the member's family and if visitation is local, organizes a club group attendance for all who are available and wish to attend. The key for us is to be alerted to the situation. Members are asked to report any such situation to one of our Club officers.
- ★ **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CENTER "FUN DAY" PARADE** – Will begin at Frances Willard School 25th Avenue at 9th Street at 10am on August 19th. Rotary will have a car and walkers handing out candy. Put on your Club shirt and join the parade! It's just a bit over a mile and ends at the King Center. If walking is not your "bag" there might be room in the car! Support Rotary and the King Center. Four of our members (Jerry Jones, Rebecca Arnold, Kristia LeShoure, and Carlos Jiménez) work at the King Center! This year's \$20,000 Club Foundation Grant went to the King Center to build the new "Rotary Outdoor Classroom" at the Center.
- ★ **BIRTHDAY BOOKS – MARK YOUR CALENDAR** – August 24th, 2:15pm at Earl Hanson School. We need lots of help for doing July and August Birthdays! It will take only about a half hour of your time!
- ★ **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?

AUGUST MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mark Poulos	Aug 3	Tracy Pugh	Aug 17
Monta Ponsetto	Aug 4	Yolanda Pugh	Aug 18
Char Flickinger	Aug 7	John Daly	Aug 19
Dan McNeil	Aug 9	Duncan Cameron	Aug 19
Jennifer Hirsch	Aug 10	Jim Nordquist	Aug 21
Marcy Bell	Aug 11	Carrie Crossen	Aug 25
Mary Fislar	Aug 11	Julie Gelaude	Aug 29
Bud Phillis	Aug 12	Bruce Peterson	Aug 30
Amber Brummit	Aug 17		

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION MINUTE

Welcome Back to D6000 Flight-to-End Polio Pilots!

Rotarians Peter Teahen and John Ockenfels flew out of the Eastern Iowa Airport in Cedar Rapids on May 5 in a Cessna T210M airplane intent on raising awareness for polio eradication all over the world. They achieved this goal in their 90-day and over 25,000-mile flight. Along the way, they met both fellow Rotarians and complete strangers in several countries, who were impressed by the humanitarian passion of these devoted pilots. Teahen and Ockenfels educated their listeners about the highly infectious disease, which is spread from person to person, through contaminated water and notoriously victimizing children under five. Their audiences also learned how the virus attacks the victim's nervous system, often leading to permanent paralysis. The flight around the world has garnered many funds for TRF because 100% of every donation to Teahen and Ockenfels' Flight to End Polio campaign goes to TRF's Polio Plus Program. By the end of July when the duo returned home, more than \$1,000,000 has been raised for The Rotary Foundation. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will match every donation 2:1. These two Rotarians sure make other members think of how to contribute to TRF.



FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Today's Foundation Raffle offered a 50/50 Cash Drawing and a bottle of fine wine. The first ticket drawn was held by Jeff Dismar who took the cash and donated it to the Rotary Foundation. The second lucky winner was Duncan Cameron who will enjoy excellent wine with dinner tonight. Thanks to all who bought tickets!.



SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED



November may seem far in the future, but our Trivia Night Committee is working hard to ensure the 2023 event has the best Silent Auction ever! If you have items to donate for the Auction, please contact Sue Rector and she will arrange to get or pick up anything you have and store it until auction time. Baskets need to be created, items photographed, and descriptions prepared for advertising. That all takes time and "time flies". So, it is not too early to take inventory of those gifts you received and done need or use, and purchased you made and never put to use. Contact Sue at srector@gmail.com or 563-343-7985 and she will gladly arrange to take it off your hands.

FINES & HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

V.P. John Olinger again claimed to have very little but managed to take in a lot! He started by fining Bob Swanson for showing up a day early for an Education Foundation program at Circa 21. The "rat", Kimberly Calhoun received a "Get Out of Fine Free" chip for turning him in. John Daly and Tammy Weikert were each fined a dollar for needing to leave early today. Ruth Lee offered a Happy Dollar for her Minnesota Twins leading their division in American League Baseball. Gary Rowe had two Happy Dollars for The Rock Island Community Foundation giving away \$99,500 in grants recently and for passing the \$2.4 Million mark in total grants given by the Foundation. He then ~~rated out~~ introduced Rotarian Foundation Board Members who joined in contributing to the fine box. Kathy Trone had three Happy Dollars for a successful presentation she and Julie Gelaude made to the Mt. Carroll Rotary Club. That club although small bought 4 Human Trafficking tee shirts, and a member joined the Trafficking Taskforce. Amber Wood had a Happy Dollar celebrating one of her employees receiving an Image Award at the recent NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet. Kai Swanson gave a Happy Dollar saying he attended the Banquet which was the largest since the event began many years ago. He also named some other Rotarians who attended and invited them to join him at the fine box! Dave Hodge had two Happy Dollars for completing his goal of 200 miles swimming this year and participating in the Ragbrai Iowa Bike Ride. Hannah Carr had a Happy Dollar for completing the 8-week YouthHope Summer camp. Bob Swanson noted that his opening fine today was for attending an Education Foundation grant presentation hosted by Monta Ponsetto and that Kathy Lelonek was one of the grant recipients, so both were invited to add their dollars to the fine box. As fining was about to end Cindi Gramenz rose with a Happy Dollar in honor of Jeff Dismar's purple socks which she said made her happy. Jeff modeled his footwear and both Jeff and Cindi paid fines! Thanks to everyone for having a few laughs and contributing lots of donations! All collected go to help finance important Rotary charitable projects and activities.

WEARING A NEW HAT – FORMER DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISITS



PDG Kann

Laura Kann completed her term as our District Governor June 30th but rather than “retiring” just donned a new job and is now our District’s Rotary International Foundation Chair. We were pleased she chose to visit our meeting today and provided an inspiring message regarding the Foundation. Her visit was to finish up some business from her 2022-23 year as our Governor. First she presented our club with the Rotary International Citation for achieving our membership goals for the past year. She noted that the award is an important one and that just 5 of the 43 Clubs in our District received it. She then pleasantly surprised us by presenting the District Rotarian of the Year Award to our own Cindi Gramenz. She received a beautiful etched glass award and in typical Cindi fashion credited our Club and the people around her for her success. Congratulations Cindi!



GREETERS NEEDED

We have frequently been told by our own members that one of the reasons they selected our club over the other area service organizations was the friendly greeting they received as soon as they entered our meeting room. Feeling welcome and appreciated is a major factor in joining an organization and Rock Island Rotary has long been noted as an extremely friendly and welcoming organization. Our current schedule of greeters came to a close at the end of July and we now are looking for as many different members as possible to volunteer to greet at an upcoming meeting. The signup sheet will be out at our next meeting, and we hope many will volunteer. All that is required is to arrive 15 minutes or so earlier than normal for one meeting, grab a “Greeters” badge and be at the door to welcome everyone as they arrive. Please add your name to the signup list!.



MILAN HARVEST FESTIVAL

Just three weeks from Thursday the Milan Harvest Festival opens. Rock Island Rotary will have a food tent selling sliced fresh apples drizzled with warm caramel and walnut chips. We'll also have water and an assortment of soft drinks available. We have the tent, the tables, a storage trailer, and all the supplies and equipment ready to go.

The missing item is YOU! We need Rotarians to step up and take a shift at the booth. You might be rinsing apples, using the slicer, taking orders, drizzling caramel, adding nuts, or taking money.

This might be one of our biggest fundraisers ever, but only if we're there to do the work. Three-to-four-hour daytime and evening shifts are available Thursday, August 31st through Monday, September 4th. Spouses and family members are invited to help!

Please sign up at the Sergeant's Table!

WHAT YOU THINK MATTERS!

The Program Committee is committed to bringing you a wide range of presentations that are informative, entertaining, and inspiring. We would love your suggestions for future programs – perhaps a topic or theme you're interested in, or an outstanding speaker that you know of (a talented storyteller can make any subject interesting). Please send your ideas to committee chair Rebecca Arnold at arnold.rebecca@rigov.org

Petersen – Continued from page 1 –

Ranger Petersen then told of a 180-acre tract of land near Illiniwek that had been for sale for quite some time. It is located in the northwest portion of the intersection of Route 92 (I-88) intersects with I-80 on Hubbard Road, East Moline. He sought grants and found adequate funding for the county to purchase the tract and in 2022 the newly purchased land became the County's Amōwa Preserve, the newest Rock Island County Preserve. The 180-acre preserve received its name just last year after County officials consulted with the Sauk Nation in Oklahoma. The name was chosen because "Amōwa" means "bee" in Sauk and the area is envisioned as another potential habitat for endangered bee species. Petersen views this area as a conservation corridor to I-80. There are no plans to develop the area for camping or group picnicking. They hope to keep it a natural forest/prairie site with two to three miles of hiking trails. Ranger Petersen said there are many other endangered species that need their native habitat to survive. Approximately 25 acres of the preserve have been cleared and returned to prairieland. Some rare plant species have already been discovered in Amōwa Preserve. The staff is working to clear undergrowth and honeysuckle and make the forest more habitable for numerous species of wildlife.

Turning to improvements made to Illiniwek Preserve Peterson noted that a grant of over \$280,000 was received to upgrade the main road and bicycle path that goes through Illiniwek. The two had shared the old road and with the great increase in camping and picnicking at Illiniwek, the mix of car, camper, and bike traffic created a safety issue. Using the grant, the road was replaced, and a separate bike path created. Remaining work in the project is construction of a public restroom building which will be underway very soon.

In questions after his presentation, Petersen was asked if he had any tips for homeowners interested in improving their lawns and gardens. He urged use of native plants saying that wildlife evolved along with plant life and species seek out and return their native habitat. Flowering plants of all forms are attractive to the eye but serve little other purpose. Native flowering plants however are just as attractive and provide habitat for bees, butterflies, and other insects that then attract birds and other wildlife species. When asked about future plans and desires for the Forest Preserve, Petersen said he has always hoped for an education center or program but said that is very time consuming and probably will require another full-time person. Currently it is just a long-term hope. He thought it might be accomplished by partnering with other interested environmental organizations.

We thank Ranger Petersen for his entertaining, interesting, and informative presentation! We also urge our members to take advantage of the resources afforded to us in Rock Island county and visit, picnic, or camp at Illiniwek and hike the trails of Amōwa.

ANGELA CAMPBELL'S TALENT BRINGS OUT THE DOLLARS FOR ROTARY CHARITIES



For several years former Club President Angela Campbell has helped fill our coffers with raffle money by donating for use as prizes some of her hand made fabric bowls. They have become one of our most popular raffle prizes and when in the raffle are almost always a driving force in ticket sales and usually the first item taken when winners are drawn.

Today she out did herself! TALENT is the only way to express it when you can twist and tie colored fabrics and get them into a bowl shape and somehow make them stay in that shape you are very talented. BUT TODAY she showed not only can she do that, but she can also twist and tie those fabrics not only into a bowl, but she also did so in such a way as to create a perfect St. Louis Cardinal Logo in the base of one bowl and a perfect Chicago Cubs Logo in the base of a second bowl. Both were done in team colors. We knew we had something very special, so these bowls were not put into our regular Foundation Raffle. Rather they were kept "under cover" until an appropriate moment when both were revealed and offered for auction to our members. The Cardinal Bowl went first with primarily Frank Lambert bidding against John Oliger. The two went back and forth in \$5 increments until Frank finally got the final bid and took the Cardinal Bowl for \$40. Then attention turned to the Cubs bowl and super charity auctioneer Kai Swanson swung into action. Numerous Cub fans went back and forth, and the bids went up and up! When the dust settled, Die Hard Cub Fan Dr. Bud Phillis took home the coveted bowl for \$80! Thanks to Angela we quickly raised \$120 for Rotary charities and thank you to Frank and Bud for being our winning bidders! There was talk of seeing if Angela would consider making a White Sox or Twins bowl. Then long-time White Sox fan John Phillips was heard to say, "It might raise \$5". Have faith John, as we Cub fans have learned, there is always next year!

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



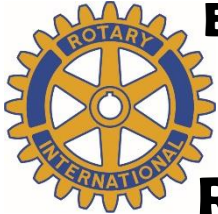
ROTARY NIGHT AT THE Q. C. RIVER BANDITS

A Joint Quad City Area Rotary Event

THIS 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!



Last Chance to Sign Up! Call or email John Oliger for Tickets

**You must sign up BY TOMORROW to get the
Special Rotary Group Ticket Rate!**

Last Chance - email your ticket request to:

John.Oliger@modern-woodmen.org

CARAMEL APPLES

Nuts Optional 50¢

\$4

\$4



Fresh and Delicious

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



Rock Island Rotary

Caramel Apple Fund Raiser

Labor Day weekend

Donation Request



If you can't physically help at the Festival, you can still be an important part of the success of the fundraiser. Donations to purchase the food products we will be selling will reduce the expenses we must take from our total income. In lieu of your physical help, please consider donating a case of apples, a can of caramel, or a bag of chopped nuts. Every donation will be appreciated.

Help us maximize our income from this event by making donations for supplies. If each member will make a small commitment to this event we will be able to fund several Rotary projects.

Supplies	Cost/unit	#units	Total for donations
Case of Apples	\$60.00	_____	\$ _____
6# can of Caramel	\$36.00	_____	\$ _____
2# bag chopped walnuts	\$10.00	_____	\$ _____
Total amount of your donations			\$ _____

Please fill in the number of units you agree to fund and fill in the total of your donation in the right hand column. We will add that amount to your next dues statement, or you can return a check with this form.

Thank you for your support! Receiving many small donations will ensure a large success for this event.

Signature

Date _____

MILAN HARVEST FESTIVAL

WE MUST HAVE 2 PEOPLE FOR EACH SESSION AND PREFER 4

8/31 Thursday 4:30pm – 7:30pm

***Amber Brummit**

Sue Rector

Rick Rector

Marcy Bell

9/1 Friday 4:30pm – 7:30pm

***Marcy Bell**

Tom Hammar

Tracy Pugh

9/2 Saturday Noon – 3:30pm

Anne McGlynn

Kevin Koski

Jane Koski

9/4 Sunday Noon – 3:30pm

9/4 Monday Noon – 4:00pm

Tracy Pugh

9/31 Thursday 7:30pm – 11pm

***Tracy Pugh**

Gary Rowe

9/1 Friday 7:30pm – 11pm

9/2 Saturday 3:30pm – 7pm

Rick Devinney

Nancy Devinney

9/3 Sunday 3:30pm – 7pm

*** If you sign in this spot you are volunteering to be crew captain. We really appreciate your service. see below for a short description of the anticipated duties. Don't be shy, we need your leadership!**

Feel free to bring your favorit lawn chair.

9/2 Saturday 7:00pm – 11 pm

9/3 Sunday 7:00pm – 11 pm

John Olinger

*** Indicates Crew Captain – Help others learn what to do and assign stations. Including apple washing, slicing, caramel preparation, serving, keeping supplies (bowls, apples, carmel, nuts, utensils, napkins) available, and taking money, First crew each day will set up. Last crew will take down. Duties can rotate and trade off. We will have a brief training session for crew captains.**

If you can take a spot, please send a reply email to Bob Swanson stating the date and time slot you can cover. Your name will be added, and you will not need to visit the Sergeants Table to sign up next week. Time is short so please consider taking a slot or helping is some other way.