



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

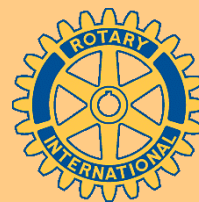
## Rock Island Rotary Rock Island, Illinois

# WEEKLY REVIEW

October 17, 2023

Volume XXXI, Issue 16

Meeting Tuesdays at Noon – Quad City Botanical Center



## ThePlace2Be Edwin Salazar

Edwin Salazar is the Youth Director for the YWCA Quad Cities, a position he has held since May of this year. In that position he oversees ThePlace2B, a teen program for at risk youth ages 14-24. ThePlace2B offers a safe place for all teens. Mr. Salazar holds an Associate of Arts degree

in Criminal Justice and Corrections Education from Lincoln Community College and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from McKendree University. He also has earned a certification of Youth Mental Health First Aid from National Council for Mental Wellbeing. He previously was an Addiction Counselor at Rosecrance Jackson Centers in Moline and worked as a family counselor at Families First Counseling Services and at Mid-Iowa Family Therapy Clinic Inc. Born and raised in the Quad Cities, Salazar's background is social work. "My focus has always been advocating for families and young children," said Salazar. At YWCA, Salazar coordinates ThePlace2B, an afterschool program for youth. The goal at ThePlace2B is to provide a safe space for kids, but also a place where they also get a lot of education and opportunities that will benefit them in school and when they start to look for jobs. Salazar's passion for working with young people is obvious. "I feel like I can relate to them," he added. "I'm trying to be the person that I wish my friends and I had to learn from when we were that age." Salazar stated that they have helped 600 youth that were homeless and in danger of trafficking and abuse. He said their clientele are quite diverse and that ThePlace2B is welcoming for all races, religions, and cultures. Their entire emphasis is on providing a safe place to be and to offer whatever assistance the individual might need. It may be food, clothing, obtaining insurance, housing, getting help with career placement, transportation, medical or dental care or referral services for mental health, and substance abuse assistance. ThePlace2B also provides life readiness skills which includes sponsoring and attending career days, help with resume writing and interviewing, and transportation for work interviews. Leisure activities are also provided including basketball, swimming,

weight room activities, volleyball and other games. ThePlace2B is a substance free / violence free facility. Those with substance abuse issues are not turned away. The emphasis is on getting them help and ending substance use. Those with violent tendencies are counseled and if needed referred to mental health professionals. ThePlace2B has also helped numerous victims of sexual abuse and human trafficking. No matter what the situation they make it know that any youth between 14 and 18 is welcome for dinner every night. Services are provided by the YWCA's Empowerment center for older youth up to 22 years of age. There job skills and GED assistance are provided. That program serves 125 to 150 annually. Mr. Salazar identified four principal goals of ThePlace2B: 1) Identify if you in need (anything from clothing to food, safety to shelter, career training to health care) 2) Meet their Needs.(onsite services or referral) 3) Connect Youth with Services (get appointments and provide transportation if needed to and from needed services) 4) Ensure Youth have the skills needed to complete applications, attend workfairs, operate equipment, and obtain a career. Mr. Salaza has partnered with area schools and hopes to be a resource that give youth an alternative to absenteeism, suspension, and expulsion. We greatly appreciated Edwin's presentation and thank him for speaking with up and for his hard work providing important services for youth in our community.

### Sept – Dec Calendar

- Oct 23 - WORLD POLIO DAY  
Joint Evening Meeting
- Oct 31 - Interact Update-  
Lonnie Behnke AND  
Aaron Baker, Educa-  
tion and DEAI Coordi-  
nator for the German  
American Heritage  
Center
- Nov 7 - Laura Kann, District  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair
- Nov 14 - Janessa Calderon  
QC Hispanic Chamber  
of Commerce
- Nov 21 - Patrick Olson  
Toastmasters
- Nov 28 - Dr Sharon Varallo  
Augustana's Prison  
Education Program
- Dec 5 - RIHS Chamber  
Singers
- Dec 12 - Kevin Koski - "Your  
Mother (and Lots of  
Other People) Were  
Wrong"
- Dec 19 - Rock Island Rotary's  
Kenya Water Project
- Dec 26 - NO MEETING
- Jan 2 - NO MEETING

# Rotary

Club of Rock Island



P.O. Box 4514  
Rock Island, IL 61204  
[www.rirotary.com](http://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** – Today Rock Island Rotary welcomed two guests to our meeting. Patrick Doherty, a prospective member was a guest of Anne McGlynn. Duncan Cameron a member of the Naples, Florida Rotary Club visited us for the final time until after Thanksgiving. He is heading back to Naples for a few weeks and will be back here for the holidays! Safe travels!
- ★ **SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES APPROACHING** – Pumpkin Palooza (our field trip for Earl Hanson 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders is this Friday, 9:45am to 1pm. If you can only stay an hour or two, that's fine too! We're there just to help if needed and to keep an eye on things. Trunk or Treat at Earl Hanson Elementary is October 25<sup>th</sup>. Bring books/candy in your trunk and meet at the Earl Hanson School parking lot at 4:45pm. Open your trunk and the kids will come past looking for "treats"! See Sue Rector for books.
- ★ **WAITING FOR OR NEEDING A NEW CLUB NAME BADGE?** – Email Cindi at [cgramenz15@gmail.com](mailto:cgramenz15@gmail.com). She requests a reminder from those who need badges. With much to do it's easy to lose track! We want every member to have an accurate name badge to wear at our meetings and Rotary events.
- ★ **GET YOUR TICKETS NOW! – NEXT MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 23<sup>RD</sup>, WORLD POLIO DAY GALA CELEBRATION.** We are the host Club! There will be no regular meeting that week. The Gala is an Evening banquet with incredible speakers, two Iowa Rotarians who flew around the world in a small two-seat plane raising money to END POLIO. Hear their incredible story and an update on Rotary's campaign to wipe polio from the earth. Our members get a \$10 reimbursement toward your ticket cost. The public is invited. Order tickets on page 6 or just email Sue Rector..
- ★ **SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>, ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY AT CIRCA 21.** Salon Party, Dinner, Bootlegger pre-show, and Mainstage Show, "A Christmas Story". Guests are welcome, so invite your friends to join you! Sign up at Rotary. Money is not needed until next month, but seats must be reserved now! All we need to know is how many you want. See full details on cost and the event on page 9. Seats are going fast with 23 signed up to date. If you missed the signup sheet. email Bob at [bobdebseanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebseanson@att.net) to reserve.. Just need to know how many seats you need.
- ★ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** Send to [bobdebseanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebseanson@att.net). The newsletter goes out each Tuesday afternoon so be sure to get your request to [bobdebseanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebseanson@att.net) by Tuesday noon..

## 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?

## OCTOBER MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Steve Morenz	October 8
Mike Thoms	October 26
Kenda Burrows	October 27
Sam Doak	October 27

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION MINUTE

### Welcome to Week TWO of RI's Month of Economic & Community Development

Around the observance of Gandhi Jayanti on 2nd October, The Rotary Foundation received The Mahatma Award for its remarkable contributions and social impact in India, across disease prevention & treatment, maternal and child health, education, economic development, environment, and water sanitation and hygiene. The award was conferred to RF at the India International Centre in New Delhi on Saturday, September 30, for its exemplary work in India. The Mahatma Award honors the timeless principles that Mahatma Gandhi lived by, to make the world a better place for all. Following these principles, Rotary members have demonstrated their commitment to making the world a better place through their dedication and service towards humanity. All the service projects are designed and implemented by members of community-based Rotary Clubs to ensure sustainability and maximize the results of their work. Rotary in India, with its nationwide reach, implements projects through structured programs with a network of nearly 2 lakhs Rotary members in 4600+ Rotary clubs and 2900+ Rotaract clubs. Rotary clubs and districts in India collaborate with partners to undertake innovative, community-based, sustainable projects through Rotary's Global Grant program.

Rotary International Director (2023-25) Anirudha Roy Chowdhury who received the award on behalf RF(I) said, "Through the commitment to service above self, Rotary members have exemplified what it means to be global citizens, bridging gaps and uniting people from different cultures and backgrounds for the greater good. Their unwavering dedication to sustainable projects reflects a shared responsibility to address the world's most pressing challenges. We feel very proud to have won such a prestigious award which will pave the way for future collaborations and more sustainable impact."

Source: <https://www.apnnews.com/rotary-foundation-honored-with-prestigious-mahatma-award-2023-for-its-efforts-to-drive-social-good-and-impact/>

### Help End Hunger With This Year's District-Wide Service Project!

Thank you for your generous food donations in the month of September for Christian Care!

For October, we will be collecting SPAGHETTI SAUCE, CEREAL, AND CANNED FRUIT for Heart of Hope! Your monthly donation should equal approximately 5 lbs. Please bring to any Tuesday meeting in October and Cindi will help manage the delivery of those items. If you need assistance or special arrangements or have any questions, please contact Danielle Scott or Cindi Gramenz.

Our food collection schedule for the rest of the year will be:

Jan – Project NOW Head Start      Feb – SAL      April – World Relief

### SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED



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 use. Contact Sue at [srector@gmail.com](mailto:srector@gmail.com) or 563-343-7985 and she will gladly arrange to take it off your hands.

### FOUNDATION RAFFLE



Today's raffle offered a 50-50 Cash Drawing, a bottle of fine wine, a fabric bowl made by Angela Campbell and a "Wacky Hedge Hog Thing", donated by an unknow benefactor. The first ticket drawn was held by Mark Mayeski and predictably he took the wacky hedge hog! The second in the winner's circle was Sue Rector who took the bowl. John Oliger was our third lucky ticket holder. He took the wine. Our final and fourth winner was again, Sue Rector who too the cash and donated it back to the Rotary Foundation. We appreciate and thank all who participated in the raffle and thanks to those who donated extra items for the raffle.



## JIM NORDQUIST REPORTS FROM KEY WEST, FLORIDA!

Jim and Judy Nordquist are vacationing in Key West and came upon the Rotary Compass. Just another example of Rotarians making their communities better for their citizens and attractive to travelers and visitors. The Rotary compass features the Rotary seal centered in a beach-front compass face. We thank Jim for sending his photo. And the caption: "Rotary, Always Pointing in the Right Direction".



## ROTARY READERS SURVEY

Dan McNeil, Executive Director of Spring Forward Learning Center spoke today regarding a potential Rotary Readers Program he is considering for Earl Hanson School. The idea is to have Rotarians commit an hour or so at the school periodically to read with kids during the Spring Forward after school program. It is a project we don't want to start unless it appears we have adequate support and volunteers in our club. To make that determination he provided a written survey for all who were present today. Knowing that others were not able to attend, hear are the Survey questions. If you did not complete a survey at today's meeting, please answer these questions and email you responses to Dan at [dan@springforwardqca.org](mailto:dan@springforwardqca.org).

Yes, I would like to participate in Rotary Readers

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Please e-mail me at: \_\_\_\_\_

Please call me at: \_\_\_\_\_

Please text me at \_\_\_\_\_

I would be available

☐ Once a week

Once a Month

Twice a month

I would be available

Mondays

Tuesdays

Thursdays

Questions? Email Dan or call 309-269-7136



# You are Invited

You are cordially invited to attend the 2023-2024 District Foundation Dinner! Our featured speaker will be Greg E. Podd, Trustee of The Rotary Foundation from Phoenix, Arizona. Greg previously served as Rotary International's Vice President during the 2015-2016 Rotary year and as a Rotary International Director during 2014-2016. We are excited by this opportunity to hear a Rotary Foundation Trustee speak about our Rotary Foundation - they do not come to our District all that often. Spouses, partners, and friends you want to share Rotary with are invited to join you. Please plan to attend!

The event will be held on November 2, 2023, at the McCormick Event Center at 205 East Third Street, Rock Falls, IL 61071. A cash bar will open at 5:30pm and the dinner will commence at 6:00pm. Cost is \$50 per person and must be paid via credit card in advance. Registration closes on October 26th. To register go to [MyEventRunner - Event Public Fill](#). (control/click)

I look forward to seeing you there! If you have any questions, please let me know.

Laura Kann

District Rotary Foundation Chair

678-315-2406

LKK1@comcast.net

## FINE\$ & HAPPY/SAD DOLLAR\$

VP John Oliger said he thought today was his most bountiful day so far in collecting fines. He started with Marcy Bell paying an early leaver dollar. Then he said he had a fine for anyone in the audience that was leaving town for Florida in the next day or two. What do you know, Duncan Cameron answered the call and admitted he was leaving for his Naples, Florida home tomorrow. (I think John has some inside information. John then innocently asked he was doing some planning and who in the audience planned to attend Rotary for lunch next Tuesday, many hands went up. John then reminded them we don't meet next Tuesday because of the World Polio Gala on Monday. All who "screwed up" paid a dollar fine! Duncan then offered a "Sad" dollar for leaving us but said he would be back for the holidays. Continuing with Happy/Sad dollars, John offered his own \$210 happy dollars in celebration of he and Julies celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Chicago this past weekend. Why \$210? Their 7 children surprised them all meeting in Chicago for the celebration, so he paid a dollar a year for each of his 7 children ( $\$30 \times 7 = \$210$ ). Thanks for your generosity!! Kevin Koski followed with a happy \$2 for spending last Saturday at Notre Dame with his grand daughter and seeing the Irish take down the undefeated USC Trojans. Sue Rector had \$5 Happy/Sad Dollars for not being able to join the Walk for Freedom chaired by Julie Gelaude and Kathy Trone in the fight to end human trafficking. Sue invited all others who were unable to do the walk to match her \$5 fine. Jeff Dismar then added \$29 Happy Dollars for the anniversaries in his family this month. Both sons and their wives celebrated anniversaries as did Jeff and Martha. Congratulations to all the Dismers! Finally, Bud Phillis topped of this week's fines and happy/sad dollars saying, I'm healthy, happy and it's a beautiful day so here's my Dollar! Thanks to everyone who was so generous today. All fines and dollars collected go to support our club's many projects and grant throughout the community.

## Do You Have Your Tickets? Please Don't Let Us Down!



See, Call, or Email Sue Rector for tickets! [srector@gmail.com](mailto:srector@gmail.com)

**Rotary Clubs of the Quad Cities**

# **WORLD POLIO DAY CELEBRATION**



**MONDAY, Oct. 23  
at Quad City  
Botanical Center**

2525 4th Ave, Rock Island, IL

Reception: 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Dinner: 6:30 p.m. followed by  
program featuring

**pilots John Ockenfels  
and Peter Teahan**



## **– Flight to End Polio –**

**May 5-July 30, 2023 • 25,338 miles • 38 stops • 23 countries • \$1.5 million**

The Rotary clubs of eastern Iowa and western Illinois are hosting a joint World Polio Day banquet on Monday, Oct. 23, 2023, at the Quad City Botanical Center in Rock Island, Ill. The evening will begin with a reception at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. We are honored to welcome Rotarians PDG John Ockenfels and Peter Teahan who have traveled the world to raise awareness and raised over \$1.5 million to help End Polio Now. Tickets for the Banquet are \$25 each with \$7.50 of each ticket going to Polio Plus. Learn more about Flight to End Polio: <https://www.flighttoendpolio.com/>.



**AROUND THE WORLD:  
FLIGHT TO END POLIO**

USE THE QR CODE AT  
RIGHT TO REGISTER,  
or email: [srector3614@  
gmail.com](mailto:srector3614@gmail.com)  
or call: 563-343-7985

Dinner: \$25<sup>00</sup>  
of which \$7<sup>50</sup> supports  
PolioPlus.





# Mark Your Calendars!

**Rock Island Rotary's**

# Trivia *Night*

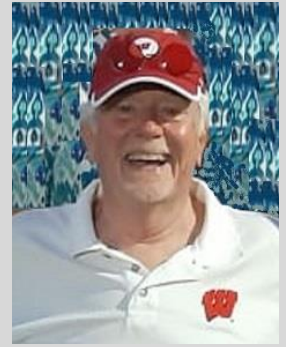
Friday, November 10 - Rock Island Holiday Inn

Doors Open at 5:30pm, play begins at 6

Contact Kathy Trone to register or donate to the Silent Auction!

## NEW MEMBER APPLICANT

An application for membership has been received from Patrick Doherty. Patrick retired from a distinguished career as Risk Manager for the City of Rock Island. He resides in Rock Island on River Heights Road. Patrick was named City Employee of the Year in 2010. Patrick enjoys swimming, cooking, baking, listening to music and socializing with friends. His Club sponsor is Anne McGlynn. Please address comments if any, to Cindi Gramenz [cgramenz15@gmail.com](mailto:cgramenz15@gmail.com) or Sue Rector [srector@gmail.com](mailto:srector@gmail.com).



## Rotary Reindeer Ramble 5K Run/Walk

**9:00 a.m. Sunday, December 3, 2023**

**START & FINISH** Schwiebert Riverfront Park Bike Path.  
Course is out and back; wheeled distance.

**RUNNER'S AWARDS** Overall male and female top 3 finishers. Age group awards 0-14, 15-24, 25-34, 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, 65-74, 75+

**COMPETITIVE WALKER'S AWARDS** Overall male and female top 3 finishers. Age group awards per age groups 0-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60+

**REGISTRATION** \$25 Pre-registered before Nov 19; \$30 after Nov 19.

**PACKET PICKUP & REGISTRATION** 7:45 to 8:45 AM RACE DAY Sunday, December 3 @ Holiday Inn, downtown Rock Island, 226 17th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201

**Proceeds benefit Rock Island  
Rotary Youth Programs!**



**< Register**

[www.GetMeRegistered.com/RotaryReindeerRamble](http://www.GetMeRegistered.com/RotaryReindeerRamble)



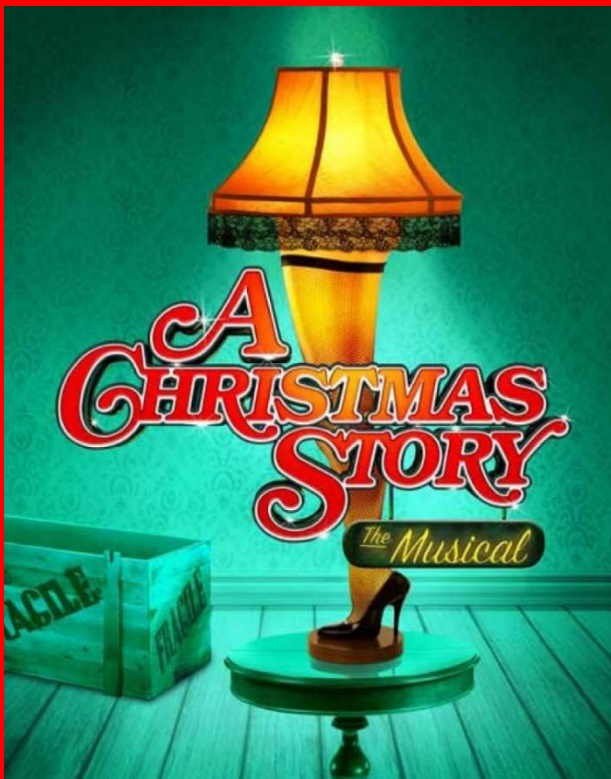
### BIRTHDAY BOOKS OCTOBER 26<sup>th</sup>

Rotarians are needed Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> to help with our Birthday Books at Earl Hanson Elementary School. Arrive at 2:15pm, let the secretary know you're a Rotarian there for Birthday Books and go up the stairs and enter the Library via the first door on the left side of the hall. The Books will be there, and the kids will be coming. Help them select books, enjoy a cookie, and join in singing "Happy Birthday"!



# ROCK ISLAND ROTARY

## HOLIDAY PARTY 2023



**Circa 21** Presents the classic holiday movie is brought to life in this delightful Tony-nominated musical Set in the 1940s in the fictional town of Hohman, Indiana, the musical follows 9-year-old Ralphie and his quest for the Holy Grail of Christmas gifts — an Official Red Ryder carbine-action 200-shot Range Model air rifle. Rebuffed at every turn with a similar echoing response, Ralphie plots numerous schemes to achieve his desperate desire for the coveted BB gun. All the iconic scenes from the movie are here: from the leg lamp to the bunny suit!

**Tickets include a private pre-show Party  
with Complimentary Hors D'oeuvres and Cash Bar (5:00-6pm)  
Plated Dinner (5:45-7:00pm)  
Bootleggers Warm-up Show (7:15pm)  
Mainstage Show – *A Christmas Story* (7:30pm)**

### GROUP RATE

ONE ADMISSION \$58.90

TWO ADMISSIONS \$117.80

\*Tax & Tip included (not including deserts & bar)

Circa Subscriber? Pay Just \$3.50 per person for gratuity!

Reserve Seats at Rotary Starting September 19<sup>th</sup>, Pay Later

**SIGN UP AT SERGEANT'S TABLE!**

Amber Wood invites you to participate in this program.



+



# Diaper Drive Kick Off

Help SAL Community Services collect 15,000+ diapers  
to be distributed through Hiney Heroes' network of community partners!

**Diaper Drop Off**

SAL Community Services  
3800 Avenue of the Cities  
Moline, IL

**Monday, October 23**  
**6 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

Diapers and Pull Ups of all  
sizes - especially 4, 5, & 6

**Open packages  
accepted!**

**For complete details, visit  
[givebutter.com/SAL-diaper-drive-2023](https://givebutter.com/SAL-diaper-drive-2023)**