



WEEKLY REVIEW

Rotary



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

January 16, 2024
Volume XXXI, Issue 27

Rotary Club of Rock Island

Rock Island, Illinois

Meeting Tuesdays at Noon – Quad City Botanical Center

AFTER NEARLY A MONTH OF HOLIDAYS & WEATHER FINALLY – A MEETING!

Jan – Feb Calendar

- Jan 23 - Dr Jeremy Thomas, President of Black Hawk College
- Jan 30 - Ashleigh Davis, Marketing & PR Mgr and Joseph Goetz, Operations Mgr. Quad City International Airport
- Feb 6 - Doug Tschopp, Genesis Guild
- Feb 13 - Heather Hartley – Deere's Construction & Forestry Division
- Feb 20 - Tšooane Molapo, native of Lesotho - "The Kingdom in the Sky"
- Feb 27 - Shelley Cooper – Musical Theater

Unfortunately, the weather did cause consequences as evidenced by the inability of our scheduled speaker to attend today's meeting. Amber Wood's presentation regarding SAL Community Services will be reschedule. SAL closed all their programs and facilities because of the extremely cold temperatures and wind chill. We look forward to hearing her at a future club meeting. Presiding officer Gary Rowe did a great job of keeping things running smoothly and fortunately one of our newer members, Kate Mapes, a corporate associate member with the Botanical Center graciously offered to speak about exciting things happening at the Center. Kate is the assistant gardener and office project coordinator. She oversees the Children's Garden river maintenance and enjoys watching children and families enjoying the water. She is also in charge of the Winter Nights-Winter Lights annual holiday lighting at the Center which she reported broke all previous records this year with an average daily attendance of 1,900 and a total number of 24,000 visitors this season. She also notified us that our meeting room, the Center's main dining room, will be undergoing a substantial overhaul in the next few weeks



Kate Mapes

with repainting the walls, followed by new tables and new chairs. Painting will begin in the next few days and might be completed before our next meeting. Then she told us about a new project coming to fruition after over a year of planning. Kate said that many local school children are not able to visit the Center and are missing out on the many educational opportunities provided by the Botanical Center's staff. Part of the reason is that some schools lack the funds necessary to organize and schedule field trips to the Center, some children lack the transportation and funds needed to visit on their own, but mostly because every single day the Center is open in the spring when kids are in school is fully booked and there just isn't room and staff to accommodate all who want to come. A year ago, the staff came up with the idea of taking the Botanical Center to the kids which grew into plans to create a "Plant Bus" that would be able to take botanical exhibits and provide hands on experience to kids at their schools and in their own neighborhoods.

Planning and funding ideas progressed, and Kate was pleased to report that the bus has been purchased and is currently being transformed into a mobile botanical exhibit and learning center. To the knowledge of Q.C. Botanical Center Staff this will be the only such mobile facility in the country. They look forward to completion of the bus's transformation and getting the "Plant Bus" on the road! We thank Kate for the update and look forward to seeing all the improvements planned for the Center and our opportunity to step inside the fully completed Plant Bus!

In other business members were reminded to bring their food donations for Project Now's Head Start program. Ruth Lee also invited all members to join her on January 26 after 4:00 at the Old Oaks Winery. Good food and drink, open until 7pm. Bring a guest. They are one of our Wine & Dine Raffle Prize donators so please help support this new area business. **Let Ruth know by 24th if interested so she can tell Old Oaks how many to expect.**

Service Above
Self



CHECK US OUT!
<https://www.facebook.com/RockIslandRotary/>
www.rirotary.com

One Profits
Most Who
Serves Best

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 welcomed just one guest today, but he is a prospective member! James Jones joined us from the Economic Growth Corporation. James is the Housing Director and will be the Corporate Active member. Notice of his membership application was published to all members last week. We are always very pleased to welcome guests and new members to “The Number One Club”.
- ★ **JANUARY BIRTHDAY BOOKS – HELP NEEDED!** – Thursday, January 25th at Earl Hanson Elementary. Arrive at 2:15 and come to the Library. Help Molly!
- ★ **ROTARY READERS** – Dan McNeil reminds us that all members are welcome to become “Rotary Readers”. Meaning you will volunteer to participate in an afterschool program at Earl Hanson elementary School either one afternoon per week or one afternoon per month to read to and with children. You sign up by going to the Spring Forward Web Page www.springforwardqca.org and click on “PROGRAMS”. On the programs page scroll down to the bottom of the page to “Want to Get Involved” and click on “LEARN MORE”. You will then see “Earl Hanson” and you can click on the day (Monday or Tuesday) and the time (3:30 or 4:00) you would like to read. You can’t do it weekly there are instructions for making it monthly, bi-weekly, etc. and contact information for more details.
- ★ **HAVE AN IDEA** – For an entertaining or informative program for our meetings? We are always on the lookout for quality programs. Send your idea or suggestion to Program Chairman Rebecca Arnold. We stay away from politics but love programs that brighten our day, help us in our business or careers, or keep us informed of important things in our community. Rebecca’s email is arnold.rebecca@rigov.org.
- ★ **BE THINKING** – It won’t be long before incoming president Sue Rector will be asking each of us to select two or more club committees to serve on for 2024-25. Check pages 35-38 in your current Club Director for a list of our club committees. A great way to get a feel for what you might enjoy is to volunteer to sit in with this year’s committee. New people are always very welcome. You can see what goes on, what is expected, and decide if you think the committee is a good fit for you. If you’ve already missed the committee’s primary activity, talk to someone who served on the committee to find out if it sounds like something you would enjoy or could help with your talents, experience, and enthusiasm.
- ★ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** Send to bobdebswanson@att.net. The newsletter goes out each Tuesday afternoon so be sure to get your request to bobdebswanson@att.net by Tuesday noon. Photos are welcome!

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?

JANUARY ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

Jeremy Richard	January	1
Randy Hurt	January	2
Trista Foster	January	12
Jeff Rose	January	21
Miranda Marshall	January	22
Bob Swanson	January	25
Mariah Johnson	January	28
Jim Moran	January	31

FOUNDATION RAFFLE



Today's raffle featured a 50-50 Cash Drawing and a bottle of fine wine. Sue Rector handled the ticket sales and Kate Mapes drew the winners. The first lucky ticket was held by Jeff Dismer who claimed the cash and donated his winnings to the Rotary foundation. The second lucky winner taking home the wine was our past-president and past-District Governor, Ruth Lee. Congratulations to Jeff and Ruth and thanks to all for supporting the Foundation raffle. Proceeds go to the Rotary International Foundation.



CALL FOR WINE & OLD ROTARY MAGAZINES!

Prior to his death, for many years long time member Lo Milani donated a bottle of wine each week for our Foundation Raffle. After his death other members wishing to keep the Lo's tradition alive began donating wine, and as you know each week a bottle of wine continues to be one of our raffle prizes. Unfortunately, our wine supply is at the bottom of the barrel! If you can donate a bottle or two (or more) it would be greatly appreciated and will allow us to keep wine in our weekly raffle. Please let Bob Swanson know if you can and will bring wine we can store a small supply in our supply cabinet.



Secondly, we like to include a past issue of the Rotarian Magazines in the packets we give to the speakers at our meetings. If you have past issues, please black out your name and address and bring them to Sue Rector at any Rotary meeting. You might just help recruit a new member!



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION MINUTE

Most people on our planet are looking forward to a new year; one filled with hopes for, and aspirations of, better life for all people. But even as we expectantly await the new year, it's heartwarming to know that The Rotary Foundation, in its goal of disease prevention, has fulfilled dreams for thousands of cervical cancer sufferers by awarding more than \$10.3 million in Global Grant fundings since 2014. While cervical cancer is highly preventable and treatable, women diagnosed with the disease are almost twice as likely to die than those diagnosed with breast cancer. The current edition of Rotary (January 2024) highlights the appalling details about Cervical Cancer:

- More than 340,000 women killed by cervical cancer in 2020
- 90% of victims live in low – and middle-income countries with limited access to prevention, screening, and treatment.
- More than 604,000 people were diagnosed with cervical cancer in 2020.

But the future is far from bleak, thanks to the relentless efforts of organizations like TRF, which recently awarded \$2 million to United to End Cervical Cancer in Egypt as part of the 3rd Annual Programs of Scale competition. The program will vaccinate more than 30,000 girls ages 9 to 15 to prevent infection with the human papilloma virus which causes the disease. The Rotary Foundation grant will provide cancer screenings for 10,000 women –allowing for early detection and treatment. Most significantly, the grant will launch a public awareness campaign to reach 4 million people, helping address cultural misconceptions that may deter people from seeking care.

Source: "A preventable killer." Rotary (January 2024): 54

Two of Rock Island Rotary's Finest Honored by Rotary International

Our Club Foundation Chair, Sue Rector had the honor today of presenting special awards to Rock Island Rotarians John Oliger and Cindi Gramenz.



Both were recognized for their generous support of the Rotary Foundation. John Received a Gold Paul Harris Pin with three sapphire stones recognizing him as a Paul Harris +3 Donor for contributions totally \$4,000. Cindi Received a Gold Paul Harris +5 pin with five sapphires in recognition of her contributions of \$6,000. Congratulations to John and Cindi for truly living our "Service Above Self" motto!



FINES – HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

With weather and holidays making this our first meeting in four weeks, VP, and chief levier of fines, John Olinger said he was loaded with a long list of fines to assess. ... Then he levied a \$5 fine on himself for forgetting to bring his list and notes to our meeting. He did announce that Kimberly Calhoun had volunteered her \$1 fine for needing to leave early today. Not having any other materials available for fining, John asked Club members for Happy/Sad dollar donations. Frank Lambert spoke up and said that being among the first to arrive today he and Gary Rowe entered into a bet as to how many would come out in the subzero weather and attend today's meeting. Gary said 22 and Frank said 30. The actual count was 26 so it was a tie with both being 4 off. Frank paid a dollar since he "didn't win". Then Gary paid his dollar since he didn't "win" either! Please guys, feel free to bet and tie as often as you want since the club wins double when you do! Bill Stengel had perhaps the neatest happy dollar of the day noting that in a recent story appearing in the New York Times, Rotary International was praised for fronting the battle to end polio worldwide. The article noted that without Rotary the battle would not be near an end and stated that the Rotary Foundation was the finest Charitable Foundation in the Country. THANKS for catching that and reporting it to us Bill! And thanks for adding your dollar to our Happy Dollar charity collection. Holly Sparkman put in \$2 happy dollars noting that our School District has hired a new Superintendent of Schools. Dr. Sharon Williams will take the position effective July 1, 2024. We hope she will continue the long tradition of our School Superintendent being a member of Rock Island Rotary! Gary Rowe, a member of the Board of Education added his Happy Dollar for Dr. Williams and added a dollar in honor of his son Andy Rowe who was recently quoted in

Ruth Lee had our loan "Sad Dollar" today noting that her Minnesota Vikings did not make the NFL playoffs. Take it from a Cubs fan, there is always next year! Kenda Burrows followed with a happy dollar, celebrating her Green Bay Packers who did make the playoffs and had a very impressive first playoff game win over Dallas. Dan McNeil put in a happy dollar recognizing that the M. L. King Center received a \$300,000 grant to help revitalize Rock Island's West End from the Quad Cities Community Foundation. This was their annual "Transformation Grant". James Jones added a happy dollar in celebration of the grant. Thanks to everyone who contributed!

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

For January, we are collecting food items for Project NOW Head Start!

Food items needed:

- Spaghetti noodles
- Fruit and applesauce cups
- Cereal: Honey Nut Cheerios, Kix, or Rice Krispies

Your monthly donation should equal approximately 5 lbs. Please bring to any Tuesday meeting in January and Project Chair Danielle Scott will help manage the delivery of those items. If you need assistance or special arrangements or have any questions, please contact Danielle Scott dmscott81@gmail.com or Cindi Gramenz cgramenz15@gmail.com.

JANUARY ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

Have a
Great Day!

Jeremy Richard	January 1
Randy Hurt	January 2
Trista Foster	January 12
Jeff Rose	January 21
Miranda Marshall	January 22
Bob Swanson	January 25
Mariah Johnson	January 28
Jim Moran	January 31



FUNDRAISER FOR NARRATIVES QC

FAMILY FRIENDLY – KIDS WELCOME



BASKET RAFFLES
50/50 DRAWING
PRIZES



SPOKEN WORD
PERFORMANCES
FROM OUR
YOUNG ADULTS



BRING YOUR OWN SNACKS
OR PURCHASE OURS



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND

6:30 PM

MARTIN LUTHER KING CENTER

630 9TH ST, ROCK ISLAND, IL

SPONSOR



n Narratives
Quad Cities

Narratives is having a bingo night fundraiser! \$10 donation at the door! At the Martin Luther King Center Friday February 2nd at 630pm! It will be family friendly and have kids prizes for wins as well as prizes for adults! If you would like to donate a raffle basket please reach out to Dave Hodge at dave@narrativesqc.net by January 25th, 2024.

BLOOD DRIVE

BLOODCENTER.ORG

Rock Island Rotary

Tuesday, February 13

10:30 am - 1:00 pm

QC Botanical Center Olmstead Room

2525 Fourth Ave

To schedule an appointment call John Phillips at (309) 428-5495 or scan the QR code below. or email phillipsjohn99@gmail.com

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED. WALK-INS WELCOME. Masks are optional.

Bring photo ID. Please eat before donation.



 **ImpactLife**