



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

# WEEKLY REVIEW

# Rotary



Rotary Club of Rock Island

Rock Island, Illinois

Meeting Tuesdays at Noon – Quad City Botanical Center

February 6, 2024  
Volume XXXI, Issue 30

## Doug Tschopp Genesisius Guild



Doug Tschopp has worked on projects in public relations, marketing, and advertising for firms in eastern Iowa and western Illinois. He teaches public relations courses under communications studies.

He is the advisor for many pre-professional student groups at Augustana College, including the Web Guild (entrepreneurial student web organization) and the ADs (Advertising Developers) group. The ADs group works on developing a strategic marketing plan for an actual client each year as part of the National Student Advertising Competition. The written plan is judged by the client and professionals from advertising agencies and the competition concludes with a "pitch" of the plan to the client at regional and national competitions. These organizations give students the opportunity to develop professional portfolios. His experience in strategic web communication is highlighted by his long tenure as program chair for HighEdWeb, a prominent conference for web development in higher education. Doug is also very active in local and national professional organizations and encourages students to explore this as a professional development opportunity. He serves as a long-standing board member for the Quad Cities Public Relations Network and served as executive director of the Genesisius Guild, a classic theatre company from 2006-2021. In 2024 he returned as Executive director and handles fundraising and the areas and the business management of the Guild maintaining federal and state nonprofit filings and working with the city of Rock Island. He is also the spokesperson for Genesisius Guild in the community. Mr. Tschopp earned his BA at the University of Pittsburgh and his master's in business administration from Iowa. Mr. Tschopp has been involved in the Guild for over 27 years and spoke about the Genesisius Guild today. Rock Island's Genesisius Guild is unique in the United States, perhaps in the world. It is, first and foremost, a community theatre serving the Quad Cities and drawing its actors and audience from eastern Iowa and northwestern Illinois. Since its founding in 1956, the Guild has performed on indoor and outdoor stages, in television and cinema (an Academy Award winner), in the Quad Cities and at sites as far away as Chicago. They draw audiences from a wide area of the Midwest to enjoy the unusual and accessible summer program of classic theatre. The Genesisius Guild's opera series (since 1972) was the cornerstone on which the Quad City Mozart Festival was built. What makes the Guild's summer program unique is its diversity and operation. It is free, open-air (on an outdoor stage in Lincoln Park in Rock Island, open to any area resident who wishes to participate devoted to a range of productions most unusual for a community theatre including Greek tragedy in mask, Shakespearean comedies and tragedies, and Greek comedy in contemporary re-writes.

*Continued "Genesisius" page 3*

### Feb – Mar Calendar

- 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
- Mar 5 - Tom Heinhold – Army Corps of Engineers
- Mar 12 - Tamara Felden, Pres. Planting Books: Seeds 4 a Better Future
- Mar 19 - Dr. Heidi Lung, Dir. of Museum Studies WIU Quad Cities
- Mar 26 - Jerry Lyphout – Pres. Modern-Woodmen

*Service Above  
Self*

Webpage  
 facebook

CHECK US OUT!  
[www.rirotary.com](http://www.rirotary.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/RockIslandRoary/>

*One Profits  
Most Who  
Serves Best*

# 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 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-Treasurer  
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 Wetzell
February:	Kai Swanson
March:	Angela Campbell
April:	Gary Rowe
May:	Gary Rowe
June:	Tom Hammar

# Club Notes & Announcements!

- ★ **WELCOME GUESTS** – Rock Island Rotary was pleased to welcome four guests at today's meeting. Alleman Jr. Rotarians Clair Hulke and Joey Magee attended as guests of our club. Dr. Anne McIntyre and Dr. Thais Meredith were first brought at guests of Dr. Jim Nordquist and today came as new member applicants! We are extremely pleased to have Anne and Thais seeking to become members of our club. They are the co-owners of Rock Island Dental Associates. Thank you Jim for inviting them and introducing them to the "Number One Club"! Rock Island Rotary is always happy to welcome guests and visiting Rotarians. Who do you know that might be our next prospective member?
- ★ **FOOD DRIVE COLLECTION FOR SAL COMMUNITY SERVICES** – began today. During the month of February members are asked to bring your donations. There is particular need for Flour (white is fine). Sugar, any kind of Rice, and Vegetable oil. Donations will be weighed prior to delivery to SAL and included in meeting our 5lb per member goal for the current District project. If you can't shop, make cash donations to project chair Danielle Scott.
- ★ **ROTARY AWARDS COMMITTEE** – Will meet immediately after next week's Club meeting (February 13<sup>th</sup>). This will be a short meeting to discuss potential featured speakers for the luncheon. Committee members Sarah Gorham, Cindi Gramenz, Jim Moran, Justin Peterson, Sue Rector, Gary Rowe, and Todd Thompson, please make arrangements to stay if at all possible. Any other member interested is welcome to join. Chair is Bob Swanson.
- ★ **KATHY TRONE & THE ROCK & ROLL BINGO COMMITTEE** – are now accepting signups for Rotary Rock & Roll Bingo coming up on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. You can email Kathy at [kathy@wesselspc.com](mailto:kathy@wesselspc.com). Don't miss this fun evening that has become one of our most popular fundraisers! Sue Rector is also putting together raffle baskets for the event and would greatly appreciate any items you might donate. Donations can be a complete basket (Sue will provide the physical basket) or items that can be combined with others to make a basket. Bring your items to Sue or email Sue at [srector3614@gmail.com](mailto:srector3614@gmail.com) to arrange for pick up.
- ★ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** Send to [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net). The newsletter goes out each Tuesday afternoon so be sure to get your request to [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto: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?

## FEBRUARY ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

Ardo Holmgrain	February 4
Sue Rector	February 8
Tyla Sherwin-Cole	February 13
Tom Hammar	February 27

### *Genesisius – From page 1*

Nowhere else in the country can one find such a mix of free, classical productions: works designed to give our citizens, especially our youngsters, an easy acquaintance with the classics. The Genesisius Guild has long been pointed out as an ideal in community arts, but no other area has been able to sustain a program of this scope and diversity. It has been built on the talent, commitment, and abiding interest of those who perform and those who attend. The Genesisius Guild is one of the Quad Cities' most unusual assets; one which enriches and educates citizens of all ages, of all social and economic backgrounds. Mr. Tschopp got involved in 1995 after meeting Don Wooten. Don learned that Doug had a lighting & sound business and asked him to help with lighting at the Genesisius Guild outdoor stage. Doug said he attended a show, came back the next morning to clean and adjust the lights, got caught up in Classical Theater and never left. He told us that the Guild performs an eight-week season every summer with performances each Saturday and Sunday night at 7pm. They typically do two Shakespeare plays and two Greek in mask comedies or tragedies each summer. To illustrate the importance of keeping the tradition of classical theater alive, Tschopp and Rotarian Kia Swanson presented a reading from a Don Wooten authored piece that identified more than 70 direct quotes and phrases from Shakespeare that have found their way into everyday language of modern Western culture. Mr. Tschopp also noted that the current outdoor Guild theater was built as a WPA project during the depression and unfortunately with ground settling, will only be used for two more years. The hope is to build or rebuild the theater which originally had a wading pool in front of the stage. The pool has not been used for many years and is likely to be removed during the renovation so the audience can be moved closer to the stage. We also learned that the Guild is led by a Board of Directors with Mr. Tschopp serving as Executive Director. When asked about including opera in their performances, Tschopp stated that several years ago opera was a part of the season however they found it to be extremely expensive and also had numerous performance cancellations because in rain or threatening weather musicians were reluctant to bring their instruments for an outdoor performance. Ultimately it was decided to support local opera, but not have it included in the Guild season performances. He also stated that some individual seating is provided along with bleachers and said that many bring lawn chairs to the performances. Some bring picnics for pre-show dining, other take advantage of concessions that are available. Tschopp invited those interested to visit the Genesisius Guild website at [www.genesius.org](http://www.genesius.org) For more information. He also said that colleges and universities and high school teachers from all over the country use materials provided on the website in their classrooms. The website offers "Play Resources" for Greek and Shakespearean literature. Mr. Tschopp proudly stressed several times that the Rock Island Genesisius Guild is the only place in the world where audiences can witness classical theater performed in costume, mask, and in authentically translated scripts of ancient Greek and 16<sup>th</sup> Century English plays. We thank Mr. Tschopp and Kai for an extremely interesting and informative presentation.

## **NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS**



*Ann McIntyre*

We are pleased to publish the membership applications of Dr. Ann McIntyre and Dr. Thais Meredith. They are doctors of dentistry and co-owners of the Rock Island Dental Associates located at 2334 – 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue in Rock Island. Dr. McIntyre lives in Davenport with her husband Josh and their 3 children. She earned her B.S. in Biology, magna cum laude, from St. Ambrose University, and her D.M.D. from Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine. Outside of her dental career she enjoys gardening and baking.



*Thais Meredith*

Dr. Meredith is a resident of Alpha, Illinois with husband Carter and their three children. She graduated from Loyola University, Chicago with a degree in Finance and Economics. Upon graduation she commissioned in the United States Army as a finance officer. She spent 5 years on active duty stationed overseas in Korea, Germany, Italy, and a deployment to Afghanistan. She left active duty in 2010 to pursue a career in dentistry. Dr. Meredith graduated from Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine in 2016 at the top of her class. She too enjoys gardening, baking, outdoor activities, and her family. Their sponsor is Dr. Jim Nordquist. Kindly direct comments to President Cindi Gramenz at [cgramenz15@gmail.com](mailto:cgramenz15@gmail.com) or Vice-President Sue Rector at [srector3614@gmail.com](mailto:srector3614@gmail.com).

## Mark Your Calendar - ROTARY WINE & DINE RAFFLE

Raffle Chair Ruth Lee released preliminary details of our upcoming Wine & Dine Raffle. The raffle drawing will be held at our Club meeting on ) Tuesday, May 28 (the closest club meeting date to National Wine Day which is May 25). Tentatively plans are for tickets to go on sale around March 1<sup>st</sup>. The five top prizes will be \$200 gift certificates for one of the following area establishments:



Circa 21  
Huckleberries  
Old Oaks Winery  
Pagalo's  
Rock Island Ale House



Further details will be coming. If you are interested the Raffle Committee would welcome your help! Please notify Ruth Lee at [rotarianruth@gmail.com](mailto:rotarianruth@gmail.com)

## FOUNDATION RAFFLE



Today our Foundation Raffle offered two great prizes. A 50/50 cash drawing and a bottle of fine wine. John Oliger, our 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. held the first winning ticket and he opted to take the money and ask that it be equally divided between our Alleman Jr. Rotarians. Great generosity John and greatly appreciated by our teenage guests. The next ticket pulled belonged to Amber Wood. She took the wine and looks forward to a comfy evening in front of the fireplace! Congratulations to all our lucky winners. Thanks for playing! Proceeds go to the Rotary International Foundation.



## February Rotary Birthdays

Ardo Holmgrain	February 4
Sue Rector	February 8
Tyla Sherwin-Cole	February 13
Tom Hammar	February 27



MARCH 22, 2024

**Rock Island Rotary**  
  
**Rock & Roll Bingo**

Our Rock & Roll Bingo Committee requests your donations of items, gift cards, or entire baskets for Raffle Items! Please bring your items to Sue Rector or email/call Sue to arrange pickup at [srector3614@gmail.com](mailto:srector3614@gmail.com) or 563-343-7985.

SAVE THE DATE!

## IMPORTANT EVENTS & DECISIONS COMING UP

In the near future our Board will be discussing service projects and fundraisers for our club. Each of us need to think about what kind of club we want to be. We also need to consider our personal commitment to the club, what we hope to get out of our membership, and what we are willing to give. Do you want to be an active participant or just a name on the club roster? Do you attend as a social lunch or as a member committed to offer your skills and expertise, whatever they might be, to make the club better. We value each and every member and hope you equally value your membership. Hopefully we each can answer "What have I done to make Rock Island Rotary better?" with a very positive reply. The stronger our club is, the better we can serve our community and the world.

## FINES & HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

Coming off a big week last Tuesday, V.P. John Olinger felt a bit of charity in his heart and levied no fines. However, he did ask for Happy/Sad Dollars and many club members complied. Steve Morenz our presiding officer today had a Happy Dollar for being here in person. Steve who works in Muscatine is a regular on our ZOOM coverage but arranged to be with us in person today and again next week to be our acting “past president” presiding officer. Amber Wood donated 5 happy dollars to kick off the SAL Community Services food drive for this month. She had handouts for each table and briefly spoke about how the food donations would be used. John Phillips had happy dollars for our Blood Drive scheduled for next Tuesday and also in honor of the Genesius Guild (our speaker today). Others who donated happy dollars in honor of the Genesius Guild were Gary Rowe, Kevin Koski, Holly Sparkman whose son was involved with the Guild, John Olinger whose daughter was in a Guild performance. Sue Rector paid a “birthday” fine noting that the tradition has been those with birthdays recognized at our meeting pay a fine or in some cases (and voluntary) pay \$1 per year, that’s what Sue did, with out revealing the amount! Cindi Gramenz paid for placing fliers on tables for the Heart of Hope “Have a Heart for the Homeless” fundraiser luncheon coming up this Saturday at Bally’s and also paid for a nice article in the Quad City Business Journal about the event. Jim Moran paid a happy dollar for his granddaughter signing to attend Towson University in Towson, Maryland to play volleyball and continue her education.. Kai Swanson paid a happy dollar in honor of Kenda Burrows appearing on WVIK Radio and doing a great interview with Kai. Finally, during our recognition of birthdays it was noted that Tyla Sherwin-Cole and Tom Hammer were being honored but neither sat at the Birthday Table. Hence, both were fined a dollar!

Thanks to all who contributed. All funds collected go to support Rotary charity work in our community.

## SUE STILL LOOKING FOR YOUR INPUT!



**Sue Rector** will assume the office of Club President July 1<sup>st</sup>, however the funding for our District project for 2025-2026 must be requested this spring. The District will provide \$1,200 for the grant and our Board has agreed to match that amount so we will have \$2,400 available for the project. Today Sue put on every table two pages of information about the grant. Sue wants to involve the entire Club in determining how best to use the grant. Ideas from Club members are requested and will be accepted from now until February 20<sup>th</sup>. Sue will then select three and share those choices with the Club. And will accept feedback until February 29. At our March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting Sue will announce which of the three will be our 2025-26 District Project. We appreciate Sue soliciting ideas from our members!

In making your suggestions keep in mind that projects need to meet one or more of Rotary’s seven areas of focus: Promoting Peace; Water/Sanitation/Hygiene; Saving Mothers & Children; Supporting Education; Growing Local Economies; and/or Protecting the Environment. Grants cannot promote a particular political or religious viewpoint, provide continuous funding (one and done); cannot include fundraising or require people to work without pay, and can’t purchase land or a building or be for beautification only. If possible we would prefer a hands-on project where our members can participate in the project. Email your ideas to Sue at [srector3614@gmail.com](mailto:srector3614@gmail.com) or jot them down and give them to Sue.

## 2024 Rotary International Convention

25-29 MAY 2024 SINGAPORE



# BLOOD DRIVE

[BLOODCENTER.ORG](http://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 or email John Phillips at (309) 428-5495, [phillipsjohn99@gmail.com](mailto:phillipsjohn99@gmail.com) or scan the QR code below.***

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

***Bring photo ID. Please eat before donation.***



**ImpactLife**

**FUNDRAISER FOR AN AGENCY WE  
HAVE PARTNERED WITH FREQUENTLY  
Rotarian Support is Greatly Appreciated!**



**Fundraising Luncheon**

Saturday, February 10, 2024  
12:00 Noon (doors open 11:15 am)  
Bally's Casino & Hotel

**Guest Speaker De'Andre Robinson**

*Our former Street Outreach Worker  
will offer an eye-opening view of people  
living on our streets*

**Tickets \$35  
Table of 8 \$270**

Seating is limited & sold out last year!

Get your tickets early!

Please visit [christiancareqc.org](http://christiancareqc.org)  
or contact Cindi at (309) 786-5734  
[cgramenz@christiancareqc.org](mailto:cgramenz@christiancareqc.org)



**What:** RI Rotary Rock & Roll Bingo Fundraiser –  
\$20/2 cards OR \$125 for table of 8, 50/50, cash bar, bring your  
own snacks!

**When:** Friday, March 22nd, 2024, at 6pm, doors open at  
5:15pm

**Where:** Holiday Inn, Rock Island

**Why:** This fundraiser supports our commitment to QC  
Youth Programs and Community Projects

**Purchase cards/tables below OR pay at the door!**

Single Player-two cards



Table of 8-two cards each

