



WEEKLY REVIEW

Rotary



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

June 18, 2024
Volume XXXI, Issue 48

Rotary Club of Rock Island

Rock Island, Illinois

Meeting Tuesdays at Noon – Quad City Botanical Center



Michelle Juehring

Bix 7 – 50th Year

May - June Calendar

- June 25- President Cindi
Wrap-up Thoughts
- July 2 - Distict Governor
John Hurley and
Installation of our
2024-25 Officers &
Directors
- July 9 - Sue Rector – Our new
President
- July 16 - Angela Campbell
Children’s Library &
Rotary District Grant
- July 23 - Jack Cullen, Rock Isl.
Downtown project
- July 30 - John Gripp – R.I. Park
& Rec Director

Michelle Juehring, Race Director of the Bix 7 worked with Ed Froehlich, founder and race director of the Bix for its first 40 years, learning the ropes and all the minutia for organizing and running a race that has featured from 16,000 to 20,000 participants annually and many times that number in spectators. Ed stepped down after the 2019 Bix, and Michelle stepped in just in time for the Covid pandemic.

Quickly and tirelessly working, Juehring and her staff pulled off the nation’s first entirely virtual major race. The following year the race returned to the streets of Davenport and in November of 2021, Michelle was honored by the

National Sports Safety and Security Conference naming her “An Emerging Industry Leader.” Now heading into the Golden Anniversary of the Bix 7, Juehring and her team are determined to make the event the biggest, best, and most memorable Bix ever. The first BIX 7 race was held in 1975 when short shorts and knee socks were all the rage. A lot has changed since then, but the spirit of running the BIX 7 has remained the same over the last 50 events. She has a strong crew of 8 people on her staff for the race and an even stronger committee of chair people who organize the gargantuan volunteer base that makes the race experience great for runners and spectators alike.

In commemoration of this years 50th running of the BIX 7, there will be a special statue unveiled in honor of Karl Ungurean, who was one of the event’s first race directors, founder of the Cornbelt Running Club and considered the “Father of Running” in the Quad Cities. Michelle is expecting celebrity runners this year like Frank Shorter, Joan Samuelson, Bill Rogers and Meb Keflezighi!

Even if you are not a seasoned runner, there are plenty of ways you can participate in the event. New this is the Bechtel Trust Senior Bix. Runners and walkers who are 50 years and older who register for the Bix 7 or Quick Bix gain a FREE entry into this new Senior Bix race. It is a 1.5 mile out and back course for everyone can enjoy. Hopefully we will see a few Rock Island Rotarians out on the course this year!

*Service Above
Self*

Webpage
 facebook

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

*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 Oliger, 2nd Vice Pres.
Holly Sparkman, Secretary
Molly Shattuck, 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
Tyla Sherwin-Cole, Director
Amber Wood, 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** – As always, Duncan Cameron is with us for the summer from the Naples, FL Rotary Club. We welcomed guests of Ruth Lee – Gail Ohman and Jennifer Ohman Rodriguez and other guests who were Community Grant recipients Adam Peters (Clock Inc.), Jane Bryant (Thomas Jefferson), Kathy Myer (Christian Care) and Wendy Rowland (Broadway Neighborhood).

SAVE THE DATES!

★ **August 17** – District 6420 Community Awareness Program on Human Trafficking will be held at the Holiday Inn Rock Island at 10 a.m. A survivor will speak and there will be coffee and pastries.

November 22 – Rock Island Rotary Trivia Night at the Holiday Inn Rock Island

December 8 – Rotary Reindeer Ramble! This years event will be at 1 p.m.

March 21 (2025) Rock and Roll Bingo at the Holiday Inn Rock Island

RI Rotary Board Meeting Update – The District Grant was approved!

★ **The Sensory Stations for the Library will be ordered so stay tuned for more information bout the installation. The board also passed the 2024-25 Action Plan; 2024-25 budget and board meeting consent agenda format. The new Rotary year will start off on a very organized note thanks to the many efforts of those involved with the strategic planning and budgeting process!**

Paul Harris Fellow Extravaganza! The Club recognized 6 Paul Harris Fellows at the June 18 meeting. Ruth Lee presented PHF's to her family members Gail Ohman with daughter Jennifer Ohman Rodriguez who also accepted the awards for the other family members not in attendance. Rotarian Forest Meyer also received a PHF AND his Blue Badge for completing the new member initiation process.

★ **HAVE ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER?** – Send to, bobdebswanson@att.net. Our newsletter goes via email every Tuesday afternoon. Items received by 11am Tuesday can be included that day. Committee chairmen send advance notice of your committee meetings so we can get the word to your members.

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?

JUNE ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

Amanda DeLaCruz	June 2	Jeff Dismer	June 15
John Oliger	June 4	John Wetzel	June 16
Mike Oberhaus	June 7	Justin Peterson	June 20
Pete Wessels	June 10	Dave Hodge	June 27
Linda Golden	June 11	Erin Williams	June 28
Sarah Gorham	June 14	Anne McGlynn	June 29

ROTARY FOUNDATION MINUTE

In the current issue of rotarynewsonline Rhasheeda Bhagat reports on the efforts of a Rotary District and TRF at saving the lives of premature babies. According to the report, the Rotary Club of Rourkela Royal, RI District 3261, implementing its first Global Grant, is making a dent in the abysmal numbers of infant mortality in the Eastern Indian state of Odisha. Odisha has one of the poorest records in India and is near the bottom of the pile when it comes to IMR (Infant Mortality Rate) at 37/1,000 live births, which is the third highest in India. The national average IMR in India at present is 22/1,000 live births. A pediatrician revealed that specialized centers that could care for such babies exist only in select cities and nearly 44 per cent of the neonates who finally reach a well-equipped pediatric facility in ordinary vans or other vehicles, arrive either dead; or with severe complications resulting in long term morbidity. Often times, the available ambulances were woefully inadequate to meet this need, both in terms of equipment and skilled manpower.

Responding to this heartbreaking situation, the Rotary Club of Rourkela Royal leapt into action and in September of 2023, applied for a Rotary Foundation Global Grant. Within a record time of just 7 months, the sum of \$42,139 USD was approved by TRF. Rotarian Ajay Agarwal, project chair explained that Unmeed (Project Hope) is a specialized vehicle with over a dozen equipment that can ensure the safe transportation of the infant from the birthplace to the hospitals with modern facilities. With this essential and godsend Project we hope to prevent as many deaths and disabilities as possible that result from improper transport of neonates in non-equipped vehicles.” Thanking District 3261’s international partner Rotary Club Pashupati, Kathmandu, which contributed to the grant, Agarwal expressed gratitude to Rotary for providing “... this first-of-its-kind facility in our city and a much-needed service that will go a long way in saving lives of newborn babies. This is a feather in the cap of not only our club but also District 3261 and Rotary as a whole.”

FOUNDATION RAFFLE



Today’s raffle featured cash and a bottle of fine wine! Bud Phillis took the money and Jeff Dismer took the wine (again). There was also some excitement as Michelle Juering brought two BIX 7 race entries with her and Past President Frank Lambert auctioned off both bibs to bring in another \$120 as well!



HAPPY-SAD DOLLARS & VOLUNTEERED FINES

Justin Peterson contributed an early leaver dollar; and Ruth Lee also contributed to the fine box as she is going UP NORTH to attend her high school reunion.

Everyone was happy to see Lonnie Behnke back at a meeting and he contributed \$10 Happy Dollars for a healthy report about being cancer free and also looking forward to vacation.

On the baseball front Frank Lambert contributed \$2 Happy Dollars for his Cardinals; Sue Rector contributed Happy Dollars for her Cleveland Guardians and not to be left out Duncan Cameron was happy to pay a Happy Dollar for his Milwaukee Brewers!

INTERESTED IN BEING A HOST FAMILY?

Jeff Dismer, our Youth Exchange Chair announced that we will have an Inbound Rotary Exchange student. A female high school student from France named Chloe’ Bourron, is coming to stay with us for the 2024-25 school year. Jeff is now working to make the housing arrangements, so we are ready to welcome Chloe.’ Ideally Jeff would like three host families, each hosting Chloe’ for approximately 3 months. Interested? Want more information? Contact Jeff. idismer@studio483.com.

THE WEEKLY BIRDIE REPORT



Our Birdies for Charity chairman Kevin Koski reported We still have two weeks to go in this year's Birdies campaign so for those who have yet to pledge, there is still time! We're looking for pledges of all size, whatever fits your budget, \$10 or \$500 no pledge is too small or too large. As of today, Kevin reports from Lake Wobegone that we have surpassed the dollar amount however we are at 38 contributors and he would like to get to 42! The pledge form is included on page 8 of today's newsletter. Please use it and make a pledge. A minimum of a 5% bonus will be added to your pledge by the Deere Foundation!

Rotary Night at the Ball Park

is Friday, July 12th. See the River Bandits in action at Modern Woodman Park in Davenport. PLUS, a fantastic fireworks display after the game. It's a ton of fun and Rotarians from all over the Quad City area will be there. Tickets are \$13 for prime reserved box seats! This is a social outing you won't want to miss! Mark Your Calendar and sign up for tickets at the Sergeant's Table for Rotary Night at the Ball Park!



WELCOME OUR NEWEST ROCK ISLAND ROTARIAN!



We are pleased to welcome into our Club, Eugene "Geno" DelPreore. Geno and his wife Anna reside in Davenport. He enjoys a very interesting life as a landlord with properties in Rock Island, Moline, and Davenport, and is also an author, editor, and publisher of children's books. "Nika Loves the Beach", "Nika Loves Playing Outside", and "Nika Loves Giant Kites" are some of his books available on Amazon. Geno is also a model train enthusiast and frequently volunteers at the Botanical Center and works in the train display, which is how he learned of Rock Island Rotary. Please introduce yourself and make Geno feel welcome when you see him. We are always pleased to add new members and new ideas to Rock Island Rotary!



Congratulations to our Rock Island Rotary Club Community Grant recipients! Pictured from L to R: Wendy Rowland (Broadway Neighborhood); Kathy Myer (Christian Care); Adam Peters (Clock Inc.); Jane Bryant (Thomas Jefferson). Other grant awardees included Argrow House of Healing and Bethany for Families and Children.

The Bonus Fund promise.

By participating in Birdies for Charity, all charities are guaranteed a 5% bonus on the pledges they receive.* This means that your donation has the potential to go even further and make a greater impact.

The John Deere Classic, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, created the Bonus Fund to support the ongoing efforts of participating charities. This fund is fueled by tournament revenues, direct donations, special events, and a generous matching grant from John Deere.

A trusted & proven option.

In 2023, Birdies for Charity achieved its highest charitable contribution to date, raising an impressive \$14.1 million for more than 470 charities. All charities received a 7.5% bonus on what they raised through the program.

2023's record-breaking campaign brings the tournament's overall charitable giving since 1971 to over \$173 million.

The fine print.

To participate, charities must be publicly supported and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) organization. All charitable contributions must come from a designated donor, and must not be part of a capital campaign. The Birdies for Charity program is intended to support charitable organizations, services, operations and programs. It is not intended to be used for endowment or brick and mortar charitable purposes.

*All charities will be guaranteed a 5% bonus on amounts up to their prior year pledge total, or \$100,000, whichever is greater.



JOHN DEERE
CLASSIC

JULY 1-7, 2024

Sponsored by:



JOHN DEERE

Grand Prize Sponsor:



SMART LEXUS OF QUAD CITIES

Media Sponsor:



Birdies for Charity
15623 Coaltown Road
East Moline, IL 61244

www.birdiesforcharity.com



JOHN DEERE

CHIP IN
for charity!

OFFICIAL PLEDGE CARD 2024



Rock Island Rotary Club

CHARITY SOLICITED FOR

937

BIRD NUMBER

I PLEDGE TO DONATE:

\$ _____ to the charity noted above.
(one time, flat donation amount)

BIRDIES FOR CHARITY BONUS FUND

Yes, I would like to make an additional donation to the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund in the amount of \$ _____, to help provide the minimum 5% match to all participating charities.

GUESS THE BIRDIES TO WIN A TWO YEAR LEASE ON A 2024 LEXUS!

I guess that _____ birdies will be made.

Only one grand prize will be awarded. Void where prohibited by law. Guesses due by June 26.

BIRDIES SCORED BY YEAR

1,990 (2015)	2,355 (2018)	1,905 (2021)
1,982 (2016)	2,091 (2019)	2,041 (2022)
1,918 (2017)	N/A (2020)	1,929 (2023)

PLEDGE & DONOR INFORMATION (please print)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE AND/OR EMAIL _____

Please include payment & make checks payable to:
BIRDIES FOR CHARITY

Chip in for your chance to win



When you chip in to help area charities, you could win! But your favorite charity will be the real winner. That's because participating charities receive 100% of the donations pledged to them in this program, plus a bonus from the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund, which is a guaranteed 5% match.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

Simply make a one-time flat donation and mail with payment to the Birdies for Charity office at
15623 Coaltown Road, East Moline, IL 61244

To enter the contest, guess the number of birdies that will actually be made by PGA TOUR Pros during the tournament, Wednesday through Sunday. A grand prize will be given to one person who guesses the correct number. In case of ties, winners will be randomly selected.



GRAND PRIZE:
2 YEAR LEASE ON A 2024 LEXUS NX!

One lucky supporter of the SMART LEXUS OF QUAD CITIES for Charity program will win a 2 year lease on a 2024 Lexus, courtesy of Smart Lexus of Quad Cities.

CONTEST RULES

- Only 1 grand prize awarded. Ties determined by random drawing.
- All guesses must be on an official pledge card and received at the tournament office by June 26.
- Rules are available at www.birdiesforcharity.com
- No pledge or purchase required. Need not be present to win.
- Pledges submitted after the JDC may be applied the following year.

KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS AS YOUR RECEIPT

I pledged \$ _____ one-time donation.

I guessed _____ birdies would be made.

Payment was included with pledge

YES \$ _____ NO

CASH CHECK NO. _____

Please make checks payable to:
BIRDIES FOR CHARITY
15623 COALTOWN ROAD
EAST MOLINE, IL 61244

Quad Cities Golf Classic Charitable Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, EIN #93-1332421, doing business as John Deere Classic & Birdies for Charity.