



# WEEKLY REVIEW

# Rotary



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

## Rotary Club of Rock Island

Rock Island, Illinois

July 9, 2024

Volume XXXII, Issue 2

Meeting Tuesdays at Noon – Quad City Botanical Center



## Sue Fleischman Rector 110<sup>th</sup> President Rock Island Rotary Club

### July – Aug. Calendar

- 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
- Aug 6 - Sarah Stevens – “Pay  
what you can”  
Sanctuary Yoga  
Studio in Moline.
- Aug 13 - Dr. Cheryl True - Vice  
Chair, Augustana  
Board of Trustees  
and Chair of the  
Board of the Quad  
City Health Initiative

Sue assumed the presidency July 2<sup>nd</sup> when installed by Rotary District Governor John Hurley. She previously served terms as 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President in addition to chairing numerous club committees and served on many others. Sue is a proud graduate of Augustana College earning her BA degree in Education. She served the college for more than 36 years retiring as Assistant Vice-President of Development in 2021. Since then, she has served part-time as Director of Development for CASI, the Center for Active Seniors, Inc. in Davenport. Sue is a Paul Harris Fellow and has honored her husband, Rick and four other family members with Paul Harris Fellow recognition. She is also a Paul Harris Society and a Polio Plus Society member. She led our effort in 2022-23 to provide school supply gift bags for every student at Earl Hanson Elementary School and was instrumental in getting our Club involved in the Festival of Trees annual celebration. Today she presented her outlook and goals for the coming Rotary year and began by thanking the Club for the honor of serving as our President. She gave particular thanks to past president Cindi Gramenz and Bob Swanson for their help and advice as she approached this year. She also thanked those who served on our 2023-24 Board of Directors and those who will be serving for 2024-25. Her final thanks went to Ruth Lee, who served as Sue’s mentor as a new Rotarian in 2018 and has continued to be a trusted friend and advisor. Finally, she thanked and asked for a few moments of silence to honor Anne McGlynn who assured Sue when she began through the chairs, “I’ve got your back.” Anne’s support and advice was instrumental in preparing Sue for her year as our President. Sue then pointed out that as a “paper person” there was a folder at each person’s place at our tables. In it are all the papers and documents Sue has prepared for the coming year. She singled out the Action Plan, which is in essence our new 3-year strategic plan which Sue and her fellow officers patterned after the Rotary International action plan. She noted that the plan was developed after receiving surveys from members, hosting two Saturday morning work sessions, and from conversations had with many members. She also asked everyone to read through the “Impact Report” that was prepared initially at the request of a potential club sponsor who wanted to know what our Club has done for our community, nation, and the world. Sue said pulling things together was an eye-opening experience and is a remarkable summary of incredible Club service. Sue then stated that in Rotary everyone has a role. This year she hopes to see everyone more involved and working in roles of their interest. She then urged members to speak up as they look through the action plan and goals and see areas of interest. Volunteer to join committees and projects.

*Continued: Pres. Rector – Page 5*

*Service Above  
Self*

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*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

Sue Rector, President  
John Olinger, 1st Vice Pres.  
Amber Wood, 2nd Vice Pres.  
Holly Sparkman, Secretary  
Molly Shattuck, Treasurer  
Cindi Gramenz, Past President  
Bob Swanson, Sgt. at Arms

## Board Members

Amber Brummit, Director  
Kenda Burrows, Director  
Carrie Crossen, Director  
Rick Emery, Director  
Ruth Lee, Director  
Jim Moran, Director  
Danielle Scott, Director  
Tyla Sherwin-Cole, Director

## Program Chair 2023-24

Rebecca Arnold

### Presenters

July: Tom Hammar  
August: Erin Williams  
September: Dave Hodge  
October: Yolanda Pugh  
November: Rebecca Arnold  
December: Bob Swanson  
January: Gary Rowe  
February: Kai Swanson  
March: Yolanda/Rebecca  
April: Angela Campbell  
May: John Wetzel  
June: Tom Hammar

# Club Notes & Announcements!

- ★ **WELCOME GUESTS** – We were pleased to welcome to our meeting visiting Rotarians Duncan Cameron from the Naples, Florida Club and Alex Lambert from the Muscatine Rotary Club. Joyce Lambert was a guest of husband Frank Lambert. Former Exchange son Emil Rosin from Finland and Pete Murray one of Emil Rosin’s host parents when Emil was with us in 2019 were guests of the Club. Prospective member Brian Williams from WQPT PBS was with us as was Laura Kann, our District Foundation Chairperson. We are always thrilled to welcome guests, particularly prospective members!
- ★ **A FEW ROTARY AT THE BALL PARK TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE** – for Friday’s River Bandits Game. If you need tickets, call or email John Olinger 563-676-7956. First Come gets them. Cost is a \$13 donation to Rock Island Rotary per ticket! Be a part of our reserved box seat Rock Island Rotary section. Feel free to wear your Rock Island Rotary shirt!
- ★ **NEW CLUB DIRECTORY BOOKS** – Are now available. Each member is entitled to one copy. If you have not received one, you may request your 2024-25 Directory at the Sergeant at Arms Table. They are a valuable source of current information for contacting fellow members, checking committee assignments, finding dates of annual club events and activities, plus a wealth of information about Rotary International and our Club. Past District Governor Laura Kann looked through it and said, “No other club in the district could pull off something like this.” Thanks Laura!
- ★ **DID YOU SEE? – DATES TO SAVE!** –
  - Friday, July 12, 6:30pm. Rotary Night at the River Bandits
  - August 17<sup>th</sup> 10am: District 6420 Community Awareness Program on Human Trafficking. FREE EVENT- Holiday Inn, Rock Island. A survivor will speak and there will be coffee and pastries served.
  - August 25<sup>th</sup> 3pm – First Ever Rock Island Rotary Family Potluck Picnic!
  - November 8-9, Rockford Embassy Suites, District 6420 Conference
  - Rotary Trivia Night - Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> at Holiday Inn, Rock Island
  - Rotary Holiday Party – Circa 21, Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - Rotary Reindeer Ramble, Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> 1pm
  - Rotary Rock & Roll Bingo- March 21<sup>st</sup> at Holiday Inn, Rock Island
- ★ **HAVE ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER?** – Send to, [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto: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?

## JULY ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

Ernest Beane	July 3	Frank Lambert	July 15
James Jones	July 4	Todd Thompson	July 15
Holly Sparkman	July 7	Lindsey Honert	July 17
Kevin Koski	July 12	Doug Hultquist	July 28

Immediate Past President, Cindi Gramenz provided a very brief wrap up of the past two Rotary years. She first thanked the Club and stated that often members don't realize what a significant role they play for the club and its leadership just by attending meetings and being a part of the club fellowship. Secondly she reflected a bit on being club president noting that it is a three-year commitment moving from 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president to 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president, and then to the presidency. She said that often causes potential presidents to shy away from the job. Cindi said, "None of us know for sure where we'll be or what we will be doing in three years. Sometimes you just must make the leap of faith." She urged member old and new to consider stepping up when asked. "You're never alone," she said. She then thanked those that had been a great help to her and noted the many former presidents that volunteered to preside at our meetings during the past year. She also said that serving as president is a terrific way for learning and improving leadership skills and hoped others would see it as an opportunity for both self improvement and serving our club. When she concluded her remarks, President Rector presented Cindi with a certificate signifying that our club has purchased two water filters in Cindi's name that are on their way to rural school in Kenya where they will provide safe, sanitary drinking water for as many as 200 children for the next three years. She also presented Cindi with a boat paddle signed by all members of our club. In remarks made by Cindi in her final meeting as our president she noted that leading our Club was successful much like being in a canoe, with all members paddling along with her. Thanks Cindi for two outstanding years!



## ROCK ISLAND ROTARY SUPPORTS BETHANY FOR CHILDREN

At our July 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting Community Grants Chair Frank Lambert had the pleasure of presenting a \$1,000 Rotary donation to Christina McNamara Director of Development and Communication for Bethany for Children and Families. Ms. McNamara stated that our funds will be used for therapeutic recreation for youth through field trips. We are delighted to be able to assist Bethany. Based in Moline, Bethany for Children & Families is a child welfare, mental health, community education, and social services provider which has offered aid and support to children and families in western Illinois and eastern Iowa since 1899. The organization staffs a professional team of nearly 135 social workers, licensed counselors, case managers, and educators, directed by a Board of volunteer community leaders. Offering 37 programs and services, Bethany serves over 15,000 children and families annually. Bethany's programs and services are accredited by the Council on Accreditation, a nonprofit accreditor of human services.



## EMIL RETURNS!

In August 2019 Emil Rosen arrived from Finland to spend the year with us as our Rotary Exchange son. He attended Alleman High School and quickly became a Favorite both at school where he earned a spot on the Alleman Homecoming Court and was crowned as the Homecoming Prince, and with our Club! Unfortunately, his year was cut short when the Covid Pandemic hit. Amid concerns that travel to and from Finland would be shutdown, Emil returned home April 7, 2020. He was a favorite with our Club, and we were thrilled to have him back with us today. Since leaving Emil finished high school and served his term plus an extra year of re-enlisting in the Finnish military parachute regiment. He is now attending college in Helsinki with a major in finance and economics and hopes to continue to law school.

## ROTARY FOUNDATION MINUTE

The island countries of the South Pacific are tropically warm, economically diverse, and really, really far apart. In this region, which spans millions of square miles, even individual countries' islands are scattered across vast distances. Public health workers face unique challenges in vaccinating the islands' children. The news this week is from a report by Etelka Lehoczky where Rotary's Give Every Child a Future program vaccinated over 100,000 children in several South Pacific islands. "It's hard to transport vaccines to the outer islands because of the distance and transport availability. Sometimes they have to wait one to three months to get a boat across," says Rufina Tutai, who oversees immunizations for the Cook Islands. The 15 islands in her jurisdiction are spread over nearly 2 million square kilometers (770,000 square miles). "Flights are expensive to charter, and we're lucky if a flight can go to the outer islands in less than two weeks," she adds.

Such obstacles did not deter the Rotarians of Australia, New Zealand, and several Pacific Island countries from organizing a major vaccination program in the islands. Called Give Every Child a Future, the effort – which celebrates 100 years of Rotary in the region – is providing three new vaccines to 100,000 children in nine Pacific Island groups: the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. Ultimately, the members applied for 23 Rotary Foundation Global Grants, securing more than US\$980,000 in funds from The Rotary Foundation. The program was also funded by about US\$807,000 in District Designated Funds, US\$990,000 from clubs and individual members, US\$264,000 from other foundations, and US\$860,000 from the Australian government. That funding paid for much more than vaccines. It was used to purchase special refrigerators, insulated containers, and other equipment to keep vaccines cool and transport them to the most distant islands. The health ministries in the nine island groups will be able to use this equipment for many years. That fulfills the project's other goal of helping the targeted areas add the three vaccines to their regular immunization schedules.

### FOUNDATION RAFFLE



Today's raffle featured cash and a bottle of fine wine. The first ticket drawn by guest Emil Rosin was held by Bud Phillis who took the cash. The next ticket winning an excellent bottle of fine wine, was held by Frank Lambert. Enjoy the wine Frank, a fitting addition to your Major Donor Award day.

Thanks to all for participating in today's Foundation Raffle! All proceeds go to the Rotary International Foundation in support of important Rotary Service Projects!



### HAPPY-SAD DOLLARS & VOLUNTEERED FINES

Our new 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Amber Wood was thrilled to be greeted by the traditional Club 2<sup>nd</sup> V.P. greeting. We didn't disappoint her! She began by fining herself for missing her installation last week while vacationing with her family. She also added a happy dollar for all Rotarians who volunteered at the John Deere Classic over the past weekend. Kathy Trone added a happy dollar in recognition of our Deere Class volunteers. Jeff Dismer had "several happy dollars" welcoming back to Rock Island our former Exchange son, Emil Rosin from Finland. It was great to see and hear from him. Jeff also welcomed Pete Murray, who served as one of Emil's host parents in 2019. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President John Oliger then rose to confess a minor faux pas, He was given a guest card for introducing Emil when guests were welcomed and forgot to do it! We forgive you John, but thanks for the dollar! Alex Lambert from the Muscatine Club then offered a happy dollar in celebration of his Dad, Frank Lambert who is being honored today. Alex said his Dad taught him about Rotary and community service as a young boy bringing him to help sell Rotary pork chop sandwiches at the Rock Island Summer Fest. He also noted that last summer Frank brought his grandson, Alex's boy to help sell Rotary caramel apples at the Milan Festival. Lastly past president Cindi Gramenz put in a happy dollar "For not screwing up the club over the past two years!" Far from it, Cindi set an extremely high bar for Club leadership, growth, and achievement.

### Rotary Night at the Ball Park

is this Friday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. 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, and we have just a few remaining! This is a social outing you won't want to miss! If you want one of the last few tickets in our reserved section you must call or email John Oliger now! First Come will get the tickets. Make your \$13 payable to Rock Island Rotary.

**CALL OR EMAIL JOHN OLIGER FOR TICKETS**

563-6760-7956 [John.Oliger@modern-woodmen.org](mailto:John.Oliger@modern-woodmen.org)



*Continued from Page 1: President Rector*

Sue then introduced Rebecca Arnold our Program Chairman for 2024-25 who gave a detailed summary of what we hope our weekly programs will be. In a nutshell, informative, entertaining, and or educational. She named those who will be selecting programs for the coming year and noted that we have a record of every speaker we have had going back multiple years. She urged that the list be consulted and that with only special exceptions past speakers are not called upon again within a 3-year period. She noted that there are multiple good speakers available in our community and we need to strive to keep our programs fresh and new as much as possible reflecting the multiple interests and diversity of our club and community. She reminded us that Rotary is non-political and that candidates for office or proponents of particularly political issues are not appropriate Rotary speakers. Next, Sue called on John Olinger who will be chairing our membership committee. John said that some catching up is necessary and would strive to get our relatively new members involved and then move on to seeking ways to attract additional members. Sue called on Kevin Koski our Rotary Birdies for Charity Chairman who reported we met our goals for 2024 both in number of pledges and total dollars raised. He then awarded our club prize for Best Birdies Guess to Bud Phillis who was by far our closest estimator of the final number of birdies for the 2024 tournament (2,315). Bud guessed 2,400!. Sue noted that the funds raised are dedicated to our Rock Island Rotary Club Foundation. With time running short Sue urged each of us to review the listing of goals for 2024-25 included in your packet. She ended by congratulating the club for 47 new Paul Harris Fellows during the past year and said the goal for the coming year is 50! Thank you Sue for a great look forward and best of luck for a great Rotary Year!

## **CONGRATULATIONS ROTARIAN FRANK LAMBERT!**

**District Foundation Chair Laura Kann joined us today to present a very special award to our fellow member, Frank Lambert. Frank was recognized as a Rotary International Foundation MAJOR DONOR. That is honor is present to Rotarians whose cumulative donations reach \$10,000. Laura presented Frank with a Crystal Award, a major donor's pin, and a major donor's charm for his wife, Joyce.**

**Frank joined our club in 1985 and will celebrate his 40 years of membership later this Rotary year. He is a Paul Harris Fellow and has bestowed Paul Harris Fellow honors on his wife Joyce, his children, grand children, parents, and siblings. He twice served as our Club president (1990-91 and 2012-13), and currently serves as a Sergeant at Arms Aide and as Chairman of**

**our Community Grants Committee. He is also just a super nice guy and dedicated Club member! Frank thanked Bud Phillis and Fred Luckenbill for influencing him to get started in Foundation giving. He said he gave no big donations, but just stayed at it, and look what happened!**

**We were particularly pleased that Frank's wife, Joyce, and son Alex, a member of the Muscatine, IA Rotary, were able to join us for the presentation.**

**Congratulations Frank, we are indeed, very proud of you and honored to be your fellow Rock Island Rotary club members!**



## **PRESIDENT SUE ANNOUNCES SPECIAL 5<sup>th</sup> TUESDAYS AND 5<sup>th</sup> FRIDAYS**

Four times each year months will have 5 Tuesdays and/or 5 Fridays. From now on, those will be special Rotary days! Any month with a 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday will be a "Rock Island Rotary Education Day". On those days we may meet at a location other than our normal dining facility or as in the case of this month, which has five Tuesdays, we ask everyone to plan to stay an extra half hour and join us for a guided tour of the Botanical Center led by the Center's Executive Director Ryan Wille. We will not only hear about many of the amazing exotic plants in the Center but will also take us on a tour of the newly upgraded Children's Garden. In our Club's Centennial year Rock Island Rotary raised over \$100,000 to help construct the Children's Garden. Many of us have never seen it or the inlaid Rotary Logo that is a permanent fixture of the Children's Garden.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Fridays will be used for social gatherings of Rotarians from all the Illinois Quad City area Rotary Clubs. They are informal, and a chance to meet, greet, and network. The first will be held at the Old Oaks Winery, South of Milan on Rt. 67 on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Come after work, stay as long as you wish and enjoy good food and drink!

# ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CRUISE RAFFLE

**Win a \$2,000 Picture Perfect Travel Gift Voucher good for any Royal Caribbean Cruise or Viking River Cruise – Your Choice! You pick the date and destination!**



## Rock Island Rotary



◀ Jun 2024		July 2024					Aug 2024 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
Cruise Raffle tickets are available. \$20 each See Ruth Lee for tickets.	1	2 Noon Meeting DG John Hurley Installation of the 2024-25 Board of Directors	3	4	5	6	
7	8 Board Orientation 5 pm Hammar's 3422 14 <sup>th</sup> St. Moline Appetizers provided BYO Beverage	9 Noon Meeting Plans for 2024-25 PDG Laura Kahn – guest <b>MEMBERSHIP</b> Committee Mtg following Rotary	10	11	12 River Bandits – 6:30 pm	13	
14	15 Board Meeting 11:45 am Gere Dismer Lofts 124 Arts Alley, Rock Island	16 Noon Meeting Angela Campbell – District Grant Children's Library Grant pres: Argrows House	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23 Noon Meeting Jack Cullen Downtown RI update	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30 5 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday meeting – Noon John Gripp RI Parks and Rec Special: after mtg TOUR of the Botanical Center	31	Invocations: Julie Gelaude Raffle – Bud and: 1 <sup>st</sup> Julie G.; 2 <sup>nd</sup> Cindi G.; 3 <sup>rd</sup> Holly/Tammy; 4 NEED 5 NEED Programs: Tom Hammar Greeters: 1 <sup>st</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> 5 <sup>th</sup>			

August Calendar deadline: July 23 Send Rotary information for calendar to [srector3614@gmail.com](mailto:srector3614@gmail.com)

Save the Dates: August 17 – District 6420 Community Awareness Program on Human Trafficking.

August 25<sup>th</sup> – RI Rotary Family Friendly Potluck 3-6 pm

August 30<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Friday social with Illinois Rotary Clubs – Old Oaks Winery 5-7 pm