

UNITE
FOR
GOOD

Rotary

WEEKLY REVIEW

Rotary



October 21, 2025
Volume XXXIII, Issue 17

Rotary Club of Rock Island

Rock Island, Illinois

Meeting Tuesdays at Noon – Quad City Botanical Center



KIM GREGG The Epilepsy Network

The Epilepsy Advocacy Network is a member organization of the Epilepsy Alliance America. They serve 60 counties in Northwest and Central Illinois with epilepsy education and support. Kim Gregg is

OCT. – NOV. CALENDAR

- Oct 28 - Dr Tierney Brosius – insects in art and fashion
- Nov 4 - Josh Johnson - Curator Figge Art Museum
- Nov 11 - Nathan Windt SAU – Opera for Beginners
- Nov 18 - Anika O'Melia – Rock Island Line POD Cast

the Administrative Supervisor and Client Coordinator of the Epilepsy Advocacy Network. She stated that 1 in 26 people will develop epilepsy in their lifetime. One in ten people will have a seizure. The “EAN” mission is to optimize the lives of individuals with epilepsy and seizure disorders by promoting community education and awareness, self-advocacy and empowerment, and access to proper care. Kim joined the Epilepsy Advocacy Network in 2021 as a Client Coordinator. Her work is driven by a deep personal connection to epilepsy and a strong commitment to ensuring that others receive the support she once needed for herself and her son, who both are epileptic. With a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, she brings a unique passion for outreach and education. She especially enjoys visiting schools to deliver the Epilepsy 101 program, helping students better understand epilepsy and how they can support peers who may be affected. Her role at EAN allows her to blend advocacy, education, and compassion in meaningful ways every day. The Network provides services in seizure first aid training and community education. They train school staff and other community organizations how to recognize and respond to seizures. They also have in-person and Zoom support groups for people impacted by epilepsy. They provide Individual/family consultation and service coordination to help connected sufferers to needed services, such as clinic appointments, financial assistance, transportation assistance, and more. All of their services are provided free of charge. Their coordinators are certified to provide epilepsy management programs, which can help those with epilepsy and seizure disorders better manage their condition. They host awareness events and advocate for those suffering from the condition. One of the best programs they offer is a summer camp for youth with epilepsy and other seizure disorders. Kim said the Camp was started by our fellow member, Monta Ponsetto, when she served as Director of Epilepsy Foundation Services. “camPossible!” is a place for children with epilepsy to attend summer camp without fear of exclusion. With trained personnel on site, the camp allows the youth to experience not only zip-line and kayak, but a chance to connect with others who truly understand what it's like to live with seizures. Kim reported that camp is often the catalyst for shy, embarrassed kids who often feel shame for their health condition, to have a life changing experience gaining confidence that they can achieve and succeed in whatever they might hope to do. Ms. Gregg noted that there are 20 different types of seizures and a patient may suffer from one or multiple types. In providing education for us she stated witnessing someone suffering a seizure, stay calm, lay something soft under the person's head, roll them onto their side so any fluids in their mouth can flow out and not into their throat. The person may make a sound, such as a groan or yell. The muscles suddenly get stiff and cause the person to fall down. Loss of consciousness occurs. This phase tends to last about 10 to 20 seconds. Then muscles relax, sometimes including the bowel or bladder allowing discharge. Time the seizure which is important for later diagnosis. Remain with the person, stay calm. Kim said the EAN served 288 clients last year, gave 3,000 hours of volunteer work, hosted 42 events, and met with or helped form 96 support groups. That represented a tripling growth of the number of people served compared to three years ago. We thank Kim for the information and hope we won't be called to have need to use it!

*Service Above
Self*

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*One Profits
Most Who
Serves Best*

Rotary



Club of Rock Island

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Officers

John Oliger, President
Amber Wood, 1st Vice Pres.
Julie Gelaude, 2nd Vice Pres.
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Molly Shattuck, Treasurer
Sue Rector, Past President
Frank Lambert, Sgt at Arms
Bob Swanson, Sgt. at Arms

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Carrie Crossen, Director
Geno DelPreore, Director
Jeff Dismar, Director
Rick Emery, Director
Forrest Meyer, Director
Jim Moran, Director
Jim Nordquist, Director

Program Chair 2025-26

Rebecca Arnold

Presenters

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

Club Notes & Announcements!

★ **WELCOME GUESTS** – We were pleased to welcome two Visiting Rotarians today. Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport, IA Club and Duncan Cameron from the Naples, FL Club. Duncan spends most of the summer months with us but is headed back to Florida this Friday. We will see him again during the holidays and at our Circa21 Party. Safe travels Duncan! Both Mark and Duncan are great friends of our club and always very welcome. Also visiting were Jr. Rotarians Jullian Hoffman and Claire Mehochko from Alleman High School. We love hosting guests and hope you will visit again!

★ **BIRTHDAY BOOKS – A WEEK FROM THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30th!** Help is needed, Arrive at Earl Hanson Elementary by 2:15pm. Go to the library, up the stairs and first door on the left. The party lasts about 15 minutes!

★ **WE NEED GREETERS FOR OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS.** Why isn't anyone signing up!!! Greeting is a simple and rewarding opportunity. It is a great way to serve our club and make members and guests feel welcome when they attend. It is a fantastic way to get to know fellow members and make new friends. We encourage new members to volunteer to greet as soon as you can. That way we can get to know you!

★ **CALENDAR ITEMS:** Make sure these items are on your calendar!

- THIS FRIDAY, **October 24th** - Pumpkin Palooza – Volunteers are needed Signup with project chair, Sue Rector
- Saturday, **November 15th** – Festival of Trees Set Up. Meet Sue Rector and Monta Ponsetto at the River Center in Davenport.
- Friday, **November 21st**, 9-10am – Public Image Committee ZOOM Meeting. Use this link to join: <https://tinyurl.com/PublicImageMeeting>
- Saturday, **December 6th** - **Save the Date** – Rotary Holiday Party at Circa21. The show is the ever popular "White Christmas". We will have a private Salon Party prior to the show.

★ **Dr. BUD PHILLIS** – Celebrated his 90th birthday this year and his 42nd year as a member of our Club. He periodically runs across jokes and shares them with me. They are usually quite short, funny, and brighten the day. With his permission I will start sharing one each week with you. Just watch this announcement section for "**A LAUGH FROM BUD**" – starting today with - "*Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!*"

★ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** – Send to, bobdebswanson@att.net. Our newsletter goes out via email every Tuesday afternoon.

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 ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

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

ROTARY'S FIRST SAUSAGE & PANCAKES EXPERIENCE A SUCCESS!

Last Saturday Rock Island Rotary members served up "All You Can Eat" pancakes and sausage, assisted by members of the Rock Island Evening Lions Club. The Lions provided the facility, the expertise, and kitchen help as a service project and Rotary sold the tickets and provided workers as a fundraiser for community grants and youth projects. Preliminary report, over \$3,000 cleared profit!

We discovered that Everybody Loves Pancakes!



Thanks to all who sold tickets, to those who came and brought family/friends for breakfast and to those members who gave their Saturday morning time to work at the breakfast. John Oliger, Amber Wood, Julie Gelaude, Sue Rector, Cindi Gramenz, Robin VanKeulen, Rick Emery, Linda Barnes, Kathy Trone, Amber Brummit, Jim Moran, Rebecca Arnold, Gary Rowe, Marcy Bell, Noa Smith, Forrest Meyer, Jim Nordquist, and Bob Swanson spent the morning making pancakes, scrambling eggs, serving food, delivering drinks, clearing tables, setting out napkins and plastic ware, and washing dishes. Your work was essential and greatly appreciated! John Oliger, Marcy Bell, and Sue Rector, and Bob worked both shifts! The Lions Club donated the use of their building, equipment, and much of the breakfast supplies!



First shift (7:30-9:30am) crew gathers for a quick photo. Notice Marcy in both shots!

Part of second shift (9:30-11:30am) crew.



More second shift crew serving beverages and scrambled eggs. Sue Rector worked both shifts as did John Oliger, here with 2nd shift "egg masters"!



Sarah Gorham and her kids enjoy pancakes as Rebecca Arnold looks on.

How many Rotarians can you find in this photo? 3-4-5-6-7?

Pumpkin Palooza is Friday, October 24th at the Corn Crib Nursery

- Field Trip for all 1st and 2nd Grade at Earl Hanson Elementary
- Nika Loves Charity Book And Stuffed Figure Presentation
- Rock Island Library's Bookmobile
- Kid Activities: Scavenger Hunt, Corn Maze, Zip-Line, Pedal Cars, Human Hamster Wheels, Hayrack Rides, Giant Bounce Pad, Family size Tire Swings, Firetruck Slide, Climbing Challenges, Tug-O-War, and Grain Bin Basketball
- We will be giving every child a book, stuffed toy, stickers, suckers, and End Polio Information to take home.
- They will be wearing their Rock Island Rotary Pumpkin Palooza Shirts passed out at school!



WE NEED LOTS OF HELP FOR THIS FUN EVENT – CAN YOU GIVE US 10am to 1pm?

ROTARY IMPACT IS WORLDWIDE!

Last weekend Holly and Tom Sparkman were visiting Lake Geneva, Wisconsin and ran across a Rotary Peace Pole at the library! It is great to see them popping up around the country and world and makes one wonder how many thousands of people have seen the Peace Poles funded by members of our Club and how many photos have been taken of them by visitors from all over the state and nation. Rock Island Rotary has Peace Poles at the Quad City Botanical Center, the downtown Rock Island Public Library, Friendship Manor, the Rock Island Fitness and Activity Center, and Rock Island High School. Hopefully the message they provide is having an impact!



ROTARY FOUNDATION RAFFLE



Today's raffle offered a 50/50 cash drawing, a bottle of white merlot wine, and a handmade Angela Campbell Halloween fabric bowl. Kimberly Calhoun drew the winners, and the first was Sue Rector who took the cash and donated it to the Rotary Foundation. Next drawn was Jeff Dismar who took the wine. Today's final winner was John Wetzel who has a new fabric bowl to take home to Marcia. Thanks to all who purchased chances!



Jane Courtright Inducted as Newest Rock Island Rotarian



Rock Island Rotary was pleased to welcome another new member inducted by President John Olinger at today's meeting. Jane Courtright was sponsored by Ruth Lee, who will serve as her mentor. Jane is a retired United Church of Christ minister. She and husband David Ward live in Moline and have four grown children, a dog and a cat. She has attended as a guest during the past month. Jane enjoys reading and many other activities. She told Ruth that she likes our club's community activities and the friendliness she has experienced from our members. Please be sure to introduce yourself and welcome her as a fellow Rock Island Rotarian!

FOUNDATION MINUTE

Nadowli, Ghana – The Rotary Club of Wa commissioned six water facilities for six communities in three districts of the Upper West Region to help improve access to potable water. Over 7,000 people, especially women and girls in those communities have been relieved from the drudgery in accessing potable water, especially in the dry season. The beneficiary communities, hitherto, either depended on dugouts and wells for water or trekked long distances to access water for domestic use. Women and girls were the most affected in the water access challenge in those communities as they were responsible for providing water for their families. However, the intervention by the Rotary Club of Wa, with funding from a Global Grant from The Rotary Foundation, has alleviated the water access challenge in those communities, restoring dignity in water access and use.

The expression of joy and thanksgiving among the people of the beneficiary communities during the commissioning was an indication of the long-awaited relief they anticipated: Madam Clementia Saamaala, a resident, showing her appreciation at the Nadowli-Ganga community during the commissioning, said it had saved them from resorting to dugout for water, which exposed them to waterborne diseases. At the Bussie-Nayirkori community, Madam Christian Boyor said women used to go through a lot of challenges in accessing water for their families, including waking up at dawn to queue at a well at the community for water. "We used to wake up at dawn, by 4 A.M., to queue at the well for water ... It used to generate quarrels among the women here. But with this borehole that Rotary Club has given us, you can wake up at any time and come, and you will get water to fetch. It has also helped end the petty quarrels among the women", she explained.

ROCK ISLAND ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY 2025



**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 6th**

A Circa '21 family favorite returns in this Irving Berlin classic! Two World War II vets, Bob Wallace and Phil Davis, have become partners in a song-and-dance act after the war. Looking for love, they follow a duo of beautiful singing sisters to a gig at a lodge in Vermont, only to discover that the nearly-bankrupt lodge where they were hired to perform is owned by their former commanding general. The classic holiday movie is brought to life onstage, filled with dancing, laughter, and some of the greatest songs ever written. The score features beloved songs "Count Your Blessings Instead of Sheep", "Sisters", "How Deep is the Ocean", and the ageless title tune. This promises to be a merry and bright theatrical experience for all ages.

Tickets include a private pre-show Salon Party
with Complimentary Hors D'oeuvres and Cash Bar (4:45-5:45pm)
Buffet Dinner (5:45-7:00pm)
Bootleggers Warm-up Show (7:15pm)
White Christmas (7:30pm)

GROUP RATE

ONE ADMISSION \$65.90 – STUDENTS 18 AND UNDER \$47.65

TWO ADULT ADMISSIONS \$131.80

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

Circa Subscriber? Pay Just \$3.85 per person for gratuity

FINES AND HAPPY/SAD DOLLARS

President Designee Julie Gelaude was once again in good form as she egged on the “boos” and bent about raising money! She began with a fine to Sue Rector who confessed to not only failing to wear her name badge, but for losing it. She was fined and a replacement ordered (at her expense!). Julie then complimented the club for last Saturday’s Pancake Breakfast fund raiser and then fined everyone who failed to help work at or at least attend the event. Then Julie added her own fine for missing last week’s meeting, and added a sad dollar for the Minnesota Vikings loss, and a very happy dollar for celebrating her 30th Anniversary of marriage to Ron. John Phillips followed with \$20 happy dollars for his son’s wedding last week to a “wonderful lady he had dated for 10 years”, John said, and then added “What took him so long!” Kevin Koski had a happy dollar for spending last Saturday sitting in the rain at Notre Dame watching the Fighting Irish defeat UCLA. Mark Zimmerman volunteered a fine for being absent for quite a few weeks saying Tuesdays has become his “Grandpa day”. Although we miss you when you’re absent, those grandpa experiences are wonderful for both you and your granddaughter. Plus, we were able to keep tabs on you watching your new series of Zimmerman Honda TV commercials. You are quite photogenic! John Wetzel paid a fine for failing to have his name badge and a happy dollar for the Bears win. Bob Swanson put in \$5 happy dollars for the successful pancake breakfast, and wins last week by the Bears, Bulls, Blackhawks, Augustana, and Rocky! It was a great week!! Geno DelPreore put in money for eggs consumed at Saturday’s breakfast. He had no cash with him that day and appreciated being trusted to pay up today! Jim Nordquist paid a fine for failing to have his name badge and added a happy dollar for the Iowa Hawkeyes coming from behind and taking down Penn State last Saturday. Bud Phillis added his happy dollar for the Bears win over New Orleans Sunday. Justin Peterson paid a fine for missing the Pancake breakfast, the put in happy dollars for edging out Bud today in the “Who gets to be greeter game” and for his daughters both now in dance competitions and raising money through a Gift Card raffle. He offered tickets to anyone interested. Last but not least Luis Moreno had a happy dollar for his girls’ soccer team who participated in a tournament last weekend and did quite well, prior to losing to a St. Louis team! We’re confident you’ll get ‘em next time!! Thanks to everyone who shared their fines and news today!

This Friday, Oct 24 – WORLD POLIO DAY A DAY ESTABLISHED BY ROTARY INTERNATIONAL AND RECOGNIZED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



What Rotary International has done to Eradicate Polio



REDUCED INCIDENCE

Since its first vaccination campaign in 1979, polio cases have been reduced by 99.9%



IMMUNIZED BILLIONS

Rotary helped immunize over 2.5 billion children in 122 countries



FOSTERED COLLABORATION

Founded PolioPlus in 1985 and helped form Global Polio Eradication Initiative



RAISED MONEY

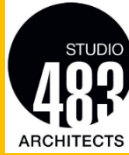
Rotarians contributed more than \$1.8 billion to polio eradication and surveillance efforts

Become a Polio Plus Society Member Next Week - Pledge \$100 Per Year Until Polio Is Eliminated!

OUR ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CLUB SPONSORS!



**In Memory Of
Fred
Luckenbill**



Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING
Mark Mayeski – Rock Island



THANK YOU!

Rock Island Rotary

Rotary



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
ACTION: PLEASE Try to Sell at least 10 tickets for the Pancake Breakfast.			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Noon Meeting: Speaker: Mark Poulos Diving the Rock & Mississippi	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Noon Meeting Speaker: Curtis B. Lewis Jr. Journey Live Production	15	16	17 Pumpkin Palooza – The Corn Crib – meet at 10 am	18 Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser
19	20 Literacy Committee mtg Zoom 8:30 am Board meeting Noon	21 Fdtn. Tuesday Noon Meeting Speaker: Kim Gregg Epilepsy Network	22	23 Birthday Books 2:15 pm	24	25
26	27	28 Noon Meeting Speaker: Dr. Tierney Brosius – insects in art and fashion	29	30	31 Happy Halloween	

Invocations: Programs: **Yolanda Granberry Pugh and Rebecca Arnold** SAVE THE DATES

Friday, November 7 – Trivia Night.

Saturday, November 15 – Festival of Trees Set Up.

Friday, November 21 – Public Image Committee 9am virtual meeting.

Saturday, December 6 – Holiday Party at Circa 21 for “White Christmas”.