

# Rotary



# WEEKLY REVIEW

UNITE FOR GOOD

Rotary Club of Rock Island  
Rock Island, Illinois  
Meeting Tuesdays at Noon – Quad City Botanical Center

May 12, 2026  
Volume XXXIII, Issue 45

## Mary Fislar Scholarship and Club Foundation Grant Presentations

### May – June Calendar

- May 19 - Houlton Scholarship & Jordan Earlyact Club
- May 26 - R.I. Rotary Legacy
- June 2 - Community Grants Presentation – Frank Lambert
- June 9 - TBA
- June 16 - TBA
- June 23 - TBA
- June 30 - John Oliger & Noa Smith
- July 7 - 2026-27 Installation of Club officers and directors

Mary Fislar (pictured) joined Rock Island Rotary in 1996 and ranks as one of the most loved and deeply missed of all club members. We lost Mary to cancer in 2023 after 27 years of membership. Mary served as our membership chair for many years and is credited with creating the “mentor” program for new members, an idea that has sense spread through Rotary far beyond our club and district. Mary served as our president for the 2004-05 Rotary Year. Mary along with identical twin sister, Marcy graduated from Augustana and education and serving youth became her passions. Upon her passing, Marcy and the love of Mary’s life, husband Dick Fislar established the Mary Fislar Scholarship annually awarding \$1,000 to a graduate of Rock Island or



Alleman High School who has demonstrated outstanding citizenship, scholastic ability and a commitment to service. Today that tradition was continued with the awarding of the Mary Fislar Memorial Scholarship to Rock Island High School senior, LaRayah Carroll.

Continued Page 3 – “Fislar Scholarship”



The Rock Island Rotary Club Foundation was established in 2008 as a result of a generous bequest of \$200,000 from the estate of Club member Stan Harris (pictured). The Foundation is intended to support projects and programs that benefit the people of Rock Island. Since it’s creation the Foundation assets have steadily grown and recently passed the million dollar milestone. A Board of Club members oversees the fund, solicits financial contributions to grow the assets, seeks worthy applicants for annual Foundation grants, screens and selects grant winners and presents the winners and invites winning grant recipient(s) to attend a presentation luncheon to explain their project to our membership and receive their award.

Receiving our 2026 Club Foundation Grant is Tapestry Farms for a project to upgrade an urban orchard they purchased in the West End of Rock. The grant will fund the building of an equipment shed on site and installation of a watering sstem. Old failing trees will be replaced and fruit produced will be distributed to help address healthy food inequities to those in need in the West End. Tapestry Farm Volunteers will maintain the orchard. Tapestry Farms equips refugees in the Quad Cities with knowledge and encourages them with care as they connect, contribute, and thrive in their new community.

Continued on Page 3 – “Foundation Grant”

Service Above Self

FOLLOW US!  
Webpage [www.rirotary.com](http://www.rirotary.com)  
facebook <https://www.facebook.com/RockIslandRotary/>  
Follow R. I. High Interact at [https://linktr.ee/rocky\\_rotaryclub](https://linktr.ee/rocky_rotaryclub)

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

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

## Directors

Kenda Burrows, Director  
Carrie Crossen, Director  
Geno DelPreore, Director  
Jeff Dismer, 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 Adam Heninger, Lead Volunteer from Tapestry Gardens and Nickolus & Jacque Allison, grandparents of LaRayah Carroll our Mary Fislar Community Service Scholarship winner. We also welcomed Dick Fislar, husband of Mary Fislar and Geno DelPreore, Jr. a guest of his Dad Geno, Sr. Our other guests in addition to scholarship winner LaRayah Carroll and grant recipient Ann McGlynn, was Kim Moran a guest of husband Jim Moran; and our good friend of the Club, Duncan Cameron back from his winter home in Naples Florida. He will be with us from now through October. Welcome to all guests. Rock Island Rotarians are extremely proud of our club and love to have the opportunity to extend our greetings and friendship to guests.
- ★ **SAVE THE DATES!** - **Rotary at the Ball Park** – Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30 Game Time. Tickets will be \$20 each which includes \$10 in Bandit Bucks for concessions! You, your family, friends, and guests are welcome. Baseball & Fireworks! Watch for ticket signup coming in May! **Rotary At The Backwater Gamblers AND family potluck picnic**, Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Rotary will provide chicken and beverages for the picnic in the shelter prior to the ski show. Yard and table games will start at 4:15pm and eat at 5:15pm. We will have a signup to attend coming in July for our chicken & beverage count.
- ★ **A LAUGH FROM BUD** – I find it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.
- ★ **ONE MORE OPPORTUNITY TO SMILE FOR THE CAMERA!** - If you missed last week's opportunity to have a new portrait shot taken for our upcoming 2026-27 Club Directory, Wezz DeLaRosa Photography will be back at our Tuesday meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Photos will be taken from 11:30am to noon and from 1 to 1:30, if needed. This is a complimentary service with no charge to you. You will receive a proof to view and can select the new photo for your Directory listing is you wish. **WE WILL ONLY DO THIS IS FIVE OR MORE ROTARIANS SIGN UP FOR PHOTOS.** If you want a photo, sign up at the Sergeant's Table next week or the following week of send a reply email saying you will be there on June 2<sup>nd</sup> for a photo.
- ★ **COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE** – Chairman Frank Lambert as that all members of the committee **MEET NEXT TUESDAY AT 11:30am!**
- ★ **HAVE ITEMS FOR OUR NEWSLETTER?** – Our newsletter goes out via email every Tuesday afternoon. Send to, [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net).

## 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?

## MAY ROTARY BIRTHDAYS

Jen Osing	May 1	Wezz DeLaRosa	May 13
Brett Hitchcock	May 2	Christine Murdock	May 16
Beth Kauzlarich	May 5	Ann McIntyre	May 21
Ruth Lee	May 6	Cindi Gramenz	May 24
Angela Campbell	May 9	Eric Westphall	May 28
Kimberly Calhoun	May 11	Chuck Sorensen	May 30

*Fislar Scholarship— Continue from page 1*

LaRayah Carroll has an impressive record at Rock Island High School. She is a member of the National Honor Society and carries a 4.0 GPA. She has been enrolled in Honors and AP classes throughout her high school career. She participated in Orchestra, Student Council, the AVID Program and Grey Matters. LaRayah earned a varsity letter as a member of the cheerleading squad, which she served as captain during her Junior year. She is also a RIHS Blood Drive volunteer.

Outside of school LaRayah has been actively involved in the work of Second Baptist Church, Rock Island, where she has volunteered for community service events such as the MLK Fish Fry. LaRayah has volunteered for the Quad Cities Heart Walk, and the Quad Cities Marathon.

LaRayah has been accepted to the School of Engineering at Iowa State University where she will major in Construction Engineering.

She wrote in her application essay: “Looking forward, I plan to continue public service by remaining engaged in community organizations, mentoring youth, and participating in events that promote health, inclusion, and civil engagement. Service has shaped who I am, and it will remain a central part of my future.”

Rock Island Rotary is pleased to join with Dick Fislar and Marcy Bell to present the 2026 Mary Fislar Memorial Scholarship to LaRayah Carroll.



*Dick Fislar, Marcy Bell, and Gary Rowe with LaRayah Carroll and her grandparents Nicholas and Jacque Allison.*



*Foundation Grant – Continued from page 1*

Established in 2017 Tapestry Farms began as a nonprofit urban farm system that invested in one refugee family. Currently they serve two hundred refugee families, half of whom live in Rock Island. They provide childcare, English language classes, a food pantry, a legal clinic, and access to the farm operation. They help refugees navigate housing, education, medical, and mental health care, work, food, transportation, community, and citizenship resources. Ann McGlynn, (pictured) Tapestry Farms Executive Director, accepted the grant. It will be used to make upgrades to an urban orchard purchased in the West End of Rock Island late last year. The project ensures that the trees currently planted bear fruit which will be provided to refugee families. Tapestry Farms currently owns fourteen garden plots that produce nearly 70,000 pounds of produce annually. Our grant will allow them to install a water source at their new orchard site, build a shed for storing equipment, applying mulch to retain moisture and prevent weeds. In the future they will map the site and create a plan for adding new trees as older ones are retired. Rotary will be celebrated on their social media and e-newsletter and will also be invited to their ribbon cutting to announce their new orchard project.



*Ann is a “hands on” executive director!*

*Club Foundation President with Lead Volunteer Adam Heninger and Ann McGlynn. Adam will have the primary responsibility for caring for the orchard and teaching others how to plant, prune, and harvest fruit crops. He explained the importance of thinning fruit on the tree, so the individual fruits do not touch others. This helps control insects from moving from fruit to fruit. Ann said volunteers will be welcome this summer at the orchard and also at their other fourteen garden plots!*

### Rotary International Foundation Raffle

Today the raffle featured a 50/50 cash drawing and a bottle of fine wine. Dick Fislar drew the winning tickets and the first one pulled was held by Bill Stengel who took the money and donated it to our scholarship winner LaRayah Carroll. The second ticket pulled was held by Geno DelPreore, Jr. who immediately gifted his ticket to his Dad, so Geno, Sr. took home a new bottle of German white wine. Congratulations and thanks to all who played!



**SIGN UP NOW!**

# ROTARY NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK!

FRIDAY, JUNE 5<sup>th</sup> – 5:30 GAME TIME

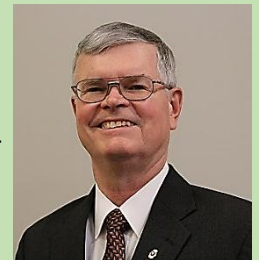
\$10 Bandits Bucks Card for use at concessions, carnival rides,

or Bandit's Store Items. Family and Friends are invited to purchase tickets at this excellent group rate! Do not miss the action and fun of professional baseball, The Bandits vs. The South Bend **CUBS**.



## Kevin Says, Don't Forget Birdies for Charity

Our favorite Finnish Bird, Kevin Koski continue his trip down the musical lane of “Bird” songs. Just to put is in the mood, today we heard a short clip from of “(There’ll Be Blue Birds Over) THE WHITE CLIFFS OF DOVER” a 1942 classic from Kevin’s prized vinyl record collection! So far just fourteen pledges have been received. We have over 103 members. If your one of the more than eighty-nine members who have not pledged, please consider doing so. It is quick and can be as inexpensive as you want it to be. Pledge \$10 or \$20 dollars. Every bit helps. Your pledge comes directly to our club plus a John Deere bonus. See the pledge form on page six.



## FINES & HAPPY DOLLARS

V.P. Julie Gelaude was welcomed by a chorus of “Boos” and as usually, she loved it and egged us on. Lindsay Adolphs paid a \$1 fine for needing to leave early today. From there we went to Happy Dollars! Julie offered a Happy dollar for all mothers in recognition of Mother’s Day. She reminded us of what a treasure our mothers are. Ruth Lee offered multiple happy dollars celebrating her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday and 58 years of married bliss with Dan. Kathy Trone had two happy dollars for her grandsons, aged 4 and 8 as their started their baseball season with grandma cheering them on! Angela Campbell had a happy dollar for the return of Duncan Cameron who was welcomed back to his customary luncheon table with his many lunch friends. John Olinger put in three happy dollars for skipping Rotary last week and having a fun time in Ankeny, Iowa for 3 days of golf with his long-time high school buddies. Gene DelPreore had a happy dollar for the season opening of the Davenport Farmers Market and the two great weekends of book and toy sales for Nika Loves Charity. We also had a very happy announcement from our scholarship winner’s grandmother, Jacque Allison who thanks our Club for honoring her granddaughter, LaRayah Carroll, and how excited she was to meet some “wonderful people” at our meeting. In her comments LaRayah explained that as an infant her custody was given to her grandparents who raised her. They obviously did a wonderful job! Thanks for sharing your news!

## FOUNDATION MINUTE

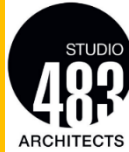
May is the month dedicated to the teeming crowd of young people that work to achieve the goals of Rotary Foundation of advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, supporting education, and alleviating poverty. **This week’s FM examines the major components of youth leadership in Rotary International and how TRF helps in facilitating the success of young Rotarians.** Through numerous TRF-funded projects and humanitarian activities of members of the **Interact, Rotaract and the Rotary Youth Exchange**, millions of lives are being positively impacted. Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills and learn about the world through service projects and activities. Events range from one-day seminars to weeklong camps.

**Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)** is an intensive leadership experience organized by Rotary clubs and districts where students develop skills as a leader while having fun and making connections. **Rotary Youth Exchange builds peace one young person at a time.** Students learn a new language, discover another culture, and truly become global citizens. **Exchanges for students ages 15-19 are sponsored by Rotary clubs** in more than one hundred countries. A report by Etelka Lehoczky about “Champions of Tomorrow” acknowledges six young Rotarians recently celebrated for their impressive impacts on their respective societies. Lehoczky explains that the recipients, based in Colombia, India, Italy, the Philippines, Uganda, and the U.S., have led transformative initiatives by and for young people. “By leading projects that provide educational resources to those in need, foster personal development, support mental health, and champion conflict resolution, these honorees are creating more peaceful and resilient communities,” said Rotary International President Francesco Arezzo.

## OUR ROCK ISLAND ROTARY CLUB SPONSORS!



**In Memory Of  
Fred  
Luckenbill**



**THANK YOU!**

# Rock Island Rotary



May 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Save the Date – Rotary at the Ball Park June 5 Save the Date-Backwater Gamblers Aug. 2	Support the RI Rotary Club Foundation through Birdies for Charity	Save the date for the End Polio Now District Walk on Oct. 24	Save the date for Service project – June 4 – RI Public Library Summer Reading Program Kick-off		1	2
3	4	5 Noon Meeting RIHS Entrepreneur Incubator Program	6	7	8 RYLA	9 District 6420 Training Assembly
10  Happy Mother's Day	11	12 Noon Meeting Mary Fislar Scholarships and Club Foundation program	13	14	15	16
17	18 Rotary Board Meeting Noon Studio 483 Conference Room	19 Noon Meeting Houlton Scholarship and Jordan EarlyAct Club	20	21 Birthday Books Earl Hanson 2:15 pm	22	23
24/31	25	26 Noon Meeting TBD	27	28	29	30

Programs: **John Wetzel**    Invocations: **Linda Golden**

Rock Island Rotary

CHARITY SOLICITED FOR

937

BIRD NUMBER



**I PLEDGE TO DONATE:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the charity noted above.  
*(one time, flat donation amount) All pledges due by July 1, 2026.*

**GUESS THE BIRDIES TO WIN A TWO YEAR LEASE ON A 2026 LEXUS!**

I guess that \_\_\_\_\_ birdies will be made.

*Only one grand prize will be awarded.  
Void where prohibited by law. Guesses due to BFC office by July 1.*

BIRDIES SCORED BY YEAR	1,918 (2017)	N/A (2020)	1,929 (2023)
	2,355 (2018)	1,905 (2021)	2,315 (2024)
	2,091 (2019)	2,041 (2022)	2,102 (2025)

**MAKE MORE MAGIC with the 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.

**PLEDGE & DONOR INFORMATION (please print)**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE AND/OR EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

*By providing an email, you are opting in to email updates from Birdies for Charity.*

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

**WHY BIRDIES FOR CHARITY?**

- Every cent you donate goes directly to your chosen charity!
- We will match your contribution by at least 5%, and up to 10% from our Bonus Fund!
- For your tax records, we are recognized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization!
- By participating in the contest, YOU have the opportunity to win!

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**

OR



[BIRDIESFORCHARITY.COM/DONATE](http://BIRDIESFORCHARITY.COM/DONATE)

**KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS**

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.*

**Chip in for your chance to win!**

When you chip in to support local charities, you could win big! But the real champs? Your beloved charities! They score 100% of every donation you make through this program, plus a sweet bonus from the Birdies for Charity Bonus Fund, which guarantees a 5% match. Talk about a win-win!

**HERE'S HOW IT WORKS**

To enter the contest, guess the number of birdies that will actually be made by PGA TOUR Pros during the tournament, Wednesday through Sunday.



**GRAND PRIZE: 2 YEAR LEASE ON A 2026 LEXUS!**

One lucky supporter of the **SMART LEXUS OF QUAD CITIES** John Deere Classic's Birdies

for Charity program will win a 2 year lease on a 2026 Lexus, courtesy of Smart Lexus of Quad Cities.

**CONTEST RULES**

- Only 1 grand prize awarded. Ties determined by random drawing
- Open to all participants 21 years or older & a U.S. licensed driver
- The grand prize shall only be delivered within or around the Quad Cities metropolitan area
- All guesses must be on an official pledge card & received at the tournament office by July 1.
- No pledge or purchase required. Need not be present to win.
- Winner responsible for all sales taxes, registration fees, license plate fees, & income taxes on all prizes, including local, state, & federal taxes.
- Full list of official rules & details found at [birdiesforcharity.com/about/contest](http://birdiesforcharity.com/about/contest)