



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES
 CLUB PRESIDENT
 Janet Bantz Glavin



THE GREEN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA — Club 3238
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CHARTERED 1913
 CLUB NO. 76

Weekly Meeting at The Warehouse on State

Friday, July 16, 2021 at 12:00 PM

Speaker: Ryan LaCrosse, Director Area Best Buddies

Topic: Why Inclusion Matters

A limited number of more convenient parking spaces will be reserved by the front door for Rotarians who would appreciate closer access.

Can't make it to the In-Person Meeting? [CLICK HERE TO JOIN VIA ZOOM](#)
 Meeting ID: 897 6608 1791 Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799

Rebecca Schulman, Director of Peoria Children's Playhouse How's the Playhouse Playing?



After closing because of Covid-19, the Peoria Playhouse has reopened at Glen Oak Park with reduced hours. For now, the Playhouse is open on Tuesdays, 9-Noon, to members only. Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays the Playhouse is open, but with some reduced hours.

The Junior League, Peoria Zoological Society and the Peoria Park District began a campaign to revitalize Glen Oak Park in 2012 and the Playhouse was opened in 2015. That year, Rebecca Schulman became the Director of the Playhouse, after a 10-year career in New York City.

Ms. Schulman told Peoria Rotarians on Friday that the mission of the Playhouse is to provide children with the tools and inspiration they need to be explorers and creators of the world. She said that while closed to the public, the work of the Playhouse went on... even though the staff had been reduced to herself and a part-time employee.



Click here ---> [2020 Impact Report](#) to view a short video about how the Playhouse weathered the Covid storm and their plans for the year ahead.

UPCOMING PLAYHOUSE PROGRAMS

Categories	Tags
Preschool Party @ Forest Park Nature Center Jul 16 @ 10:00 am – 11:00 am Tickets Come party with the PlayHouse and Forest Park Nature Center at a Preschool Party! Discover our world through maker activities, walks in nature, and stories. This program is for preschool-aged children and their parents, and... PRESCHOOL PARTY	Real Tools @ Lakeview Park Jul 17 @ 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Tickets Real Tools @ Lakeview Park offers socially distanced workstations stocked with carpentry and craft tools, and a large range of materials to work with. Make anything you want! Need help getting started, or with anything?... MAKER WORKSHOPS REAL TOOLS @ LA...
Preschool Party @ Forest Park Nature Center Jul 23 @ 10:00 am – 11:00 am Tickets Come party with the PlayHouse and Forest Park Nature Center at a Preschool Party! Discover our world through maker activities, walks in nature, and stories. This program is for preschool-aged children and their parents, and... PRESCHOOL PARTY	Real Tools @ Lakeview Park Aug 7 @ 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Tickets Real Tools @ Lakeview Park offers socially distanced workstations stocked with carpentry and craft tools, and a large range of materials to work with. Make anything you want! Need help getting started, or with anything?... MAKER WORKSHOPS REAL TOOLS @ LA...

Click [here](#) to plan a summer visit to the Peoria Playhouse.

Club Social



Join us for a fun day at Gabbert's Lake

Date: **July 24th** | Location: **Gabbert's Lake**
Time: **10am - 3pm**



Enjoy fishing, swimming, & cooking out.

Members are encouraged to bring friends, family members & prospective members.



If you would like to attend, please email infodowntown@peoriarotary.org to be added to the RSVP list. There will also be a sign-up sheet at Friday's meeting.



Upcoming Service Projects

Build A Ramp

Date: **July 17th** | Time: **8:00am**

Location: **Peoria**

Details: **Build a ramp for someone in need.**

If you would like to help out with this project, please email infodowntown@peoriarotary.org to be added to the volunteer sign-up list. A sign-up sheet will also be available at Friday's meeting.

Endowment / Foundation Committee Announcement

At last Friday's meeting, The Rotary Club of Peoria - Endowment & Foundation Committee announced they are requesting proposals for a Capital Project.

To learn more click here ---> [Endowment Foundation Capital Project](#).

If you would like to fill out a project proposal form click here ---> [Project Proposal](#).

Please email your completed proposal back to Emily Jacob Rudesill (emilyj@fosterjacob.com) by August 16, 2021.

Thank you all for your Service Above Self!



Volunteer Opportunities



Corn Stock Theater is in need of volunteers to help with the Summer Showcase.

They are looking for volunteers to help with the positions listed below:

* **Box Office** (computer skills are not required for Will Call windows & you are in a/c)

For more info or to sign-up, click the link next to the Program Title below.

My Way : volunteersignup.org/434JQ

Shakespeare : volunteersignup.org/8DFHJ

Musical of Musicals : volunteersignup.org/EELYT

* **Concessions** (we will only be providing bottled water this summer & you are in a/c)

For more info or to sign-up, click the link next to the Program Title below.

My Way : volunteersignup.org/CBFAE

Shakespeare : volunteersignup.org/AXC8X

Musical of Musicals : volunteersignup.org/BHBRT

* **Ramps** (a great way to watch the show and volunteer at the same time!)

For more info or to sign-up, click the link next to the Program Title below.

My Way : volunteersignup.org/YQ4QR

Shakespeare : volunteersignup.org/Q3K7T

Musical of Musicals : volunteersignup.org/B39RB

A sign-up sheet will also be available at Friday's meeting.

Upcoming Meetings

July 16th - Meeting at the Warehouse

Speaker: Ryan LaCrosse, Director Area Best Buddies

Topic: Why Inclusion Matters

Invocation: Owen Ackerman | Greeter(s): Ray Lees

Door Prize: Pam Johnson

July 23rd - Meeting at the Warehouse

Speaker: Dr. Neal Bernard, New York Times Best Selling Author

Topic: Your Body In Balance: The New Science of Food, Hormones & Health

Invocation: Mike Kelley | Greeter(s): Tony Beiermann

Door Prize: Tony Beiermann

July 30th - Meeting at the Warehouse

Speaker: East Peoria Mayor John Kahl

Topic: East Peoria Levee District Development

Invocation: Chuck Gabbert | Greeter(s): Gina Driscoll

Door Prize: Gina Driscoll

August 6th - Meeting at the Warehouse

Speaker: JD Dalfonso, President & CEO of Enjoy Peoria

Topic: Peoria Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

Invocation: TBD | Greeter(s): TBD

Door Prize: TBD

So You Thought You Knew Jeff Gress (In 200 Words or Less)

By Edith Barnard

Jeff Gress is a positive example of service above self. His definition of family is more than those that are related to him. It includes his church, work, Cardinals and Rotary. Born and raised in Peoria, he returned to the area after graduating college. Jeff was the first generation college student in his family. He has served over 30 years in the not for profit sector. Below Jeff shares more:



"After graduating from Peoria Christian in 1980, I went to a faith based college in Missouri where I spent the year playing soccer and not achieving academically. I had always struggled academically so I was probably trying to figure out what I was doing in college in the first place. I decided that I needed to get serious about my education so I transferred to Tennessee Temple

University where I met my beautiful bride, Cindy Coffrin (See pic) who was from Pekin. Our first son (Joshua) was born in 1986 so when I graduated in 1987 (Bachelor's Degree in Psychology) we decided to move back to Illinois to raise our children around family. When we moved home I started my career in the not for



profit sector. I have worked at Youth Farm, Children's Home, South Side Office of Concern and now I am the CEO at Crittenton Centers. Our second son (Jonathan) was born in 1991. (See pic of sons with wives!) In 1996 I completed my Master's Degree in Community Counseling at Bradley. I actively attend and serve in my church as well as serving in my community. For fun my wife and I enjoy watching Cardinals baseball (See pic of family on way to Cardinals game), traveling, hiking, four wheeling (See pic four wheeling in Rocky Mountains) and of course hanging out with family."



Club Officers

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President-Elect - Tom McIntyre
Secretary - Katherine Coyle
Treasurer- Scott Fisher
Immediate Past President - Brad Stegall

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Emily Jacob-Rudesill
Aaron Kilgore
Randy Neff
Kathy Shishilla
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Rotary Club of Peoria, IL



Rotary



Photo Courtesy of the Journal Star