



**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**  
**CLUB PRESIDENT**  
**Janet Bantz Glavin**



# THE GREEN LIGHT

**THE ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA — Club 3238**  
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 309-676-5432



**CHARTERED 1913**  
**CLUB NO. 76**

**Weekly Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
**Friday, September 3, 2021 at 12:00 PM**  
**Speaker: Dr. Sheila Quirk-Bailey, ICC President**  
**Topic: ICC Workforce Center**

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

## Cindy Martin, Cheryl Murin, & Brittany Ryva | Almost Home Kids

Almost Home Kids (AHK) opened its doors in Peoria in September of 2018 and welcomed its first patient about a month later. (AHK) is a part of the OSF HealthCare / Children's Hospital of Illinois system and is funded entirely through donations. It's located at [5200 N Hamilton Rd in Peoria](#). For some of you older members, that's the former location of Wee-Te Golf Course.



Cindy Martin, Director of (AHK), Cheryl Murin, Community Outreach Director, and Brittany Ryva, Patient Care Manager explained to Rotarians the inner workings of the 12-bed facility.



At the time of its opening, (AHK) was only the third facility of its kind in the nation. It offers transitional and respite care in a "home-like" setting for young people with complex medical needs who no longer need hospitalization. This facility also gives time for patients' families to learn to adjust to their children's medical needs for the immediate future. A further feature of (AHK) is that it offers "Respite Care" to families. That's the ability to take a break from the often-difficult care routine

for a young patient and take a vacation while the patient stays safely in Peoria.

Want to see inside Almost Home?



## Member Celebrations

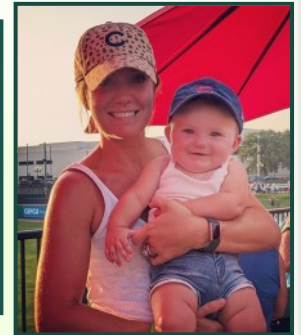


<b>Shelly Heiden</b>	<b>9/5</b>
<b>Steve Thompson</b>	<b>9/5</b>
<b>Eddie Barnard</b>	<b>9/7</b>
<b>Kala Bertrand Pierce</b>	<b>9/7</b>
<b>Mark Hansen</b>	<b>9/11</b>
<b>Debbie Sippel</b>	<b>9/11</b>
<b>Sue Portscheller</b>	<b>9/15</b>
<b>Bill Albers</b>	<b>9/17</b>
<b>Steve Hope</b>	<b>9/29</b>
<b>Jason Miller</b>	<b>9/29</b>



<b>Dave Bailey</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Sue Portscheller</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Randy Neff</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Eddie Barnard</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Nick Vespa</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Kari Gabbert</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>John Iverson</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Peter Russell</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Katherine Coyle</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Scott Seynemeier</b>	<b>3</b>

## Rotary Night at the Ballpark



**Thank you to everyone who attended!!!**  
**So much fun was had!!!**

## Upcoming Meetings

### September 3<sup>rd</sup> - Meeting at [First United Methodist Church](#)

**Speaker:** Dr. Sheila Quirk-Bailey, ICC President

**Topic:** ICC Workforce Center

**Invocation:** Sue Portscheller | **Greeter(s):** Steve Hope

**Attendance Prize:** Mark Hanson

### September 10<sup>th</sup> - Meeting at [First United Methodist Church](#)

**Speaker:** Kim Mitchell, Peoria Women's Club President

**Topic:** The Women's Club in Peoria - 135 years old

**Invocation:** Shelly Heiden | **Greeter(s):** Jason Miller

**Attendance Prize:** Shelly Heiden

### September 17<sup>th</sup> - Meeting at [First United Methodist Church](#)

**Speaker:** District Governor Ryan Byers

**Topic:** Address to the Club

**Invocation:** Bill Albers | **Greeter(s):** Kala Bertrand Pierce

**Attendance Prize:** Bill Albers

### September 24<sup>th</sup> - Meeting at [The Warehouse](#)

**Speaker:** Ann Lading-Ferguson, CEO, FamilyCore

**Topic:** FamilyCore Updates

**Invocation:** Edie Bernard | **Greeter(s):** Debbie Sipple

**Attendance Prize:** Edie Bernard

## Club Announcements

**Meeting Location Change** - Beginning this week, the club will resume holding weekly meetings at the [First United Methodist Church](#). We are excited to get back to our original Rotary home and excited that Cracked Pepper will still be serving us there.

## September Club Social

**Hosted by:** Steve & Gina Driscoll

**Date:** Thurs, September, 30th

**Time:** 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Location:** [112 Royal Vista Dr, East Peoria, IL 61611](#)



If you would like to attend you can RSVP to [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) there will also be a sign-up sheet available at Friday's meeting.

## Volunteer Opportunities



Midwest Food Bank is looking for volunteers to help label and/or package bulk food items so they can be readied for distribution to our food pantries.

**Thursday, Sept. 9th, 2021 - 9:00am - 11:00am**

**Thursday, Sept. 30th, 2021 - 5:00pm - 7:00pm**

[If you are interested in volunteering, click here to sign-up online.](#) We will also have a sign-up sheet available at the weekly meeting.

## District Project Update

### Computers for Progress Project Goal

June 30, 21



**By Stephen Rodger Hopper**

I am very pleased to report that the Rotary District 6460 sponsored "Computers for Progress" project fundraising effort has reached our goal of \$10,775!

Our funds have been transferred to FURMEX in Mexico City, who will administer each of the 100 in 100 projects to be sure that the recipients follow the established

guidelines. FURMEX is an organization in Mexico that operates similar to The Rotary Foundation.

The City of Progreso, Yucatan, Mexico is moving forward with installing the air conditioning needed in two of the three labs. The cost of the computers has escalated about 6% since the original quote of eighteen months ago, so the local Rotarians are considering their options of increasing their fundraising or purchasing a few less computers than the thirty five originally proposed.

They are planning to have the computers in place prior to the students returning to the school this fall, assuming there no COVID-19 restrictions. I requested that they send us a video to share when the project is completed.

My deepest gratitude to the following fourteen Rotary Clubs who contributed: The five Rotary Clubs of Springfield, Highland, Carlinville, Macomb Centennial, CMC, Macomb, Alton-Godfrey, Peoria North, Peoria and Edwardsville.

The following Rotarians also contributed to this endeavor: PDG Keith Lape, Teresa Russell, Adam Reiss, Richard Zuhlke, Dan O'Brien, Dick & Nazareth Hattwick Trust, PDG Mark Roberts, Becky Scharage, PDG Steve Hopper and an unidentified Jacksonville Rotarian.

The Club and individual Rotarian gifts totaled \$10,113.66. I am grateful to our District 6460 for bringing our total up to meet our goal of \$10,775.

I also want to thank PRID Bob Stuart for his initial interest and enthusiasm for this project and PDG Mark Roberts who secured several commitments toward the end of our fundraising efforts.

Thanks to all concerned for being part of the very worthwhile endeavor!!

PDG Steve Hopper



Downtown Peoria Rotary has been involved with the Goodwill Stand Down for Homeless Veterans for 13 years!!

This year's event will be held at [Goodwill Commons](#) - 2319 E War Memorial Dr, Peoria, IL 61614 on

**Fri, Oct 15th & Sat, Oct 16th from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM** and they need volunteers to help out.

If you would like to volunteer, a sign-up sheet will be available at *Friday's meeting*. You can also email the office [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) to be added to list.

**So You Thought You Knew George Ghareeb (in 200 words or less)  
by Edie Barnard**

When his studies were continually interrupted by bombing in the 1975 war, George Ghareeb decided it was time to leave his native Lebanon to study overseas. He recalls waiting at the embassy at 4 a.m. to get a visa to study at Bradley University in Peoria, of which he had never heard. Thirty-five years later, Peoria is still home except for a six-year stint that allowed him to see the world from a different perspective. He worked for a top five engineering firm in the world and practiced engineering in many countries including Egypt, Lebanon, Italy, London, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Dubai. He came back to Peoria to manage the I-74 project reconstruction. With a master of science in civil engineering, George serves on the national board for the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois, the Bradley University Civil Engineering diversity board, and the City of Peoria Planning and Zoning Commission.



He also belongs to the Gentlemen's Cigar Club of Peoria (see pic). A speaker of English, Arabic and French, he is an adjunct professor at Bradley. He is married to Diana (see pics and ask how they met!), and they have three children: Allen, James, and Christelle (see pic).

He shares a story of traveling to Beirut with his family in 2006:



"Fighting erupted between Lebanon and Israel. We quickly moved north to Byblos. From there I arranged to go to the U.S. embassy to be evacuated. When we were making our way to the Marine chopper, we saw that it was carrying reporters from all over the world, including Anderson Cooper, who interviewed my kids. During a stop in Baltimore, they were again interviewed by WGN, CNN, ABC and NBC. Overall a very interesting and crazy experience flying in an armed Sea Stallion marine helicopter."



CH-53D  
Sea  
Stallion

**Club Officers**

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

**Board Members**

William Albers  
Emily Jacob-Rudesill  
Aaron Kilgore  
Randy Neff  
Kathy Shishilla  
Jana' Stevens

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**Rotary Club of Peoria, IL**



**Rotary**



Photo Courtesy of the Journal Star