



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD
CLUB PRESIDENT
RANDY NEFF



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, January 12, 2024 at 12:00PM
Speaker: Ray Lees, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission
Topic: Finally open! The Bob Michel Bridge Story

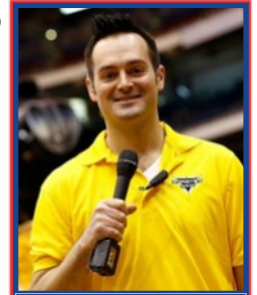
Can't make it to the In-Person Meeting? [CLICK HERE TO JOIN VIA ZOOM](#)
Meeting ID: 897 6608 1791 Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799



Ryan LaCosse filled in his fellow Rotarians about his career last Friday as a commentator at these wildly popular sporting events. Ryan, has also been a DJ at Peoria's 92.3 Radio Station, served as a commentator for Monster Jam from 2014-2019 and covered numerous events and tours, including the Fox Sports 1 Championship Series, World Finals, and the Path of Destruction Tour.



Ryan, admittedly a Monster Truck nerd, started hosting for Monster Jam ten years ago - in 2014 and now mainly works as a pit reporter. In 2020, Ryan moved to a backup host position to do more extensive work for "Best Buddies Illinois". He hosts in Minneapolis as an in-the-stands host and other locations around the Midwest. Ryan has also appeared on the TV series "Ballers" starring Duane Johnson.



Ryan LaCosse (minus his beard) hosting Monster Truck Throwdown.



Pictured from (L) to (R)
Michael Eckhardt &
Ryan LaCosse

In 2021, Ryan began hosting for Monster Truck Throwdown where he continues to work along with the "Best Buddies" program. Regrettably, Ryan says he destroyed all his model "monster trucks" with rough play as a child, because they would be worth a lot of money these days.

Rotarians also heard from the Headmaster of **Aletheia Classical Christian School**, Michael Eckhardt. This small Peoria school, started in 2002, is a private, Christian facility which, according to its Association, "cultivates thinking articulate students who are able to reason well, work hard, and communicate clearly".



ALETHEIA
Peoria's Classical Christian Academy

Their Association says graduates of the Classical Christian system of education have higher SAT and ACT scores than graduates of other private or public systems.

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?



Rotary
Club of Peoria



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

ROTARY ACTION PLAN - VISION

"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves"

Rotary Club of Peoria 2023-2024



Every Rotarian Every Year

EVERY ROTARIAN, EVERY YEAR

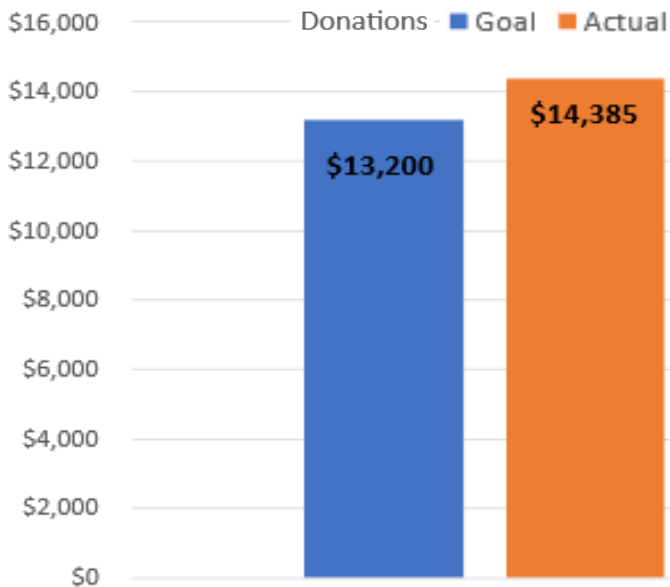
Did you know that donors who gave \$25-\$50 contributed more than \$5.1 million to the Foundation in 2020-21? When every Rotarian gives every year, it makes life-changing, sustainable projects possible.

Also in 2020-21:

- \$139 million was given to the Annual Fund.
- 34% of Rotarians donated to the Annual Fund.
- 82% of Rotary clubs supported the Annual Fund.
- 2,066 global grants were awarded.



Every Rotarian Every Year Goals



Polio Plus Society

JOIN THE POLIO PLUS SOCIETY TODAY!

BY JOINING YOU ARE COMMITTING TO GIVE A MINIMUM OF \$100 A YEAR UNTIL POLIO IS ERADICATED



THANK YOU!

Every Rotarian Every Year Fundraiser

As part of the Every Rotary Every Year Fundraiser, the committee has decided to offer the chance to win some prizes!

The Raffle tickets went on sale Dec 1st. And can still be purchased for \$25/ticket, and you can buy as many as you want. All of the prizes will be set up at each meeting - put your raffle tickets into the basket of the prizes you hope to win.

Winners will be announced on Feb 2nd. If you would like to purchase tickets for the raffle, please contact: Emily Jacob-Rudesill (emilyj@fosterjacob.com)

Every Rotarian Every Year Prizes

1. Pottery Experience at Muse Studio: Lesson for two at the pottery wheel creating a piece to be glazed and fired. Accompanied with wine and charcuterie. Available in 2024 only. \$200 value. Donated and instructed by Katie Vandenberg.
2. Senara Pampering: \$100 gift card to Senara. Donated by Susie Stockman
3. Memory Blanket: Provide your favorite t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc. & Colleen will turn them into a memory blanket. Donated by Colleen Halberg
4. Mexican Feast: Chips and salsa ceramic bowl and \$50 gift card to Chili's. Donated by Debbie Sippel
5. Fashion Scarf: Cabi label scarf. \$70 value. Donated by Sara Meinhart
6. Door County Wisconsin Retreat: 4 day/3-night stay in Fish Creek, Door County condo. Two bedroom, 1.5 bath (bedrooms on second floor). Steps away from outdoor pool. Close to restaurants, shopping & state park.
<https://www.juliesmotel.com/lodging/evergreen-hill-condos/>. \$800 value. Donated by Emily Jacob-Rudesill.
7. Day at the Herm Lake: Up to 12 attendees. Fishing, boating, swimming, picnic lunch. Donated by Martha Herm and Tom McIntyre
8. Olive Garden Feast: \$100 gift card to Olive Garden. Donated by Sue Portscher
9. Picnic Time: Wicker basket with place settings & a bottle of wine. Donated by Pam & Perry Johnson
10. Antique Butter Churn: Donated by Don Hartshorn
11. Rotary Special Brew Whiskey: Two bottles both \$100 value. We will draw two names, one for each bottle. Donated by Suzanne Ellerbrock of the Quincy Rotary Club.
12. Asian Dinner for Six: Four course dinner at the Herm/McIntyre home.
13. Car Washes: \$50 gift card to car washes owned by Maggie Freidag
14. Tito's Happy Hour Basket: One fifth Tito's & mixers. Donated by Gina Driscoll

Community Service Grants Announcement

2024 Community Service Grant Applications ~ Available Now ~

To be considered for a grant from the Rotary Club of Peoria, please complete the [2024 Community Service Grant Application](#) and forward it as a PDF to: infodowntown@peoriarotary.org

Applications are due on or before **January 26, 2024**

Please pass the information along to local not-for-profit organizations that might benefit from a grant!

Upcoming Meetings

JANUARY 19th - Meeting at Peoria Riverfront Museum
Speaker: Emily Cahill - Director, Peoria Park District
Topic: Updates on the New Golf Facility
Greeter: Scott Fisher
Inspiration/Reflection: Maggie Freidag
Attendance Prize: Scott Fisher

JANUARY 26th - Meeting at The Warehouse on State
Speaker: Jennifer Zammuto - Heart of Illinois United Way
Topic: Community Assessment
Greeter: Melissa Entzminger
Inspiration/Reflection: Tom Hunt
Attendance Prize: Austin Locke

FEBRUARY 2nd - Meeting at The Warehouse on State
Speaker: Chris Zak-Edmonds
Topic: "Why I Like Living in Peoria"
Greeter: Melissa Entzminger
Inspiration/Reflection: Tom Hunt
Attendance Prize: Austin Locke

Join the Rotary Club of Peoria

We welcome you to join us at an upcoming Rotary Club of Peoria meeting to see what it's all about.

To learn more about The Rotary Club of Peoria and becoming a member, click the [Rotary Membership Image](#)

If you have any questions email infodowntown@peoriarotary.org



Rotary Club T-Shirts

THE NEW ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA T-SHIRTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR \$15.00! WE HAVE SEVERAL DIFFERENT SIZES - IF YOU DON'T HAVE A ROTARY T-SHIRT - STOP BY THE CHECK-IN TABLE AND PICK ONE UP.



Volunteer Opportunity



Easterseals Central IL is holding their Black and Blue Ball on Friday, February 2, 2024 - Starting at 5pm - Peoria Civic Center.

Several volunteers are needed to help with VIP Hosts, Booze Barrel Raffle, Coat Check, & Bremer Raffle

Dress code: Blue jeans and a black top is the attire. Please arrive half an hour before your scheduled shift. (Volunteers are invited to stay & enjoy the event after their shift concludes)

**If you would like to learn more about this event, visit the Easterseals Central Illinois Website: www.easterseals.com
You can sign-up to volunteer by [clicking here](#)**

Foundation Minute



FOUNDATION MINUTE - ROTARY DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIPS



Did you know that District 6460 offers scholarships?

The first scholarship is the "District 6460 Scholarship" and consists of \$3,000 payable to a college, university or approved vocational school for tuition and/or books.

The second is the "District 6460 William J. Menghini Scholarship" and is an \$18,000 William J. Menghini District 6460 International Ambassadorial Scholarship payable to an International University or College. During the study period, scholars are expected to be outstanding ambassadors of goodwill to the people of the host country through appearances before Rotary Clubs and Districts, schools, civic organizations, and other forums. After study has been completed, scholars will be expected to share their experiences with the Rotarians in District 6460.

You can learn more about both opportunities at www.rotarydistrict6460.org under the Foundation tab.

Club Officers

President - Randy Neff
President-Elect - Jana' Stevens
Secretary - Caitlin Behrends
Treasurer- Gina Driscoll
Immediate Past President - Tom McIntyre

Board Members

Robert Brandfass
Melissa Entzminger
Charlie Greer
Emily Jacob-Rudesill
Jason Parkinson
Cedric Volkmer

Contact Us

Melissa Brewer
Executive Secretary
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Rotary Club of Peoria, IL



Rotary



Photo Courtesy of the Journal Star