



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES
CLUB PRESIDENT
 Janet Bantz Glavin



THE GREEN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA — Club 3238
 P.O. Box 5639 • Peoria, IL 61601
 Website: www.peoriarotary.org
 Email: infodowntown@peoriarotary.org
 309-676-5432



CHARTERED 1913
 CLUB NO. 76

Weekly Meeting at Barrack's Cater Inn 

Friday, January 28, 2022 at 12:00 PM

Speakers: Greg and Dan with WMBD AM Radio

Topic: Morning Show Oddness's

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

Lindsey Kerr, Executive Director - Lifeline Pilots of Illinois



The Lifeline Pilots Organization's purpose is to offer free travel-through volunteer pilots—to financially distressed people with medical or humanitarian needs far from home. The Lifeline Pilots vision statement is shorter and to the point; "The shortest distance between home and hope".

Lifeline Pilots Executive Director Lindsey Kerr spoke to Rotarians on Friday, telling the members how the volunteer pilots have flown millions of miles over nine-thousand separate missions throughout ten states of the Midwest and upper South.

Interestingly, most of the money to operate the organization comes from the pilots themselves. Only about 30-percent of the budget comes from donations, fundraising and grants.

While Lifeline is headquartered in Peoria, there are hundreds of the volunteer pilots scattered around the ten-state area served by Lifeline. By using small private aircraft, Lifeline is able to serve patients who don't live close to a major airport. Some Lifeline passengers –undergoing medical care—have been flown repeatedly by the same pilot.

Lindsey Kerr may have surprised some people when she didn't ask for donations for her organization, She DID ask for Rotarians to spread the word about the free service for medical and humanitarian needs. Lindsey said Lifeline could double the number of its clients if only more people knew about their service.

If you'd like to spread the word about Lifeline Pilots, tell people to check out www.facebook.com/lifelinepilotsusa



In Memoriam



Michael (Mike) J. Kelley
June 21, 1947 - January 21, 2022

Michael J. Kelley, 74, of East Peoria, passed away on January 21, 2022, at Unity Point Methodist Hospital in Peoria. He was born in Bloomington, IL on June 21, 1947.

Mike was a member of the Rotary Club for 38 years. "Mike truly represents the ideals and selfless volunteering Tom Connor himself practiced and for which he was honored with this distinguished community award bestowed on others in his name. Mike is not a highly visible local "personality" nor does he wield great financial resources or political weight but, to a person who has had the privilege and honor to work with and alongside Mike, they will tell you that they would give him the shirt off their back if he asked them to because he would do the same for them in a heartbeat."

"Even as he faced enormous challenges and pain in his fight to battle the cancer that threatened his life in 2012, Mike was thinking of others and calling people to help him cover his volunteer commitments in his time of great need." Mike was involved with many Rotary Club service and volunteer programs, some of his contributions are listed below.

Rebuilding Together - Christmas in April program - "House Chairman"

For seven years the club to take of homes for



he rallied and led on the rehabilitation those less fortunate.

Rebuilding Together



His hands-on coordinating the handling every-

to concrete work to painting and landscaping always inspires other club members to give of their time and resources to enhance the life of others in our community. He worked tirelessly often over two weekends, used his personal and professional tools and expended his own resources to "get the job done". That's just the kind of selfless guy he is.

IHSA Wheelchair Basketball Teams' Dinner – Committee Member

Mike has volunteered each year to secure the venue of the United Presbyterian Church and serve dinners to the youth participating on wheelchair basketball teams playing at the IHSA tournament and their parents. Every year his final task is to volunteer to take the leftover food to the Southside Mission long after everyone else has gone home.

Goodwill Stand Down for Homeless Veterans – Service Volunteer

Mike has provided a helping hand to veterans down on their luck through this program sponsored and coordinated by Goodwill. Assisting other members of the Club by distributing gloves and stocking caps donated by the Club, he encourages attendees to continue their efforts to re-integrate into the community. Homeless veterans from 22 surrounding communities take part in the program to help both physically and mentally.

His spirit of giving is truly amazing and an inspiration to all who know him. May Mike Rest in Peace and Grace bestowed on his Family as we all mourn his passing.

A Funeral Service will be held at 10:00 am on Friday, January 28, 2022, at [United Presbyterian Church in Peoria](#), with an additional hour of visitation prior to the service at 9:00 am. The service will be live streamed on the church's [YouTube Channel](#).

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the United Presbyterian Church of Peoria's Transportation Committee or to [WTVP](#) in memory of {Michael J. Kelley}

To view the full obituary and funeral arrangements - [click here](#).

Upcoming Meetings

February 4th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church

Speaker: Jack Darin

Topic: Sierra Club: Law on Clean Energy Update

Invocation: TBD | Greeter(s): TBD

Attendance Prize: TBD

February 11th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church

Speaker(s): Laura Evancho and Jim Baldwin

Topic: Wheels O Time Museum

Invocation: TBD | Greeter(s): TBD

Attendance Prize: TBD

February 18th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church

Speaker: Mayor Rita Ali

Topic: Report by Peoria's Mayor

Invocation: TBD | Greeter(s): TBD

Attendance Prize: TBD

Meeting Location Reminder

Please remember the club is holding weekly meetings at the [First United Methodist Church](#). **Unless noted otherwise.** For security reasons the Church doors will only be unlocked from 11:00am - 12:15pm.

For any members arriving after 12:15pm, please use the church intercom system and the receptionist will buzz you in.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING

Committee Announcements

The **Service Project Committee** will meet on **Fri, Jan. 28th** immediately after the club meeting. Rotarians, You are invited to attend!

The **Grants Committee** will meet immediately after the club meeting on **Fri, Jan. 28th & Fri, Feb. 4th**

This **Friday, 01/28** - we will meet for about 15 minutes to go over the grants timeline/schedule and get idea for the grading of the grants.

Next **Friday, 02/04** - we will meet for about 15 minutes to finalize the grading sheet

Contact [Charlie Greer](#) or the [office](#) if you would like to join this year's committee to plan, review and select grant recipients.

This is a very rewarding process!

Rotary Readers Update

As of right now Peoria Public Schools has paused all volunteer visits until **February 11th**. Once all restrictions are lifted we hope to continue reading again. As soon as more information becomes available, we will send out another update.

Thanks to all for your commitment!!

Maggie & Owen - Rotary Readers Co-chairs

Community Service Grants

2022 Community Service Grant Applications Available Now!

To be considered for a grant from the Rotary Club of Peoria, please complete the [2022 Community Service Grant Application](#) and forward it as a PDF to: infodowntown@peoriarotary.org

Applications are due on or before **February 25th**

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

Trewyn Food Pantry

Donations Needed for Trewyn Food Pantry

We are collecting food items such as: Peanut or almond butter, dried goods such as: Oatmeal, Cereal, Rice, Pasta, Ramen Noodles, Granola Bars and Hormel Completes. Melissa can come and pick up items from you, please call **676-5432** or email infodowntown@peoriarotary.org to arrange a time. If you would like to donate money, we will buy non-perishables on your behalf!



Youth Exchange Program



Be a Youth Exchange Host Family!

We are currently looking for 2-3 families that would be interested in hosting an inbound youth exchange student between the months of **August 2022 & July 2023**.

The student would live with the family for 3-5 months during that time period. A variety of family structures are perfect for being host families- small, big, with many children, or no children. Working families - retired families - We aim to reflect real-world families to students, and we know that real families come in all shapes and sizes.

If you are interested in becoming a host family for our inbound student, please email Amanda Gordon-Sandberg (agordonsandberg@gmail.com) with questions/concerns!

Rotary International / District 6460 Announcements

Rotary District 6460 - RLI Part I Training

Zoom sessions on Feb. 15th and 22nd from 5:30pm to 8:10pm to your membership. Attendance for this interactive session is limited to fifteen participants.

RLI Part I is the first of a series of three fast-paced, interactive courses offered to increase a Rotarians base of knowledge in Rotary and strengthen their volunteer leadership skills. Experienced Rotary leaders within our District will serve as faculty members for this training.

If you would like to attend the **RLI Part I** Training Session, please email the office: infodowntown@peoriarotary.org

Rotary Youth Leadership Academy



When is it? April 22-24th

What is it? RYLA is Rotary International's premier training program for high school students, emphasizing leadership, citizenship as well as personal growth

Who can participate? High school sophomores

Where is it being held? In person at Lake Williamson, Carlinville, IL

Why attend? Exponentially grow student's leadership and community skills. Will get a chance to meet and network with other students. Become an amazing leader in the community!

The goal is to have two or more sophomores from each Rotary Club in District 6460 attend the RYLA weekend. We need your help to sponsor outstanding high school sophomores from the community to attend this event. Club members are encouraged to nominate high school sophomores they know would be interested in attending the RYLA academy this Spring.

Please email the students information to infodowntown@peoriarotary.org so we can start the application process.

Rotary International Convention



Register to Attend www.riconvention.org
More Information www.houstonri2022.org

In Loving Memory

So You Thought You Knew Mike Kelley (in 200 words or less)

by Edie Barnard (This article was featured in the March 23, 2018 edition of the Green Light Newsletter)

Mike Kelley is celebrating his Cancer Rebirth this month!

He says that he has loved being a Rotarian from day one, and that the support from his Rotary friends has been an important part of his healing. With his jaunty smile and quick sense of humor, he is a positive force in any group of people. Mike is a Power of Example of knowing that having a positive attitude can carry him through unforeseen challenges. Whether he is making others laugh while he was being prepped to receive donated stem cells (see pic) or learning to walk after the process was completed (see pic), he is an inspiration to us all. Below he shares more.



"I joined Rotary in 1984 to network with local business leaders and give back to the community through community service. What I didn't think of then was that I have received so much more from my involvement in Rotary than I have given. It is impossible to quantify the deep friendships made here. I have loved working with others on many projects. Some of my favorites were several years with Christmas In April, Tee It Up For The Troops, the cleanup of the public lots at Springdale Cemetery, and building the rock climbing wall on the children's playground at the River Plex.

When I was diagnosed with Stage 4 Lymphoma and Gillian Barre Syndrome 4 ½ years ago, my life was immediately turned upside down. My Rotary friends rallied around me and supported me from day one. There were stacks of get well wishes, phone calls and visits. When it was determined that I needed a Stem Cell Transplant at Loyola and would need to live in that area for 3 months, generous monetary contributions came in the mail to help with expenses. Your continuing support certainly helped make our stay away from home and my recovery easier and we are grateful. It has been a long and bumpy road but my Rotary friends never allowed me to feel I was alone. You have generously bestowed upon me two Paul Harris Fellow Awards. Both were given anonymously. You also submitted me to receive the Tom Connor Award for community service (see pic with wife Linda after receiving the award.) I am grateful to be returning to my wonderful Rotary activities."



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
Charlie Greer
Emily Jacob-Rudesill
Aaron Kilgore
Randy Neff
Jana' Stevens

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Rotary Club of Peoria, IL



Rotary



Photo Courtesy of the Journal Star