

# 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





Weekly Meeting at Peoria Riverfront Museum Friday, February 9, 2024 at 12:00PM

Speaker: Ben Blumenberg, CEO, W.D. Boyce Council - Boy Scouts

**Topic: Boy Scout Updates** 

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

When Rotarian Ray Lees noticed that the Bob Michel Bridge was dangerously unwalkable, he decided to do something about it. As Ray talked to multiple city officials, he was told that a change to the bridge could never happen

because it was under the Illinois Department of Transportation umbrella. With the help of The Rebuild Illinois program, Lees did find a path over and around many hurdles to get the bridge redesigned for pedestrian safety. The bridge now has a 14-foot-wide walking and biking path with a concrete protective barrier! Also, all bridges built from now on, need to be

of the same design for protection of pedestrians and bikers. A world-traveled Planner/Designer Ray, a power of advancing against all odds, realized that he was at the point of the bridge situation that something had to be done. So, he said,

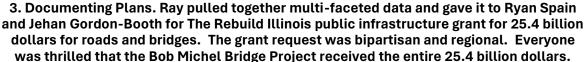
"Let's do it! Yes, the bridge belongs to IDOT as they effectively own it, but in many ways, we all own that bridge."

Last Friday's Rotary audience took away many encouraging ideas for getting and keeping a project that folks said couldn't be done, DONE!

Ray's "Taking Action Steps" are: 1. Eating the Elephant. Begin the project step by step. 2. Proving Regional Support. Pick up the phone and talk to other people to get your advo-

cacy group going! Tired of the "black hole of inaction", in October of 2018, Ray started calling people without permission from anyone! He organized over 30 Public & Private

Entities Across the Region who Supported the Feasibility Study.



4. Not taking "NO!" If some folks say "No!", then ask someone else! When asked how this massive project fit in with the mission of

Rotary, Ray said, "I just responded to what I saw as a need.

Once I see something, it's hard to "unsee" it!"

If you would like to learn more about Ray Less, please click here to read the article "So You Thought You Knew Ray Lees (in 200 words or less)" written by Edie Barnard featured in the April, 15 2015 edition of the Green Light.

Article By: Edith Barnard



Ray Lees

# 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 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 | Rotary



# Upcoming Meetings

FEBRUARY 16th - Meeting at The Warehouse on State Speaker: Sheriff Chris Watkins Topic: Peoria County Sheriff's Office Updates Greeter: To Be Announced Inspiration/Reflection: Jason Parkinson Attendance Prize: John Iverson

FEBRUARY 23rd - Meeting at The Warehouse on State Speaker: To Be Announced Topic: Electric Bus Tour Greeter: To Be Announced Inspiration/Reflection: Jason Parkinson Attendance Prize: Pat Lewis

MARCH 1st - Meeting at The Warehouse on State Speaker | Topic: To Be Announced Greeter: To Be Announced Inspiration/Reflection: To Be Announced Attendance Prize: To Be Announced

### **Rotary District 6460's Spring Training**

Rotary District 6460's Spring Training for Rotarians

# THINK SPRING!

Presented by: 2024-25 District Dan O'Brien

CLICK TO REGISTER FOR ROTARY SPRING TRAINING

Who should attend: Presidents-elect & Rotarians interested in making a difference.

March 15 for presidents-elect. Arrive at 11:00AM Details of the day to follow. March 16 for presidents-elect and all Rotarians. Registration opens at 9:00.

Where: University of Illinois in Springfield

Absolutely





**Rotary Youth** Leadership Academy April 12-14, 2024

Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA)

What is it? RYLA is Rotary International's premier Who can participate? High school sophmores

Where is it being held? In person at Lake

Why attend? Exponentially grow student's

Further information & how to sign-up, can be found on the District 6460 Website

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### April Club Social

### Rotary Club of Peoria - April Social Event

Date: Thursday, April 11th | Time: 5PM - 8PM Location: Industry Brewing - 8012 N Hale Ave - Peoria Social being held in the Game Lounge - Ping Pong, Pac Man, Board Games & Sporting Events on the TVs Everyone will pay for their own food & drinks

If you would like to attend the social, we are asking that you please RSVP by 04/08/2024 to infodowtown@peoriarotary.org You can submit RSVP's by clicking here or using the sign-up sheet available at the weekly meetings.

#### 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.



# 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



# Plus Society

IOIN THE POLIO PLUS SOCIETY TODAY! BY JOINING YOU ARE COMMITTING TO GIVE A MINIMUM OF \$100 A YEAR UNTIL POLIO IS **ERADICATED** 

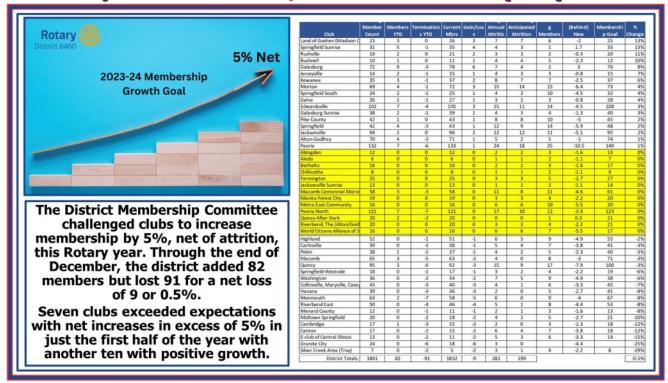


THANK YOU!





Rotary District 6460 Membership Updates



# Every Rotarian Every Year Fundraiser

As part of the Every Rotarian Every Year Fundraiser, the Committee sold raffle tickets for a chance to

win some prizes! The raffle ticket prize drawings were held during the Rotary Club meeting on February 2nd and the winners were announced. (Prize Winners Listed Below)

Click here to watch the EREY Prize Drawing

Thank you

The Foundation and Endowment Committee thanks everyone who donated prizes and has donated money towards our goal.

We have currently raised \$18,165!!

If you haven't made a donation to the Every Rotarian Every Year Fundraiser, it's not too late to contribute!!!

Please click here to make a donation or contact: Emily Jacob-Rudesill (emilyj@fosterjacob.com)

# **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 FUNDRAISER ~ RAFFLE WINNERS

Pottery Experience - Donated by Susie Stockman - Winner: Owen Ackerman
Senara Gift Card - Donated by Colleen Halberg - Winner: Lynne Demanes
Memory Blanket - Donated by Debbie Sippel - Winner: Gina Driscoll
Cabi Scarf - Donated by Sara Meinhart - Winner: Patty Bash
Cabi Scarf - Donated by Emily Jacob-Rudesill - Winner: Todd Davis

Door County Retreat - Donated by Emily Jacob-Rudesill - Winner: Sara Meinhart

Door County Garden Gift Card - Donated by Sue Portscheller - Winner: Sara Meinhart
Olive Garden Gift Card - Donated by Sue Portscheller - Winner: John Iverson
Picnic Basket & Wine - Donated by Pam & Perry Johnson - Winner: Emily Jacob-Rudesill
Antique Butter Churn - Donated by Don Hartshorn - Winner: John Hart
Asian Dinner at the Herm/McIntyre House - Winner: Joyce Harant

Asian Dinner at the Herm/McIntyre House - Winner: Perry Johnson
Tito's Basket - Donated by Gina Driscoll - Winner: Diana Hall



# FOUNDATION MINUTE - PEACE BUILDING & CONFLICT PREVENTION MONTH



Of the 60 million people displaced by armed conflict or persecution, 90% are civilians. Half of those civilians are children. That's millions of reasons why Rotary is so engaged in service projects, fellowships and other Rotary-sponsored campaigns in pursuit of peace in our world. This is also why Rotary has designated February as Peace Building and Conflict Prevention Month.

Rotary supports training, education, and practices related to peacebuilding and conflict prevention through initiatives that help transform conflict in our communities and around the world. Conflict transformation involves identifying and working with the underlying conditions, relationships, and social structures that give rise to conflict. Through this process, one moves beyond conflict resolution or management to change the environment that has led to conflict. This focus on transformation helps ensure sustainable peace.

#### **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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