



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD  
CLUB PRESIDENT  
RANDY NEFF

# THE GREEN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA - Club 3238  
P.O. Box 5639 • Peoria, IL 61601  
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309-676-5432



CHARTERED 1913  
CLUB NO. 76



**Weekly Meeting at The Warehouse on State**  
**Friday, March 22, 2024 at 12:00 PM**  
**Program: 2024 Community Service Grant Awards**

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



Becky Rossman

Peoria Rotarians heard from Becky Rossman last Friday. Ms. Rossman is the Chief Impact Officer for Lifting Up, LLC. Lifting Up is a company which helps implement the “Handle With Care” program in Peoria Public Schools and in several other school districts.



“Handle With Care” is all about how children are treated after having Adverse Childhood Experiences, or “ACES.”

The “Handle With Care” program has been around for some years now.

The Handle with Care Model is: If a law enforcement officer encounters a child during a call, that child’s name and three words, “Handle with Care,” are forwarded to the school before the school bell rings the next day.

What the team at Lifting UP LLC did was to help automate the system.

Ms. Rossman said that by automating the Handle With Care system.

More students who had experienced trauma were able to be helped.

Using smart technology, Lifting Up connects Law Enforcement & School Administrators automatically if a student is impacted by trauma. Clients include the Peoria Public Schools, Illini Bluffs, East Peoria School System, Washington Schools & Norwood Schools among others.



## 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



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



## Upcoming Meetings

**MARCH 29<sup>TH</sup> - NO MEETING - GOOD FRIDAY**

**WISHING EVERYONE A SAFE & HAPPY EASTER**



**APRIL 5<sup>th</sup> - Meeting at The Warehouse on State**

**Speaker: Joe Russell**

**Topic: The growth of Russell's Cycling & Fitness**

**Greeter: Emily Jacob-Rudesill**

**Inspiration/Reflection: Bill Harlan**

**Attendance Prize: Andy Fograscher**

**APRIL 12<sup>th</sup> - Meeting at The Warehouse on State**

**Speaker: Dr. Aiyer**

**Topic: University of IL College of Medicine**

**Greeters: Bill Koenig & Bill Harlan**

**Inspiration/Reflection: Emily Jacob-Rudesill**

**Attendance Prize: TBD**

## DACdb Member Portal

We hope you will maximize your membership by taking advantage of our online member portal, DACdb. This is more than an online directory it's an interactive tool to help you engage with our Club. Through DACdb, you can edit your profile, search for members, register for events, and much more!

**WEBSITE ADDRESS**  
**WWW.DACDB.COM**

Let's Get You That Cheat Sheet

When you're logged into DACdb, click on the "Support / Learning" tab at the top of the window and then in the left side menu click on "Overview" and select "DACdb\_Lit\_Directory\_Guide" and you can download a PDF file that will get you started with where things are in DACdb. This is a great tool for less experienced users.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

If you need further assistance, please contact the office by email [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) or call 309-676-5432

## District 6460's Academic Scholarships

The academic scholarship application process is now OPEN!

### Important Details

- Academic Year: 2024-2025
- Applications Due: May 31, 2024



**CLICK HERE** for \$18,000 Menghini International Scholarship Information

**CLICK HERE** for \$3,000 Domestic Scholarship Information

## Hoops To End Polio

### HOOPS TO END POLIO



**TOP THREE ROTARIANS WIN PRIZES!**

We are challenging the club to have 50% participation and to hit \$1500.

Let's make it happen!!

**COMPLETE YOUR NCAA BRACKET TO WIN!**

DONATION: ONLY \$25 PER BRACKET  
PAYMENT: CASH OR CHECKS PAYABLE TO ROTARY FOUNDATION  
BRACKET: BRACKET IS COMPLETED ON-LINE

**ENTER MORE THAN ONE BRACKET!!!**

CAN WE GET 65 MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE?  
LET'S HIT OUR GOAL!

You can sign-up and pay for brackets at weekly club meetings or mail payments to the Rotary Club Office **Click Here** to pay online or make checks payable to The Rotary Foundation

If you have questions, please email Caitlin Behrends or Sara Meinhart - Thank you!!

## 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!

## Rotary District 6460 ~ Family Day at Busch Stadium

Tickets are on sale now for this year's Rotary Family Day at Busch Stadium. This is our 21st year of games at the ballpark with proceeds from ticket sales supporting literacy efforts in Downstate Rotary Districts. This successful program has raised more than \$560,000 for Literacy Projects.

**Here's what you need to know about this year's game:**

**Cardinals vs. Cubs - Saturday, July 13th, 2024 - Busch Stadium in St Louis**

Starting time 1:15 PM - However starting times can change. All sales are final- check for updates to the game time by going to [stlcardinals.com](http://stlcardinals.com)

**Ticket Price: \$60 Per Seat - Seating Locations: Loge Reserved & Pavilion - Best seats go to those who do not wait! Tickets sold on a first-come-first-served basis - there are 2,000 Tickets available, Let's sell them all!!!**

Anyone can buy or sell tickets - you don't have to be a Rotarian. Just print the order form, fill it out and mail it with a check for the purchase. Any questions, contact **Brian Barstead** at 217-652-4371 or **Rod Buffington** at 217-416-1245

If you would like to buy tickets - Order forms will be available at weekly club meetings | Order forms can also be downloaded by [clicking here](#) or from the **District 6460 Website**.

**Rotary**  
Club of Peoria



**END  
POLIO  
NOW**

**Rotary**  
District 6460  
**SERVICE Above Self**



# Rotary Readers Upcoming Events

# Upcoming April Club Social Event

## LAST CALL: Field Trip on March 21, 2024

The 2024 Trewyn Rotary Readers 2nd Graders Field Trip to Elevate Trampoline Park in Peoria is scheduled for Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>

Time: TBA

We are looking for volunteers to help chaperone the kids.

If you would like to sign up to help chaperone, [click here](#) or email Maggie Freidag or the office.



## Rotary Club of Peoria - April Social Event

Date: Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> | 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 [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)  
You can submit RSVP's by [clicking here](#) or using the sign-up sheet available at the weekly meetings.

## Camp Big Sky Field Trip on May 15, 2024

Trewyn Rotary Readers Fishing Field Trip  
Date: Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> | Location: Camp Big Sky  
17185 E McCord, Fairview, IL 61432

Volunteers are needed to help the kids - we would love to have some of the Rotary Readers there to help. The kids should be out there around 9:30am & will leave around 2pm - you do not have to stay the entire time.

If you would like to volunteer, please [click here](#) to sign-up or email Maggie Freidag or the office.

## New Membership Announcement

WELCOME NEW ROTARY  
CLUB OF PEORIA MEMBER



Ben Blumenberg

Sponsored by Fellow Rotarians  
Pat Lewis & Gene Olson



# Every Rotarian Every Year Fundraiser

## 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



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.

[Click here to watch the EREY Prize Drawing](#)

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](mailto:emilyj@fosterjacob.com))

*Thank you!*

## 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](mailto: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.



# Sterling Merit Sponsorship Opportunities & Benefits



## THE ROTARY CLUBS OF PEORIA, ILLINOIS



Present the 2024 Sterling Merit Awards Banquet  
Tues, May 7<sup>th</sup> 2024 - 5:30-8:30 PM | Peoria Civic Center

This year's Sterling Merit Awards Banquet will be held on May 7, 2024, at the Peoria Civic Center Ballroom. The Keynote Speaker will be Nikki Romain - Co-founder for Artists ReEnvisioning Tomorrow (ART, Inc)

The annual banquet will host students and their parents from the following area schools: Brimfield, Dunlap, East Peoria, Elmwood, Farmington, Illini Bluffs, Illinois Valley, Limestone, Manual, Peoria Notre Dame, Peoria Heights, Peoria, Princeville, Quest Academy and Richwoods High Schools.

We anticipate 650 plus in attendance. We honor the top eight percent of high school graduates who have attained the highest standing in their classes. The Sterling Merit Awards Banquet gives public recognition to students who have excelled academically during their high school years.

Last year 170 students qualified for the award and 153 attended the banquet, accompanied administrators from each school and by parents and/or other family members. This is a very meaningful event for students and their families, and our club has enthusiastically co-sponsored the event for over 50 years.

Students attend the banquet free of charge. Family members are asked to pay \$20.00 which is well below cost, and this year includes free parking. For the past several years, we have offered opportunities for sponsorship to partially defray the costs of the event and to keep charges within a reasonable range for our families.

We have developed six sponsorship levels which are described below. We are asking club members to strongly consider becoming a sponsor at whatever level you see fit. In addition to your contribution to the event, if you know of an individual or a business which might be interested in becoming a sponsor, please feel free to contact them directly, or send your nomination to [Susie Stockman](#) or [Bill Albers](#).

Our hope is that our entire membership will support this request, allowing us to keep costs to families within an affordable range, and enabling every student to enjoy this important event.

Thank you in advance for your support – Sterling Merit Committee.

### 2024 STERLING MERIT

#### PLATINUM \$1500 & ABOVE

- Banquet sponsorship of Sterling Merit Banquet
- Feature mentioned in all Rotary newsletters in the Peoria area
- Logo on big screen display throughout the presentation
- Two mentions from the podium as a sponsor
- Ability to give a token of recognition to each student
- Signage at the banquet will include your company name as a sponsor

### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

#### GOLD \$750

- Mention on the big screen presentation before program
- Mention from the podium as a sponsor
- Name listed on the banquet signage

### & BENEFITS

#### SILVER \$500

- Name listed on the big screen presentation before the program
- Mention from the podium as a sponsor
- Name listed on the event signage

#### BRONZE \$250

- Name listed on the big screen presentation before the program
- Name listed on the event signage



SERVICE Above Self

If you would like to pay for STERLING MERIT SPONSORSHIPS online, please [click here](#)

Please make checks payable to Rotary Club of Peoria  
Mail to: P.O Box 5639  
Peoria, IL 61601

#### STUDENT SPONSOR \$100

- Four students attending the banquet
- Name listed on the event signage

#### STUDENT SPONSOR \$50

- Two students attending the banquet
- Name listed on the event signage

## F o u n d a t i o n M i n u t e



### FOUNDATION MINUTE - WHAT IS WASRAG?



**The Water & Sanitation Rotarian Action Group (WASRAG) was formed in 2007 by a group of Rotarians, recognized by Rotary International, and focused on WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) projects. Since then it has facilitated many hundreds of projects – helping clubs find partners, ensuring sustainability, stressing the importance of a needs-driven approach, and developing best practices. WASRAG encourages a holistic, integrated approach in which water is not the end in itself, but is rather the means to a better life and livelihood in the community.**

**Most importantly, WASRAG links water and sanitation to improved hygiene, better health, and empowerment of the community – especially women, irrigation & agriculture, education & literacy &, ultimately, child mortality.**

**As a Rotarian Action Group (RAG), WASRAG invites Rotarians from around the world to join them and engage in the battle to provide safe water, sanitation and hygiene for all. Any Rotarian interested in supporting WASRAG can Get Involved with our activities and be linked to global WASH assistance efforts. A Rotary Action Group (“RAG”) is an association of Rotarians from around the world who are dedicated to a particular unique area of service. Members of a RAG conduct hands-on, global service projects that advance the objectives of Rotary International.**

#### 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  
**OFFICE:** 309-676-5432  
**CELL:** 309-635-7377  
**EMAIL:** [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)  
**Office Hours: By Appointment**  
**Website:** [www.peoriarotary.org](http://www.peoriarotary.org)

#### Rotary Club of Peoria, IL



Photo Courtesy of the Journal Star