



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  
Website: [www.peoriarotary.org](http://www.peoriarotary.org)  
Email: [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)  
309-676-5432



CHARTERED 1913  
CLUB NO. 76

**Weekly Meeting at The Warehouse on State**  
**Friday, April 12, 2024 at 12:00PM**  
**Speaker: Dr. Meenakshy Aiyer**  
**Topic: University of IL College of Medicine**

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

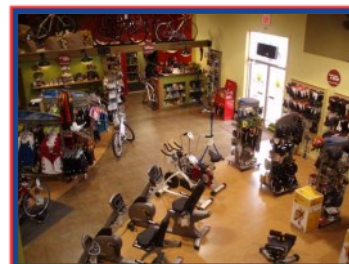


RussellsFitness.com



Joe Russell

Russell's Cycle was established in August of 1977, by Joe Russell in his father's garage . In 1980 the business moved to Washington and eventually to its present location at Valley Forge Plaza. It now occupies what was the Valley Forge Cinema. Speaking to Peoria Rotarians, Joe Russell talked about how the bike business has changed over the nearly half-century he has been in business. Although he began selling then popular BMX bicycles and regular sized cycles, the popular battery powered e-bikes now constitute half his business. Russell's has the American-made Ross bicycles from Pennsylvania, as well as cycles made by the largest manufacturer of bikes on the planet, the Giant bicycle Company.



In a statement on the [Russell's Cycle and Fitness](#) website, Joe Russell says what began with a passion for bikes has grown to a passion for fitness and the outdoors. After the tornado which hit Washington in 2013, Russell urged his staff to open the morning after the devastating event. The cycle shop became a center of post-tornado activity in Washington, and they sold out of bikes. During Covid, being alone on a bicycle was safe, and Russell's is now planning for next year with a plan for more e-bikes.

## 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





## REMINDER

## April Social

### 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.

### 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

## Upcoming Meetings

APRIL 19th - Meeting at The Warehouse on State  
Program: **Club Assembly**  
Greeter: **Jon Stephens**  
Inspiration/Reflection: **Jon Stephens**  
Attendance Prize: **Bill Harlan**

APRIL 26th - Meeting at The Warehouse on State  
Speaker: **Gary Jacob** | Topic: **90 Years of Electrical Contracting**  
Greeter: **Andy Fograscher**  
Inspiration/Reflection: **Andy Fograscher**  
Attendance Prize: **Emily Jacob-Rudesill**

MAY 3rd - Meeting at The Warehouse on State  
Program: **Illini Bluffs Interact Club**  
Topic: **Speed Networking with Club Members**  
Greeter: **Jeff Gress**  
Inspiration/Reflection: **Caitlin Behrends**  
Attendance Prize: **Steven Driscoll**

## Rotary Readers Upcoming Fieldtrip

### 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.

## 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  
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Rotary  
District 6460  
SERVICE Above Self





## DACdb Member Portal

## New Member Welcome

**WELCOME NEW ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA MEMBER**



**Chase Brower**  
*Sponsored by Fellow Rotarians  
Jon Stephens & Steve Driscoll*

**WELCOME NEW ROTARIANS**

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!



**DACdb**  
A MEMBER MINDER PRO COMPANY

Navigating DACdb -- Quick Start Guide

**START HERE**

DACdb LOGIN

Email/Login Name

\*\*\*\*\*

**LOGIN**

**WEBSITE ADDRESS**  
[WWW.DACDB.COM](http://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 User Quickstart 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

## Rotary Club of Peoria - Parks On Tap Announcement

**Rotary Club of Peoria**





**PARKS ON TAP**  
TRAVELING TAPHOUSE



**2024 PARKS ON TAP SCHEDULE**

5/19 - Donovan Park (unique Sunday event - 2 - 5 p.m.)

5/31 - Sommer Park North | 6/13 - Bradley Park

6/20 - Bicycle Safety Town | 7/11 - Cassidy Park

7/18 - Morton Square Park | 8/8 - Grandview Drive Park

8/15 - Detweiller Park | 8/30 - Sommer Park North

Special Thank You to Our 2024 Sponsors







## 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.



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!!!

Thank you!

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

## 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



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: MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH



#### April is designated as Maternal and Child Health Month

Rotary supports activities and training to improve maternal health and reduce mortality for children under five. Projects will strengthen private and public health care systems through improved access, expansion of services, provision of relevant medical equipment, and training of healthcare personnel.

Rotarians are encouraged to improve the health of mothers and their children by:

1. Reducing the neonatal/newborn mortality rate.
2. Reducing the mortality and morbidity rate for children under five.
3. Reducing the maternal mortality and morbidity rate.
4. Improving access to essential medical services, trained community health workers, and health care providers for mothers and their children.
5. Supporting graduate studies for career-minded professionals related to maternal and child health.

Consider what your club can do in your own community to support the vaccination of all women, children under the age of five, & adolescent girls. Vaccines save lives.

#### 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  
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**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