



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)  
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309-676-5432



CHARTERED 1913  
CLUB NO. 76

**Weekly Meeting at First United Methodist Church  
Friday, September 8, 2023 at 12:00 PM  
Speaker: Amy Christison, MD  
Topic: Food Insecurity and Health in Peoria**

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



Chris Kahl, spoke to Peoria Rotarians last Friday about the various programs Phoenix Community Development Services offers to those experiencing homelessness in the Central Illinois. Phoenix provides community and on-site services and supports for individuals with acknowledged mental, social, or physical disabilities. These services are individually tailored to assist people in achieving and maintaining rehabilitative, resiliency and recovery goals.

Services consist of therapeutic interventions that facilitate illness self-management, skill building, identification and use of natural supports and use of community resources in order to achieve the highest level of self-sufficiency and to maintain housing stability and recovery. We provide Supportive Housing, Community Support, Homeless Outreach and Community Development Services to over 900 individuals annually.

**Mission Statement:** Turning lives around...

**Vision Statement:** Phoenix Community Development Services strives to provide people with the opportunity to help themselves toward self-sufficiency. We seek to be recognized by our consumers and the community as an organization of integrity and compassion, providing leadership and offering service. We believe that the dedication and the collective abilities of staff and volunteers enable us to deliver service in an effective manner and to be responsive to the needs of our diverse community.

[Click here](#) for more information about any of these services or to find out how you can help them turn lives around!



Christine Kahl,  
President / CEO  
Phoenix Community  
Development Services

## 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



## Rotary Readers Updates

The Rotary Readers program is hoping to start sometime in September, but before they can start they need to build and rebuild the reading teams.

**MORE HELP NEEDED:** We need at least 3 New Readers to complete the teams with the right amount of Readers for each student. You do not need to be a Rotary member to participate in this program.

[Click Here](#) if you would like to join or know someone who wants to have a positive impact on needy 2nd graders, please talk to them about this opportunity.

Let's make this another great year with Miss Doty's students! **Thanks to all for your commitment!!**  
**Maggie & Owen - Rotary Readers Co-chairs**

## Rotary Interact Club



Rotary Club of Peoria  
**Interact**  
 Peoria High School

### 2ND ANNUAL COMMUNITY TAKE BACK NIGHT

FUN & CREATIVE OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, FOOD, AND MERCHANDISE FOR FAMILIES & THE COMMUNITY TO ENJOY

Date/ Time  
 Sep 16th  
 3-7pm

Admission  
**FREE**

**Vendors Needed**  
 Vendor Fee \$20

**Interact & Keyclub**  
 1615 North North  
 Street, Peoria IL

All Proceeds will be donated to  
**Generational Manhood Alliance**

More Information (309) 672-6630 Ext (40253)  
 Dana.sanders@psd150.org

## 2023 District 6460 Conference / Rotary Foundation Dinner



Rotary District 6460

### District Conference and Rotary Foundation Dinner

Saturday, October 28  
 Conference - 9:30 to 4:00  
 Foundation Dinner - 5:00 to 7:45  
 University of Illinois in Springfield

*Celebrate Rotary & Be Inspired! See current, and meet new, Rotary friends.*

FEATURED SPEAKERS & FACILITATORS:

- Dr. Jennifer Staats, United States Institute for Peace
- Past Rotary International Vice President, Nicki Scott
- Rotarian Steve Evans, Collinsville Chief of Police
- Rotary Peace Fellow Dr. Moh Eid

Conference: \$50 includes lunch. Rotary Foundation Dinner: \$75

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**

## Upcoming Events

**BIG PICTURE PEORIA STREET FESTIVAL IS BACK!**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2023 | 10:00AM - 4:00PM**  
**1300 BLOCK SW ADAMS - PEORIA'S WAREHOUSE DIST.**



The 2023 Street Festival Will Take Place Sept 9th in Peoria's Warehouse District.  
 Join us for this one-of-a-kind interactive celebration of the arts in our community.

Admission is donation based, simply pay as you are able.  
 The Street Festival has something for everyone!  
 See live mural painting, performers, and musicians.  
 Take part in the chalk painting contest & art projects.  
 There's tons of fun for kids, too, with make-and-take activities in the KidZone. Enjoy local food and drinks while watching any number of creative happenings.  
**Mark your calendars and join us!!!**

## Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities



Rotary Club of Peoria VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

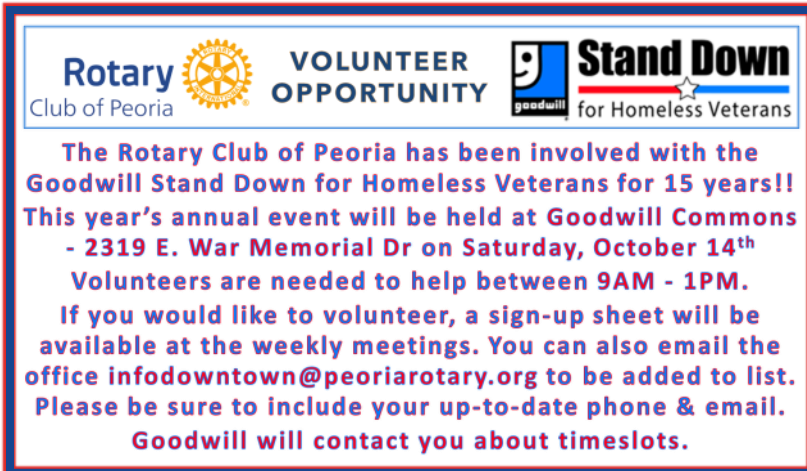
**Career Spark**

The 7th Annual CareerSpark Expo is being held on Thursday & Friday, Sept 28th & 29th at the Peoria Civic Center

The CareerSpark Expo - is an interactive work and career readiness experience for 8th-grade students in our region.

They are looking for volunteers to help the high school students navigate the expo. To learn more about this event, please visit the **Greater Peoria Pathways Website:**  
[www.gppathways.org/gp-careerspark/](http://www.gppathways.org/gp-careerspark/)

If you would like to volunteer for this event, please visit:  
<https://bit.ly/BeTheSpark23> to sign-up



Rotary Club of Peoria VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

**Stand Down**  
 for Homeless Veterans

The Rotary Club of Peoria has been involved with the Goodwill Stand Down for Homeless Veterans for 15 years!! This year's annual event will be held at Goodwill Commons - 2319 E. War Memorial Dr on Saturday, October 14th

Volunteers are needed to help between 9AM - 1PM.

If you would like to volunteer, a sign-up sheet will be available at the weekly meetings. You can also email the office [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) to be added to list. Please be sure to include your up-to-date phone & email.

Goodwill will contact you about timeslots.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Midwest FOOD BANK**

Illinois-Peoria  
 Midwest Food Bank of Illinois-Peoria

**Midwest Food Bank is looking for volunteers to help label and/or package bulk food items so they can be readied for distribution to our food pantries.**

**Date: Thursday November 2nd, 2023**  
**Time: 1:00pm - 3:00pm**

If you would like to volunteer, please click here to sign-up. A sign-up sheet will be available at weekly meetings or email [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) to be added to list.

## U p c o m i n g   S o c i a l   E v e n t s



**Tom McIntyre's 80th Birthday Celebration!!!**

**Location: Martha Herm & Tom McIntyre's Farm**  
**23215 Farmdale Rd, Washington, IL 61571**

**Date: Saturday, October 14, 2023 | Starts at 1:00pm**



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**Details: Come visit, stay a while and have something to eat.**

**Other Activities: Gossiping - Hiking - Canoeing - Listening to Tom talk about His Stroke - Eating - Drinking - Geological Discussion (What's a drumlin or a dungeon?)**

**Presents and cards are discouraged!! | Your attendance is encouraged!!**

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**If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Oct 9<sup>th</sup> - You Can RSVP by clicking the link in the Green Light or emailing (tamcintyre@yahoo.com) We will also have a Sign-up sheet available at weekly meetings.**

### Rotary Club Holiday Social

**Date: Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**Location: Tin Lizard Bar & Grill - East Peoria**  
**Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm | \*PLEASE JOIN US\***  
**Cost: Members Free | Guests: \$15.00**

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**If you plan to attend the social, please RSVP by clicking here or emailing (infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) We will also have a RSVP sign-up sheet available at our weekly meetings.**

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**All RSVP's must be received by noon, Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

### U p c o m i n g   M e e t i n g s

**SEPTEMBER 8th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
**Speaker: Amy Christison, MD**  
**Topic: Food Insecurity and Health in Peoria**  
**Greeter: Edie Barnard**  
**Inspiration/Reflection: Bill Albers**  
**Attendance Prize: Bill Albers**  
**Meeting Tech: Ryan LaCosse**

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**SEPTEMBER 15th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
**Speaker: Chris Manson**  
**Topic: OSF - Ambulances to Ukraine**  
**Greeter: Jason Miller**  
**Inspiration/Reflection: Shelly Heiden**  
**Attendance Prize: Shelly Heiden**  
**Meeting Tech: Jason Parkinson**

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**SEPTEMBER 22nd - Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
**Speakers: Chad Bailey & Joseph Monahan**  
**Topic: Peoria Christian Center - Youth Sports**  
**Greeter: Sue Portscheller**  
**Inspiration/Reflection: Edie Barnard**  
**Attendance Prize: Jason Miller**  
**Meeting Tech: Ryan LaCosse**

### R o t a r y   C l u b   T - S h i r t s

**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.**




**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)**



### F o u n d a t i o n   M i n u t e



#### FOUNDATION MINUTE - LEGACY



**In 2020, people worldwide were confronted with their own mortality – as horrifying statistics bombard us daily about disease, Covid cases, contagion and death. Although cases are down, we are still seeing the effects today as our world fell apart with businesses closing, material and food shortages, supply chain roadblocks and lost learning time children experienced.**

**As Rotarians, we claim to be People of Action, and peacemakers in a world of inequality of opportunity, food scarcity, disease and discord. We may feel helpless from the disruption these past few years have caused. But Rotary continues to aid those less fortunate through grants, while vaccinations are administered, and communities are improved. How will we be remembered for our Rotary service?**

**Rep. John Lewis left a message to be shared at his funeral – a message of hope and a call to action. He will truly be remembered for reminding us not to tolerate injustice – and to act while we can to “build a nation and a world society at peace with itself.” Mr. Lewis urged us to “answer the highest calling of your heart and stand up for what you truly believe.” Will our individual Rotary legacies reflect our Rotary service? How many children will we have saved from paralysis; how many students will be inspired to serve as peacemakers; how many people will have clean water because of our generosity; how many families will have food on their tables because of our Rotary service; how many children will learn to read because of Rotary literacy programs?**

**Now is the time to plan YOUR Rotary legacy – while time permits to plan, to share and to take action.**


### E v e r y   R o t a r i a n   E v e r y   Y e a r


#### 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.







# Rotary Club of Peoria - Committee List



The goal of the board is to have all members sign up for at least one committee. (Not limited to one) Please review the attached committees & select the ones you are interested in & reply either to the chair of that committee or the [office](#).

## COMMITTEE LIST OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA

### A/V TECH COMMITTEE

Chair: [Austin Locke](#) ([Austin@share-builders.com](mailto:Austin@share-builders.com))

Group of members to manage the Technology (Audio, Video, Zoom, etc) during our weekly club meetings.

### ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Chair: [Randy Neff](#) ([rneff@neffvaluation.com](mailto:rneff@neffvaluation.com))

The Executive Committee, made up of the five officers, meets to oversee the governance of the Club.

### THE ROTARY FOUNDATION (TRF) and ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Chair: [Emily Jacob-Rudesill](#) ([emilyj@fosterjacob.com](mailto:emilyj@fosterjacob.com))

Encourages Club Members to actively support the philanthropic opportunities of Rotary through The Rotary Foundation (TRF) and the Rotary Club of Peoria Endowment Fund. The Committee educates the Club about the work and outcomes of TRF and Endowment Fund.

### GRANTS COMMITTEE

Chair: [Amanda Klein](#) ([aklein@inb.com](mailto:aklein@inb.com))

Selects organizations to receive hunger and community service grants from the Rotary Club of Peoria.

### INTERACT COMMITTEE

Chair: [Aaron Kilgore](#) ([askilgore64@gmail.com](mailto:askilgore64@gmail.com))

Work with high school personnel to organize a student-led service club based on Rotary ideals.

Interact volunteers must submit to a background check and be orientated to the program.

Recruit sophomore Interact members to RYLA (District Rotary Youth Leadership Academy).

Collaborate with the Public Image Committee to highlight Interact activities to the Club and possibly media.

### INTERNATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE

Chair: [Janet Bantz Glavin](#) ([jglavin@illinois.wish.org](mailto:jglavin@illinois.wish.org)) | Co-Chair: [Eileen Setti](#) ([esetti@rmhc-centralillinois.org](mailto:esetti@rmhc-centralillinois.org))

Responsible for all aspects of the club's activities relating to International Service such as District international projects or club grants from The Rotary Foundation; and sponsoring Youth Exchange.

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: [Aaron Kilgore](#) ([askilgore64@gmail.com](mailto:askilgore64@gmail.com))

Plan activities to actively support and encourage membership growth and membership retention.

### MUSIC COMMITTEE

Chair: [Edie Barnard](#) ([PeoriaMusicLady@gmail.com](mailto:PeoriaMusicLady@gmail.com))

Provide any musical needs for the Club, including weekly meetings.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chair: [Jana' Stevens](#) ([jstevens@cefcu.com](mailto:jstevens@cefcu.com))

Nominate a slate of Officers and Directors for approval by The Board and then the entire Membership. Requirements are based on the Bylaws of the Club. The President Elect chairs the Committee and chooses the committee members.

### ORIENTATION COMMITTEE

Chair: [Steve Driscoll](#) ([steve.driscoll@goblusky.com](mailto:steve.driscoll@goblusky.com))

Informs prospective and new members about all aspects and responsibilities of Rotary membership. Perhaps sponsor follow-up "Rotary 101" sessions after new members are inducted.

### PUBLIC IMAGE COMMITTEE

Chair: [Jason Parkinson](#) ([jason.parkinson@onfire.com](mailto:jason.parkinson@onfire.com))

Promotes awareness and provides information to the public about the Club and Rotary International.

### ROTARY READERS COMMITTEE

Chair: [Maggie Freidag](#) ([maggiefreidag@gmail.com](mailto:maggiefreidag@gmail.com))

Rotary Readers will work in teams of four, with one member serving as team captain. Each team will read with two students all year long. Participation in group activities with the students such as a trip to Tanner's Orchard, are encouraged.

Rotary Readers must submit to a background check and be orientated to the program.

### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: [Walter Ruppman](#) ([wruppman@comcast.net](mailto:wruppman@comcast.net))

Administers the various Club scholarship activities and programs by working with Peoria High School and ICC in choosing the Blumenthal and Hardin scholarship winners and organizing their celebration at a Rotary meeting.

### SERVICE PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Co-Chair: [Chuck Gabbert](#) ([chuck@ctgabbert.com](mailto:chuck@ctgabbert.com))

To plan and organize volunteer activities / projects for the Rotary Club Members and their families to participate in.

### SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Chair: [Colleen Halberg](#) ([chalberg@epicci.org](mailto:chalberg@epicci.org))

To plan and organize activities beyond the Friday meetings to promote networking among Club members and their families and to help recruit new members.

### STERLING MERIT BANQUET COMMITTEE

Board Liaison: [Susie Stockman](#) ([susie1026@comcast.net](mailto:susie1026@comcast.net))

Plan and participate in the annual Sterling Merit Banquet which honors the top eight percent of graduating seniors from twelve area high schools. The Rotary Clubs of Peoria, Peoria-North, Farmington and Chillicothe sponsor the event.

The Rotary Club of Peoria serves as the lead club for the event.

## So You Thought You Knew about Austin Locke (in 200 words or less!)

By: Edith Barnard (Previously published in the Jan 7, 2023 edition of the Green Light)

Our Fellow Rotarian Austin Locke had the privilege to visit Tanzania recently and go on Safari in the Serengeti.

In April 2021 Austin took a group tour with 10 other people, which included his mom, Linda. And despite the COVID restrictions and the wildlife, they all made it back safe and sound. Austin was actually able to get a good deal because of COVID cancellations, and this tour group was the first one in over 16 months since the COVID shutdown basically stopped all tourism to Tanzania.



Tanzania is a former British colony on the East coast of Africa and lies directly south of Kenya. It's home to Mt. Kilimanjaro, the highest free-standing mountain in the world, and Serengeti National Park, one of the most famous parks in the world. It's annual migrations have 1.5 million wildebeest and 250 thousand zebras.

Austin spent 9 days there, meeting the local people, and seeing all the wildlife Africa has to offer, including Elephants, Lions, Giraffes, Monkeys, Zebra, Wildebeest, Gazelles and even Camels! The safari vehicles were large SUV vehicles that had a roof that would "Pop", allowing tourists to stand and get better photos while remaining somewhat safely protected. He also a hot air balloon ride over the Serengeti, the area that the Maasai people describe as "the place where the land runs on forever".



It was a once in a lifetime trip and Austin highly recommends that anyone who loves nature should have IT on their bucket list!



### 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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**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



Rotary



Photo Courtesy of the Journal Star