



**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  
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 309-676-5432



**CHARTERED 1913**  
**CLUB NO. 76**

**Weekly Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
**Friday, October 01, 2021 at 12:00 PM**  
**Speaker: Police Chief Eric Echevarria**  
**Topic: Peoria's New Chief of Police**

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

## Ann Lading-Ferguson, CEO, FamilyCore



FamilyCore in Peoria has been around for 120 years, but you might not recognize it by that name. Over the years, the name has changed from Associated Charities to Family Welfare Association to Children and Family Services to Counseling and Family Services. As FamilyCore since 2010, the organization continues to provide adoption, child welfare, counseling, single parent support, and youth outreach services locally.

FamilyCore CEO Ann Lading-Ferguson told Peoria Rotarians on Friday the organization she has headed for four years touches as many as 15,000 lives each year. Now operating out of its offices at 330 SW Washington, FamilyCore began in Peoria's City Hall in 1901. The organization boasts of many firsts, including the first "visiting nurse" program locally.

Ann Lading-Ferguson says FamilyCore still goes visiting, most recently with workers reading with children in their driveways. In times of Covid, it was a way of still connecting with the FamilyCore clients. While the names may have changed, the core message of "Strengthening Families for a Stronger Community" has not.



## Membership Satisfaction Survey

The Rotary Club of Peoria - Board of Directors is conducting a Membership Satisfaction Survey in order to help us plan & continue building a strong organization that promotes "Service Above Self" and is a meaningful part of member's lives. The survey should only take about five minutes of your time to complete. If you complete the survey by Oct, 10th, you will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card! Results of the survey will be presented to the club later in October. [Please click here to take the Membership Satisfaction Survey.](#)

**Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey!!**



### 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.

Amanda Gordon-Sandberg, will discuss details of the Youth Exchange Program at meeting this week! If you are interested in becoming a host family for our inbound student, please email Amanda ([agordonsandberg@gmail.com](mailto:agordonsandberg@gmail.com)) with any questions/concerns!

## Hunger Grant Announcement

The Rotary Club of Peoria is now accepting applications for its 2021 Hunger Grants.

Grants from the Rotary Club of Peoria Hunger Fund are given for Direct Services to Programs that: Provide Basic Needs of Food & Food related items such as Refrigerators, Coolers, & Supplies for Food Distribution.

Grant amounts generally range from \$200 to \$2,000.

Grant applications can be downloaded by clicking here: [2021 Hunger Grant Application](#)

Applications can also be obtained online at [www.peoriarotary.org](http://www.peoriarotary.org) or requested by email [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org).

Completed applications must be received in the Rotary email cue on or before **Oct 15, 21**.

## Revised Rotary Readers Update

Unfortunately, the disruptive incidents which took place at Peoria High School on Sept. 17, has spilled over into other schools including Trewyn. Apparently fights occurred involving Trewyn upper grade students. As a result, Miss Doty has recommended deferring the program start date to later in October.

- **Rotary Readers Tanners Orchard Trip**  
We still have our scheduled trip to [Tanners Orchard](#) on **Tues. Oct, 5th at 10:15am**. All Rotarians are invited to join us at the Orchard to welcome our students and have 3 hours of fun and apple education. (you might want to bring your own sack lunch or snack) Students will be leaving the orchard at approximately 1:30pm. We are grateful to **Bill Winkler** and **Peoria Charter** for providing the transportation. **THANK YOU!!!**
- **Rotary Readers Orientation** at the [Trewyn Library](#) on **Wed. Oct, 27th at 3:15pm**
- **Reading Teams Start: Mon. Nov, 1st from 12:35pm - 1:35pm**

**MORE HELP NEEDED:** We are still in need of additional Readers to complete 12 teams. 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 2nd grade students.**

**Thanks to all for your commitment!! Maggie & Owen - Rotary Readers Co-chairs**

## Upcoming Meetings

### October 1<sup>st</sup> - Meeting at [First United Methodist Church](#)

**Speaker:** Police Chief Eric Echevarria

**Topic:** Peoria's New Chief of Police

**Invocation:** Katherine Coyle | **Greeter(s):** Tom McIntyre

**Attendance Prize:** Susan Hoffman

### October 8<sup>th</sup> - Meeting at [First United Methodist Church](#)

**Speaker:** Roberta English, Executive Director & CEO of Wildlife Prairie Park

**Topic:** Park Updates

**Invocation:** TBD | **Greeter(s):** Susan Hoffman

**Attendance Prize:** Tom McIntyre

### October 15<sup>th</sup> - Meeting at [First United Methodist Church](#)

**Speaker:** Stephen Standifird, President - Bradley University

**Topic:** Bradley University Update

**Invocation:** TBD | **Greeter(s):** TBD

**Attendance Prize:** TBD

### October 22<sup>nd</sup> - Meeting at [Barracks Cater Inn](#)

**Speaker:** Kindall Reuschel Nelson, Owner & Founder, Peoria Music Live | **Topic:** Live Music in Peoria

**Invocation:** TBD | **Greeter(s):** Susan Stockman

**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

## Volunteer Opportunities



Midwest  
FOOD BANK



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.

**Thursday, Sept. 30th, 2021 - 5:00pm - 7:00pm**

[If you are interested in volunteering, click here to sign-up online.](#) We will also have a sign-up sheet available at the weekly meeting.

## September Club Social

Hosted by: **Steve & Gina Driscoll**

**Date:** Thurs, Sept, 30th | **Time:** 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Location:** [112 Royal Vista Dr, East Peoria, IL 61611](#)

LET'S GET  
TOGETHER!

(and have some fun)



Please join us at the Driscoll's new home for food, drinks, and plenty of conversation. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by email to [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)

A sign-up sheet will also be available at Friday's meeting.



**Stand Down**

for Homeless Veterans

Downtown Peoria Rotary has been involved with the Goodwill Stand Down for Homeless Veterans for 13 years!!

This year's event will be held at [Goodwill Commons](#) -

2319 E War Memorial Dr, Peoria, IL 61614 on

**Fri, Oct 15th & Sat, Oct 16th from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

and they need volunteers to help out.

If you would like to volunteer, a sign-up sheet will be available at **Friday's meeting**. You can also email the office [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) to be added to list.



**So You Thought You Knew Patrick Kirchofer  
(in 200 words or less)  
by Edie Barnard**

Patrick Kirchofer grows wonderful agricultural projects through the Farm Bureau and helps cultivate community projects with his "Can-Do" attitude of "Service Above Self." Did this enthusiasm and "know-how" begin with experiences on his family's farm in Effingham County? Below he shares some insight into this question.

"I like growing corn. I've also branched out into growing trees!  
When three, my enthusiasm for climbing became neighborhood news when I climbed to the top of the TV antenna on our neighbor's house. I graduated to climbing trees in my grade school years.

At 11, my love of trees leafed out. I helped my aunt and uncle plant 400 seedlings which prospered as did a patch of poison ivy, I unfortunately discovered. In 1992, I planted 100 walnut seeds on the family farm. I hulled the walnuts before planting them, keeping the stains on my hands for the next two weeks. The trees now stand 30-40 feet tall. The spring of 1994, we planted 200 hybrid Purdue Walnut trees. Each seedling received its own tubular greenhouse, grass mulch, and fertilizer. The spring of 1996 friends and family helped plant 600 oak seedlings. Doug Huff, recent Rotary District Governor, was part of this project and vividly remembers being sore on the ride back to Peoria. The tree planting times have been fun, created great wildlife habitat, and kept me in shape. Who knows what tree planting projects lie ahead?"



### 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  
Emily Jacob-Rudesill  
Aaron Kilgore  
Randy Neff  
Kathy Shishilla  
Jana' Stevens

### Contact Us

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Rotary Club of Peoria, IL



Rotary



Photo Courtesy of the Journal Star