



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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CHARTERED 1913  
CLUB NO. 76

**Weekly Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
**Friday, October 13, 2023 at 12:00 PM**  
**Speaker: John Wieland**  
**Topic: Uncommon Threads**

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



Brad Chandler

Last week Rotarians heard from Brad Chandler, the Deputy Athletics Director for Bradley University Athletics.



Brad spoke about the changing landscape of college athletics due to the Transfer Portal and NIL - the Name, Image and Likeness policy that allows college athletes to profit off themselves.



## Celebrate World Polio Day

**END POLIO NOW** **WORLD POLIO DAY**  
**24 OCTOBER** #EndPolio | [endpolio.org](http://endpolio.org)

One Day. One Focus: Ending Polio  
*World Polio Day is a time for Rotary members, public health advocates, and all who want a world free from polio to come together, recognize our progress in the fight to end polio, and talk about the actions we need to take in order to end polio for good.*

**TOGETHER, WE END POLIO** Rotary 

## 2023 Rotary Veterans Day Meeting

### VETERANS DAY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Veterans Day meeting will be held jointly with Rotary North on Friday, November 9, 2023 at The First United Methodist Church

Active Club Members - No cost  
R85 Club Members & Guests - \$15.00

If you plan to attend the Veterans Day meeting, You can RSVP using the link in the Green Light or email [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)

We also have a sign-up sheet available on the back table.

### 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  **CREATE HOPE in the WORLD**

Rotary  Club of Peoria



### 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



## Illini Bluffs Interact Club Supply Drive


# SUPPLY DRIVE

THE ILLINI BLUFFS HIGH SCHOOL INTERACT CLUB IS COLLECTING SUPPLIES FOR THE PEORIA RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE 9/18 THROUGH 10/13. PLEASE DONATE TRAVEL-SIZE TOILETRIES, CLEANING SUPPLIES, AND PAPER GOODS IN ONE OF OUR **BLUE** DONATION BOXES. SCAN THE QR CODE TO SEE OUR AMAZON WISHLIST!





## Goodwill Stand Down For Homeless Veterans



**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 14<sup>th</sup>. 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.

## 2023 District 6460 Conference / Rotary Foundation Dinner

742126

Rotarians and guests are invited to attend District Conference & Rotary Foundation Dinner October 28, 2023 at University of Illinois in Springfield. Click Here for details & register.

742126

## Wildlife Prairie Park Cougar Platform Build



**Rotary**  
Club of Peoria

**VOLUNTEER PROJECT**  
**COUGAR PLATFORM BUILD**



**Wildlife Prairie**  
**PARK**

Several volunteers are needed to help with prep work and building a multi-level platform for the cougars at Wildlife Prairie Park.  
**Date: Wed, October 18th | Prep Work at C.T. Gabbert Const. | Time: TBD**  
**Date: Sat, October 21st | Build Platform at Wildlife Prairie Park  
3826 N Taylor Rd, Hanna City, IL 61536 | Time: TBD**

If you would like to volunteer, please use the links provided in the **Green Light** to sign-up. Sign-up sheets will be available at weekly meetings or email [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) to be added to list.

## Midwest Food Bank



**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.

## South Side Mission Service Project

### South Side Mission ~ 2023 Thanksgiving

Join forces with South Side Mission to prep and deliver Thanksgiving to those in need. We will have delivery routes available in Peoria, East Peoria, Peoria Heights, Dunlap, Bartonville, Creve Coeur, Morton, Pekin & Washington

**Meal Delivery Drivers**  
**Date: 11/23/23 (Thur.)**  
**Times: 8am | 8:30am | 9am | 9:30am**  
**Details: Delivering packaged meals. 1 Signup = 1 Delivery Route. Each Route Consists of Between 20 & 25 Meals**  
**Location: South Side Mission**  
**1127 S Laramie St, Peoria, IL 61605**

There are other volunteer assignments available, to see the full list of assignments or to sign-up to volunteer, please [Click Here](#)

A Sign-up sheet will be available at weekly meetings or email [infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org) to be added to list.

## Holiday Social

### 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**

If you plan to attend, please RSVP by clicking here or emailing ([infodowntown@peoriarotary.org](mailto:infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)) We will also have a Sign-up sheet available at weekly meetings

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



# Rotary

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## SERVICE Above Self

## Upcoming Meetings

**OCTOBER 20th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
Speaker: **Rik Edgar or Beau Sutherland**  
Topic: **Peoria Civic Center Updates**  
Greeters: **Tom McIntyre & Robert Brandfass**  
Inspiration/Reflection: **Katherine Coyle**  
Attendance Prize: **Katherine Coyle**  
Meeting Tech: **Austin Locke**

**OCTOBER 27th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
Speaker: **Mark Denzler**  
Topic: **Illinois Manufacturers' Association**  
Greeters: **Pam Cain & Nick Vespa**  
Inspiration/Reflection: **Tom McIntyre**  
Attendance Prize: **Nick Vespa**  
Meeting Tech: **Jason Parkinson**

**NOVEMBER 3rd - Meeting at First United Methodist Church**  
Speaker: **Keith Cornille**  
Topic: **Heartland Community College Partnership with Rivian & ICC**  
Greeters: **John Kelly & Susie Stockman**  
Inspiration/Reflection: **Katherine Coyle**  
Attendance Prize: **Katherine Coyle**  
Meeting Tech: **Ryan LaCosse**

## Every Rotarian Every Year

### 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.



## New Membership

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.



## Every Rotarian Every Year Fundraiser

Between now and the end of the December, we are taking donations for raffle prizes for the EREY Fundraiser.

Prizes should be at least a \$25 value.

Raffle tickets will be \$25/each and will go on sale in December. You can enter your raffle ticket in the prizes all of January.

Winners will be announced on February 2nd.

If you would like to donate any items for the raffle, please contact: Emily Jacob-Rudesill

[emilyj@fosterjacob.com](mailto:emilyj@fosterjacob.com)

*There will be a donation sign-up sheet available at the weekly meetings.*

## Foundation Minute



FOUNDATION MINUTE - WHAT'S YOUR ROTARY FOOTPRINT?



CREATE HOPE in the WORLD

Besides the obvious outline of an appendage, a footprint means many other things: the impact of an action, the area occupied or affected by something, or the legacy left by an individual on others. We ponder the footprint our loved ones or lost national leaders leave behind in the days and years after their passing.

Rotary leaves footprints in many ways too - through its humanitarian service in local communities and in thousands of grant projects carried out all over the globe. Being a Rotarian changes each member in unimaginable ways - you are changed by being around people determined to improve the lives of others. But none of this good work is possible unless each Rotarian creates his or her own footprints - through the donations made to OUR ROTARY FOUNDATION.

Each Rotarian's donation record - YOUR ROTARY FOOTPRINT - is tabulated in your Donor History on My Rotary. So, if your passion is warm coats, you can calculate how many children are warm based on your donations to the Annual Fund, which supports district grants - and you can see how many children you saved from paralysis by your EPN donations.

Whether you joined Rotary last week or 30 years ago, you have a footprint. Check it out!

## So You Thought You Knew Bernie Drake (in 200 words or less!) by Edie Barnard

Bernie Drake loves to travel! From zip lining in Nevada (see pic), to eating fried bugs in Vientiane, Laos (see pic), to tubing on Lake Tahoe (see pic), to visiting Ankor Wat in Cambodia (see pic) and more, this adventurous Rotarian loves to seize and savor the moment.



Born and raised in Indiana, Bernie came to Peoria in 1966 to work for Peoria Public Schools. He was a debate coach at Manual, then at Peoria High School where Corky Robertson was his boss!



In 1974 he left education for a job at WABCO (which became Dresser, then Komatsu-Dresser, then Komatsu). During his 29 years at the company he served a stint in Brussels, Belgium; traveled extensively, and spent the last five years stationed in Vernon Hills, IL.

Bernie loves history. If there is reincarnation, he says that he'll probably come back as a history teacher. He is a history guide for the Peoria Historical Society, has taught Civil War and Peoria history classes at OLLI, and has led Civil War history trips.

He and his wife, Barb have three sons, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Below he shares an amazing experience.

"In 2001, while I was taking a stress test, my heart stopped. Luckily, I was in a hospital and was quickly revived. The next day I had quadruple by-pass surgery. It changed my life. Twelve-hour work days no longer seemed so important. Two years later when offered an opportunity for early retirement, I took it and returned to Peoria with a desire to get involved in the community. Since then I have volunteered at and served on boards of my church, Crittenton Center, Peoria Historical Society, Fine Arts Society of Peoria, OLLI, Sculpture Walk, Lakeview and Peoria Riverfront Museums, and Rotary. It was one of the best decisions I ever made. I have enjoyed working in the community and meeting so many interesting people."



(Previously published in the July, 9, 2021 edition of the Green Light)

### 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

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**Office Hours: By Appointment**  
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Rotary Club of Peoria, IL



Rotary



Photo Courtesy of the Journal Star