



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 27, 2023 at 12:00PM
Speaker: Mark Denzler
Topic: IL Manufacturer's Association

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



Rik Edgar

The **Peoria Civic Center** typically hosts over 275 events a year, and last year, they had 343. According to Civic Center Manager Rik Edgar, that's a record. Edgar, speaking to Rotarians last Friday, touted the big numbers for the past fiscal year: an adjusted gross income of \$7.1 million exceeding projections by \$1.9 million dollars, 450,000 plus customers, and 343 event days out of 365 in the year with 142 ticketed events. Edgar says Peoria is the number two convention complex in Illinois, outside of Chicago. Coming out of Covid, the Civic Center got a boost with a \$20-million-dollar investment from the Peoria City Government and \$25 million more in grants from the state of Illinois.



PCC Theater



PCC Arena

Edgar said the multi-million-dollar roof repair of the buildings was very necessary - "getting rid of buckets in hallways". There are on-going improvements to the 11,000 seat arena, including seats and signage. The arena, home to Bradley and Rivermen Hockey, is still a chief moneymaker. Replacing the ice rink has been postponed, because it will mean the arena will be closed for several months for repairs.

Ric Edgar said his company, ASM Global, now has a new agreement with the city of Peoria which extends their current contract through the year 2028.

[Click here](#) to watch Yvonne Greer's 2021 interview with Ric Edgar featured on WTVP-TV.

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?



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



Celebrate World Polio Day



WORLD POLIO DAY

24 OCTOBER #EndPolio | 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**



2023 Rotary Veterans Day Meeting

VETERANS DAY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Veterans Day meeting will be held jointly with Rotary North on **Friday, November 10, 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

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

PHS Rotary Interact / Key Club Blood Drive



Rotary Interact / Key Club ImpactLife Blood Drive

Rotary Interact Club is hosting a Blood Drive through Impact Life on Wednesday, October 25th from 8-1pm in the Complex Gym - Peoria, IL. Donations are held via appointment only and the drive is open to the public.



To sign up, scan the QR code or call ImpactLife at (800) 747-5401.

2023 Veterans Day Parade

2023 VETERANS DAY PARADE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Rotary Club of Peoria and Rotary North will have a float in this year's Veterans Day Parade.

Volunteers are needed to help with the Rotary Veterans Day Float decorations on **October 28th - 10:00 AM** at the **PACE Warehouse - 720 Park Ave - Peoria 61603, near Woodruff High School.**

This year's parade is **Saturday, November 11, 2023 | 10:00AM**
More information about the parade route - TBA

Peoria Rotarians will be walking along with the Rotary float with members from Rotary North. If you and your family want to show up and join us to walk with the Rotary Float during Parade, please do so, the more the merrier.

After the Veterans Day Parade, volunteers will be needed again to help decorate the Rotary Float for the Santa Parade in November. **(November Volunteer Date - TBD)**

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.

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 to be added to list.

Holiday Social

Rotary Club Holiday Social

Date: Thursday, December 7th, 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
We will also have a Sign-up sheet available at weekly meetings

All RSVP's must be received by noon, Friday, December 1st, 2023

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.



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 Feb 2nd.

If you would like to donate any items for the raffle, please contact:

Emily Jacob-Rudesill

emilyj@fosterjacob.com

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

U p c o m i n g M e e t i n g s

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

NOVEMBER 10th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church
Peoria Rotary Club's - Veterans Day Meeting
Speaker: Robbie Robertson
Greeters: Patrick Kirchhofer & Robert Brandfass
Inspiration/Reflection: John Kelly
Attendance Prize: Patrick Kirchhofer
Meeting Tech: Austin Locke

NOVEMBER 17th - Meeting at Peoria Riverfront Museum
Speaker: Suzanne Ellerbrock, Rotary Foundation Chair
Topic: Rotary District 6460
Greeters: Patrick Kirchhofer & Pam Cain
Inspiration/Reflection: Susie Stockman
Attendance Prize: Pam Cain
Meeting Tech: Maggie Freidag

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



2024 - 2025 Rotary Club of Peoria Nominating Committee Proposal



The nominating committee is proposing the following slate for the 2024-2025 Board of Directors

President Elect: Emily Jacob-Rudesill
Treasurer: Gina Discoll
Secretary: Caitlin Behrends
Director: Colleen Halberg
Director: Ryan LaCosse

New Membership Proposal

The following membership proposal has been approved by the Club Board of Directors and are published here for general membership consideration.

Prospective Member: Greg Lara
Company: CityBlue Technologies, LLC
Sponsored by: Emily Jacob-Rudesill

Protests may be sent, in writing, to the President or Secretary within 7 days. If none are received, the proposals will be considered satisfactory.

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.



Rotary Member Congratulations

Congratulations!

To Rotarian Betsy Bladel - She was nominated for the Illinois Central College - Distinguished Alumnus Award.

The Distinguished Alumnus award recognizes former students who have achieved career success, while providing humanitarian services to society, and continually demonstrating support for higher education and Illinois Central College. Awards will be presented on October 26, 2023 as part of the college's Community Celebration event, held annually to honor high-achieving alumni, and to recognize and celebrate current ICC scholarship recipients, their donors, & our community partners.

Congratulations!

To Rotarians Dr. Stephen and Patti Bash - Both are being honored with the Distinguished Citizen Award by The W. D. Boyce Council, BSA.

The award will be presented on November 18, 2023 during the Distinguished Citizen Award Dinner to honor Dr. Stephen & Patti Bash in recognition of their noteworthy and extraordinary leadership, significant contributions to the growth & vitality of the Central Illinois community, and shared belief in Scouting's leadership, determination, & values.

Foundation Minute



FOUNDATION MINUTE - THE PLUS IN POLIOPLUS



Many don't know what the 'Plus' is, in PolioPlus. The Plus indicates an addition to Polio immunization. Traditionally service projects by Rotary were predominantly in the fields of education and economic and social development, including water supply and sanitation. Some local humanitarian projects included medical screening camps, eye-camps for cataract surgery, orthopedic camps for corrective surgery of children with deformities due to polio etc. These were clubs or occasionally District-level projects, not global.

In 1978, Canadian Rotarians raised funds and applied for a Rotary Matching Grant for Madras in India for 78,000 doses of measles vaccine. That project was a game-changer. Over time, countries persuaded their populations to protect their children against measles, diphtheria, and other deadly diseases of childhood through vaccination. The first 3H polio immunization project was launched in the Philippines in 1979, along with tetanus vaccination of pregnant women, and thus immunization, especially of children, to prevent vaccine-preventable diseases - measles, polio, and tetanus - became a Rotary priority.

By 1984, children protected from polio paralysis were still dying, though less frequently than earlier, of diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, as several other vaccine-preventable diseases. As part of the planning for Rotary's centenary celebrations, a decision was made that Rotary would announce a 'gift of a polio-free world' to the children. Moreover, since Rotarians did not want children protected from polio paralysis dying of diphtheria, measles or whooping cough, Rotary would support the administration of all vaccine-preventable diseases - the global Rotary Centenary Project was known as 'PolioPlus'. The Plus indicated Rotary's support for protecting children against all vaccine-preventable diseases.

Rotary Club of Peoria - District Grant Check Presentation

This past summer, Emily Jacob-Rudesill sent out a request for grant applications so we could apply for the Rotary District Grant this year. We received an application from Sterling Middle School requesting help to fund school supplies. Sterling students are disproportionately represented with 85% of their families being considered low income.

Their students and families are often unable to purchase school supplies so typically they rely on Sterling teachers and staff to provide necessary supplies each day throughout the school year.

A lot of us know a teacher who has had to stock their classroom with funds out of their own pocket, which they absolutely should not have to do and students should never receive a lesser education simply due to lack of resources or funding.

The request we received was for \$3,171. We submitted the application in August and the District granted us \$1,879.00 and the Board voted to fund the remaining \$1,292.00 out of the Rotary Club of Peoria's Endowment Fund we have at Community Foundation of Central Illinois.



Illini Bluffs High School Interact Club - 2023 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!



Illini Bluffs High School Interact Club recently held a Supply Drive for the Ronald McDonald House.

Through the Amazon Wishlist & donation boxes, they collected hundreds of hygiene & cleaning products. Donations were dropped off on 10/22/23.

It was an awesome experience for the kids. The club will definitely be doing it again in the future!



While they were there, they also prepared breakfast

Assisted with basic chores & helped put together Halloween goodie bags.



IBHS Interact Club has several more events on their calendar through Christmas. These include Scott's Prairie, Midwest Food Bank, Fulton County Humane Society & Holiday Lane. After the new year, I'm hoping we can schedule another visit to the Ronald McDonald House. More info can be found on the [IBHS Interact Club Facebook Page](#).



There's been some additions at Wildlife Prairie Park's new cougar enclosure. Three female cougars, all sisters, were brought in from a zoo in Michigan this past June.

Thanks to Rotary volunteers, the cougars have a place to hang out.

The cougars are now 15 months old and according to handlers, have taken well to the park. The Peoria Rotary Club volunteers this past week added a three-level pad to the cougar's enclosure, allowing park visitors to see the cougar on an eye-level basis while the cats lounge on the structure.

However, the cougars climb very well, and have been spotted on top of the large walnut tree which is the foundation for the Rotary pads. Mountain lions were eliminated from the state of Illinois before 1870 due to habitat loss and unregulated hunting.

While there have been eight confirmed sightings in the last 20 years, there's no evidence of breeding populations in Illinois.

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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Website: www.peoriarotary.org

Rotary Club of Peoria, IL



Rotary



Photo Courtesy of the Journal Star