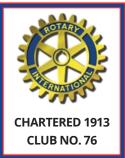
CREATE HOPE in the WORLD CLUB PRESIDENT RANDY NEFF



# **THE GREEN LIGHT**

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA - Club 3238 P.O. Box 5639 • Peoria, IL 61601 Website: <u>www.peoriarotary.org</u> Email: <u>infodowntown@peoriarotary.org</u> 309-676-5432



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? <u>CLICK HERE TO JOIN VIA ZOOM</u> Meeting ID: 897 6608 1791 Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799



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



Rik Edgar



PCC Arena

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.

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?

**Rotary** 

4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



## **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



PCC Theater



(emilyj@fosterjacob.com)

There will be a donation sign-up sheet

available at the weekly meetings.

Rotary 🛞



#### Upcoming Meetings

NOVEMBER 3rd - Meeting at First United Methodist Church Speaker: Keith Cornille 1 1 1 1 NOMINATIONS 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 **Company: CityBlue Technologies, LLC** 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

Rotary 🚱 MEMBERSHIP

#### 2024 - 2025 Rotary Club of Peoria **Nominating Committee Proposal**



#### **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** 

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

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

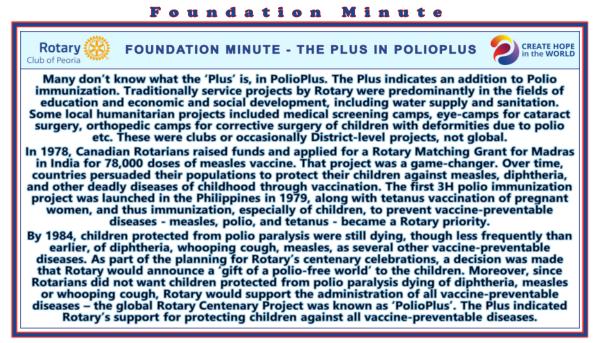
Congratulations! The Distinguished Alumnus award recognizes former students who have achieved career success, while providing humanitarian services to society, and continually demonstrating support for higher education and Illinois Central College. Awards will be presented on October 26, 2023 as part 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.



### 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



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 OFFICE: 309-676-5432 CELL: 309-635-7377 EMAIL: infodowntown@peoriarotary.org Office Hours: By Appointment Website: www.peoriarotary.org

