



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD
CLUB PRESIDENT
RANDY NEFF

THE GREEN LIGHT

THE ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA - Club 3238
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CHARTERED 1913
CLUB NO. 76



Weekly Meeting at First United Methodist Church
Friday, December 8, 2023 at 12:00 PM
Program: Club Assembly - Election of Officers

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

Peoria Rotary's Friday speaker was DuShaun Branch Pollard of Change Illinois. That's an organization which describes its goal as "an Illinois where equity and ethics are paramount; where elections are fair and financed with clean money; where governments run efficiently, where corruption is dealt with firmly".

Change Illinois' main goal currently to rid the state of "Gerrymandering", that is configuring a state's legislative districts to the advantage of one party, and the detriment of another. Congressman Darin LaHood's District, as an example, goes from McLean County to the Mississippi River, but somehow avoids both Peoria and Bloomington-Normal.



DuShaun Branch Pollard

First organized in February of 2009, Change Illinois began as an informal coalition intent on changing Illinois's "culture of corruption". The organization's work resulted in the state's first-ever law limiting campaign contributions.



The organization is also working on "open primaries", where voters could choose among all parties in a primary election. Pollard says, "We want people to be able to have a choice because maybe they don't want to pick someone just from one party on their ballot. "You can find out a lot more about Change Illinois on its website: <https://www.changeil.org>

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



SOCIAL EVENT REMINDER

Rotary Club Holiday Social

Date: Thursday, December 7th, 2023

Location: Tin Lizard Bar & Grill - East Peoria
Inside **PARADICE** Casino

Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm | ***PLEASE JOIN US***

Cost: Members Free | **Guests:** \$15.00

**IT'S NOT
TOO LATE TO
CELEBRATE WITH US!**

If you would like to attend,
please RSVP by **Clicking Here**
or emailing the office
(infodowntown@peoriarotary.org)

New Members

WELCOME NEW ROTARY CLUB OF PEORIA MEMBERS



Shayne Christe
*Sponsored by Fellow Rotarian
Caitlin Behrends*

Brian Wagner
*Sponsored by Fellow Rotarian
Edie Barnard*

WELCOME NEW ROTARIANS

Meet the Rotary Club of Peoria's New Rotarians
Shayne Christe and Brian Wagner.



The fellow on the left may be familiar, that's because Brian Wagner was a Rotarian in Peoria for several years, before taking a position in Washington DC as President of the National Assoc. of Postal Supervisors. Now, Brian has retired (mostly) returned to his Central Illinois home and rejoined the Club.

The taller fellow on the right is Shayne Christe, a registered financial advisor with Morgan Stanley in Peoria. Shayne is a Dunlap High School and Bradley graduate who said he's looking for a new group with which he can volunteer.

Polio Plus Society

JOIN THE POLIO PLUS SOCIETY TODAY!
BY JOINING YOU ARE COMMITTING TO GIVE A
MINIMUM OF \$100 A YEAR UNTIL POLIO IS
ERADICATED



THANK YOU!

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: Jon Stephens
Sponsored by: Katie Vandenberg & 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.

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 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.



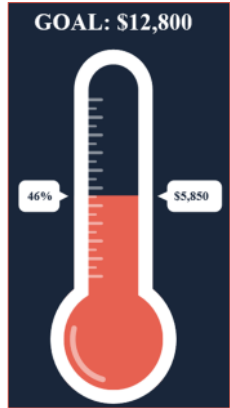
Rotary



SERVICE Above Self

Every Rotarian Every Year Fundraiser

As part of the Every Rotary Every Year Fundraiser, the committee has decided to offer the chance to win some prizes!



The Raffle tickets went on sale Dec 1st. And can still be purchased for \$25/ticket, and you can buy as many as you want. All of the prizes will be set up at each meeting - put your raffle tickets into the basket of the prizes you hope to win. Winners will be announced on Feb 2nd. If you would like to purchase tickets for the raffle, please contact: Emily Jacob-Rudesill (emilyj@fosterjacob.com)

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.

Rotary
Club of Peoria

EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

CLICK
HERE TO
MAKE A
DONATION

Upcoming Meetings

DECEMBER 15th - Meeting at First United Methodist Church
Program: Holiday Party - Limestone Madrigal Singers
Greeters: Jerry Jackson & Jana' Stevens
Inspiration/Reflection: John Kelly
Attendance Prize: Nick Vespa
Meeting Tech: Jason Parkinson



JANUARY 5th - Meeting at The Warehouse on State
Speaker: Ryan LaCosse | Topic: Monster Truck Events
Greeter: Rebekah Bourland
Inspiration/Reflection: Rebekah Bourland
Attendance Prize: Rebekah Bourland
Meeting Tech: TBD

Foundation Minute

Rotary
Club of Peoria

FOUNDATION MINUTE - VACCINES AND MORE

CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

Good health care is everyone's right. Yet 400 million people in the world can't afford or don't have access to basic health care.

Disease results in misery, pain, and poverty for millions of people worldwide. That's why treating and preventing disease is so important to us. Rotary leads efforts both large and small. We set up temporary clinics, blood donation centers, and training facilities in underserved communities struggling with outbreaks and health care access. We design and build infrastructure that allows doctors, patients, and governments to work together.

Our members combat diseases like malaria, HIV/AIDS, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, and polio. Prevention is important, which is why we also focus on health education and bringing people routine hearing, vision, and dental care. When we vaccinate against polio, we also administer vaccines against Measles, and other diseases threatening the children of the local community.

Rotarians distribute bed nets, educate about hygiene and providing clean water. We educate and equip communities to stop the spread of life-threatening diseases. Rotary members have hundreds of health projects underway around the world at any given time - \$65 million in global grants have been funded to support these efforts in the past year.



**So You Thought You Knew Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer!
(In 200 Words or Less!)**

By Edie Barnard

The Rudolph saga began thanks to Chicago-based retailer, Montgomery Ward. Wards had been buying and giving away coloring books for Christmas every year. It was decided that creating their own book would save money. Robert L. May, the store's ad copywriter, created Rudolph in 1939. In its first year of publication, the store distributed 2.4 million copies of Rudolph's story.

May's brother-in-law, Johnny Marks, adapted the story of Rudolph into a song. The song was suggested as a "B" side for a record for the cowboy crooner Gene Autry. Autry rejected the song. His wife convinced him to use it. Autry's recording of the song hit No. 1 on the Billboard pop singles chart the week of Christmas 1949. Autry's recording sold 2.5 million copies the first year, eventually selling a total of 25 million, and it remained the second best-selling record of all time until the 1980s.

The song was also performed on the December 6, 1949, Peoria's own Fibber McGee and Molly radio broadcast. Others who have recorded it are Bing Crosby, Dean Martin, Perry Como, Alvin and the Chipmunks, Ella Fitzgerald, The Supremes, The Temptations, The Jackson 5, John Denver, Dolly Parton, Mann-Heim Steamroller, Randy Travis, Tony Bennett and many more!



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
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