



## Doug and Crystal Bland – Quad City Steamwheelers



Doug Bland, and his wife Crystal, arrived in the Quad Cities at Thanksgiving time in 2017, tasked to revitalize the arena-style football team, the Steamwheelers. The team formerly enjoyed a ten-year schedule from 1999 to 2009.

As owner/general manager of the team, Doug brings his arena football experience here from Texas, where he established and managed the Texas Marshals (a new franchise) for three years. His 23 years of experience also includes music festival promotion, and marketing for the Penske Motor Sports team.

Doug is an Illinois native, so he is very familiar with the territory. Crystal was Texas born and raised. They met and married while he was managing the Marshals in

Texas. Bland has had a great response and support from fans and sponsors to recreate this franchise.

The Champions Indoor Football League (CIF) consists of twelve teams, situated in the Midwest ... looking to grow to sixteen or eighteen teams.

The league is also organized into north and south divisions. Coached by Cory Ross, a former professional football player with the Kansas City Chiefs and the Baltimore Ravens. There are 25 players, seven of which are required to be locals.

Players receive a maximum of \$5,200 per game for the five-month season. Some of the players also serve as substitute teachers in the local schools.

The intimate setting of the games has fans very close to the field. Bland says that the quality of the games is very close to that of NFL football. Seats go for \$10 to \$25. Local high schools participate through band music offerings.

Please visit [www.steamwheelersfootball.com](http://www.steamwheelersfootball.com).



## Rotary at a Glance

Rotary.org

Rotary brings together a global network of volunteers who dedicate their time and talent to tackle the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Rotary connects 1.2 million members from more than 200 countries and geographical areas.

Their work impacts lives at both the local and international levels, from helping families in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world.

Rotary also offers expanded service opportunities including:

- **Interact:** a service organization organized and sponsored by Rotary clubs for young adults aged 12-18. There are more than 12,300 Interact clubs in 133 countries.
- **Rotaract:** groups organized by Rotary clubs to promote leadership, professional development, and service among young adults aged 18-30. There are more than 8,000 Rotaract clubs in 167 countries.
- **Rotary Community Corps (RCCs):** groups of non-Rotary members who work to improve their communities. There are more than 7,500 RCCs in 80 countries, all organized and sponsored by Rotary clubs.

### Membership Snapshot

**Who:** Rotary brings together the kind of people who step forward to take on important issues for local communities worldwide. Rotary members hail from a range of professional backgrounds; doctors, artists,

small business owners and executives all call themselves Rotarians. Rotary connects these unique perspectives, and helps leverage its members' expertise to improve lives everywhere.

**Where:** From Haiti and Greenland to Nigeria and Singapore, Rotary unites a truly diverse set of leaders from across the world. Currently, the largest number of clubs comes from the United States, India, Japan and Brazil. The fastest growing Rotary regions include Southeast Asia and Africa.

**What:** Rotarians contribute their time, energy and passion to sustainable, long-term projects in local communities across the globe. Projects focus on important issues like peace and conflict resolution, disease prevention and treatment, water and sanitation, maternal and child health, basic education and literacy and economic and community development.

### Polio Eradication

Rotary is close to eliminating the second human disease in history after smallpox, with a 99.9 percent reduction in polio cases worldwide since 1985, when Rotary launched its PolioPlus program. In 1988, Rotary spearheaded the creation of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative with the World Health Organization, UNICEF and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Polio eradication remains Rotary's top priority. To date, Rotary has contributed more than US\$1.7 billion and countless volunteer hours to help immunize more than two billion children against polio in 122 countries. Rotary will raise \$50 million per year over the next three years, with every dollar to be matched with two additional dollars from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

**GUESTS:**

Pleasant Valley High School  
Counselor: Valerie Tucker  
Students: Austin Halupuik and Grace D'Autico

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **Doug P** will be attending the District 6000 Training Assembly in March
- A Grant Writing Workshop will also be held in March
- Rotary District 6000 Conference will be on April 12th at the Davenport Steeplegate.
- **Emily S-D** will be attending PETS (President-Elect Training Seminar)
- A golf outing, partnering with the Davenport Rotary Club, is being planned.
- Photos are needed for several members for the directory.
- Please contact **JD** if you have ideas for programs.

**SARGE:****Happy/Sad Dollars:**

- **Jeno B** – Spending some weeks of active duty at Ft. McCoy, will be looking for Rotary make-up opportunities.
- **Doug P** – Had successful cataract surgery ... wife having spinal fusion surgery
- **Deb G** – Grandson is going to kindergarten roundup

**50/50:**

**Doug P** stood in for **Mike**: Ole died and his widow met with the newspaper to compose the obituary ... she suggested "Ole died" ... she was told "You can have five words" ... she said "Ole died. Boat for sale" ... With 9 cards and \$1,793 in the pot, **Julia dB's** ticket was drawn ... the pot grows ... the suspense builds!!!

**UPCOMING PROGRAMS:**

Mar 8 – Dr. Jim Spelhaug (State of the District)  
Mar 15 – Dr. Chris Peters (Healthcare Reform)

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Mar 23 - Grant Management Seminar in Newton  
Mar 24 - District Training Assembly  
Apr 12 - Toast to Rotary—Davenport Steeplegate  
(NO MORNING MEETING)  
May 30 - Applications for Community Service Grants due

**BIRTHDAYS!!**

Mar 2 – Bill McCullough  
Mar 2 – J.D. Walls  
Mar 13 – Jack Jacks  
Mar 18 – Jeff Kaczinski  
Mar 30 – Nick Wagner

**CLUB ANNIVERSARIES!!**

Mar 3 – Bill Gabelmann (7 years)  
Mar 29 – Harry Mihm (28 years)  
Mar 29 – Tim Perkins (11 years)  
Mar 31 – Julia denBlaauwen – (12 years)

**ANNIVERSARIES!!**

None

**NEW MEMBER**

Welcome to Mark Collier. Mark is employed by Todd's Mudjacking and Basement. WELCOME MARK!



**OFFICERS:**

President: Jeno Berta ([jenomberta@gmail.com](mailto:jenomberta@gmail.com))  
 President Elect: Emily Shenk-DeMay ([esdemay@mvrbc.com](mailto:esdemay@mvrbc.com))  
 Vice President: Deb Gustafson ([dgustafson@scottcountyfamilyy.org](mailto:dgustafson@scottcountyfamilyy.org))  
 Secretary: Julia denBlaauwen ([bokke57@gmail.com](mailto:bokke57@gmail.com))  
 Treasurer: Bill McCullough ([wtmlaw@netexpress.net](mailto:wtmlaw@netexpress.net))  
 Foundation: Lisa Arndt ([arndtchiropractic@hotmail.com](mailto:arndtchiropractic@hotmail.com))

**DIRECTORS:**

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**SERGEANT AT ARMS:**

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 Dave Fritz ([dfritz0530@aol.com](mailto:dfritz0530@aol.com))  
 John Gere ([j.gere1115@gmail.com](mailto:j.gere1115@gmail.com))

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT:**

Ian H.S. Riseley

**DISTRICT GOVERNOR:**

Mike Ruby

**ROTARY CLUB AVENUES OF SERVICE:**

Club Service  
 Vocational Service  
 Community Service  
 New Generations Service  
 International Service

**NEED TO MAKE UP?**

Mon. noon	Davenport—The Outing Club
Mon. 5 p.m.	Davenport—(Mini) Lunardi's
Mon. 6 p.m.	Illinois Quad Cities—HyVee (John Deere Rd)
Mon. noon	Moline—Trinity Lutheran Church
Tue. 7:15 a.m.	River Cities—The Brothers, Rapids City
Tue. noon	Rock Island—Botanical Center
Wed. 7 a.m.	Valley Sunrise—Holiday Inn, Moline
Wed. noon	Bettendorf—Tanglewood Pavilion
Wed. 4:30 p.m.	North Scott (Mini)—Ridgecrest Village
Thu. 7 a.m.	Iowa Quad Cities—Holiday Inn Davenport
Thu. noon	Milan—Pinnacle Country Club
Thu. 12:15 p.m.	East Moline/Silvis—Christ UM Church
Fri. noon	North Scott—Steeplegate Davenport

Make ups count two weeks before or after a meeting.  
 You can attend another club or make up online at  
<http://www.rotaryclubone.org>

**CLUBRUNNER ACCESS:**

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/CPrg/Home/login.asp?cid=1647&lgValMem=0>

**The Object of Rotary** is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- **FIRST.** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- **SECOND.** High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- **THIRD.** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- **FOURTH.** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

EVERY  
 ROTARIAN  
 EVERY  
 YEAR

