



2421 BIG ISLAND PARKWAY, MILAN IL.

# ROCK ISLAND CONSERVATION CLUB MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## From the President: Jay Pienta, 309-786-1364

I hope you all are keeping warm in this frigid weather. Let's not think about the word "frigid" and think about the work "SPRING". Wow, I feel warmer already. As we start the new year, the new and existing RICC board members, and Exec board look forward to the 2014 club season. I have started off this year with some big expectations not only from my board, but also from all of our members. New and veteran members. Due to several factors, last year's expected membership income for the club was down 50%. Our club depends on membership dues to run and maintain our facilities, grounds, and equipment so that our members can enjoy our lakes, clubhouse, pavilions, and property. So our focus this year will be to increase our membership, sign-up new members, and get the word out to the public that the RICC is a great place to enjoy the outdoors, enjoy family time together and you can't find a better place for the cost of a membership.

Starting Feb 10th, the RICC will have it's own television commercial that will be broadcast over multiple major networks. We will be getting the word out during the months of Feb, Mar, and Apr. Our website has been updated more frequently now, and will continue to be improved. We will host two open houses, one in Apr. and one in May. I ask all of our new and veteran members to make an effort to sign up your family members and or friends. More members + more involvement = more great things we can do at the club for our members.

Monthly meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Board of Directors meeting is at 6:30, and general membership meeting is at 7:30. There is always a meal served between meetings for a donation. We want your input and participation. Our club is not run only by our officers, it is run by its membership. Plan to attend, get involved, and there could be no limit on what we can accomplish.

I am always available for questions or comments.

Please email me at [riccpresident@aol.com](mailto:riccpresident@aol.com) or call the club @ 309-787-4770. remember that we all are volunteers and we all work. If no one answers the phone, please leave a message, and we will get back to you!

Hope to see you soon.

Jay

## WHAT'S GOING ON AT THE CLUB?



### FEBRUARY:

Club Meeting: 18th  
Euchre: 14th & 28th



### MARCH:

Club Meeting: 18  
Euchre: 14 & 28  
Gun Hunter Safety : 27 & 29

April 13—Open House

April 26—Yard Sale/Flea Market

## CARETAKER'S REPORT: Jared 787-4770

Keeping up with the snow and cold have been the main issues at the club. I have closed the gate between the roads so that I can better control and monitor visitors. I ask that you park and walk. If you are ice fishing, please keep safety first and remember that fishing is at your own risk. Be Safe! Ice is somewhere around 10 inches+, but with the active springs, winds, temps, things could be not what they appear to be.

**Let your friends know that memberships are available at the house and we now accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express Credit Cards!**

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### **Memberships: Troy 563-381-7715**

2014 memberships have been coming in on a regular basis. With the anticipated interest once the commercials air, memberships should start flooding in. Make sure to tell your friends and family to get the memberships renewed, or turned in soon. Remember that we now accept credit cards. Rachel, our caretakers wife can take your memberships using a credit card. There is a \$1.50 up charge to use the card. Please call first and set up a time with Rachel to get your membership. I will also be accepting memberships at the QCCA's Outdoor show, and the RV/Camping show via cash, check, or credit card. We anticipate that 2014 will be a great year for memberships. 2014 is also our 75th year celebration. The RICC was formed in 1939 and has been protecting our natural resources, supporting conservation education, and providing a location for our members and their families to enjoy the outdoors. Please spread the word to help us gain more memberships and help get more families away from all the electronics and come out to the club to enjoy some outdoor time.

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### **QCCA Shows—Call Jerry to volunteer—309-236-2309**

The Quad City Conservation Alliance is made up of 5 clubs. RICC is one of those clubs. All shows held at the QCCA are dependent on the volunteers of these 5 clubs. You can help by calling Jerry to volunteer to pop popcorn, work in the concession stands, sell tickets, ice cream, etc. Our club receives \$3.00 for each hour you volunteer at the QCCA and that money is used for conservation programs at the club. You will also be allowed to tour the show before or after your shift. Make sure you sign in before and after your shift so the RICC receives the proper credit.

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### **2014 Ice Fishing Tournament Report: Ice Fishing Tournament Committee**



**On Saturday Jan 25th, 2014—55** brave men and women dared to take on Mother Nature and compete in the RICC Ice Fishing Tournament. Wind chills were double digits below zero, many competitors main worry was not how to catch fish, but how to keep their fish huts from blowing away. The sun did come out, and there were fish caught. In addition to the 9 winners in the three categories, everyone that participated received a nice selection of prizes. A special thanks goes out to Dan Galusha, Al Classen and their crews, Sue and Jay Pienta for the great food served, Rachel Egan for tending bar, Chris King for donation of prizes, and to all the sponsors who donated prizes to this event. There was plenty of ice this year, and there were no mishaps. Thanks again for everyone's help and see you next year!

## **RI Conservation Clubhouse—Rentals available! Call Rachel 309-787-4770**



The RICC clubhouse/pavilion is available for rental thru the year and is a wonderful place for your next event! We are a smaller private venue and competitively priced to fit into your budget. Our clubhouse holds app. 100 people.

We have a full kitchen, tables and chairs, outside pavilion with picnic tables and our newest addition—a back deck to enjoy the view of our lake. A full bar if needed & 60 in TV with cable available for a fee. Our club also is equipped with free WIFI.

Call today to reserve your graduation party (dates are filling up quickly), family reunion, small weddings and receptions, rehearsal dinners, retirement parties, bridal and baby showers and more!

For more information, check out our website at [www.riccnews.com](http://www.riccnews.com)

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### **New for 2014! Outdoor Skills Training Day—Saturday March 22**

Do you want to learn how to set up a tent? Or maybe would like to learn how to do some Dutch oven cooking! Learn the importance of fire safety and how to build a fire? Boy Scout Troop 243 sponsored by the RICC will be offering a one day training seminar to include these skills and more! More information will be coming in our next newsletter and on our website.

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### **RICC Yard Sale/Flea Market—Saturday April 26—8-3 pm—Rachel 309-787-4770**

Call Rachel today to reserve your space for our second annual RICC Yard Sale/Flea Market.

Indoor and outdoor spaces available from \$10 and up. You do not have to be a RICC member to participate in our event, so tell your friends! Breakfast and Lunch will be available

We are planning the boat auction for the same day.

Check out our website for more information [www.riccnews.com](http://www.riccnews.com)



### **RICC website—[www.riccnews.com](http://www.riccnews.com)**

You may have noticed we had added the website to many of the shout outs in this newsletter. Reason for this is simple. We have so much to say and only a little area to say it in!

Our website now has the approved minutes from our meetings posted along with the 2014 budget for the RICC. We are also posting information on upcoming RICC club events, available days for rentals under the rental calendar and more. Our monthly newsletter is also available for viewing on our website.

The RICC is trying to reduce cost and the use of paper and postage. If you would like your newsletter sent to you by email, please email your email address to: [riccpresident@aol.com](mailto:riccpresident@aol.com)

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page also—Rock Island Conservation Club

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**(2014) ROCK ISLAND CONSERVATION CLUB (2014)**  
**MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION (PRINT CLEARLY)**

MEMBER NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY Membership: (Member, Legally Recognized Partner, Children under 18yrs), 1 Voting Right: **\$50.00** \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY Membership: (Member, Legally Recognized Partner, Children under 18yrs), 2 Voting Rights: \$75.00 \_\_\_\_\_

SENIOR Membership: Member 65 +, Legally Recognized Partner, Grd Children under 18yrs, 1 Voting Right: **\$40.00** \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Extra Sticker: **\$3.00** \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Extra allowed)

You will receive one membership sticker with payment. (1) ONE additional car sticker can be purchased at a cost of \$3.00. You must have the sticker affixed to your windshield directly behind the rear view mirror and your membership card must be in your possession when on Club property. Memberships valid: JAN 1, 2014– DEC 31, 2014

Circle the events that you would be willing to help out with. Call me to help out with the following events:

Annual picnic\_\_ QCCA events\_\_ Hunter Safety Clinics\_\_ Call Me\_\_ Blood Drive(Give/help)\_\_ Easter Party\_\_ Halloween Party\_\_ Christmas Party\_\_

Would you like to receive the Club's Newsletter via Email? Y\_\_ N\_\_ Be on the list to receive E-GRAMS? Y\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN THIS FORM WITH CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO:**

**RICC MEMBERSHIP CHAIR P.O. BOX 3733 ROCK ISLAND, IL. 61204-3733**