

Rotary

Club of Bettendorf



OCTOBER 7, 2026

OCTOBER IS

ECONOMIC
AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
MONTH

"If we can make a difference in the life of one person in a community,
it is a small yet significant step to empowering a whole community."
Loshini Naidoo



The meeting began with.....

Greetings and Handshakes:

- All members shared a "hello" and "welcome" with each other.

Opening:

- Members recited Rotary's Four-Way Test.
Is it the TRUTH?
Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?
- A patriotic song was sung, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Offerings for a Moment of Silence:

- SK Nanda - "Our Troops!"
- Fred Anderson - Early voting starts next week.
- Bill Daley - Bill's father had a heart attack and will be undergoing quadruple bypass surgery. Prayers to him.

Guest:

- Colin Perry - Guest of Marcia Erickson

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

- October birthdays and Rotary anniversaries were announced.
See the list of celebrants later in this newsletter.
- "Happy Birthday, Dear Rotarians" was sung.
- A "Thank you, Julie" was sent to Julie Sundholm for supplying the monthly birthday treats.

COMING UP...

October 14th



Shelby Kluver
WQAD

October 23rd

Blanket Drive Kick Off
Pintz 4 Polio

October 24th

Polio Walk

Announcements



10 a.m. at Vibrant Arena at the Mark

- Walk registration and donations: poliowalk.org
- Day of volunteer signup: [Sign up here](#)
- Promotional video: [Watch and share](#)

Rotarian of the Quarter



The Rotary Club of Bettendorf is a singing Rotary Club and always will be as long as Tom Howard has anything to say about it.

Tom has been a loyal Bettendorf Rotarian for 60 years. Since joining in 1966, Tom has served in a number of different roles, but none more important to him than ensuring there is music at all the meetings.

Last month, Tom celebrated his milestone Rotary anniversary. This month, Tom celebrates his birthday, and now, he has another reason to celebrate. He is this quarter's Rotarian of the Quarter. ***Thanks for all you do, Tom!***

Happy Bucks



- **Frank Mitvalsky** | Frank was happy to celebrate his 28th wedding anniversary with his bride.
- **Frank Mitvalsky** (again) | Frank was also happy to be embarking on his 75th canoeing and camping trip when he soon shoves off for his Fall Float.
- **John Gnatovich** | John was happy to hear about the RYLA students' experience last week, and happy that he is part of a club that does so much good in the area.
- **John Gnatovich** (again) | John was also happy that he was able to participate in last weekend's Sherrard Pumpkin Fest.
- **Decker Ploehn** | Decker was happy to show off everything going on in the city to all those who attended the Iowa League of Cities gathering last week. The city received many accolades from the attendees.
- **Decker Ploehn** (again) | Decker was also "happy" to report progress on a couple street projects. The 29th Street project will be wrapping up soon, in about four or five years, and the Central Avenue project has been a pain in the neck (or some other body part).
- **Tim Lane** | Tim's tropical trip to Cabo was cancelled due to not one, but two, hurricanes in the region. However, Tim made the best of a not-so-great situation. Instead of visiting Cabo, he attended a Bears game, which they won. He saw Caitlin Clark play in a playoff game, where she made some WNBA history, and he visited his five grandkids.
- **Marcia Erickson** | Marcia just returned from a retreat in Scottsdale, Arizona where she golfed, hiked, climbed, and presumably, attended the conference.
- **Penny McGimpsey** | Penny was happy that she will be hitting the links later today.

This Week's Program

Rob Cravaritis, Iowa Business Unit

Based in Davenport, Lee Enterprises is a \$750 million company that manages over 350 weekly print and digital publications in 28 states. On Lee sites, over 20 million unique visitors are viewing the content.

Locally, the Quad City brands are the *Muscatine Journal*, the *Quad City Times*, and QC online. Printing for these publications is done in Munster, Indiana.

Over the years, Lee's business has changed considerably. They provide a full suite of digital marketing services, content management platforms and custom content creation on a national scale. Lee is consistently among the top performing companies in their industry.

To learn more about Lee Enterprises, visit lee.net.



Alleviating poverty through Community Economic Development projects

Over 10% of all Rotary-funded projects are developed in the area of community economic development, totaling an investment of more than \$7 million a year.

There are many ways Rotary can create measurable and enduring economic improvement in communities. Some possible paths are:

- Building capacity and developing opportunities for productive work
- Empowering leaders and addressing gender or class disparities
- Supporting entrepreneurs, social businesses, or innovators
- Enhancing community resilience, adaptive capacity, and emergency preparedness.

Consider a gift to The Rotary Foundation and help create lasting change, one community at a time.

[CLICK HERE](#)

[Contact Foundation Chair
SK Nanda for more
information.](#)

Rotary Leadership Institute - October 17-18, 2026

The Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) offers a dynamic learning experience for all Rotary members, regardless of their level of experience.

What is RLI?

--Facilitated Learning: RLI provides an interactive, participatory learning environment that engages members in discussions and activities. Members discuss relevant challenges and exchange ideas. It is not a lecture series looking at powerpoint slides.

--Leadership Development: The educational series of courses is designed to help members become more effective and knowledgeable leaders within their Rotary Clubs. RLI graduates are encouraged, but not required to assume leadership responsibilities in their club.

--Rotary Fundamentals: Learn about key Rotary topics such as Effective Service Projects, Membership Engagement, Public Image, Build a Stronger Club and The Rotary Foundation. Members learn and grow in their understanding of Rotary rudimentary subjects.

--RLI is not just about Rotary, it's about learning leadership skills that can be used in our everyday lives.

Why Participate?

--Energize yourself and your club: RLI helps strengthen and invigorate you and your club.

--Leadership Skill Development: Gain valuable skills and knowledge that will benefit you and your club.

--Establish Connections: Network with fellow Rotarians and exchange ideas on strengthening your club and overcoming challenges.

Program Structure

--Sequential Learning: RLI curriculum consists of two day sessions over one weekend, to be completed in order (Part 1, 2 & 3). Each part consists of 6 separate course subjects.

--Educational Sessions: Each session builds on the previous one, creating a comprehensive learning experience. A total of 18 different courses are covered.



For more information or to register:
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Happy **October** Birthday

5th
Deb Mueller

16th
Tom Olson

27th
Amy Vollmer

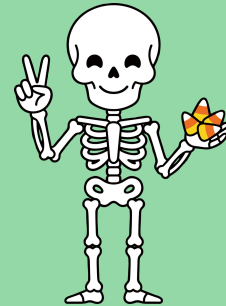
6th
Tom Howard

18th
Bryce Bowers

31st
Carrie Lamb
Gabe Wells

15th
Ken Lane
Pat Thornton

19th
Lee Marbach



Happy BRC Anniversary

41 Years
SK Nanda

16 Years
Steve Sorensen

5 Years
Josh Whitson

31 Years
Mark Ross

13 Years
Jennifer Naeve

4 Years
Mitch Dietrich
Heather Egger

21 Years
Harry Coin

10 Years
Ron Crist

Daryn Smith
Mhisho VOUNG-Lynch

17 Years
Brad Boeye

7 Years
Monica Kruse





Club of Bettendorf

Club Executives

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LOCAL ROTARY CLUB MEETINGS...

Monday

12:00pm | Davenport | River Center
12:00pm | Moline | Trinity Lutheran Church

Tuesday

12:00pm | Rock Island | QC Botanical Center

Wednesday

12:00pm | Bettendorf | Tanglewood Hills Pavilion

Thursday

7:00am | Iowa Quad Cities | J-Bar
12:00pm | East Moline | Christ United
Methodist Church
12:00pm | Milan | Pinnacle Country Club

Friday

12:00pm | North Scott | Hilton Garden Inn,
Bettendorf