Rotary Club of Bettendorf

NOVEMBER 18, 2026

November is
The Rotary Foundation Month

The Rotary Foundation

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:

- Fred Anderson - The brave people of Ukraine
- SK Nanda - Our troops
- Marcia Erickson - Keeping Bill Daley in our thoughts with the passing of his mother.

Guest:

- Charlie Lasher, guest of Marcia Erickson and member of the Iowa Quad Cities Rotary

Welcome To Our Newest Member

Eric Spriet (pronounced “Spreet”) became the 104th member of BRC today. He is a Commercial Lender at Blackhawk Bank and works out of the Elmore office.



Eric, his wife, and two sons live in Bettendorf where his sons attend St. Joan of Arc School and are already participating in sports.

Eric is active in the community, serving on the board of Bethany for Children and Families and volunteering with Junior Achievement.

COMING UP...

November 21st

Thanksgiving Basket Delivery

Festival of Trees Volunteer Opportunity

November 25th



November 26th



Announcements

Holiday Baskets Delivery



Thanksgiving baskets will be delivered on Saturday. All those involved have their marching orders. If anyone needs assistance on that day, they should refer to the list of other BRC volunteers that was distributed earlier.

Now, on to Christmas! Community Service Chair Kurt Lokenvitz is looking for volunteers to purchase Christmas gifts and deliver food baskets to families on Saturday, December 19th. ***More volunteers are needed***, so contact Kurt if you are interested in helping with this important club project.

Festival of Trees Celebrity Lunch



Decker Ploehn is the MC and several other Bettendorf Rotarians are working as servers during the fun and festive Celebrity Lunch next Wednesday. The club will not meet that day, so you need somewhere to eat anyway. Join the fun!

This lunch raises the most money for Quad City Arts among all the Festival of Trees events.

Ticket are $65 per person, and it would be great if BRC could fill a table of 10.

Blanket Drive Update



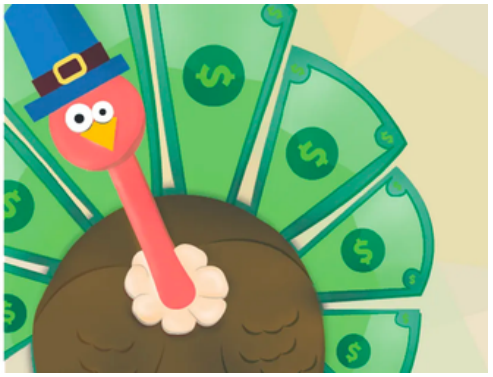
Blankets are coming in and blankets are going out. The 2026 blanket drive is in full swing. Over 1100 blankets have been received and over 500 blankets have already been delivered to area agencies. A blanket will also go into each of the Thanksgiving baskets on Saturday.

The second phase of the drive will begin in January when the faith community partners begin to collect blankets. Last year, about 10 churches participated by having a collection box available for donations. Any Rotarians who know of a church that might like to participate should contact Steve Sorenson. Steve will make the contact and subsequent arrangements.

Happy Bucks

Your bucks of happiness pay for some of the charitable efforts our club does. So, don't forget to throw in your $2.00 each week. If you have something special to commemorate, throw in a few more bucks.

No cash? You can always Venmo!



- ***Kenny Vandersnick*** | On November 30th, Ken will celebrate his 85th birthday. He's not complaining about getting older though, because "not everyone has that privilege".

- ***Penny McGimpsey*** | Penny and her groom are celebrating the 37th anniversary of their nuptials.

- ***Brian Irby*** | Brian is happy to report that he is now a small business owner. He has begun a consulting business in the health care and technology area, so if anyone knows someone who could benefit from Brian's expertise, he is happy to help.

- ***John Gnatovich*** | John was happy about quite a few things, including his participation in The Festival of Cheese event over the past weekend. He was happy to quiz everyone on the significance of a pink (actually should be purple) pinky. And, he was happy about something to do with a tablecloth and Amazon.

- ***Tiffany Lensch*** | American Bank has a Christmas program that will delight the little ones. Children can come to the bank and write a letter to Santa Claus with all their Christmas wishes.

- ***Mike Simons*** | Mike is happy to be back after spending some time in Florida. He was also very happy about last night's game when his #10 ranked Illini beat the #5 ranked Duke Blue Devils on the hardcourt. Less popular with the heavily Hawkeye leaning crowd was his hope for the outcome of the Iowa v. Illinois football game this weekend.



This Week's Program

Angie Kendall, CEO



Known for its services for people with disabilities, Hand in Hand actually provides a variety of inclusive services for people of all abilities. From infants through adulthood, individuals and their families can find programs like childcare, recreational activities, volunteer opportunities, employment, and camp.

As a childcare provider, Hand in Hand sees the many challenges facing families who need care for their children. Iowa is experiencing the childcare crisis more significantly than many, because the percentage of working parents in the state is one of the highest in the nation. The childcare crisis impacts not only families with children, but employers and the community at large. Businesses, providers, funders, and policymakers all have a role in addressing the childcare issue.

Organizations that receive Medicaid funding to provide Home and Community Based Services will be impacted by the cuts made to Medicaid. Hand in Hand and other local organizations will be facing these cuts in the coming months.

To learn more about Hand in Hand, visit their website.

Chili Cook Off
Saturday, February 6th, 2027
3 PM - 6 PM Fair Center,
Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds

November: Rotary Foundation Month

$100 per year...

- Provides backpacks filled with supplies for primary school children in Honduras.
- Pays for 50 malaria diagnostic tests to prevent, diagnose and treat malaria in Mali.
- Buys one biosand filter and water-hygiene training for families in Peru.

$1000 per year....

- Provides 14 HIV antiretroviral drugs to prevent the transmission of HIV from infected mothers to their babies in Liberia.
- Pays for sexual assault and domestic abuse education for young women in Texas.



Contact Foundation Chair SK Nanda for more information.
Visit www.rotary.org to give.

Happy November Birthday

4th
Fred Anderson
Ray Brauer

5th
Jennifer Naeve

6th
Beth Clark

30th
Ken Vandersnick





Happy BRC Anniversary

19 Years
Jerry Felsing

13 Years
Michael Hurd

10 Years
Joe Campion

7 Years
Pat Thornton

3 Years
Craig Wagner

2 Years
Chad Nichols

1 Year
Deb Boland



Rotary Club of Bettendorf

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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