

MAY 13, 2026

Rotary

Club of Bettendorf



**Service
Above
Self**



The meeting began with.....

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!"
- Sandy Yoder - A colleague of Sandy's and former John Deere Commons manager, Allen Higley died last week.
- Harry Coin - Fr. Basil K. Papanikolaou, 30 yr. pastor at St. George Church in Rock Island passed away last week.
- Fred Anderson - The people of Ukraine



Foundation Chair SK Nanda had the honor of recognizing **Larry O'Brien with a Paul Harris Fellow award.**

All BRC members make contributions to the foundation with \$25 of the quarterly dues going to that cause. The club matches contributions for the first five years of membership to ensure all members become Paul Harris Fellows. Contributions can continue to be made by members to support the millions of dollars that are distributed to worthy projects in District 6000 and around the world each year.

COMING UP...

May 20, 2026



Lysa Hegland
CEO



Announcements

Habitat for Humanity Home Build

This Saturday, May 16th Rotarians will help paint at 513 E. Dover Ct. in Davenport. **This is a new address from the one provided earlier.** There is a need for more volunteers in the afternoon. Jake may resort to contacting competing Rotary clubs to fill out the afternoon shift if more BRC members don't step up. Use this link to sign up:

11:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.: [CLICK HERE](#)

Contact [Jake Eikenberry](#) with any questions.



Lobsterfest By the Numbers

- 30 days to go before the big day
- 265 tickets sold so far
- \$58,000 secured in sponsorships



Lobsterfest To Do List:

- Get your tickets now! [CLICK HERE](#). When purchasing tickets, there is a dropdown menu that allows you to choose your table mates. Use that dropdown to select with whom you want to sit.
- Bring in wine or cash (use Venmo!) for the wine pull. For those who committed to donate wine (we know who you are), please bring in at least 2 bottles, each worth at least \$20.
- Invite your friends, neighbors, colleagues, and others to join you at this great event!

Venmo is Here!

Forgot cash for Happy Bucks? No problem. BRC now has Venmo. When using Venmo for any BRC purchases, please make sure to note what the purchase is for, so funds can be accurately accounted for.



@bettendorfrotary

Keep the BRC/JDC Tradition Alive

BRC has been in charge of gallery management on hole #1 at the John Deere Classic for 25 years. Many Rotarians have already signed up, but the following number of folks are still needed:

Wednesday--5 in the morning, 9 in the afternoon
Thursday--10 in the morning, 11 in the afternoon
Friday--1 in the morning, 6 in the afternoon
Saturday--2 in the morning
Sunday--4 in the morning

Use this link to sign up: <https://johndeereclassic.com/>

Questions can be directed to the hole captain, [Jeff Hassel](#).



JOHN DEERE
CLASSIC

July 1st - 5th

Happy Bucks

- **Bob Gallagher(s)** | Bob Jr. became a grandfather again, and Bob Sr. became a great-grandfather again with the birth of a beautiful new baby girl.
- **Tom Olson** | In the spirit of sharing dermatology stories, Tom said he recently had a melanoma spot removed from his melon.
- **Dean Kraus** | Dean's son, who is graduating soon from Pleasant Valley, ran a leg in the 4 X 400 at the Drake Relays, and a new record for the event was achieved. After that accomplishment, his son then participated in the Science Bowl in Washington DC.
- **Frank Mitvalsky** | Frank's son is graduating from Iowa State with straight A's and a degree in Mechanical Engineering. A job awaits him with General Dynamics.
- **Mary Macumber Schmidt** | Mary is proud that UnityPoint is sponsoring Lobsterfest. She also encouraged attendance at Saturday's Bettendorf Public Works Day, which includes lots of family-fun activities.
- **Ann Kappeler** | Ann was happy to give a shout out to Mike Vondran for sponsoring the production of the Lobsterfest videos.
- **Jeff Hassel** | Jeff's daughter plays shortstop for Wartburg College, and she was chosen for the first team all conference team.
- **Gabe Wells** | Gabe was happy that he had the opportunity to volunteer at Junior Achievement's Biz Town. He enjoyed supporting the kids and JA.
- **Pat Thornton** | Pat's 6th grandchild was born on May 7th, which was also his father-in-law's 101st birthday.



Iowa Women's Jazz Orchestra (IWJO)

Saturday, May 23rd from 2-3 p.m.

Bettendorf Public Library (2950 Learning Campus Drive)

The Iowa Women's Jazz Orchestra (IWJO) will take the stage to spotlight the contributions of women to jazz history. Formed in 2017, the IWJO is a jazz big band made up of women musicians from across the state who are dedicated to showcasing and inspiring women and girls to participate in jazz.

This free event is funded by the Friends of the Bettendorf Public Library.

To learn more, visit www.bettendorflibrary.com/events.



This Week's Program

Cassandra Erwin, Director of Development

Habitat for Humanity builds strength, stability, and self-reliance through safe and affordable housing, and they believe that everyone deserves a decent and affordable place to call home. Celebrating their 147th QC home this weekend, Habitat has made that belief a reality for many.

For some people, securing a home loan is difficult, if not impossible. To their family partners, Habitat holds the mortgage loan and offers it at 0% interest. The homes are not free; however, as each family contributes 250 hours of sweat equity, and they attend homeownership education classes.

In addition to the home builds, Habitat operates a Central City Repair Program, a ramp building program, a health and home store, and Habitat Restore, whose funds help offset administrative costs.

Habitat has many volunteer opportunities, including being an advocate for affordable housing policies.



www.habitatqc.org



Support The Rotary Foundation and you support youth here and around the world. Contact our [Foundation Chair, SK Nanda](#) for more information or visit [The Rotary Foundation website](#).

May is the month dedicated to helping young people advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace.

This year, District 6000 received nearly \$40,000 from the foundation to support clubs' community grants. Projects included gifting 100 books to a school library in Boone, funding beds for *Sleep in Heavenly Peace* in Ankeny and helping to fund a Life Skills Program for special education students in Chariton.

The endowment fund allows donors to leave a lasting impact through outright gifts and estate planning, ensuring that Rotary can continue humanitarian work in perpetuity. Contributions to the endowment are invested, and a portion of the earnings is used each year to support Rotary programs. As The Rotary Foundation approaches its 110th anniversary in 2027, the endowment serves as a testament to the organization's enduring dedication to making a difference. In 2023 alone, the Foundation distributed over \$400 million in grants and awards, touching lives in over 130 countries.

Happy May Birthday

1st
Decker Ploehn

13th
Marty Clifton

29th
Sharon Sarver

2nd
Sarah Potter

26th
Mitch Dietrich

30th
Deb Boland

11th
Eric Reinsch



Happy BRC Anniversary

52 Years
Tim Downing

20 Years
Ann Kappeler

8 Years
Sandy Yoder

40 Years
Decker Ploehn

16 Years
Penny McGimpsey

4 Years
Pat Engelhaupt

25 Years
Greg Blaske

12 Years
Lee Marbach

1 Year
Veena Wulfekuhle
Marsha Luedtke





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
5:00pm | Davenport | Mini-Meet | Lunardi's

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