

MAY 20, 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!"
- Tom Olson - Barbara Tinsman passed away earlier today.

Guests:

- Mark Carlson--In his own words, Mark visited "the best Rotary around".
- Tiffany Lensch--visiting as a potential member
- Kraig Knary--visiting from Modern Woodmen of America
- Michael Adrales--also visiting from Modern Woodmen of America
- Patrick Larken--potential member and guest of Decker Ploehn

COMING UP...

May 27, 2026



Jason Otten
CPS
Prevention Specialist
Center

**We have Venmo
now!**

@bettendorfrotary



Announcements

All Things Lobsterfest

Lobsterfest not-chair Ann Kappeler gave a shout out to **Modern Woodmen's printing department** for doing all the Lobsterfest printing work at no charge.

The Lobsterfest menu this year will consist of appetizers, lobster (of course), steak, veggies, dessert, and a hosted bar for beer, wine, and champagne. The doors and the bar open at 5 p.m. Stop procrastinating and 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.

The **table baskets** are needed by next week, so bring in the items for your table themes.

Wine and money for wine purchases are needed. Decker, SK, and others, including guest Patrick Larken, threw in money for **the wine pull**. Bring wine and/or money to next week's meeting.

Did we mention tickets are on sale? **CLICK HERE!**

John Deere Classic Volunteer Sign Up

BRC has been in charge of gallery management on hole #1 at the John Deere Classic for 25 years, so keep the tradition alive and volunteer.

To allow the John Deere Classic staff and volunteers to prepare for volunteer uniform distribution and scheduling, **please register by Tuesday, June 9th**. One volunteer who registers BEFORE May 25th will be chosen to win a Weber Grill, courtesy of Grand Appliance!

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.



July 1st - 5th

Rotarians in the Community

Habitat for Humanity

Rotarians and friends gathered at a build site to lend their skills to a Habitat for Humanity home that will be occupied by a mother and her four children later this year. Unfortunately, not everyone is pictured here, but thanks to all who helped, Rotarians and non Rotarians.



President Penny McGimpsey and Colbie Andes



Carol Foster



Bailey Pribyl



Joe Pacha

Providing Scholarships

Each year, BRC provides scholarships for students at Scott Community College, Morningstar Academy, Rivermont Collegiate, and Bettendorf and Pleasant Valley High Schools. Incoming BRC President Marcia Erickson was present when the two Pleasant Valley students received their scholarships.

BRC member and retiring PV Superintendent Brian Strusz was also honored with a scholarship dedicated to him. The named scholarship will be available to Pleasant Valley students for many years to come.



Scholarship recipients Kailee Wilson and Zach Zuiderveen



Brian Strusz

Happy Bucks



- **Maria Osterberg** | Maria is happy that she has a new baby nephew.
- **Gary Mohr** | Gary is happy the 2026 Iowa legislature has adjourned and he can now attend Rotary meetings again.
- **Bill Daley** | After some health issues, Bill is happy that he has been given a full release to do what he wants, but he's going to work up to bench presses.
- **Craig Windmiller** | Craig called out a BRC member who may have donated a \$5 bottle of wine for the wine pull. The accusation was met with an adamant denial.
- **Mark Carlson** | While visiting “the best Rotary Club around”, Mark said he will be celebrating his daughter’s 30th birthday in Nashville soon.
- **Marcia Erickson** | Marcia was happy to represent BRC at Pleasant Valley’s scholarship presentation ceremony. She also shared that Brian Strusz was honored with a named scholarship to be presented in perpetuity. Being full of happiness, Marcia also was glad to have participated in the Habitat volunteer day last weekend.
- **Sharon Sarver** | The Bettendorf Library’s Summer concert Series begins June 4th, and Sharon thanked BRC for the sponsorship, along with other loyal sponsors.

Paul Harris Recognition



Foundation Chair SK Nanda had the honor of recognizing past president **Bill Daley 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.

This Week's Program

Lisa Hegland, CEO, Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement of the Heartland is one of over 100 Junior Achievements in the United States. It serves 24 counties in both Iowa and Illinois, and JA of the Heartland is celebrating its 70th anniversary.

Junior Achievement's goal is to prepare young people for the future by providing knowledge, skills, and a mindset needed to achieve economic mobility. Through hands-on activities and classroom lessons, students learn about money management, potential careers, and real life skills.

Last year, JA of the Heartland served over 57,000 students, and the program continues to grow.

Volunteers are always needed in the classroom. Other ways to help JA is to donate and participate in fundraising events. For more information, [visit the JA website.](#)



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.](#)

Rotary Youth Exchange gives students the opportunity to learn about the culture of their host country. They also act as ambassadors for their home country. Each year Rotary Districts send approximately 300 young people to other countries and accept 300 young people from other countries in return. The goal of Rotary Youth Exchange is to promote the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace at the person to person level.

Each year thousands of young people take part in the **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)**. RYLA aims to provide an effective training experience for potential leaders, encourage leadership of youth and recognize young people who are rendering service to their communities.

Our club supports both of these youth-developing programs.

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

Club Executives

President

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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