



TOGETHER, WE

CONNECT

Rotary  PEOPLE OF ACTION

JULY 9, 2025

The meeting began with....

Call to Order:

- President Penny called the meeting to order.

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!"
- Pat Thornton - Everyone impacted by the Texas flooding
- Larry O'Brien - Larry's former boss at Deere died last night
- Gwen Tombergs - For the family of Gwen's friend, whose father took his own life
- Harry Coin - For Harry's niece who rescheduled her wedding due to her battle with cancer

Guests:

- Anthony and Lauren Long, guests and friends of Jake Eikenberry
- Mike Long, father of speaker Anthony and guest of Beth Clark
- Leslie Sampson, guest of Deb Mueller
- Guy Scaife, visiting for the second time

Ron Crist was presented with the Rotarian of the Quarter award (right before he dashed out of the room) from board member Jake Eikenberry.

Ron received the award for his many contributions to Lobsterfest, making the event a huge success.

Congratulations, Ron!



COMING UP...

July 16, 2025



Jeff Kaczinski
Project Manager for
General Constructors, Inc.
and
President of Iowa Quad
Cities Rotary Club

Come hear the behind the scenes stories as Jeff oversaw the construction of Splash Landing Aquatic Center.

Another JDC in the Books

Thanks to everyone who volunteered on Hole #1 at the John Deere Classic. For many years, our club has taken on the responsibility for Hole #1, and it takes a lot of folks to fill the slots all week. A big thanks to Jeff Hassel for being the Hole Captain and getting us all organized.



Jeff Hassel, Penny McGimpsey
and Jake Eikenberry



Tracy Rommel and her daughter
Rylee



Monica Kruse and Jessica
VanDyke



Pat Englander and Pat Engelhaupt



Hole Captain Jeff Hassel
wearing his official orange
hat.

Announcements

- **Lobsterfest** | Lobsterfest Queen Emerita Ann Kappeler shared the amazing news of success from this year's Lobsterfest. Although there were over 100 few guests, the net total raised was actually HIGHER than last year. Ann attributed this to a crack sponsorship team, fantastic auction committees, and generous bidders, along with a smaller bar bill and fewer meals to purchase. All Rotarians should take a bow for making this happen.
- **Annual Golf Outing** | The date is set for Wednesday, September 3rd at Palmer Hills. Hole sponsorships are \$125, and the golf fee is \$80 per person. Contact Maria Osterberg for more information at 319-721-1806 or [email her](#).
- **Quarterly Dues** | Invoices have gone out for this quarter's dues. Your prompt attention to dues is appreciated. The new system allows for automatic withdrawals if members choose to enroll. Direct questions to Treasurer Jeff Hassel at hassel14@gmail.com.
- **World Polio Day** | Rotary recognizes World Polio Day on October 24th. Preliminary plans are in the works for some sort of gathering to raise money for the cause. Stay tuned and keep that date free for now.
- **Letters of Importance** | President Penny shared a letter of thanks from Fund a Cause recipient Hand in Hand's CEO Angie Kendall. She also read a letter from RI International President Francesco Arezzo of Italy, who reminded everyone the importance of the theme, United For Good.

WOW
TOTALLY
AWESOME

UNITE
FOR
GOOD

Rotary 

Happiness

Happy Bucks

- Pat Engelhaupt | On Friday, Pat will be celebrating his 72nd birthday.
- Troy Gutknecht | Ray's Roundabout Lounge, located right by Iron Tee, will have a soft opening next Tuesday. Anyone interested in coming should contact Troy.
- Gwen Tombergs | Another Rejuvenate Housing home will soon be listed. The 5 bedroom, 3 bath house's price is \$175K. By going to the [Rejuvenate website](#), people can determine eligibility.
- Anthony Long | Speaker Anthony is happy that his two children will be celebrating their 1st and 3rd birthdays soon.

This Week's Program

Anthony and Lauren Long, My Happy Place

The Quad Cities' branch of *My Happy Place* started in 2024, but in that short time, the organization has impacted many people's lives through the transformation of a special place for them as they deal with the treatment of a serious illness. While many of the spaces are bedrooms, *My Happy Place* spaces could be wherever the individual would like.

The goal is to do one transformation each month. Each project costs in the range of \$3000 to \$3500. Funds are raised through an annual fundraiser and donations. Many volunteers and partnerships have made it possible to stretch resources.

This year's "Putt For the Kids at the Forge" fundraiser is September 20, 2025. For more information, visit [My Happy Place's website](#).



Creating joyful spaces
for the well-being of
those with a serious
health diagnosis

July's Rotary Theme: Maternal and Child Health Month

Every day mothers risk their lives giving birth, and millions of children die each year from treatable, preventable causes. At least 7 million children under the age of five die each year due to malnutrition, poor health care, and inadequate sanitation. To help reduce this rate, Rotary provides immunizations and antibiotics to babies, improves access to essential medical services, and supports trained health care providers for mothers and their children. Rotary's projects ensure sustainability by empowering the local community to take ownership of their programs.

Rotary makes amazing things happen, like:

Mobile prenatal clinics

- Haiti has the highest maternal and infant mortality rate of any country in the western hemisphere. Rotary provided a fully equipped medical Jeep to volunteers and midwives to reach mothers and children in remote areas.

Cancer screening

- Rotarians provided a mobile cancer screening unit and awareness trainings around Chennai, India, where there is a high mortality rate of women with breast and cervical cancer due to late diagnosis.

Preventing injuries and deaths

- Rotary members launched a \$3 million, five-year pilot to save lives of mothers and children during home deliveries in Nigeria. Since 2005, they've also repaired 1,500 obstetric fistulas — 500 more than their initial goal — restoring dignity and hope to vulnerable mothers.

Your Rotary dollars make good things happen all around the world. Contact our Foundation Chair, SK Nanda for more information.



2nd

Larry O'Brien

10th

Monica Kruse

11th

Pat Engelhaupt

14th

John DeDoncker

17th

Frank Mitvalsky

20th

Bob Gallagher, Jr.

30th

Michelle Rowe



Club of Bettendorf

Club Executives

President

Penny McGimpsey
pmcg0809@gmail.com
563-340-0027

President Elect

Marcia Erickson
marciaerickson@actioncoach.com

President Nominee

Brock Biggerstaff
bbiggerstaff@goambank.com

Immediate Past President

Michael Ingleby
mikeingleby@aol.com
563-340-7739

Directors

Joe Champion
joseph.p.campion@gmail.com

Jake Eikenberry
eikenberryjake89@gmail.com

Ann Kappeler
annkappeler1950@gmail

Youth

Brian Strusz
struszbrian@pleasval.org
563-332-5550

Rotary Foundation

S.K. Nanda
s.nanda@mchsi.com

Executive Secretary, Interim

Carol Foster
bettendorfrotrary@gmail.com

Treasurer

Jeff Hassel
hassel14@gmail.com



LOCAL ROTARY CLUB MEETINGS...

Monday

12:00pm | Davenport | Outing Club
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 | Steeplegate Inn