

AUGUST 12, 2026

Rotary

Club of Bettendorf



**Service
Above
Self**



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 - the people of Ukraine

Meet Our Newest Member



**President Marcia Erickson
and Brian Irby**

Rotary has set a goal of 1.25 million members by 2030, which is Rotary’s 125th anniversary. Our club is doing our part by welcoming new member, Brian Irby.

After growing up in Las Vegas and spending much of his career traveling around the world, Brian and his wife decided this is where they want to be. They live in Bettendorf and have encouraged other family members to move to the area too.

Brian wants to continue his service and compassion for others through his membership in the club.

COMING UP...

August 19, 2026



**Dr. Nikhil Wagle
Ophthalmologist**

September 9th
BRC Golf Outing
No Meeting

September 16th
Vocation Presentations

The Board is Full!

After last week's vote, the board is as follows:

Those on the presidential track are Marcia Erickson, current **President**; Brock Biggerstaff, **President Elect**; and Jake Eikenberry, **President Nominee/Club Service Chair**.

Those serving a one-year term with the possibility of renewal are:

Foundation Chair--SK Nanda

At Large--Ann Kappeler, Joe Champion and Joe Pacha

Community Service Chair--Kurt Lokenvitz

Youth Chair--Pat Englander

Vocational Chair--Jerry Higgs

International Chair--Tiffany Lensch



Thanks to those who have been serving and to those who have stepped up for the first time.

Golf Outing-September 9th

The shotgun start will be at 10 a.m. if 36 teams register to play. Golf is \$80/golfer. Non-golfing Rotarians can come for the meal at no cost, but they can also bring a guest for a mere \$15. Use these links:

- To register for golf, [CLICK HERE](#).
- To pay for individual golfers, [CLICK HERE](#).
- To pay for a foursome, [CLICK HERE](#).
- To support the event with a hole sponsorship, [CLICK HERE](#).
- If a guest would like to join the fun for a meal without golf, [CLICK HERE](#).



Contact [Maria Osterberg](#) or [Penny McGimpsey](#) with any questions.

Look What We Helped Make Happen

The new "BETT" sign is in place for all to see and BRC is getting recognition for the part we played in making it happen. A plaque will soon be installed that says:

The BETT Sign celebrates the spirit of Downtown Bettendorf, a place to gather, connect and create memories.

Made possible by the Downtown Bettendorf Organization, the City of Bettendorf, the Bettendorf Rotary Club, and the Bettendorf Business Network.

Click here to read the full story: ["BETT" sign shines a light on what's coming for Downtown Bettendorf](#)



Announcements Galore

Club Recognition

Past District Governor Norlin Hinke presented Past President Penny McGimpsey with a Club Excellence Award for “fostering a positive experience for its members and reflecting the values of Rotary” during the 2025-2026 Rotary year.

Only six clubs in District 6000 achieved this distinction. The award is based on community involvement, foundation support, projects completed, and membership increases, among other things.

Penny accepted the award on behalf of the club and thanked all members for the part they played in accomplishing the club’s goals.



60 Years and Counting

Norlin Hinke noted that when Tom Howard joined Rotary back in 1966, *Bonanza* was the top rated television show, gas cost 32 cents per gallon, “I’m a Believer” was the song of the year, and the most famous American was Walt Disney. Although Tom was not at the meeting, his long-time membership and many contributions were celebrated.

Way to go, Tom!

Not Too Early for Blankets

Steve Sorensen delivered 15 blankets just this morning, so it isn’t too early to start thinking about the Acres of Warmth project. Check closets and other storage areas and start gathering them up for the drive.



QC Blue Flight

The flight to Washington DC with retired and active police officers will be taking off soon. The group is just \$13,000 shy of their \$140,000 goal. For more information about QC Blue flight [contact Greg Keller](#).

Save the Date

Districts 6000 and 6420 are planning an event on World Polio Day to raise awareness and inspire action to end polio. In the Quad Cities, an area walk is planned for Saturday, October 24th at 10 a.m. More information will be coming, but mark your calendars now.

**WORLD'S
LARGEST
POLIO WALK**

Member Shout Out

Congratulations to Bill Daley who has been selected to serve on the district’s nominating committee, which helps select candidates for District Governor. Thanks for stepping up, Bill!

Happy Bucks

- **Tim Bonney** | Tim contributed to happy bucks without “making change out of the collection plate”, because he and his wife are celebrating their 39th wedding anniversary.
- **Steve Sorensen** | Celebrating his 72nd birthday, Steve also noted that he graduated in ‘72.
- **Bob Gallagher** | Bob is not only happy that Decker is on vacation, allowing the rest of the city staff to get something done, he was also happy to be celebrating his 8th wedding anniversary.
- **Bill Daley** | Although he arrived early, Bill’s 12th grandson was recently welcomed to the family.
- **Ann Kappeler** | Ann was pleased to spend last week with her grandson in Wisconsin. She also wished John DeDoncker “good luck!” as he once again tackles the challenging Leadville Trail 100 next week.
- **Marcia Erickson** | Marcia was happy to attend last night’s Lobsterfest wrap up meeting. The success of the event is dependent upon many people, but more people are encouraged to participate. If anyone has feedback from this year’s event or thoughts about next year, they should contact any of the Lobsterfest committee members.



Whether you're creating your first will or updating an existing one, National Make-a-Will Month in August is an ideal time to take action.

And as you consider your future, you may also choose to include a gift to The Rotary Foundation. Many Rotary members and friends of the Foundation find comfort in knowing that they can support the causes and values that have shaped their lives.

Learn more [HERE](#).

This Week's Program

Megan Brown-Saldana

Regional Director of External Affairs

Horizon Science Academy is a public charter school, which is located in Davenport's old St. Alphonsus School. Although it is independently run, it is publicly funded, which means it is free to attend and open to all students, as there is no admission criteria.

Last year was Horizon's first year in the area and 65 kids in kindergarten through 6th grades attended. Each year, the school plans to add an additional grade level, and this year, they are expecting 106 students. Classes are capped at 20 students in lower grades and 14 students in higher grades. Students are often those who thrive with more individualized attention.

The curriculum is designed to integrate STEM into the students' learning, starting as early as kindergarten. Teachers ensure students engage with the world through the rigors of hands-on learning.

To learn more about Horizon Science Academy, follow them on Facebook, call for a tour, or [visit their website](#).



Support The Rotary Foundation in their efforts. Contact our [Foundation Chair, SK Nanda](#) for more information or visit [The Rotary Foundation website](#).

The Rotary Friendship Exchange Program provides a means for Rotarians in one part of the world to experience life in another country or culture. Its goal is to advance international understanding and goodwill through person-to-person connections. There are two types of Friendship Exchanges. The first is the Visitor Program in which individual Rotarians spend a few days in a Rotarian home in another country. The second is the Team Program in which Rotarians, typically 10 to 12, visit several communities in the host district for a period of time up to four weeks. Both types of programs are coordinated by district Friendship Exchange committees.

To find out more, [CLICK HERE](#).

Happy *August* Birthday

4th

Steve Sorensen

12th

Torri Smith

18th

Darin Haack

8th

Dick Hanzelka

Jerry Felsing
Tiffany Lensch

27th

Joe Campion

14th

Sandy Yoder

9th

Penny McGimpsey



Happy BRC Anniversary



Tom Howard



Jeff Hassel

17 Years

Tim Lane
Paul Scranton

10 Years

Jerry Higgs

4 Years

Bryce Bowers

2 Years

Tracy Rommel
Laura Johannsen
Tim Bonney

Congratulations



Club of Bettendorf

Club Executives

President

Marcia Erickson
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President Elect

Brock Biggerstaff
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President Nominee/Club Service

Jake Eikenberry
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Immediate Past President

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Youth

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Rotary Foundation

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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