

**AUGUST 19, 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 - Our democracy
- Penny McGimpsey - Frank Beard, ZZ Top’s drummer for 57 years, died recently.

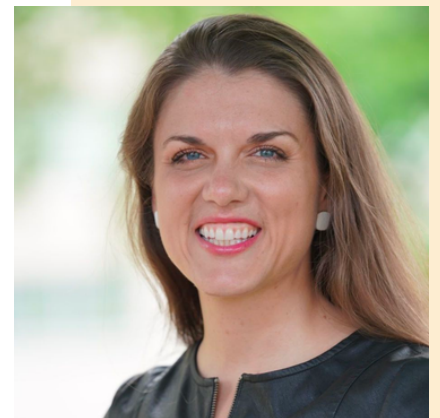


THANK  
YOU

*Thanks to Gail for sharing her  
musical talents with us during her  
summer break.*

### **COMING UP...**

**August 26, 2026**



Ester Joy King  
Executive Director



**September 9th**  
BRC Golf Outing  
No Meeting

**September 16th**  
Vocation Presentations

# Announcements

## Welcome to the Board

Yesterday was the first board meeting for these new board members:

- Kurt Lokenvitz, Community Service Chair
- Jerry Higgs, Vocational Service Chair
- Patt Englander, Youth Service Chair
- Joe Pacha, At-large

Congratulations and thanks for stepping forward to serve.

These chairs would welcome help in achieving their committee goals, so reach out to them to join their committee. Contact information is on the last page of this newsletter.

## Polio Walk Planning

The Illinois Quad Cities Rotaries are planning a polio awareness and fundraising walk on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m., starting and ending at Vibrant Arena. If anyone is interested in representing our club by joining the planning committee, contact President Marcia for details.

**WORLD'S  
LARGEST  
POLIO WALK**

## Next Level Rotary Service

Past presidents are invited to submit their name for consideration to serve as District Governor in 2029–2030. Candidates must be club members in good standing, have at least seven years of Rotary membership before taking office, and be available for the training and time commitments associated with the position.

Contact Marcia for more information.

## Service Above Self

Thanks to everyone who volunteered at last weekend's service project, Floatzilla. (Not all volunteers were captured in photos.)



Beth Clark, Joe  
Campion, and  
Heather Egger

Kurt Lokenvitz, Patt  
Englander, Pat  
Engelhaupt, Joe  
Pacha, and Marcia  
Erickson



## Here's Your Chance

In the recent survey, members expressed an interest in having the opportunity to share information with the club about what they do or what their business does. Now you have that chance.

Each quarter, instead of having an outside speaker, 3 club members will have 10 minutes each to share something about their job and/or their business. The first meeting for this program is September 16<sup>th</sup>.

Contact Vocational Chair Jerry Higgs or Penny McGimpsey to get on the schedule.



## Golf Outing-More Teams Needed!

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 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 to register.



## Save This Date

KWQC has once again agreed to conduct a drive-through event for the Acres of Warmth blanket drive.

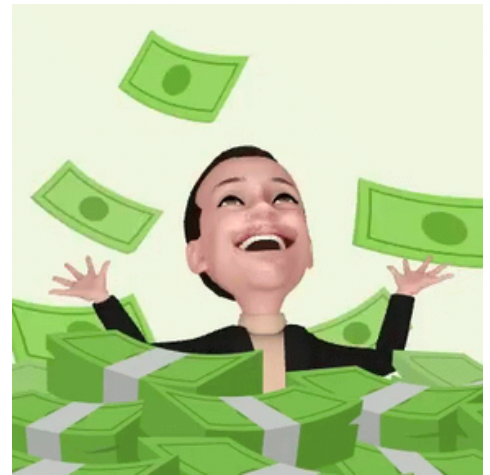
Mark your calendars for Friday, October 23rd. Volunteers will be needed throughout the drive-through hours. Stay tuned for more details.





## Happy Bucks

- **John Gnatovich** | John was happy to participate as a vendor at the Port Byron Tug Fest last weekend. He was also happy that the Illinois teams won 10 of the 11 tug competitions, although the Iowans in the room didn't share his enthusiasm.
- **Deb Boland** | Deb was happy to have returned from the Scouts' 2026 Jamboree in West Virginia without any missing or injured scouts.
- **Deb Boland (again)** | The scouts are having a fishing derby on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at the Bettendorf lagoon. Rotarians are invited to attend to meet the scouts and their families.
- **Deb Boland (one more time)** | Deb was happy to report that Troop 24 received a conservation award for wrapping trees to ready them for planting around the city.



## Leave a Lasting Legacy

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](#).



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

## *This Week's Program*

### *Iowa's Cancer Crisis*

Iowa is ranked #2 in the nation for cancer incidences, with 21,700 new cancer diagnoses and 6,400 deaths estimated for 2026. With early detection and access to treatment, Iowa ranks 24<sup>th</sup> in cancer mortality rates.

Of particular concern is that Iowa has the second highest cancer rate in the country for 20 to 39 year olds. Melanoma, breast, thyroid, and testicular cancers are the most common for this age group.

Among all cancer diagnoses, lung cancer is the deadliest. One in four cancer deaths are from lung cancer. Iowa's soil is high in radon, which is the number one contributing factor to lung cancer among nonsmokers.

While there is no single cause that explains Iowa's cancer rates, research is being done in the areas of environmental exposures, behavioral risk factors, detection and screening, and demographics and genetics to determine how these factors impact cancer rates.

With increased attention to Iowa's cancer crisis, some positive things are happening.

- University of Iowa researchers are running a multi-year project to help pinpoint key drivers of Iowa's cancer rates.
- A bill supporting radon mitigation in new home construction passed the Iowa Senate in 2026.
- Iowa now has a 5-cent tax on vapes and nicotine pouches, directing up to \$3 million a year to pediatric cancer research at the University of Iowa.
- The Harkin Institute and Iowa Environmental Council have hosted listening sessions statewide to gather Iowans' stories and data.

To support the effort to address Iowa's cancer crisis, Rotary clubs can:

- Host a radon test drive.
- Sponsor a free screening clinic.
- Support well water testing.
- Promote sun safety.
- Bring in a speaker on cancer-related topics.
- Fund screening access.



Dr. Nikhil Wagle

# 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  
marciaerickson@actioncoach.com  
815-590-1487

#### President Elect

Brock Biggerstaff  
bbiggerstaff@goambank.com

#### President Nominee/Club Service

Jake Eikenberry  
eikenberryjake89@gmail.com

#### Immediate Past President

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

#### Community Service

Kurt Lokenvitz  
kurtL@hertz.ag

#### Vocational Service

Jerry Higgs  
jerry.higgs@metronetinc.com

#### At-Large Directors

Ann Kappeler  
annkappeler1950@gmail

Joe Champion  
joseph.p.champion@gmail.com

Joe Pacha  
jpacha@ilstu.edu

#### Youth

Patt Englander  
engl4152@aol.com

#### Rotary Foundation

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

#### Public Image/Social Media

Beth Clark  
bethcolbyclark@gmail.com

#### Executive Secretary

Carol Foster  
bettendorfrotary@gmail.com

#### Treasurer

Jeff Hassel  
hassel14@gmail.com



### 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