

AUGUST 26, 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
- Penny McGimpsey - Musical icon Dolly Parton died yesterday.

Guests:

- Rick Davis, guest of Dave Sheffield
- Carmen Hayes, guest and fiancée of Bailey Pribyl
- Steve Brown, visiting from a San Diego Rotary Club. While his Viking river cruise was docked in Davenport, Steve took the opportunity to visit our club. Steve is a past District Governor and has held many other Rotary positions. His club is active with international projects. Working with the local Taliban, Steve’s club has provided over 50,000 children an education in Afghanistan, where educational opportunities are often limited. His club has also been active in helping with water conflict issues in parts of Asia previously controlled by Russia.

COMING UP...

September 2, 2026



Michael Mulherin
Owner and President



September 9th
BRC Golf Outing
No Meeting

September 16th
Vocation Presentations

Announcements

Grant Season is Approaching

Grant Committee Chair Joe Pacha announced that this year's applications will be available October 1st. Applications will be accepted until November 1st.

Two more members are needed for the grant committee. Those who are interested must be willing to read all grant applications (which totaled 50 last year), thoughtfully analyze and score each one, and attend a meeting to discuss them. Anyone interested should contact Joe.

Committee
Members
Needed



Polio Walk Planning

The Illinois Quad Cities Rotaries are planning a polio awareness and fundraising walk on Saturday, October 24th 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

Big Lobsterfest News!

Since Ann Kappeler retired (again, but for good this time) from her leading Lobsterfest lady role, new leadership has been sought. Living out the Rotary motto, "Service above self", two familiar faces have stepped forward. For the 2027 Lobsterfest, Penny McGimpsey and Gwen Tombergs will co-chair this great event.



If you're disappointed that those roles have been taken, because you were just about to volunteer, don't despair! There are plenty of other ways to get involved. Many of this year's committee chairs have agreed to continue with their duties for next year's event, but those committee chairs need help. For example, Jake Eikenberry is looking for a co-chair for the live auction committee.

Contact Penny or Gwen to see how you can get involved.



Fun for Tonight

Hand in Hand is having an event at Twin Span Brewing tonight, Wednesday the 26th, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Stop by to learn more about what Hand in Hand does while you enjoy a cold beverage.

What do you do?

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 16th.

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



Golf Outing-More Teams Needed!

Only two weeks until the BRC Annual Golf Outing. Get signed up now!

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.



Happy Bucks

- **Lee Marbach** | Lee's middle daughter turned 13, so he now has 2 teenagers. While he may or may not be happy about that, he is happy that he's leading the Bettendorf Middle School construction project and it is progressing nicely.
- **Dave Sheffield** | Although his wife is on the east coast, Dave and his wife are celebrating their 3rd wedding anniversary.
- **John DeDoncker** | John completed his 10th Leadville 100 Trail Run, and he earned himself a big, fat flashy belt buckle to commemorate the completion of 1000 miles.



More Happy Bucks

- **Tom Olson** | Last Friday, Tom and his wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.
- **John Gnatovich** | John is looking forward to attending the NSRA Quad Cities Street Rod Nationals August 28th and 29th at the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds. Over 1000 cars are expected to participate.
- **Maria Osterberg** | Maria started a new job at Paragon Interiors, and she is happy to work with anyone to meet their commercial furniture needs.
- **Sandy Yoder** | Sandy had a birthday this month to celebrate, but he really wants to celebrate a recent scan showing that he is cancer-free after the surgery he had in February.



Providing Safe Water

Rotary International, in partnership with the Rotary Club of Blue Springs, Missouri and the Rotary Club of Bauchi State in Nigeria, have dug 12 hand pump boreholes for 12 communities in Bauchi in order to mitigate water problems.

Founder and sponsor of the project, William Agada, a foreign-based footballer (soccer), said the project was aimed at supporting communities by providing access to safe drinking water. According to Agada, "I decided to come up with the project in partnership with Rotary in the USA and in Bauchi as a way to give back to society...I am a footballer presently in the USA; Bauchi is my community," he said.

The President of Rotary Club of Bauchi explained that members of the Club would conduct routine checks on the facilities to ensure they are operational and maintained appropriately.



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



YouthHope's mission is to bring children and teens from low-income areas into a life-changing relationship with Christ through encouraging, equipping, and empowering them through Community Outreach, Youth Centers, and Camp Summit Programs.

YouthHope has been around for 90 years, and they work with children to help meet their spiritual, physical, emotional, educational, and vocational needs.

Recently, YouthHope purchased a building located close to Smart Middle School in Davenport. When renovations are complete, the building location will allow YouthHope to provide before and after school programs to children in the surrounding neighborhood.

A current need for the organization is to acquire vans to help with transporting children to and from service locations. YouthHope is also always in need of volunteers to do things like help with activities or drive vehicles.

Their "Dr. Phillip T. Siegert Memorial Sporting Clays Fundraiser" is coming up on September 19th. Teams compete at the Bi-State Sportsman's Association in Colona. Cost is \$125 per person. More information can be found at youthhopeqc.networkforgood.com or contact Hannah Carr at 309-762-4577.

Jerry Higgs is interested in getting a BRC team together for the YouthHope fundraiser. Contact Jerry to join the team.



Ester Joy King
Executive Director



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
bettendorffrotary@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