



# THE BETTENDORF ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club  
Feb. 20, 2013, issue

***Next meeting:***  
Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2013, at  
Fortune Garden Restaurant

## **Ashford U. staffer talks about career readiness**

Christine Caves works as the outreach specialist for Ashford University in Clinton, which means she spends “much of my time giving classroom



presentations to high school students on college and career readiness,” she says. “The term readiness is certainly a buzz word in the world of higher ed. and workforce development,” she adds, and that concept is at the heart of her presentation as speaker at the Feb. 27 meeting. “I believe that career development is a continuum of acquired knowledge, skills and experiences that define our ultimate success,” she says. “StrengthsQuest, a movement put forth by Gallup Inc., is a positive psychology tool that develops the self awareness of (persons).... If people recognize their own talent and appreciate the talent of others, they will begin to recognize their true potential and make decisions that compliment their natural talents.”

***Last meeting:***  
Wednesday Feb. 20, 2013



## **He helps Iowa to 'reach higher'**

Based on the excellent start in life that he received in Iowa public schools, **Mark M. Jacobs** – our featured speaker at the Feb. 20 meeting – had a successful career and returned to Iowa intent on restoring that excellence to the state’s schools.

“I love to solve problems,” Jacobs said, noting Iowa public education is a complex problem. In his youth, Iowa’s public education was the best in the U.S., he said, but it has slipped in the last 20 years. Now, less than half of Iowa’s high school grads are fully college-ready – and low-income Iowa students are faring very badly, he added.

“If we’re only graduating students in the bottom quartile we won’t attract top employers and jobs to Iowa,” he said. To improve Iowa’s educational system – and with it, the state’s economic growth – Jacobs founded Reaching Higher Iowa. It strives to improve in four areas:

→ Develop accountability, which he says is missing now. To do that he would see the state set rigorous academic goals, measure each child’s growth toward them at the end of every school year, and empower local schools to decide for themselves exactly how do those things.

→ Attract the best teachers, Jacobs says, with competitive pay, “to attract and retain the best and brightest.” Also, he would bring teachers into every step in the solution process.

→ Improve professional development for the teaching profession, he says, elevating it to comparable status as other professions and ensuring continuing education for teachers and principals.

→ Build choice into Iowa’s educational offerings, he advocated, so parents can fit the educational model to best suit their child.

Jacobs asked BRC members to urge their state legislators to reform Iowa’s education system that encompasses these principles.



### Announcements...

→ **Board training.** President Mark said that several current Board members had benefitted from their attendance at the District 6000 training session over the

weekend. He also promised a LobsterFest update in two weeks.

→ **Membership drive.** President Mark said he and **Jonna Schuler** would soon announce a membership drive with the goal of “3-5 new members” who would represent business categories not now in the BRC membership. More to come...

### Jon Ryan Happy \$\$...



**President Mark** collected \$212 for our foundations + \$66 from **Craig Windmiller** (marking his birthday) for our Scholarship Fund. Other Ryan Happy \$\$ came from:

**Decker Ploehn** – “Check your home insurance policy for sewer coverage,” he advised after last week’s sewer break in a residential area + \$\$ for **Dick Schillig**, who voiced his objection to a hiked rental license fee... the aforementioned **Dick Schillig** – thanks to Decker for his courtesy, but “I’m still ... (upset) about the fee”... **Hizzoner Bob Gallagher** – thanks to Dick for calling Decker, “instead of me – I was in Des Moines at the high school wrestling tournament anyhow”... **Frank Mitvalsky** – eldest son graduated from Cub Scouts, making Frank a den leader *emeritus*... **Lee Semenow** – glad grandson got a new violin... but the bill hasn’t come in yet... **President Mark** – enjoyed car ride to the D-6000 meeting with Lee, “who’s lived just about everywhere in the world – Rotarians are interesting people”... **Todd Ashby** – repeated invitation to the “Leader-Cast” broadcast, May 10; for more information or tickets, call 322-

2065 + kudos to **Mike Limberg** for curing the virus in his firm's computers... **Tom Bush** – opposed to the IOC eliminating wrestling + kudos to Assumption HS wrestlers for success at the state HS tourney.



**The meeting opened...**

The meeting opened with **President Mark Ross** leading the recitation of the 4-Way Test. After song leader **Tom Howard** – accompanied by pianist **Zoey Pinter** – conducted the singing of the day's patriotic song, "God Bless America," we observed a Moment of Reflection for our troops and members of the QC community who had passed. Singing resumed with renditions of "The 4-Way Test" and "Smile – Sing a Song."

**Secretary Chuck** ('secretary since the club's inception in 1957') **Mooney introduced:**

**Visiting Rotarians:**

Terry Westbrook, East Moline: Banking  
 Marcia Brandt, North Scott: Marketing

**Guests:**

Kay LeBeau with **Carter LeBeau**

Ward Olson with **Tom Olson**  
 Dale Kreiter with **Mark Ross**



(Tom Olson introduced his "younger brother" and showed off **Ward's** poignant painting remembering the children killed in the Newtown, Conn.)

**Upcoming meetings...**

... Thanks to program chair **Brian Kennedy**, [bmfkennedy@att.net](mailto:bmfkennedy@att.net), 340-5114, and to **Scott Naumann**, 445-4260, [scottn@midlandcom.com](mailto:scottn@midlandcom.com). Have a program idea? Give 'em a call.

**Feb. 27:** Christine Caves, Ashford University outreach specialist



**March 6:** Julie Plummer, Waste Commission of Scott County

**April 10:** Dan Grinstead, social work specialist at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, who served with the Iowa National Guard in Iraq

**April 17:** Iowa Secretary of State Matt Schultz



From the Carter LeBeau collection of 840+ Rotary Club banners from around the world, the banner of Kaiserslautern, Germany, the sister city of Davenport.

### **Missing today...**

Archer-8, Bibik, Boeye, Bowe-8, Brown-8, Calabrese, Deuth, Dickson-4, Dobesh-6, Downing, Edwards-8, Eikenberry-2, Ellstrom-8, Felsing, Franks, Gallagher, Sr.-2, Glass, Gudgel-2, Habenicht-2, Harrison-3, Hassel, Heninger, Hintermeister-3, Hinton-8, James, Kappeler-2, Kass-3, Kellenberger, Kraft-2, Lokenvitz, Loweth-2, McGimpsey, L. Miller-7, Murphy-8, Murray-5, Oswald, Pieart, Ricketts-McCool-4, Salm, Sarver, Saul-2, Schutte-2, Scranton-4, Sherrick-2, Spelhaug, Vandersnick-2, Voigts-3, Werner-2, Worley-8

### **News staff...**

Editor, reporter: Fred Anderson...

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**For more on BRC – and Rotary – see:**

<http://www.bettendorfrotary.com/>