



# THE BETTENDORF ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club  
Oct. 5, 2016, issue

## *Next meeting:*

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2016, at  
**Tanglewood Pavilion**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> District Congressman Dave Loeb sack to speak**

U.S. Rep. Dave Loeb sack, Iowa's 2<sup>nd</sup> District congressman, is our scheduled speaker at the Oct. 12 meeting. He is serving his fifth term in the House.



In 2015, Dave began serving on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over many issues, including energy, healthcare and trade policy; telecommunications and the internet; environment and air quality; and consumer protection.

Previously, he served on the House committees on Education and the Workforce and the Armed Services.

After growing up on poverty in Sioux City, the son of a single parent, Dave earned Bachelor's and Master's Degrees at Iowa State University and a PhD from the University of California, Davis. He is a Professor Emeritus at Cornell

Dave and his wife Terry are parents of four grown children, and they have three grandchildren.

## *Last meeting:*

Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016



## **'Become digital entrepreneur'**

**Steve Grubbs** of Victory Enterprises in Davenport is usually associated with politics – he's a former member of the Iowa Legislature, past chairman of the Iowa Republican Party and consultant for many GOP candidates.

But as the speaker at the Oct. 5 meeting, he talked about his experiences as an entrepreneur growing his company from providing candidate yard signs to developing products in the world of augmented- and virtual-reality. Along the way, he provided some insights into how

using leading-edge digital technologies “can make your dreams come true.”

Steve began with an anecdote about a young man, named Lucky Palmer, who had a dream five years ago about a virtual-reality headset, raised a million dollars in development capital on Kickstarter.com, developed the Oculus Rift and sold it to Mark Zuckerberg of Amazon for \$2 billion. [Google Oculus Rift, and you can find a site that defines virtual reality as “fooling your senses into seeing something that’s not there; making the unreal real.”]

But back to Steve Grubbs’ story:

After an election cycle supporting some candidates – and then seeing his client list drop to zero after the election – Steve diversified, first by turning to Website building. He read “Websites for Dummies,” promoted himself as a site builder and landed a contract to build a site for Eldridge. With that experience, he got the job of building Davenport’s Website. “Now we have offices in 10 states and work in all 50,” he said.

Seeing the success of a photo promotion product in local high schools, Steve’s firm used the individual-targeting capability of Facebook to market that product to mothers of high school students nation-wide – and has now achieved annual sales of \$300,000 for products applying that concept.

Developing his company’s “next big thing,” Steve is working with educators to create virtual-reality headsets that can, for example, take students into the virtual-reality version of the Mississippi River where they can learn about keeping rivers clean from Chad Pregracki and learn about the Nahant Marsh ecosystem from a naturalist who works “there.”

## Announcements...

# Kids Against Hunger®

Feeding families around the world...and around the corner.

→ **All-QC Rotary “Service for Success” project is Thursday, Oct. 13. President Jonna Schuler** reminded us of the project to benefit Kids Against Hunger that brings Rotarians from all QC clubs to the Rogalski Center at St. Ambrose University to assemble box meals for the poor. The project runs 5:30-9 p.m. (Still time to register and reserve a meal: <http://servicesuccess.eventbrite.com>.)

→ **Dictionary project: Dr. Jim Spelhaug** passed out the individual assignments to members who have volunteered to hand out personal dictionaries in one of the 4<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms in the Bettendorf and Pleasant Valley school systems and the private schools in the city. The



assignment sheets also included “talking points” for the presentations, including:  
→ The dictionaries are a gift from Bettendorf Rotary  
→ This is just one way Rotary serves this community, Iowa, the U.S. and people internationally.

➔ **Invite potential new members: Jim Slavens** reminded members to invite “people of honesty, integrity and reliability” to be our guest at a meeting or club activity – and invite them to join.

➔ **Report from Hurricane-ravaged Haiti: Tim Lane** shared this email from Dr. Robert Leger, assistant district governor of District 7020 in Haiti, after Hurricane Matthew had passed:

“Dear Tim,  
“My wife and I are well. Our house suffered minor damage. But a lot of people are without a roof. I received a call from our project contact in Boulmier [the village where BRC led a clean-water project]. A lot of houses lost their roof. I am waiting for a complete report.  
“Thanks for your prayers and concern.”



**Jon Ryan**  
**Happy \$\$...**  
(Named in honor of the late Bettendorf Rotarian, punster, jokester and all-around good guy)

**President Jonna Schuler** collected \$204 as these folks shared their happiness: **Lee Marbach** – 8<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary... **Tom Howard** – back from vacation in Canada – and they were in British Columbia at the same time as the British royals... **Kurt Lokenvitz** – birthday was last month... **Bill Daley** – at Metro Fest at PVHS, enjoyed hearing our pianist **Gail Baldwin** playing... **Rich James** – loved homecoming game at UNI, especially the outcome... **Ami Wells** – with progress of repairs to the Bettendorf Public Library, she can return to her office, after a stay at the City Hall Annex... **Past DG Bill Tubbs** – the

fellowship of this club, with members such as **Jim Slavens**, brings him here often to make-up... **Decker Ploehn** – happy to be back after two weeks of meetings with other city administrators... **Ann Kappeler** – grandson shot 71 at a regional golf tourney... **Jim Slavens** (reacting to Bill Tubbs’ quip about some \$250-per-hour fees) – “... and some charge more – I just came from **Dr. Tom Olson’s** office.”... **Ken Vandersnick** – will be at next week’s meeting, but for only a short time.

### The meeting opened...



**President Jonna Schuler** greeted the assembly and opened the meeting by leading the recitation of the 4-Way Test. **Tom Howard**, accompanied

by **Scott Naumann’s** multi-talented laptop, led the singing of “God Bless America.” After the Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence – during which we learned of the passing of former Bettendorf Rotarian **Chester “Chet” Robbins** (also 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Bettendorf alderman 1962-63), and we wished **Dave Deuth** well in his battle with cancer – Tom returned to lead today’s songs: “R-O-T-A-R-Y” (verse 2), “I’m Looking over a Four-Leaf Clover” and “Happy Birthday, Dear Rotarians.”

In October, they are: 01, Jeff “Boomer” Hill; 03, Dick Schillig; 04, Jonna Schuler; 06, Tom Howard; 16, Dr. Tom Olson; 19, Lee Marbach.

## Secretary Johanna Smith introduced...

### Visiting Rotarian

Bill Tubbs, North Scott Rotary

### Guest

Steve Grubbs, Victory Enterprises (speaker)

In all, 55 Bettendorf Rotarians attended and were joined by 1 guest and 1 visiting Rotarian.



### And at the end...

... of the meeting, **Rich James** won a Happy to Have a Make-up in the drawing from among all those members who participated in *Jon Ryan Happy \$\$*.

### Missing today...

Blaske, Boeye, Carroll, DeDoncker, Dugan, Elledge, Featherstone, Franks, Gallagher, Jr., Garlach, Hager, Hassel, Hopkins, Hurd, Kellenberger, Kraus, Larsen, Lawrence, Love-Sherrick, Loweth, Mannix, Martinez, Meyers, Mickle, Mitvalsky, Mohr, Morrison, Naeve, Nelson, Olson, Paplinski, Powell, Powers, Raso, Ricketts-McCool, Ross, Sarver, Saul, Schillig, Schmit, Schneden, Scranton, Shea, Stopulos, Thein, Thompson, Tombergs, Webster, and Windmiller

### Upcoming meetings and more...

... Meeting programs thanks to program chair **Scott Naumann**, [scottn@midlandcom.com](mailto:scottn@midlandcom.com), 445-4260:

**Oct. 13:** QC-wide Service for Success event, Rogalski Center, St. Ambrose University

#### Future meeting:

Former QC TV newscaster Carolyn Wettstone: "How I Kicked the Cancer Fairy's Butt"



### Make up at another QC club...

Monday, noon: Davenport – The Outing Club

Monday, noon: Moline – Trinity Lutheran Church, Moline

Monday, 6 p.m.: QC Illinois – Club Room, HyVee, 7<sup>th</sup> Street & John Deere Road, Moline

Tuesday, 7:15 a.m.: River Cities – Brothers Restaurant, Rapids City

Tuesday, noon: Rock Island – QC Botanical Center

### Wednesday, noon: Bettendorf – Tanglewood Pavilion

Wednesday, 5 p.m.: Mini Meet – Lunardi's Restaurant, Davenport

Thursday, 7 a.m.: Iowa Quad Cities – J-Bar, Elmore Avenue, Davenport

Thursday, noon: East Moline – Christ United Methodist Church

Thursday, noon: Milan – Pinnacle Country Club

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.: Twin Rivers Rotary After Hours – Bierstube, Moline

Friday, noon: North Scott – Steeplegate Inn, Davenport

### BRC News staff...

**Editor, reporter, photographer:** Fred Anderson

**Correspondent, Website host:** Johanna Smith



### For more on Bettendorf Rotary:

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

### For more on Rotary International:

<https://www.rotary.org/>