



**THE
BETTENDORF
ROTARY
CLUB NEWS**
Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
Oct. 19, 2016, issue

Next meeting:
Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2016, at
Tanglewood Pavilion

**We'll hear an update on
Iowa RYLA program**

The two Rotary districts in Iowa – 5970 in the north and our own 6000 – join forces each summer to conduct the state's Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA).

It's been described as, "a life-changing leadership training program for young men and women where leadership skills and principles are learned, developed and enhanced in an atmosphere of trust and respect. The purpose of RYLA is to encourage and assist current and potential youth leaders in methods of responsible and effective leadership." Many past participants from around the country have said, "It was the best week of my life!"

Bettendorf Rotary combines with the Iowa Quad Cities Rotary to sponsor students who are midway through their years at Bettendorf and Pleasant Valley high schools in the week-long program that usually is conducted on the campus of one of the state's excellent colleges. While there, the students develop skills in leadership, communication, problem solving, conflict management – and good citizenship.

Last meeting:
Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2016



**Peters reveals
views on issues**

When explaining why he decided to run for Congress, **Dr. Christopher Peters** of Coralville, the Republican candidate for U.S. representative from Iowa's 2nd District, said at the Oct. 19 meeting, said he was especially concerned about the growing federal budget deficits.

"Most politicians focus on the next election," he commented, noting that even before the 2008 recession he had observed policy decisions "that brought us here. I think the national debt is the biggest issue." He added that the debt could grow "at least \$9 trillion more in the next decade" without major changes.

Chris described “being civil” as another priority issue, noting it is especially lacking in the presidential level race this cycle. He added that he and his Democratic opponent, incumbent Rep. Dave Loebsack, first met while walking in a summer parade, and they have held two campaign forums – always with “cordial” interaction.

For the remainder of his time with Bettendorf Rotary, he responded to questions from members:



→On keeping Social Security solvent: He advocated raising or removing the cap on contributions to the Social Security Trust Fund and raising the age when retirees begin to receive Social Security benefits.

→On the increasing burden of student-loan debt: It’s a problem in two parts, Chris explained: The federal student loan guarantee ensures the availability of loans, but the unintended side effect is that higher demand for a degree sends up the cost. Part of the solution, he said, lies with more use of technology, such as online education. He warned, however, “We still need more work to ensure that institutions are fully accredited and that students are learning what they need to.”

→When asked what committee he would like to serve on, Chris replied, “healthcare, especially for veterans.

Health spending is growing faster than inflation,” he continued. “But it’s not the fault of the Affordable Care Act – it’s the underlying fault of the system.” He advocated reforms that are “patient-centered and market-based.”

He added, “The idea of eliminating waste and fraud to grow ourselves out of the (health-care spending) mess is illusory. We need to talk dollars and cents.”

Acknowledging the complexities reformers face in this issue, he advocated:

- Bringing down premium costs
- Considering a single-payer option – “I’m not pro-single-payer, but it’s time to try other ideas,” possibly combining both market-based and single-payer plans
- Looking at different system models – in other countries – to see what works

Summarizing his view on ACA reform, he said, “Let’s keep the good elements, while making small, piecemeal changes as needed.”



New member inductions...

S.K. Nanda inducted two new members:

→**Jarod Powell:** Jarod (left) is a financial planner at Powell Financial Group, having joined his father in the

firm that was founded in 1976. A native of the Quad Cities – he graduated from North Scott High School and St. Ambrose University – he and his wife Becky are parents of daughter Alyssa, “a Spartan,” he emphasized. He serves on the Handicapped Development Center board.

➔ **Ron Crist:** Owner of Duck Creek Tire and Service, Ron also own Ron’s Toy Box, a used-car dealership that helps its clients select “just the right one.” Ron serves on the Camp Shalom board and actively supports the Applied Technology program at Scott Community College. He and his wife Amy are parents of Mitchell, a Pleasant Valley High School student.

Announcements...

➔ **Dictionary project: Jim Spelhaug** (adding an early \$20 for Jon Ryan Happy \$\$) thanked all the members who had handed out personal dictionaries to every 4th grader in the Bettendorf and Pleasant Valley school systems and private schools in the city. As all members who had participated in the project stood to be recognized, Jim noted that the dictionaries are a tangible sign of “the importance of service, education and working hard” for young students.

Sharon Sarver shared “this super-cute picture from the awesome 4th grade class” that she visited, taught by Ms. Hamann at Bridgeview Elementary in Pleasant Valley.

In her email to Jim, she commented: “This was truly an exceptional class (and school). I was very impressed! The principal was there to greet me when I arrived and she personally walked me to the classroom. She also stayed during the presentation and walked me out. That has never happened in all the years I’ve done



this. The kids are always great every year but this class truly left an impression with me. They were so attentive and exceptionally well behaved.... Thank you for coordinating it for us!”



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

President Jonna Schuler collected \$234 – with special generosity from: **Jim Slavens** – after visiting his 87-year-old cousin, he urged all present to spend time with aged folks, who too often feel lonely; **Tim Lane** – said he had a lot of fun talking with last week’s speaker, U.S. Rep. Dave Loebsack... then jokingly asked to “borrow” \$\$ for Happy \$\$ “so he’d see what it feels like to give \$\$ and never get it back”... **Decker Ploehn** – most orange cones are gone from 18th Street – “but be careful and drive slow – two Middle School kids have been hit by cars”... **Harry Coin** – daughter Katherine promoted at Unilever: “now in

charge of Caress brand”... **Frank Mitvalsky** – enjoyed football at Northwestern last weekend... **Kristine Stone** – “LobsterFest will be even better next year” ... visitor Dr. Kris Murthy from the U.K. – “this is my fourth visit here, and I’m delighted at your hospitality”... **Sharon Sarver** – went to a Cubs playoff game... **Dr. Tom Olson** – asked new member **Ron Crist**: “call me when a Bentley comes in” + when he handed out dictionaries to his class of 4th graders, “the kids were spellbound”...



Before today’s meeting...

➔**LobsterFest Committee**: Members of the core committee planning Bettendorf Rotary’s annual premier fundraising event met before the Oct. 19 meeting – one of the regularly scheduled meetings that result in such a smooth, successful event.

The meeting opened...



President Jonna Schuler greeted all and led the recitation of the 4-Way Test. **Tom Howard**, accompanied by **Deanna Severs** on piano, led the singing of “This Is My Country.”

President Jonna led the Pledge of

Allegiance to the Flag. During the Moment of Silence we remembered **Dave Deuth** in his battle with cancer, and learned of the passing of **Brad Morrison**’s mother-in-law and **President Jonna**’s father-in-law. After introductions, Tom and Deanna returned to lead singing of “That Rotary Wheel” and, to support the Cubs, “Take Me Out to the Ballgame.”

Secretary Johanna Smith introduced...

Visiting Rotarian

Don Sierk, Rotary Club of North Scott

Guests

Deana Severs, piano player

Congressional candidate Dr. Christopher Peters

Matthew Evans, Dr. Peters’ campaign manager

Dr. Kris Murty, U.K., guest of **S.K. Nanda**

In all, 59 Bettendorf Rotarians attended and were joined by 4 guests and 1 visiting Rotarian.

And at the end...

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



Missing today...

DeDoncker, Dobesh, Dugan, Eikenberry, Elledge, Featherstone, Felsing, Fopma, Franks, Habenicht, Hager, Hanzelka, Hassel, Hill, James, Kellenberger, Kraus, Larsen, Lokenvitz, Mannix, Marbach, Martinez, Mickle, Mohr, Nelson, Pacha, Paplinski, Partridge, Powers, Rabine, Raso, Ricketts-McCool, Ross, Saul, Schillig, Schmit, Schneden, Scranton, Shea, Stopulos, Webster, Werner, Windmiller and Worner

Upcoming meetings...



... Meeting programs thanks to program chair **Scott Naumann**, scottn@midlandcom.com, 445-4260:

Oct. 26: Bettendorf students who attended the Iowa Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA)



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, 7th 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
2nd and 4th 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/>