



# THE BETTENDORF ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club  
April 19, 2017, issue

**Next meeting:**  
Wednesday, April 26, 2017,  
At Tanglewood Pavilion

## State Rep. Gary Mohr to report on 2017 session

One important benefit of being a Bettendorf Rotarian is the opportunity for face-to-face, first-name interaction with

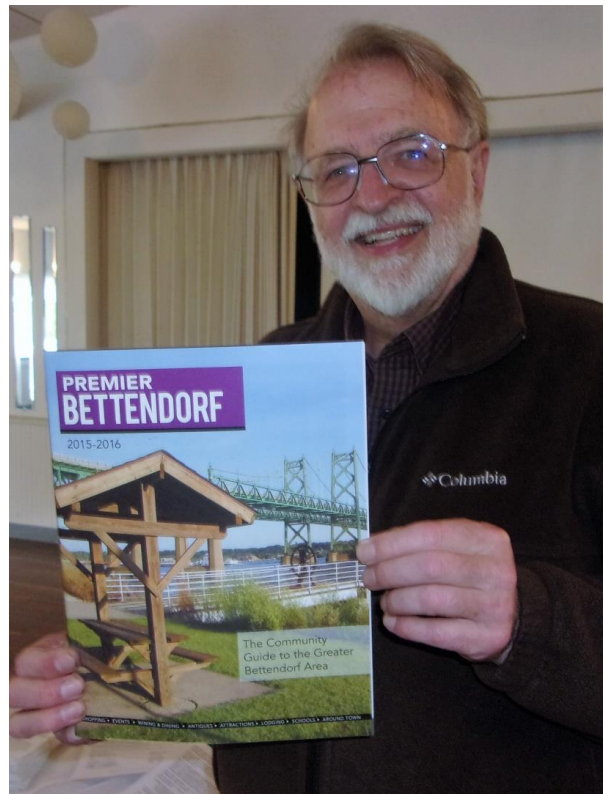


leaders such as Iowa State Rep. **Gary Mohr** – a fellow Bettendorf Rotarian and the scheduled speaker at the April 26 meeting (assuming the 2017 session adjourns). Gary will present a roundup and assessment of the 2017 session of the Iowa State Legislature – his

first as the representative from Bettendorf.

Recently, the legislature has approved bills banning abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy and allowing the sale of fireworks in Iowa. Earlier in the session, legislators wrestled with large cuts from next year’s budget, made necessary by revenue shortfalls caused by declines in the agriculture industry.

**Last meeting:**  
Wednesday, April 19, 2017



This guide introduces newcomers to “everything you need to know” about our city.

## BBN aids growth of city business

**Richard Pokora** is vice president of the Bettendorf Business Network, and pastor of Bettendorf’s Redeemer Lutheran Church – and he spoke to us about the BBN at our April 19 meeting.

The BBN “intends to serve the more than 900 merchants and service providers in the greater Bettendorf, Iowa, area,” according to its Website. The impetus to create an organization to provide that service grew out of three occurrences, Richard explained:

→ The demolition of The Lodge hotel. For years, Richard explained, The Lodge – a few blocks south of Redeemer Lutheran Church on Utica Ridge Road – was the meeting place of the Iowa QC Rotary Club, of which he was a member. Over the years, the hotel deteriorated and, despite the best efforts of Richard and other neighbors to support it, eventually it closed its doors and faced the wrecking ball. “Trying to help, and be a positive force for the neighborhood, was difficult and frustrating,” Richard commented.

→ Demolition of scores of business buildings in downtown Bettendorf as part of the I-74 bridge project. “That’s been hard to see,” Richard said, describing how, in his 38 years of ministry here, he has gotten to know the owners and workers in the small, independent businesses downtown, “who are so dedicated to serving their customers.”

→ The end of an organization dedicated to Bettendorf business advocacy with the absorption of the Bettendorf Chamber of Commerce into the consolidated QC C of C. “I think we lost something,” he said, recounting how the Bettendorf Council within the QC C of C dwindled away shortly after consolidation. “What’s going to take care of Bettendorf?”



So he and a growing list of business owners – primarily focused downtown, but open to anyone in Bettendorf, he said – organized the BBN. The group has taken on such projects as beautification



**BRC program chair Scott Naumann and the Rev. Richard Pokora chatted at the meeting.**

of the downtown (which Bettendorf Rotary has helped). To support its three-part goal – “help members succeed in their businesses, create a vibrant economic environment that makes success possible and advocate for civic projects and programs that benefit the general community” – the BBN has created working groups and regularly offers such events as these:

→ Monthly “First Tuesday” meetings at the Hilton Garden Inn offer lunch and an hour-long program. Last month, our own **Steve Sorensen** shared management info from his consultant perspective, and the May meeting will feature Joe Taylor of the QC Convention and Visitors Bureau.

→ “Bettendorf Connect” events, such as one (today), 5-7 p.m., April 20 at the Nelson Brothers Agency on Lincoln Road, provide business owners with networking opportunities as well as “tasty appetizers and a selection of wine and beer.”

To learn more, or to join the BBN, go to <http://www.bettbiz.net/>.



**The chimes along Rotary Row at Faye's Field awaited children to come along and play them on a gloomy afternoon after the April 19 Rotary meeting.**

### **Announcements...**

**→Dedication of chimes at Rotary Row at Faye's Field: President Jonna Schuler** urged BRC members to attend the dedication of the Rotary Row chimes and drums at Faye's Field, scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. Friday, May 5. This musical walk along the east side of Faye's Field – 2850 Learning Campus Drive – features four sets of all-weather aluminum chimes and a set of hand drums, complete with mallets, just waiting to be played. Bettendorf Rotary and the Rotary Foundation donated the musical instruments, with the support of the Bettendorf Park Board, the Bettendorf Public Library Foundation Board, the Family Museum Foundation Board, and Bettendorf City Council.

“The Rotary’s focus on our area’s young people has made this a perfect opportunity for a partnership with Bettendorf,” President Jonna said in a public announcement of the donation. “Rotary Row enhances a beautiful green space, which is a great destination for families,” who often use Faye’s Field for picnics, reading and children’s activities. The field is the site of weekly outdoor concerts in the summer.

Faye’s Field was named after Faye Clow, who led the Bettendorf Public Library for 30 years during which she played an integral role in developing Bettendorf’s



Learning Campus. She was the first female president of the Bettendorf Rotary, 1993-94. She retired from the library in 2008 and died in 2011.

### **→Calling golf fans to marshal at John Deere Classic: Jeff Hassel**, Bettendorf Rotary’s wrangler of JDC volunteers,

seeks fans of the game to help direct spectators as they watch from Hole No. 1 – the Bettendorf



Rotary hole! The JDC runs July 10-16. Volunteer for one day, and you get free admission for the whole event. To sign up, go to the JDC Website, <https://www.johndeereclassic.com/>.

The password is **BettendorfRotary** for our hole. Any questions, please contact Jeff at [hassel14@gmail.com](mailto:hassel14@gmail.com).

### **→LobsterFest sponsorship tops \$52,000!** Here’s

the latest update to the list of 2017 LobsterFest sponsors. The total now stands at \$55,115 in committed sponsorships



(\$29,615 in cash and \$25,500 in in-kind):

**CO-Presenting Sponsors**

Triumph Community Bank  
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Duck Creek Tire & Service  
Tanglewood Hills Pavilion



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Results Marketing

**Media Sponsors**

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Quad City Times  
WOC  
N2 Publishing

Tickets are \$75 per seat / \$520 table of 8.  
To buy tickets and reserve seating, please contact **Penny McGimpsey** ([pmcgimpsey@qctimes.com](mailto:pmcgimpsey@qctimes.com)).

Remember: if you prefer steak, instead of lobster, please tell Penney as you order.

**➔New member project: Rick**

**Bormann** could still use a couple more new-member volunteers for the “Betten-Do” project – renovation of the deck just outside our meeting room at Tanglewood Pavilion. The project will start about 3:30 p.m. Friday, April 28, and resume at 1 p.m. Sunday, April 30. If you missed the signup sheet at the meeting, contact Rick at

[rick.v.bormann@mchsi.com](mailto:rick.v.bormann@mchsi.com)



## **BRC Happy \$\$...**

**President Jonna** collected \$209 with special amounts from these happy Bettendorf Rotarians: **Jennifer Garlach** – a piece of every sale today at Buffalo Wild Wings will go to benefit the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Valley... **Dick Schillig** – “152 training days to Labor Day” and the Run with Carl races... **Aaron Howard** – first opportunity (since induction last week) to announce: Mandala Integrative Medicine presents “Women’s Integrative Lifestyle Forum,” 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, May 13, at Rhythm City Casino, Davenport + Dolan Jewelers has signed on as an event co-sponsor... **Ann Kappeler** – 51 days to LobsterFest... **Ken Vandersnick** – “No, this tie doesn’t mean I’ve gone back to work”... **Carol Foster** – birthday.

## **The meeting opened...**

At the sound of the bell, **President**



**Jonna Schuler** opened the meeting and led the recitation of the 4-Way Test. Song leader **Tom Howard**, accompanied by piano

player **Deana Severs**, led the singing of “America: My Country, ’Tis of Thee.” Jonna led the Pledge of Allegiance and presided over Moments of Silence, during which we supported **Lee Marbach** in his recovery at hospital – and later in the meeting learned he has now returned home; we also learned the niece of **Dr. Julie Meyers** is recovering after giving birth – but her baby is in serious condition.

After introductions, Tom and Deana led more singing: “The Rotary Bell” and “Get Together Song.”

## **Secretary Johanna Smith introduced...**

### **Visiting Rotarian**

Rev. Richard Pokora, Bettendorf Business Network (speaker), North Scott Rotary Club

### **Guests**

Deana Severs, pianist

In all, 54 Bettendorf Rotarians attended and were joined by 1 visiting Rotarian and 1 guest.

## **And at the end...**

... of the meeting, **Ken Vandersnick** won the “Happy to Have a Make-up” in the drawing from among all those members who shared their happiness and some extra \$\$ in this week’s *BRC Happy \$\$*.



## **Missing today...**

Boeye, Carroll, Coin, G., DeDoncker, Dobesh, Downing, Eikenberry, Elledge, Falk, Featherstone, Franks, Gallagher, Sr., Gallagher, Jr., Gause, Gross, Habenicht, Hassel, Hill, Hurd, Hutcheson, James, Kellenberger, Kraus, Larsen, Lawrence, Loweth, Mannix, Marbach, Martinez, Mickle, Mohr, Morrison, Naeve, Nelson, Oswald, Ploehn, Powell, Powers, Raso, Ricketts-McCool, Ross, Sarver, Saul, Schmit, Scranton, Shea, Sherrick, Slavens, Thompson, Tombergs, Wells, Worner

## **Make-ups...**

Rich James, Summit County, Colo., Rotary Club



### **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 Hills 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

### **Upcoming meetings... and more**

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



**April 26:** Our own Iowa State Rep. **Gary Mohr**: Update on the 2017 session of the Iowa State Legislature  
**May 3:** Dan Ebener, St. Ambrose University: leadership program  
**May 10:** Jackie Inman, USO, Rock Island  
**May 24:** Presidential Awards by **President Jonna Schuler**

**Saturday, June 10: BRC’s 11<sup>th</sup> Annual LobsterFest, Tanglewood Hills Pavilion**

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

**Editor, reporter, photographer:** Fred Anderson  
**Correspondent, Website host:** Johanna Smith

### **For more on Bettendorf Rotary:**

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

### **For more on Rotary International:**

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