



THE BETTENDORF ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
May 31, 2017, issue

Next meeting:
Wednesday, June 7, 2017,
At Tanglewood Pavilion

It's a work day for our LobsterFest (June 10)



Larry the Lobsterman has been out in his boat warming up for the Big Catch to fill the Big Shipment of fresh crustaceans. Louie the Lobster Mobster has been shining up his claws to greet the guests arriving at LobsterFest at its new home, the yard beside Tanglewood Hills Pavilion. Decker the Lobster Emcee has been tuning up his voice.

And now it's time for the rest of us to step up. On Wednesday, June 7, when we usually dine and listen to a speaker we'll be wrapping sets of silverware for the 42 tables x 8 diners who



are expected to eat Larry's catch. But if enough of us show up, we can make quick work of those 336 sets of knives, forks and spoons – and maybe do something else for the cause.

Last meeting:
Wednesday, May 31, 2017



Cycle rides aid fallen SEALs

Now starting its third year, Thank the SEALs will be able to fulfill its stated mission of raising funds to aid the families of one Navy SEAL and one military support member whose loved one was lost in battle. Previously, TTS had made donations to other veterans' organizations.

TTS founder and President **Bill Christman** led a

presentation on the group at our May 31 meeting. Supporting him were **José Cerda**, vice president; **Denise Kroeger**, secretary; and **Gary Chrones**, benefits officer. José and Gary are retired military veterans. They all serve without



pay so “every cent goes to those families,” Bill said.



The beneficiaries of this year’s efforts are the families of two men killed during operations in Afghanistan. They were Petty Officer 1st Class Aaron Carson Vaughn, a Navy special



warfare operations chief whose Chinook helicopter was shot down in August 2011, and U.S. Army Lt. Col. Rob Baldwin, the commander of a detachment of the 101st Combat



Aviation Brigade, whose UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter crashed in September 2011.

[Read more: [https://www.thanktheseals.com/2017-beneficiaries/.](https://www.thanktheseals.com/2017-beneficiaries/)]

TTS has set a goal of donating \$20,000 to each family.

To raise funds, the organization will conduct a dinner the evening of Friday, July 28, at the Waterfront Convention Center, and motorcycle ride, which is set to leave the Waterfront at 11 a.m. the next day – bound for another fundraiser in Des Moines. Later bike rides will be run to Virginia Beach, Va., and San Antonio, Texas, to personally present checks to the veterans’ families.

For more information on TTS, go to [https://www.thanktheseals.com/.](https://www.thanktheseals.com/)

Some two years ago, Bill saw a TV documentary on Robert O’Neill, the member of Navy SEAL Team 6 who was credited with shooting Osama bin Laden. He was so impressed that “he vowed to do something,” the *Quad-City Times* reported in May 2015. “An avid biker, his brainstorming landed on a cross-country motorcycle ride... to show his appreciation and raise money” to benefit the families of fallen U.S. military members, *The Times* reported.

Introduction of 2017 Bettendorf Rotary Scholarship recipient...

→**Jackson Callahan**, Bettendorf High School: Jackson plans to attend St. Ambrose University in the fall, where he will major in mechanical engineering. He sees mechanical engineering as a natural major, considering “I’ve been interested in robotics for about eight years,” he said.



Announcements...

→**Rotary Youth Cultural Exchange:** **President-elect Tim Lane** announced that two Bettendorf Rotarians – **Dr. Julie Meyers** and **Harry Coin** – have each volunteered to host an international student for 3 months in the Rotary Exchange program next school year. A third family is still needed to complete the 9-month home-stay for the student’s time in Bettendorf; contact Harry for more information (hgcoin@gmail.com).

Harry said the student who's coming is a young man from southern Italy. After the



2017-18 school year ends, he will join other Rotary Study Exchange students from the region on a 7,000-mile tour of the U.S., which will end on the Fourth of July in Washington, D.C. Harry commented

how much he and Susan had enjoyed hosting this year's exchange student from France.

John Sherrick and **Rich James** – who had both hosted a student during previous exchanges – added that they still are in touch with the students who lived with them, and their families.



→ **LobsterFest: Secretary Johanna Smith** issued a call for volunteers for next week – which ends in the Saturday LobsterFest!

→ **On Tuesday: Brent Werner** has graciously stepped up and volunteered to haul ALL of the Fest materials that had been stored at **Bill Daley's** Abbey Carpet Gallery in Davenport to Tanglewood Hills. So... beginning at 10:30 a.m. volunteers will be needed to help unload those materials into the Pavilion. "If you are available, please plan on coming to Tanglewood," **Secretary Johanna** said.

→ **On Wednesday:** "We'll roll silverware during the regular meeting," she said.

→ **A few tickets still available: Penny McGimpsey** said a few tickets remain available among the 42 tables of 8 that will be set up. "If you are coming and haven't yet talked with me, *do it now!*" she emphasized. You can reach her at pmcgimpsey@gctimes.com.

→ **You can be a "proxy bidder": Tim Lane** introduced that idea, saying, "You can put in a proxy bid for a gift basket even if you can't be at LobsterFest." If that describes you, contact Tim (tim.lane@edwardjones.com) to bid.

→ **These are the 2017 LobsterFest Sponsors**, whose support totals **\$59,615** (\$31,115 in cash, \$28,500 in-kind):

CO-Presenting Sponsors

Abbey Carpet Gallery
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BRC Happy \$\$...

President-elect Tim collected \$222 with special amounts from: **Dr. Tom Olson** – saw **Dave Death** at a graduation party – “He’s looking good, but he’s not shaking hands out of caution” – and said thanks for the award at last week’s meeting: “you didn’t make pun of me”... **Jerry Felsing** – ecstatic that the last graduate will be leaving the next... **Lee Marbach** – doctor released Lee to ride his bike again... **Craig Windmiller** – thanks to **Decker Ploehn** for a great job (at what, we’re not exactly sure, but he appreciated it)... **Tim Mielnik** – two grandkids are staying with us – what fun... **Ami Wells** – Summer Concert Series begins *this Thursday* at Faye’s Field just south of the Bettendorf Public Library; this week: 10 of Soul, which plays soul, funk, blues

and R&B + Ami passed out flyers showing artists for all coming Thursdays through Aug. 10, and thanked Triumph Bank for its sponsorship... **Rich James** – because the Jameses are moving, the Larry the Lobsterman suit will be available next year for someone new... **Dick Schillig** – 96 days to Labor Day and Run with Carl



The meeting opened...

The bell sounded, and **President-elect Tim Lane** called the meeting to order, leading the recitation of the 4-Way Test. Song leader **Tom Howard**, with **Deana Severs** at the piano, led the singing of “All Hail to Rotary” and “Side by Side.” President-elect Tim led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Moments of Silence, during which we remembered **Dave Death** in his recovery from illness, and supported our troops.

After introductions, Tom and Gail led the singing of two verses of “A Helping Hand” and verses 1 and 4 of “The Battle

Hymn of the Republic,” in anticipation of Memorial Day.

Secretary Johanna Smith introduced...

Visiting Rotarian

Duncan Cameron, Naples, Fla, Rotary

Guests

Jackson Callahan, Bettendorf High School
Rotary Scholarship recipient

Deana Severs, pianist

Bill Christman, Thank The SEALS

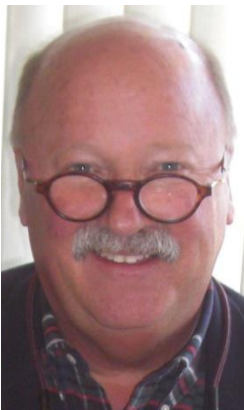
Garey Chrones, Thank The SEALS

José Cerda, Thank The SEALS

Denise Kroeger, Thank The SEALS

Madison Morrison, guest of **Brad Morrison**

In all, 62 Bettendorf Rotarians attended and were joined by 8 guests and 1 visiting Rotarian.



And at the end...

... of the meeting, **Dr. Tom Olson** 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...

Blaske, Boeye, Calabrese, Campion, Carroll, Chambers, Dobesh, Downing, Dugan, Dunbridge, Eikenberry, Elledge, Featherstone, Garlach, Hassel, Hill, Howard, A., Hurd, Hutchison, Kappeler, Kellenberger, Larsen, Lokenvitz, Mannix, Martinez, Mickle, Mitvalsky, Mohr, Naeve, Nelson, Oswald, Powers, Ricketts-McCool, Ross, Saul, Schmit, Schuler, Scranton, Shea, Tombergs and Worner

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 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

2nd and 4th 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, 445-4260:**

June 7: A work day to wrap up silverware and possibly other loose ends for...:

Saturday, June 10:
BRC’s 11th 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/>

