



**THE
BETTENDORF
ROTARY
CLUB NEWS**
Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
Jan. 17, 2018, issue

Next meeting:
Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018,
At Tanglewood Hills Pavilion

Steamwheelers bring arena football back to QC

Arena football is returning to the Quad Cities, and **Jim Albracht**, the media director for the revitalized Steamwheelers, will tell us all about it at the Jan. 24 meeting.



The Steamwheelers are part of a league called CIF, Champions Indoor Football, which was created in 2014 when the Champions Indoor Football League and Lone Star Football League merged. The other teams

in the league are Amarillo Venom, Bismarck Bucks, Chicago Marauders, Dallas Marshals, Duke City (Amarillo, N.M.) Gladiators, Kansas City Phantoms, Omaha Beef, Salina (Kan.) Liberty, Sioux City Bandits, Texas (Allen) Revolution and Wichita Force.

Jim is a well-known QC sports personality. He was sports director at WQAD-TV for 12 years and hosted a sports show on WOC-AM radio. He was the play-by-play announcer for the earlier Steamwheelers, 2000-09. Recently, he has been the voice of the Iowa Hawkeye Radio Network. He lives in Bettendorf.

Last meeting:
Wednesday, Jan. 17, 2018



HAVlife prevents lost potential...

HAVlife – the Hunter Aaron Vondran Memorial Foundation – helps youths over some of life’s smaller obstacles by following a simply stated mission: “to prevent lost potential of youth through support of participation in athletics, music and the arts.”

If not for a family tragedy, however, it wouldn’t have existed, explained its founder, **Mike Vondran**, at the Jan. 17 meeting.

Hunter tragically died in an accident in 2004, still a student at Davenport Central High School. Family friends, schoolmates and others contributed to a memorial fund in his name – but no plan existed for what to do with the money until three years later, Mike said.

In 2007 several things coincided, as Mike recalled:

- Some of Hunter’s schoolmates were involved in a crime, erasing their chance for a better future;
- Mike learned of some students who hadn’t been able to participate in such activities as sports, orchestra and theatre because they couldn’t pay the added fees;
- Mike’s accountant prodded him: what are you going to do with that memorial fund?

So, a charity named HAVlife – Hunter’s initials plus what the organization enables – came into existence. It enables youths ages 10-15 who have “athletic aspirations, musical passions, and artistic talents” to pursue their dreams in those areas by helping them financially.

HAVlife works through QC school systems (except Moline, Mike said), social service agencies and other community organizations to “prevent lost potential” among the community’s youth. It is guided by a board of directors; its current chair is **Kim Guy**.



Besides working in the QC, HAVlife has established chapters in Johnson County, Iowa, and Dubuque, called the Tri-States chapter.

In its 10 years, the charity has helped some 8,000 youths. It accepts donations – and finds volunteers – from organizations, generous individuals and an annual fundraiser: the Martini Shakeoff, which will occur Feb. 15 at the River Center, Davenport. Tickets are \$55.

To learn more about the organization, its work and the Martini Shakeoff, go to: <https://www.havlife.org/>.



Presentation...

→**Thanks, Tewanta:** Before any announcements were made (and, unfortunately, before the *BRC News* photographer had awakened from his post-prandial nap – thus, no photo of the moment), **President Tim Lane** called pianist **Tewanta Lopez** to the front of the room. He presented her “a small token of our appreciation” for her excellent piano accompaniment of our less-than-concert-hall singing sessions. [See below for a footnote that’s right in tune.]

Announcements...

→**Pinewood Derby Judges:** **Frank Mitvalsky** thanked the Bettendorf Rotarians – **Tom Kook, Joe Campion, Ron Crist** and **Sharon Sarver** – who will arise early Saturday morning and go to Paul Norton Elementary School to be judges at the Cub Scout Pack 54 (“our

Cub pack”) Pinewood Derby. No word whether any of them took Mit up on his challenge to actually build a car and compete with the boys....

➔**Spotlight on QC Rotary / support for Miracle Field: President Tim** sweetened the incentives for representatives of BRC to attend the event **Thursday, Jan. 25**, at which the combined Iowa QC Rotaries will present a \$65,000 check to help construction of the Miracle Field, where kids can play baseball regardless of what physical limitations they may have.

“There’s free food and beer,” Tim intoned. “Besides, we’re helping pay for it – and Davenport and Iowa QC clubs have about 40 members coming.” Rotarians attend free, he added.

The event – which begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Rogalski Center, St. Ambrose University – will also shine a spotlight on other ways Rotary enriches the lives of Quad-Citizens. Media coverage is being planned.

To let the planners know you’re going to attend, contact Tim to reserve a spot (tim.lane@edwardjones.com), or RSVP directly to the planners (but tell Tim too): <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/quad-city-wide-rotary-membership-recruitment-event-tickets-41144948649>

➔**Red Badge meeting: Bill Daley** reiterated the invitation to all members with red stickers on their badge to attend the Red Badge meeting, when they’ll learn much more about Rotary – and then take the red sticker off. It’s scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, at Jersey Grill, Davenport.

➔**BBBS Putt-A-Round:** A surprise – and exceptionally loud – delegation of



Scotsmen came from (I’m guessing) St. Andrews Golf Course itself to encourage even more BRC putters to “Gie and defend our-r-r championship” of the Rotary Challenge at the fundraising Put-A-Round for Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Mississippi Valley. BRC has taken the trophy the last two years.



The apparently genuine Scots – **Tamoshanter Scott Naumann** and his bagpiping kinsman **Brad Morrison** – attempted to recruit even more stalwarts for the event that rolls off at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 1, in the Great River Hall

of the RiverCenter in Davenport. Their efforts apparently paid off – the roster now comprises **Sharon Sarver, Carol Foster, Ron Crist, Penny McGimpsey,**

Steve Sorensen, Will Doland, Scott Naumann, Rick Bormann, Peggy Schneden and President Tim – with Tim seeking one or two more, for good measure (tim.lane@edwardjones.com).



→ **Winter Party:** It's too late (or way too early) for a holiday party. But it's still a winter month, so **Carol Foster** announced the Winter Party is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, Feb. 28, at our "home," Tanglewood Hills Pavilion. Besides food and fellowship, it'll feature entertainment by improv act Guys with Ties – with more details to come.

→ **It's a make-up challenge:** **President Tim** challenged BRC members to do a make-up meeting at another club – there are 10 others in the QC, and 32,000 more world-wide – over the next two months. All make-up slips will be entered in a drawing for a fabulous prize (yet to be determined). If you're going to one of those 32,000 beyond QC borders, Tim advised checking with Club Finder at <https://www.rotary.org/> for place, meeting day and time.

BRC Happy \$\$...

President Tim Lane collected **\$184** for BRC scholarship programs from happy Rotarians, including: **Lee Marbach** – been away for a few meetings + thanks to **Will Dolan** for designing a special ring for the Marbachs to memorialize their son... **Larry Thein** – noticed **President Tim Lane** wasn't actually singing along during our Singing Rotary time ("That ought to be worth at least a \$5 fine")...

Sue Mannix – invitation to 2nd annual, free, Bettendorf Winter Carnival, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Bettendorf Public Library + Family Museum, Life Fitness Center and Faye's Field (for details, go to <http://www.bettendorf.org/eGov/apps/events/calendar.egov?view=detail;id=4603>)

... **Joe Campion** – proud Villanova alumnus noted, "The Wildcats are ranked No. 1" in basketball... **Will Dolan** – celebrating his birthday + grandfather's 103rd birthday "but he died Saturday"... **Tom Howard** – proud Purdue grad, noting Boilermakers top the Big 10 + rank No. 3 nationally... **Lyn Cochran** – her "30th" birthday + learning to play bass so she can join husband's band... **Dick Schillig** – 229 days to Run with Carl and Labor Day... **Carol Foster** – a Viking fan who loved the finish of last Saturday's game... non-singing **President Tim** – ponied up his \$5 + enjoyed watching friend's son wrestle for U of Iowa + seeing him react to Vikings' win + happy for the club's biggest Vikings fan, **Dave Deeth**... **Dr. Tom Olson** – **Dave** and wife Linda were at the Vikings game...



The meeting opened...

After **President Tim Lane** called the meeting to order and led the recitation of the 4-Way Test, song leader **Tom Howard** – accompanied by pianist **Tewanta Lopez** – led the singing of "God Bless America." Tim led the Pledge of Allegiance and Moments of Silence, during which we remembered Bettendorf friends in need of support and our troops.

After introductions, we sang "Rotary, My Rotary" and "Side by Side."

Secretary Johanna Smith introduced...

Visiting Rotarian:

Jenni Swanson, Moline Rotary

Guests:

Tewanta Lopez, pianist

Mike Vondran, HAVlife, speaker

Kim Guy, HAVlife, speaker

Ada Christopher, HoneInstead Senior Care

In all, 49 Bettendorf Rotarians, 1 visiting Rotarian and 4 guests attended.



And at the end...

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

Missing today...

Ashby, Bennett, Boeye, Brown, Calabrese, Chambers, G. Coin, DeDoncker, Dobesh, Dunbridge, Early, Eikenberry, Franks, Gallagher Sr., Gallagher Jr., Gause, Gross, Hanzelka, Hassel, Hill, Hutcheson, Kappeler, Kraft, Kraus, Larsen, Lawrence, Lokenvitz, Martinez, Mickle, Mohr, Naab, Naeve, Nelson, O’Brien, Pieart, Ploehn, Powell, Rabine, Raso, Ricketts-McCool, Ross, Saul, Scranton, Seemann, Shea, Spykstra, Tombergs, Wells, Werner, 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, Hy-Vee, 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:

Jan. 24: Jim Albracht: rebirth of the QC Steamwheelers

Thursday, Jan. 25: Combined Iowa QC Rotary event at the Rogalski Center, St. Ambrose University: Miracle Field donation

Jan. 31: Bettendorf Rotary will award grants to 15 QC not-for-profit organizations.

Feb. 7: Matt Coss, *QC Times* sports editor

Feb. 21: Bettendorf Rotary hosts **Mayor Bob Gallagher**’s State of the City report – noon, at Waterfront Convention Center

June 9, 2018: LobsterFest XII



BRC News staff...

Editor, reporter, photographer:

Fred Anderson:

fred.anderson.1144@gmail.com

Correspondent, Website host:

Johanna Smith:

Johanna_M_Smith@hotmail.com

For more on Bettendorf Rotary:

http://www.bettendorffrotary.com/melinstead_Senior_Care