



**THE
BETTENDORF
ROTARY
CLUB NEWS**
Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
Feb. 14, 2018, issue

Next two meetings:

11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2018,
At **Riverfront Convention Center**

State of the City Report



Mayor **Bob Gallagher** presents his annual report to the citizens of Bettendorf. The Rotary Club of Bettendorf acts as host of this update on the condition of the city and plans for its future.

Doors open at 11 a.m., and lunch service begins at 11:30. Mayor Bob is expected to begin his report about 12:15.

6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2018,
At **Tanglewood Hills Pavilion**

Winter Social Party

At today's meeting, **Bill Daley** pointed to sign-up sheets at each table, where members can sign up for themselves (no charge) and guests (\$10 per person) for the mid-winter party. Doors open and beverages begin to flow at 6 p.m. Food shows up at 7. Entertainment highlight is the comedy improv act **Guys with Ties**.

Last meeting:
Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018



**A look behind St.
Valentine's Day**

Don Wooten, the featured speaker at the Feb. 14 meeting, began his discourse on St. Valentine, whose day it was, by observing, "It sure makes Hallmark happy – we spend some \$18 billion on it." But as for an actual St. Valentine, Don said, "There were two of them" back in the 2nd century. One was a bishop in Umbria, Italy, but little more is known about either of them, he said. Tradition has it that St. Valentine was martyred on Feb. 14 by the Romans around the late 3rd century.

That wasn't uncommon, he continued. "A lot of saints are phony," he said; for example: "St. George and the dragon; there was no dragon." St. Christopher, the patron of travelers, is said to have been martyred in third-century Rome, but the name was applied to more than one person. St. Genesius was associated with the theatre, but he mocked Christianity before being converted – Don said his name came in handy when he founded Genesius Guild, which stages free classic theatre and opera every summer.



Explaining further, he said, "Back then they made up stories to inspire." So St. Valentine became the patron of love "and other things, including beekeepers – so he's associated with bees and flowers."

Eventually, Valentine "was taken off the official register of saints," Don continued. "He was well known in his day," but we lost track of him in the Middle Ages.

Meanwhile, Romans celebrated a festival called Lupercalia on Feb. 13-15 to purify the city of Rome and promote health and fertility. One of the fertility rites – Don's description delighted the assembled Rotarians – involved youths running through the streets with strips of goat skin affixed strategically to their body. These "instruments of purification" were called "februa" – the origin of the name of the month of February.

Although women were regarded as property for many centuries, Don said, by the "age of chivalry" in the later Middle Ages, ideas like romantic love began to emerge. Geoffrey Chaucer wrote of romance in the 14th century, and by the Victorian era in England suitors expressed their love with gifts of flowers, sweets and cards called "valentines."



Don concluded his remarks with some observations about life and love. He said, science tells us much about life, except exactly what it is. But we know this, he added: it persists, it keeps going, and it insists on reproducing itself. As for love, it has many meanings, he said; "it binds us together, and we need to find new ways to do that."



Announcements...

➔ **Putt-A-Round epilogue:** Back when **President Tim** was recruiting members to play for BRC in the Rotary Challenge portion of the Big Brothers Big Sisters Putt-A-Round fundraiser, you might recall hearing something about "a bet with the Davenport Rotary Club president." Well, today's meeting saw the

payoff – a case and a half of payoff, to be exact. So, Tim gets a good amount of suds from Davenport Rotary **President Jim Wegener**, in addition to the bragging rights we reported on last week.



But what about the rest of the Bettendorf Rotarians who brought home the three-peat trophy? They trained hard. They kept their eye on the ball. They defended the honor of BRC! Tim, I'm sure they're eager to hear about their reward.

➔**District 6000 Grant Management Seminar:** **Harry Coin** volunteered to represent BRC at this Saturday's half-day session on grants at West Liberty.

➔**District Conference:** President Tim announced that the BRC Board voted to pick up the registration expense of any member who attends the District 6000 Conference Thursday, April 12, at the

Steeplegate Inn in Davenport. To spur higher attendance, this year the conference has been turned into a series of "road shows" in several sites across the district and condensed – 5:30-8 p.m., including dinner. Sign up with Tim (tim.lane@edwardjones.com) or Secretary **Johanna Smith** (Johanna_M_Smith@hotmail.com).

➔**Red Badge follow-up:** Four new members [see page 4] got to remove the red sticker from their membership badge at the end of last night's Red Badge meeting. For those who were unable to attend, President Tim said another session to learn more about the club and Rotary in general will be set "soon."

➔**LobsterFest non-kickoff:** Saying this was *not* the actual LobsterFest kickoff, President Tim urged members to be thinking about how they would help with the



BRC's major annual fundraising event. To volunteer, contact Tim, Secretary Johanna or other members of the planning committee – such as **Ann Kappeler** (Annkappeler1950@gmail.com) or **Jonna Schuler** (jonnaschuler@iheartmedia.com).

Then Tim promised that the beginning of the quest for sponsorships – the *actual* kickoff – would occur in March. He thanked Triumph Community Bank and Abbey Carpet Gallery, last year's presenting sponsors, for repeating as this year's top sponsors as well.

BRC Happy \$\$...

President Tim Lane collected \$206 for our scholarship funds, with special amounts from: **Dr. Julie Meyers** – heading for San Diego soon to give her Mom’s ashes a resting place... **Tom Kellenberger** – \$42 for 42nd birthday + \$3 for youngest, in high school... **Jerry Felsing** – returned after weeks away because of the QC Home Show... **Bill Daley** – saw **Phil Dunbridge** in the Black Box Theatre production of “Sleuth,” and “that guy can act,” Bill said... **Ann Kappeler** – in Florida the past couple of weeks... **Harry Coin** – happy his Dad, **George Coin**, is biking in Florida... **Decker Ploehn** – seeing more clearly as he’s recovering from cataract procedure... **Penny McGimpsey** – after a week’s vacation, starting new job at Werner Restoration Services... **Ron Crist** – vacation last week + celebrating birthday and anniversary... **President Tim** – feeling down because of daughter’s health issues, then came to Rotary and friends “brightened my day.”

The meeting opened...



After the bell sounded, **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 “America the Beautiful.”

Tim led the Pledge of Allegiance and Moments of Silence, during which we remembered our troops and friends in the community in need of support.

After introductions, we sang three verses of “Sing! Everyone, Sing!” and “Let Me Call You Sweetheart,” because it’s St. Valentine’s Day.



And at the end...

... of the meeting, **Ann Kappeler** 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 \$\$*.

Secretary Johanna Smith introduced...

Visiting Rotarian:

Mark Carlson, Moline Rotary
Jim Wegener, Davenport Rotary

Guests:

Tewanta Lopez, pianist
Kaye Howard, guest of **Tom Howard**
Mike Simmons, guest of **Mark Carlson**
Don Wooten, speaker

In all, 38 Bettendorf Rotarians, 2 visiting Rotarians and 4 guests attended.

Missing today...

Arumugam, Ashby, Bennett, Boeye, Bormann, Brown, Calabrese, Chambers, Clark, Cochran, G. Coin, DeDoncker, Dobesh, Doland, Dunbridge, Early, Eikenberry, Foster, Franks, Gallagher Sr., Gause, Gross, Hassel, Hill, Hutcheson, Kraus, Larsen, Lawrence, Lokenvitz, Loweth, Mannix, Marbach, Martinez, Mickle, Mitvalsky, Mohr, Morrison, Naab, Naeve, Nelson, O’Brien, Olson, Pacha, Pedersen, Powell, Ricketts-McCool, Ross, Sarver, Saul, Schillig, Schneden, Schuler, Scranton, Seemann, Shea, Sherrick, Slavens, Thein, Tombergs, Wells, Werner, Windmiller, Worner

Make-ups...

Board Meeting: **Nanda, Spelhaug, Lane, Schuler, Smith, Foster** and **Daley**
Red Badge Meeting: **Beth Clark, Ada Christopher, Tom Kook, Tom Mielnik**

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:

Feb. 21: Bettendorf Rotary hosts **Mayor Bob Gallagher's**

State of the City report at Waterfront Convention Center – doors open at 11 a.m., lunch service at 11:30

Feb. 28: BRC Winter Social beginning at 6 p.m. – no meeting at noon

June 9, 2018: LobsterFest XII



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For more on Bettendorf Rotary:

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



For more on Rotary International:

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

