



THE BETTENDORF ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
Nov. 14, 2018, issue

Next meeting:

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018
Tanglewood Pavilion

Spotlight on Bettendorf school bond referendum

The Bettendorf Community School District has scheduled a bond referendum vote for Dec. 11 to fund building projects at schools throughout the district.

Our own **Mike Raso**, superintendent of the Bettendorf School District, is the scheduled speaker for our Nov. 28 meeting when he will discuss the bond referendum.

If it passes, the district would receive \$30 million from general obligation bonds to fund remodeling, repair and upgrade projects. While some work will be done at every school, highlight projects include a fitness center expansion, pool renovation and construction of a wrestling room at the high school.

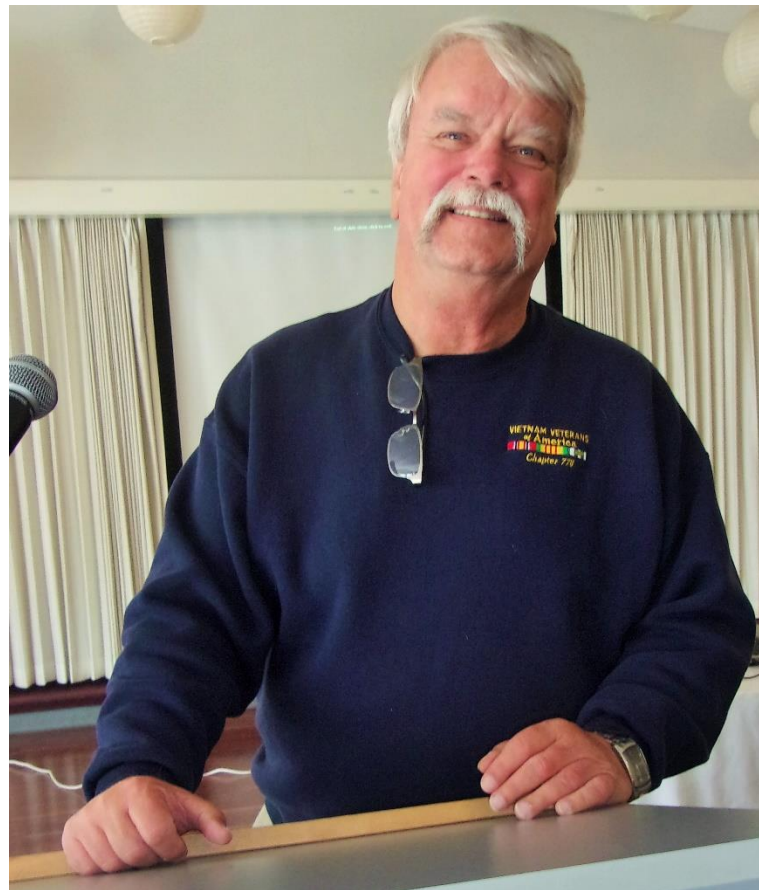
If the referendum fails, school revamp projects will still go ahead, but will take a longer time, school officials have said.



**No meeting
Nov. 21.
Happy
Thanksgiving!**

Last meeting:

Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018



Veterans Day: Honor Flights expect to reach 50th during 2019

At the Nov. 14 meeting, **David Woods**, recently retired Scott County Veterans Services officer, reported on the QC's Honor Flight program – which so far has taken some 4,400 veterans to visit war memorials and other attractions in Washington, D.C.

Honor Flight has taken 46 trips to D.C., and plans to reach 50 by the end of 2019, Dave said. He described a typical one-day trip – sprinkling his narrative with anecdotes:

→Guardians (volunteers who accompany the vets, assisting when necessary) arrive at the QC airport about 5 a.m.; veterans usually begin arriving at 5:30

→The flight is wheels-up about 7 a.m., toward arrival at Washington's Dulles Airport, where the vets and guardians visit the Air and Space Museum, which displays historic aircraft from World War I to a Space Shuttle.

→While in D.C., the Honor Fliers visit the WWII, Korean and Vietnam war memorials, the Lincoln Memorial, Tomb of the Unknown and Arlington National Cemetery.

→A highlight of every flight is "mail call," when veterans' names are called out, and they receive letters from school children and family members.

→Dinner is served at the Air Force Memorial.

Four flights are scheduled to leave from QC International Airport in 2019: April 25, May 30, Sept. 7 and Oct. 26, Dave said. Some 700 veterans are on the waiting list for Honor Flights, he added. While veterans fly free – thanks to donors, including Hy-Vee, which has underwritten 10 flights at \$50,000 each – the guardians pay their own way, about \$400, Dave said.

Bettendorf's own Veterans Memorial Park displays the names of some 900 of the city's veterans. The memorial, adjacent to the Middle Park Bandshell, has forms for veterans, or their family, to add a name, he said.

Recalling Veterans Days past at Bettendorf Rotary

Harry Coin took us back through the BRC archives to past Bettendorf Rotary commemorations of Veterans Day.

"Thanks to Bettendorf Rotarians **Tim Downing** and **Darlene Paxton**, we heard of frontiersman, trader and U.S. Army Colonel George Davenport, one of the 1840s settlers in the new U.S. Territory called 'Iowa', with its capital in Burlington. During this club's meeting on Veterans Day, 41 years ago, in 1977.



"We Rotarians heard Rock Island Arsenal Commander Alan Wilson speak of continuous Arsenal manufacturing since 1862, 16 years after Iowa became a state. Employing 6,800 people as of Veterans Day 2006. Thanks to then club president **Carolyn Luetwyler**.

"We heard from Bettendorf Rotarian and World War II veteran **Chuck Munson**, who displayed pictures he took during the landing at Iwo Jima and Okinawa. And that same day Bettendorf Rotarian **Ron Essner** spoke of his part in a naval task force of 4 carriers, 8 destroyers and 2 cruisers in the Korean conflict. During our meeting, Veterans Day 1998.

"We heard from Merle Hogue, who during the worst days of the 'Cold War' spoke to us of his experiences finishing a series of connected defense radar stations. The Distant Early Warning line or DEW Line aimed to detect nuclear attacks. It started in far western Alaskan islands, stretched in a continuous line across far northern Canada, then to Greenland and Iceland. Thanks to **Al Plumb**, Veterans Day, our founding year, 1958.

We heard from former U.S. Army artillery specialist, Bettendorf Rotarian **Maurie Marble**, then nuclear engineering manager for Iowa Illinois Gas and Electric, 16 years after the nuclear power plant in Cordova came online. Calming fears with facts in his program: ‘Chernobyl, Can it Happen Here?’ Veterans Day, 1986.

We heard from our own past president **Kevin Kraft**, who presented the U.S. Army’s Gold Award Certificate to Bettendorf Rotary for our club’s promotion of discount purchasing cards for QC veterans. That same day **Greg Adamson** invited all to the Middle Park Bandshell for the dedication of the new directory of Veterans’ names on the memorial columns at Bettendorf’s Veterans Memorial. Veterans Day, 2009.

And on July 3 2013 we heard from today’s speaker, David Woods, then director of Veterans Affairs for Scott County, serving 15,000 people. Our Scott County VA handled 105 claims per month for ongoing medical care and housing for surviving families. Dave also spoke of the Honor Flights, each then transporting 90 veterans and 70 supporters from here to the war memorials in Washington D.C. and back.

“Bettendorf Rotary honors our veterans – it always has, from our first year, back in 1958, to today.

“And that WAS the news!!”

In other BRC news...

➔**Dedication of BRC-purchased sculpture:** Shortly after the Veterans Day tribute meeting, Bettendorf Rotarians joined city officials and representatives of The Isle Casino and Hotel for the dedication of the sculpture,



“Flight Path,” that BRC donated to the city. It has been installed at the new Jetty Park – which extends into the Mississippi River just behind The Isle. It offers spectacular views of the river and the

new Interstate-74 Bridge. The sculptor, Michael Young, has created other pieces for display at public spaces around the city of Bettendorf.

Announcements...

➔**Festival of Trees Luncheon:** Since BRC will not meet next Wednesday, **Decker Ploehn** invited members to the Festival of Trees Celebrity Lunch to aid Quad-City Arts. It will take place 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 21, at the Radisson Quad City Plaza. Tickets

are \$47.50, or a table of 10 for \$475:
https://quadcityarts.secure.force.com/ticket/#sections_aof1J00001BK28pUAD.

➔**Thanksgiving baskets:** BRC members will distribute Thanksgiving food baskets to 15 Bettendorf families in need on Saturday, Nov. 17. The Hy-Vee on Devils Glen Road will have the food baskets ready to be picked up at 10 a.m., and delivery will take place 10-noon.

BRC Happy \$\$...

President Bill Daley collected **\$256** – these members told us why they're happy: **Beth Clark** – birthday this month... **Larry Thein** – his son caught pitches from a pro hurler... **Shawn Langan** – happy to see veterans as our guests today... **Kevin Kraft** – ate recently at Café Express, where Chef James – who works each year at our LobsterFest – will serve Thanksgiving dinner, free, “to all who come,” and donate any leftovers to a homeless shelter... **Tim Lane** – humbled by the veterans who were our guests today + noted that the Dec. 8 Rotary night QC Storm hockey game “is also ugly sweater night”... **Dick Schillig** – thanks to all the veterans + 292 days to Run with Carl... **George Coin** and **Frank Mitvalsky** – happy about Northwestern, and showing off their fan T-shirts... guest Tom Ahlstrand – thankful his family members in California escaped wildfires safely, and their home was spared... **Dr. Tom Olson** – thankful for his Dad Ward's service in the Navy in World War II... **Bill Daley** – happy that his girlfriend has been promoted to his fiancée.

The meeting opened...

President Bill Daley rang the bell and called the meeting to order. After leading the recitation of The 4-Way Test, he turned to song leader **Tom Howard** who,

accompanied by pianist **Tewanta Lopez**, led the singing of “The National Anthem.” Bill led the Pledge of Allegiance and Moments of Silence, during which we honored our troops and prayed for the victims of wildfires in California. After introductions, Tom returned to lead the singing of the anthems of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force.

[November birthdays, omitted from last week's issue, are: 04, Fred Anderson; 05, Jennifer Naeve; 06, Beth Clark; 13, John Sherrick; 16, Kelly Love-Sherrick and Scott Naumann; 21, Rob Spykstra and Brent Werner; 25, Christy Gause; 30, Ken Vandersnick.]

Secretary Johanna Blevins reported...

Guests:

Tewanta Lopez, pianist
David Woods, retired director, Scott County Veterans Affairs (speaker)
Tom Ahlstrand, guest of **S.K. Nanda**
Jake Pries, guest of **Kevin Kraft**
Hugh Pries, guest of **Kevin Kraft**
Josh Miller, guest of **Brian Goerd**
Greg Adamson, guest of **Kevin Kraft**
Lou Magyar, guest of **Steve Piart**
Star Jenkins, guest of **Steve Piart**
Harlen Briggs, guest of **Steve Piart**
Henry Miller, guest of **Kevin Kraft**
Bob Sartor, guest of **Fred Anderson**
Joe Dobesh, guest of **Laurie Dobesh**
Allen Nylin, guest of **Mike Simons**
Eldy Boggs, guest of **Bill Daley**
Jim Kappeler, guest of **Ann Kappeler**
Sharon Gilmore, guest of **Ada Christopher**
Terry Thomason, guest of **Joe Campion**
Rick Kielive, guest of **Steve Piart**
Jon Flower, guest of **Tom Howard**
Bob VanScyoc, guest of **Ken Vandersnick**
Glen Eakes, guest of **Russell Wright**

In all, 47 Bettendorf Rotarians attended and were joined by 22 guests.



And at the end...

... of the meeting today, **Shawn Langan** 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, Blaske, Boeye, Bormann, Calabrese, M., Cochran, DeDoncker, Dunbridge, Early, Fair, Felsing, Franks, Gallagher Sr, Gallagher Jr., Gause, Gross, Hassel, Higgs, Hill, Hutcheson, Keith, Kellenberger, Kook, Kraus, Larsen, Lawrence, Lokenvitz, Love-Sherrick, Loweth, Mannix, Marbach, Martinez, Mickle, Mielnik, Mohr, Morrison, Naab, Naeve, Naumann, Nelson, O'Brien, Pacha, Pedersen, Powell, Rabine, Ricketts-McCool, Ross, Sarver, Saul, Schneden, Scranton, Shea, Sherrick, Slavens, Spelhaug, Spykstra, Tombergs, Wells, Worner and Yoder

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 President *Bill Daley* and program chair **Scott Naumann**, scottnaumann@msn.com, 563-505-7953:



Nov. 21: No meeting: Happy Thanksgiving
Nov. 28: our own Mike Raso: Bettendorf School District bond referendum
Dec. 5: our own John Sherrick, CPA: taxation
Dec. 12: Brad Martell, YMCA capital

campaign
Dec. 19: Pleasant Valley High School Christmas music program
Dec. 26: No meeting – Merry Christmas
Jan. 23: LobsterFest grant presentations at Tanglewood Pavilion

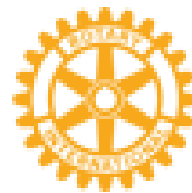
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Rotary



For more on Rotary International:

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