



**THE
BETTENDORF
ROTARY
CLUB NEWS**
Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
Jan. 9, 2019, issue

Next meeting:
Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2019
Tanglewood Pavilion



**Update on what's new in
downtown Bettendorf**

Ryan Jantzi is manager of operations of the Downtown Bettendorf Organization. At the Jan. 16 meeting he'll bring us up to speed on developments in the wake of the Interstate-74 project.

Saying, "a vibrant downtown is the heartbeat of a city..." the Downtown Bettendorf Organization's Website says it "is helping to strengthen Bettendorf's heartbeat by working collaboratively with city staff, elected officials, and downtown stakeholders to make Downtown Bettendorf a place that showcases our Bettendorf Pride.

"From the beautiful picturesque views of the Mississippi to the many amenities available in Downtown Bettendorf..." the Website goes on to describe all the effort being devoted toward making the city's revitalizing Downtown a place to "visit, shop, live and play."

Last meeting:
Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2019



**Glass art serves
2 purposes**

Hot Glass Inc. does provide instruction in the creation of glass art, and the products of its efforts are appearing in many places in the Quad Cities.

But while people develop the skill of glass-blowing something, perhaps more important, is going on, said **Joel Ryser**, its executive director, at the Jan. 9 meeting. Hot Glass uses the art as a metaphor to develop teamwork, creative exploration and risk-taking in an unfamiliar setting.

Joel, a retired Moline High School art teacher and football coach, studied glass art at Eastern Oregon University and, after retiring, looked to the Pacific Northwest for inspiration for a way to combine his skills in a new, helpful way.



Tacoma, Wash., is arguably the epicenter of glass art in the U.S. Renowned glass artist Dale Chihuly is from there. And Tacoma has developed the Hilltop Artists program, which introduces hundreds of students, in school and beyond, to glass art.



So Joel patterned Hot Glass, inspired by both of those influences, to teach the skill of glassblowing to, first, at-risk youths and later to veterans. While learning that artistic skill, they have been developing such skills as teamwork, communication, planning and decision-making, Joel said.

Results have appeared in diverse places throughout the Quad Cities, Joel said. Both Genesis and Unity Point-Trinity hospital systems have commissioned works.

The Current Iowa hotel in downtown Davenport ordered a piece of glass art for each of its 100 guest rooms. Each piece is the creation of a youth artist. Guests may purchase them, and when they do, an

order goes to Hot Glass for a replacement piece of art, Joel said.

Hot Glass has caught the imagination of a wide spectrum of supporters. Businesses and skilled trade unions have donated equipment or labor to build facilities. In addition to those sources, monetary donations come from foundations, arts organizations, businesses and private donors, Joel said.

In addition, Hot Glass helps earn its own way through sales of original works from its gallery and seasonal items, such as Halloween pumpkins and Christmas trees – all created in blown glass. Besides the youth and veteran programs, Hot Glass offers corporate teambuilding and private classes for individuals or couples.

To learn more, or to visit the gallery, check out Hot Glass at 104 Western Ave. in Davenport (“across from Modern Woodmen Park”). Call 309-236-9223 or visit www.hotglassart.org.



Hot Glass won its truck-covering in a contest by Brad Morrison’s Riverbend Signworks.

Announcements...

➔**Still T-shirts to pick up:** Some “Rotarian at Work” T-shirts remained to be picked up. There’s a free one for each BRC member – just write your name and shirt size on the list. We’ll wear them

while working on community-service projects to show how Rotary serves the community.

➔ **Rotary Night at Augustana:** The Moline Rotary has invited members of all QC Rotary clubs to attend the Vikings' basketball home game, which tips off at 7 p.m. this Saturday.

➔ **Past DG dies:** Past District Gov. Diana Reed, 2007-08, died Tuesday afternoon after hospitalization in Des Moines. Details of her funeral will be shared when they are available, according to the District 6000 office. Condolences can be sent to her husband, Rick Rarick, at 9724 Lincoln Ave., Clive, Iowa 50325.

➔ **Pinewood Derby judges needed:**



Frank Mitvalsky, liaison to Cub Scout Pack 64, said the pack's 2019 Pinewood Derby – “The fastest 6½ hours in sports!” is scheduled for the morning of Saturday, Jan. 19, at Paul Norton

Elementary School. BRC members have volunteered as judges each year since we've been the pack's sponsor. “There's only one winner” of the racing, Frank said, but there are numerous design categories – such as most patriotic and best overall – and that's where Rotarians come in. Judging begins at 9 that morning.

➔ **Grant presentations:** Bill reminded members that the Jan. 30 meeting – when BRC announces its grants to QC area charities – is an opportunity to let guests and potential new members see Bettendorf Rotary in action supporting the QC community.

➔ **BBBS Putt-A-Round Challenge:**

Beth Clark challenged BRC to defend its title – we're 4-year champs – at the 14th annual Big Brothers Big Sisters Putt-A-Round fundraiser, which runs Jan. 30-Feb. 1 in the Great Hall of Davenport's RiverCenter. The Rotary Challenge is 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31. Entry fee for a team of 4 is \$100. “I hope to see 3 to 5 teams” from BRC, Beth urged. The registration deadline is Jan. 25 – at www.puttaround.org or 563-323-8006.



BRC Happy \$\$...

President Bill Daley collected **\$541** from a remarkably short list of Rotarians who wanted to share their happiness: **Penny McGimpsey** – signed on as a Big Sister this year... **Will Doland** – 38th birthday + feeling guilty about missing some meetings... **Jonna Schuler** – she's “retiring” and moving to Kentucky to join husband Shane, where he's been working for a year – “I want to thank the membership of Bettendorf Rotary for how it's helped me grow”... **Bill Daley** – also thanking BRC for its opportunities + thanks to Jonna for all that her leadership has done for the club... **Decker Ploehn** – announced that the Bettendorf Fire Department is doing a fundraiser at Hertz Donuts Thursday morning to benefit the fallen Clinton firefighters.

The meeting opened...

After our speaker rang the bell, **President Bill Daley** called the meeting to order, led the recitation of The 4-Way Test and turned the meeting over to song leader **Tom Howard**. With pianist **Tewanta Lopez** absent, **Jerry Higgs'** laptop

provided the accompaniment as we sang “This Is My Country.” Bill led the Pledge of Allegiance and Moments of Silence, during which we honored our troops and the fallen Clinton firefighters, and we learned that Tewanta’s father is in hospital in Iowa City and **George Coin** is undergoing surgery to fix his back pain. Afterward, we joined in singing “Sing Out a Song of Rot’ry” and “The Sunny Side of the Street.”

Secretary Johanna Blevins reported...

Guest:

Joel Ryser, Hot Glass (speaker)

In all, 48 Bettendorf Rotarians attended and were joined by 1 guest.

Missing today...

Ashby, Bennett, Blaske, Boeye, Chambers, Christopher, Coin, G., Crist, DeDoncker, Dobesh, Doland, Doty, Felsing, Franks, Gallagher, Jr., Gause, Geordt, Hassel, Kappeler, Kellenberger, Kook, Kraft, Kraus, Langan, Larsen, Lawrence, Love-Sherrick, Loweth, Mannix, Martinez, Meyers, Mickle, Naab, Naeve, Naumann, Nelson, O'Brien, Rabine, Raso, Ricketts-McCool, Ross, Sarver, Saul, Schneden, Scranton, Simons, Sorenson, Thein, Tombergs, Wells, Werner, Worner, and Wright

Make-up...

Dick Schillig, Iowa Quad Cities Rotary



And at the end...

... of the meeting today, **Decker Ploehn** 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 \$\$*.

Upcoming meetings... and more

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



Jan. 16: Ryan Jantzi: manager of operations, Downtown Bettendorf Organization

Jan. 23: Harry Coin: “The Internet is your ‘on-ramp’ to the world... but also the world’s on-ramp to you, your family and

your work”

Jan. 30: LobsterFest grant presentations at Tanglewood Pavilion

Feb. 20: Bettendorf Rotary hosts as our own **Mayor Bob Gallagher** delivers the State of the City address at the Waterfront Convention Center

Feb. 27: Meet the new director of Quad City International Airport

For more on Bettendorf Rotary:

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



For more on Rotary International:

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