



**THE
BETTENDORF
ROTARY
CLUB NEWS...
in the time of Covid-19**

**Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
March 3, 2021, 44th Covid issue**

***Next, at Tanglewood
Pavilion and via ZOOM:
March 10, 2021***

**John DeDoncker to give
his economic forecast**



You learn this joke in your first class on economics: “If you laid all of the nation’s economists end-to-end, they’d never reach a conclusion.” That may have raised a chuckle about a year ago... but 2020 turned out to be no laughing matter for anyone.

So, when our own **John DeDoncker** presents his annual economic forecast at the March 10 meeting, we all – John included – probably should add this coda to the end of his predictions: “If the Covid-19 pandemic goes away.”

Still, John’s yearly forecast, supported by the economic resources of TBK Bank, of which he is president, is always one of our favorite meetings of the year. And it will be good to learn what he sees ahead for us all... if we can get back to what we used to call “normal.”

***This issue:
March 3, 2021***



**Chief provides
look inside BPD**

After providing a status report on the Bettendorf Police Department, **Chief Keith Kimball**, the featured speaker at our March 3 meeting, reassured us that “I can guarantee that what happened in Minneapolis (the killing of unarmed George Floyd by police officers there) would not happen here.”

Responding to a question from a member, Keith said every facet of BPD management – from hiring through training, departmental policies and accountability – would have prevented that kind of incident in Bettendorf. He mentioned two other factors that he says

help ensure professionalism: Bettendorf has had patrol-car and body cameras for more than 5 years to record officers' actions. And the force is "highly educated" – about 35 of the 45 members of the force have bachelor's degrees.

Since about mid-year 2020, leaders of Bettendorf, Davenport and Scott County have been meeting twice monthly with representatives of the NAACP, LULAC and other groups to discuss issues and build relationships among all members of the QC community, Keith said. Topics range well beyond policing, he said, to societal issues such as poverty, housing, employment and more.

Of concern to all in those discussions, he said, is the recent surge in juvenile crime, especially automobile thefts. He said stolen cars often are involved in other crimes, such as the shooting death last week of a 14-year-old Davenport boy.

He said a key factor in preventing future youth crime is the involvement of adults who provide good role models – and he praised such groups as Big Brothers Big Sisters as well as parents who work to inculcate positive values for kids.



In conversation after the meeting, **City Manager Decker Ploehn** mentioned that Keith was the last officer he recruited into the BPD as chief. That was 31 years ago; after serving in many capacities, Keith became chief about 3 years ago.



Presentation...

➔**PHF + 1: Tim Lane** received the Paul Harris Fellow + 1 ruby pin from **S.K. Nanda**, signifying that Tim has donated more than \$2,000 to the Rotary Foundation.

Before the presentation, S.K. in his role as representative of TRF and liaison to the international organization, conducted a small quiz. He asked for the name of the next president of RI, and the motto for his presidential term. The answers:

Shekhar Mehta, of the Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar, West Bengal, India, is nominated for president of Rotary International for 2021-22. His motto, S.K. said, will be: "Serve to Change People."



Announcements...

➔**District 6000's Ride to End Polio: Will Doland** announced a district-wide campaign to raise funds for Rotary's PolioPlus this year. Each member in the



district is asked to pledge \$30 (or more) and support that with a commitment to “do 30 units of something physical,” such as walk or run

30 miles, or exercise for 30 minutes daily, between now and April 10. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation will match each \$30 donation 2-to-1; each one can purchase 110 polio vaccinations.

→ Important District 6000 events:



2020-21 DG Steve Dakin, attending via ZOOM, announced details of two upcoming district events:

→RYLA:

Attendance at the district’s Rotary Youth Leadership Academy in July will be limited to two

high school students per Rotary club, he said, and will be held July 22-26 at Grinnell College.

→District Conference: Attendance at the April 24 event is limited to 124 in-person, he said, but on-line attendance is an option (follow link, below). Under the theme of “Living the 5 Way Test,” the conference will be held at the Ankeny Courtyard Marriott, 4:30-9 p.m.

As described in the district Website, “The evening starts with a social time with cash bar and time to look at project displays, followed by a meal of your choice and of course, fellowship! There will be stories, a yummy dessert auction and a quilt auction, awards and a

wonderful opportunity to meet Rotarians from other clubs and HAVE SOME FUN! This is a chance to participate in a district event that is a short time commitment, and is cost friendly.” For more information, and to register, click: <https://rotary6000.org/event/conference--stories-and-fellowship---boone/>.



→Scott Naumann joins D6K Board: DG-Elect Alka Khanolkar, attending via ZOOM, announced that our own **Scott Naumann** has been chosen to be the at-large member of the district Board.

→A special raffle coming up: Tom Mielnik is a co-chair on the leadership committee for a BRC raffle to be held later this Spring to raise funds for the club foundation. If you would like to be on the leadership committee, please contact Tom at his cell, 563-940-6562, or email hawkeyemielnik@aol.com.

BRC Happy \$\$...

President Rick Bormann asked members to share sources of their happiness during the past week: He started – his 50th birthday this month... **Larry Thein** – thanks to Erica with Wellspire Nursing Home, who took good care of his father... **Tim Lane** – happy to

be meeting in person again... **Scott Naumann** – thankful for his District Board appointment, saying Rotary International has set a goal to raise the



membership from 1.2 million to 1.3 million members with more gender balance... **Ken Brooks** – plug for

Boys & Girls Club Virtual Gala, 4:30 p.m. Saturday, March 6... **Erica Schroeder- Cerda** – happy to be back meeting in person... **Brian Strusz** (as Pleasant Valley superintendent) and **Michelle Morse** (as Bettendorf superintendent) – thanks to all voters in Tuesday’s special election who continued the 1-cent allocation of tax money marked for school improvements... **Dr. Tom Olson** – happy to be back meeting together + wanted to say he’ll mute while on ZOOM from now on, so **Decker Ploehn** can’t hear his dog bark... **Will Doland** – fitting number of \$\$ for his 40th birthday, which was in December... **Decker Ploehn** – joined the chorus of those who are happy to be back meeting in person.

The meeting opened...

For the first time in months – nobody really cares to remember how many – **President Rick Bormann** called the 44th meeting of the Bettendorf Rotary Club in the time of Covid-19 to order *at both Tanglewood Pavilion and via ZOOM*. At the Pavilion members generally observed a sort of casual version of distancing. The table-top Plexiglas partitions, which were ordered early this year, still had not been delivered.

But on ZOOM, Murphy’s Law kicked in a bit. For the first time, we had two laptops in the meeting room, which were intended to show remote members both the speaker and the big screen. We also had three district officers attending Gov. Steve Dakin, **Gov.-Elect Alka Khanolkar** and **Assistant Gov. Dennis Drager** – and Steve and Alka made announcements. (Also an unknown number of participants probably left their computers off “mute”). All of these factors apparently were too much for ZOOM, resulting in a moment of audio feedback and a persistent echo.



[There were no permanent casualties, and these glitches will get fixed, I’m certain; Ed. Fred.]

After Rick called the meeting to order, he briefly introduced BPD Chief Keith Kimball and then led the recitation of the 4-Way Test. On ZOOM, **Dick Hanzelka** sang the day’s patriotic song, “God Bless America.” Rick led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Moment of Silence, when we made special mention of our troops, those suffering because of Covid-19 and our first-responders.

Club Secretary Shelly Naumann greeted in-person visitors, Pieter Hanson, Moline Rotary Club, and Chris von Gries, guest of **S.K. Nanda**.



In March, say happy birthday to these members of BRC: 04, **Tracy Naab**; 21, **Jenny Garlach**; 25, **Rick Bormann** and **Tim “Chopper” Shea**; 27 **Michael Simons**; 31, **Ron**

Crist, Dave Falk and Kevin Koellner.
[Remember the dessert bars and cookies to treat the birthday folks – and anybody else who wants one? Something else to bring us back to the new normal...]

Upcoming meetings...

Meeting programs thanks to Program Chair **Scott Naumann**, 563-505-7953; scottnaumann@msn.com:

March 10: Our own **John DeDoncker** presents his annual economic forecast, which is always one of our favorite meetings of the year



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For more on Bettendorf Rotary:

Website:

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bettendorfrotary>

To join BRC meetings, at noon every Wednesday:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85935276889?pwd=RFhGOGQ0eU5vaEFNYjB2TjR4WWtydz09>

Meeting ID: 859 3527 6889

Passcode: 069113

For more on Rotary International:

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



Rotarians elsewhere...

The Rotary Foundation Minute...

[Thanks to **S.K. Nanda**, BRC’s Rotary Foundation chair]



Welcome to March, the Water and Sanitation Month of Rotary International.

March is the month when RI focuses on water and sanitation projects worldwide. TRF is changing the world by providing grants for projects aimed at improving water, sanitation and hygiene. Since 2013, TRF has invested in more than 1,000 WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) projects in more than 100 countries. To kick off the Water and Sanitation Month, this Foundation

Minute's report highlights a project reflecting this theme.

A Rotary Foundation Global Grant recently made it possible for \$85,000 worth of PPE (personal protective equipment) to be donated to 415 facilities across Minnesota. The initial grant for the project came from The Rotary Club of Maple Grove along with the India Association of Minnesota and several clubs from Thane, India. TRF provided the Global Grant of \$60,000 to supplement the financial contributions of Rotary Clubs of City of Lakes, Uptown, Golden Valley, St. Louis Park, Plymouth and Minneapolis. The 415 facilities beneficiaries of this grant received 400 gallons of hand sanitizer, 150,000 disposable wipes, 625 goggles, 70,000 gloves, 56,000 disposable masks, 9,000 KN95 masks, 1,575 face shields, 400 thermometers, 500 oximeters, 1,000 fabric gowns and 8,000 fabric masks.

\$24 is all it takes to provide one person with safe water.

110 Schools in Ghana have better sanitation and hygiene due to Rotary intervention

2030 is the year RI hopes to finish providing everyone with safe water.

In Rotary,
Olabisi Gwamna Ph.D,
Rotary Club of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa
Editor, Foundation Minute



Rotary District 6000 governor...

'The fifth test' – "Is it fun?"

(A dose of humor, hopefully to help start your Rotary week with a smile. Version 34)

Police were summoned to a daycare center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

Proud to be a Rotarian,
Steve Dakin, District Governor 2020-21
steve@retiredfun.net

A promotional poster for the 'Ride to End Polio' event. The poster features the Rotary logo and text: 'Rotary District 6000, Iowa presents RIDE TO END POLIO'. It includes a call to action: 'CALLING ALL TO JOIN PLEDGE \$30 (OR MORE!)'. Below this, it states 'Each \$30 pledge = 110 vaccinations!' and 'Together we can END polio'. The poster lists activities: 'PLAY NOW THRU APRIL 10', 'RIDE' (with a bicycle icon), 'RUN' (with a runner icon), 'WALK' (with a walking icon), and 'ANYTHING' (with a key icon). A question asks 'Can Your Club Reach 100% Participation?'. At the bottom, it says 'POWER Each dollar is \$3 thanks to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation' and 'TOGETHER WE CAN SEE THE END OF POLIO' with an illustration of a runner.