



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

**Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
March 24, 2021, 47th Covid issue**

*Next, at Tanglewood
Pavilion plus via ZOOM:*

March 31, 2021

**Rescheduled: A U.S. Navy
career on submarines**



Originally slated for March 3, but postponed to March 31 because of Covid-19 vaccination, we'll meet **Capt. Dan Moore**, U.S. Navy (ret), who spent much of his 27-year career aboard or commanding nuclear submarines.

Dan served the early years of his career aboard fast attack submarines. As an officer on two boats, 1969-76, he deployed four times to the Western Pacific. After two years in Washington, D.C. (where he met and married his wife, Kathy), he deployed aboard two more submarines, as executive officer and then commander.

Dan served at the Naval Academy then on the staff of the Atlantic Submarine Force commander. Returning to sea, he commanded a squadron when five of his submarines saw action in the First Persian Gulf War. Dan finished his career on the chief of naval operations staff and then the Joint Staff at the Pentagon.

This issue:
March 24, 2021



**From saints to *h.*
sapiens and back**

The original idea was for **Don Wooten** to talk about St. Patrick on his day, but the pandemic got in the way, so he spoke to us a week later about many saints (including St. Pat; see below) and a whole lot more. Don loves to do research, and when he gets going it's a fascinating journey; here's a poor imitation of some of the verbal terrain he led us through:

→The Catholic Church has named thousands of saints, including the 42 for March 24. Don singled out two of his favorites: St. Katherine of Sweden and her mother, St. Bridget, both of whom

were described as beautiful, and who lived out their lives in Rome.

→Another of Don's favorites, Fr. Oscar Romero was a priest and later bishop in El Salvador, where his work among the poor put him at odds with the country's dictator, who had him assassinated in 1980. He was canonized in 2018 by Pope Francis.

→Regarding saints in general, Martin Luther, an Augustinian monk whose early 16th century opposition to many Catholic practices led to the Protestant Revolution, said saints were not needed to intercede between humans and God.

→In addition to saints, every day in the year celebrates many other things, Don said. For example 19 days call attention to specific medical conditions or body parts, from the eyes to colo-rectal cancer.

→This week is American Chocolate Week, he said, and the 24th is National Chocolate-covered Raisin Day.

→Virtually every profession and occupation has a patron saint, and he named a few favorites. St. Genesius of Rome is the patron of actors (logical, since Don founded the Genesius Guild, which performs Classic Greek and Shakespearean plays) and lawyers. [Further research reveals he's also the patron saint of "barristers, clowns, comedians, converts, dancers, people with epilepsy, musicians, printers, stenographers and victims of torture." His feast day is Aug. 25; Ed Fred]

→Nations have patron saints, Don said, including Canada, which has two who were martyred for preaching the gospel to indigenous peoples. The U.S. has no patron saint, nor does Great Britain – but each nation within it does; England's is St. George, whom it shares with Greece – "but he never existed," Don said.

→Those nations also share St. Nicholas, who was a real person.



Don Wooten chatted with President Rick Bormann and Scott Naumann after his talk

→St. Patrick was also real, Don continued. He was the son of a Roman father and Saxon mother, who lived in the 4th and 5th centuries. He was born a pagan, who was kidnapped by pirates and taken to Ireland, escaped and returned to England, converted to Christianity and went back to evangelize Ireland.

→Legends about St. Patrick abound, one of which is that he drove snakes out of Ireland. In fact, Don said, snakes never existed there – nor in Iceland, Greenland, New Zealand and arctic Canada.

→That led Don to relate stories about snakes he kept for a time in a terrarium at his home. That segment ended with a tale about Clio, a boa constructor, who caught a cold that eventually killed her.

→"... Which shows," he said, "that animals can catch diseases from humans, just as we catch them from animals, like the Covid-19 virus, that came from bats."

→While on the subject of killers, he noted that the most venomous snake is in Africa, the most poisonous snake species live in Australia, and the most deadly species of all is the mosquito, which spreads illnesses that kill millions of people each year.

→No. 2 on the list of most deadly species is the human, Don continued, which kills half a million of its own species each year – noting that there had been seven mass shootings in the U.S. in the last seven days, ending with the 10 people shot the day before by a deranged man in Boulder, Colo., with an assault rifle.

→When Don served in the Illinois General Assembly, he pointed out, “It didn’t hurt anybody when we banned assault weapons....”

→Speaking of legislatures, he said there are about a dozen lobbyists for each member of Congress – all trying to intercede on behalf of some entity.

→The idea of saints as intercessors to help people get to Heaven became necessary, Don said, when the Catholic Church created the concept of purgatory.

→That was far from the only concept humans have invented to protect themselves, Don said, referring to a book called “Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind,” by Yuval Noah Harari. Such constructs – religions, nations, races... – are useful to keep people together when confronting “the other,” but difficult to break down when humans in different groups must join together.

→Don used his own 93 years of life to illustrate: He was a child in the Great Depression, when unrelated people had to cooperate just to survive. And he was in his youth during World War II, when allies from many nations had to band together to defeat the Axis Powers.

Now, people across the world need to cooperate again, Don urged, to take on the twin global problems of a pandemic and global climate change – exemplified by the many Central Americans, “where it’s no longer fit to live,” struggling to enter the U.S. In conclusion, he said, “we must ... become saints ourselves.”

Announcements...

→**\$150 to another nonprofit:** **Scott Naumann** participated in the 3-mile walk-run called the Easter Egg Scramble – to which BRC donated \$150.

→**Tiny House Project:** The QC Rotary Clubs’ project to build a tiny house needs volunteers to work. **President Rick Bormann** will confirm the date and work to be done at next week’s meeting.

→**BRC Fundraising Raffle:** **Ann Kappeler** was absent today, but Rick promised she would have more details on the committee’s work next week.

→**BRC takes over holiday parades:**



Decker Ploehn announced that, with the change in the Bettendorf Park Board’s structure, it was necessary for someone to take over the job of lining up floats and groups that participate in the

July 4th and Halloween parades – so he volunteered BRC. Asking for 2-3 more to join him, **Harry Coin** volunteered to work for the 2-3 hours pre-parade to line them up. He declared the action “a Bettendorf Rotary Club service project.”

→**BRC goes international:** The Rotary Club in a suburb of Manila, Philippines, has asked BRC to become a long-term partner in projects. Its president – a roommate of Harry Coin when they were students at Stanford University – will join a conference call at 7 p.m. next Monday to discuss details; Harry said there’s room for one more person to join the call.



BRC Happy \$\$...

Despite a frozen ZOOM connection preventing those connected members from sharing, **President Rock Bormann** took the microphone into the room to capture these bits of happiness from members attending in-person: **Larry Thein** – at a baseball training event, his son improved his “Pop-X” time – the interval between when the catcher catches a pitch and then throws it to second base – by 1.97 seconds... **Tim Lane** – daughter is engaged (though, typical of fathers of daughters, he’s not so sure about that guy...)... **Maria Osterberg** – her little one is now a year old + Eldridge YMCA is holding its groundbreaking ceremony on Thursday... **Decker Ploehn** – kudos for the terrific job snowplow drivers did keeping Bettendorf streets cleared over the winter (I have to share: after one storm, as I shoveled out the plowed-in end of my driveway, the plow returned... backed up, cleared most of my driveway apron; the driver waved, I pantomimed thanks, and he continued on; Ed. Fred)... **Bill Daley** – (remember him?) “It’s great to be back after 15 months... and the best year in 10. God is good?”

The meeting opened...

President Rick Bormann called to order the 47th meeting of the Bettendorf Rotary Club in the time of Covid-19. After

welcoming members, he led the recitation of the 4-Way Test. Via 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 honored our troops, those suffering because of Covid-19. **Larry Thein** asked that we support his Mom as she is undergoing surgery for a wrist she injured in a fall.

Carol Foster introduced visitors: Paul Boffeli, president of Build to Suit, guest of **Tim Lane**; Pat Doyle, guest of **Scott Naumann**; and **Harry Coin** introduced his sister Jennifer.

At the end...



... of the meeting today, **Maria Osterberg** received the “Happy to Have a Make-up” drawn from among the names of members who shared the source of their happiness

in today’s ‘BRC Happy \$\$.’

In closing the meeting, Rick reminded us to be proud to be Bettendorf Rotarians

Make up at another QC club...

[NOTE: If any of these listings need to be updated, please notify the editor; thanks]

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...

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

March 31: First slated for March 3, but postponed because of Covid-19 shots, we’ll meet **Capt. Dan Moore**, U.S. Navy (ret), who spent much of his career aboard or commanding nuclear submarines.



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For more on Bettendorf Rotary:

Website:

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

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

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...



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 38)

“A closed mouth gathers no foot.”

Steve Dakin, District Governor 2020-21
steve@retiredfun.net



The Rotary Foundation Minute...

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



Providing Clean Water With Our Foundation

So much in our lives depends on access to clean water. We wash our hands with it to keep ourselves and our communities healthy, cook meals with it to nourish our bodies, and rely on it for proper sanitation. Yet there are still communities around the world that don't have reliable sources of clean water, but you can help.

Gifts from donors to The Rotary Foundation help provide access to clean water around the world. Residents of the Fulani Doka Mai-Jama'a community in Kaduna, Nigeria, can now use water from a solar-powered borehole water supply system. In Australia, Rotarians are empowered to clean the rivers in their communities. In the United States, Rotarians fought toxic blue-green algae in the Great Lakes. Rotary members partnered with local fishermen to build an artificial reef that helped save the fishing industry in Atimonan, Quezon Province, Philippines.

You can help ensure that people everywhere have access to this valuable resource with a gift to The Rotary

Foundation. Your gift helps fund water, sanitation, and hygiene programs that empower Rotary's people of action to mobilize resources, form partnerships, and invest in infrastructure and training that all yield long-term change.

This World Water Day, we hope you can take action and make a donation to ensure clean water for those who need our help in communities around the world.

Sincerely,
The Rotary Foundation

[Find more about all of these projects at: <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=rm&ogbl#inbox/FMfcgxwLswRTWplDzMt dqdpDhlnfPCJJ>.]

