



THE BETTENDORF ROTARY CLUB NEWS...

**Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
Dec. 15, 2021**

Next:

**Dec. 22 and Dec. 29 at
Tanglewood Pavilion**

**22nd: Holiday party
29th: no meeting**



Instead of a regular meeting on **Dec. 22**, come and enjoy some holiday cheer **noon- 2 p.m.** – and bring a guest if you’d like. Here are the details:

→Members come free; one guest is also free; added guests come for \$13 each

→Special food – deliciously planned by our Hostess Julie and **Penny McGimpsey**

→Soft drinks are included.

Members and one guest get one ticket good for one drink of a harder beverage. Additional guests get one drink ticket.

Younger guests get free soft drinks

→Live music with a Country flair from vocalist / guitarist Jordan Danielson

→**Scott Naumann** and the cast of

thousands in his head are planning some seasonally tasteful entertainment

→Opportunities to support An Acre of Warmth and, possibly, Lulu, a therapy dog to-be

Dec. 15, 2021



Nahant brings nature back to QC

At the Dec. 15 meeting, we learned we have many reasons to brag about a uniquely Quad-City attraction, Nahant Marsh, a 305-acre nature preserve in southwest Davenport. For the past 15 years, **Brian Ritter** has been Nahant’s executive director, and he told us how the \$3.7 million raised in the current fund drive will improve the marsh.

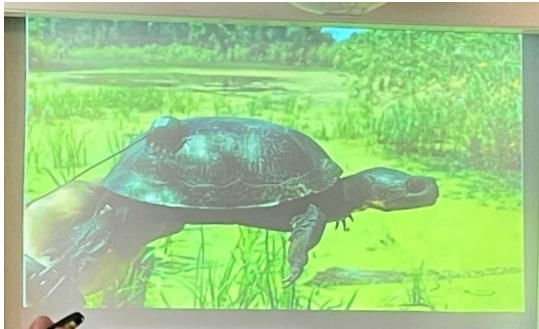
A recent *Quad-City Times* article reported plans are “to build a new operations center, buy more land for habitat restoration and extend public trails...” Those plans will upgrade and expand facilities and programming, but here’s some of what’s already happening at Nahant, which is part of a 513-acre wetland bordered by the Mississippi River and Interstate-280:

Nahant is one of 10 interpretive wetland centers on the Mississippi, which lies at the intersection of two interstate biking and hiking trails.

It's the largest urban wetland in Iowa, a state where 95% of the original wetland area was drained after European settlement.

Thanks to collaboration among Nahant, the City of Davenport and the Eastern Iowa Community College District, the marsh serves as the basis for educational programs at St. Ambrose University, Scott Community College and on-site at Nahant. Educational programs in 2019 reached some 22,000 people – including 1,000 college students.

In the last six years Nahant has partnered with the National Science Foundation on research projects with special emphasis for minority students. The oldest project



focuses on the endangered **Blandings Turtle**, which is at home at Nahant. Researchers track their movements using radio transmitters attached to their shell. Brian said they successfully hatched four eggs – three of the little turtles are thriving, but the fourth “became a meal for a mink.”

The population of another endangered species, the Rusty-Patch Bumble Bee, is expanding at Nahant, thanks in part to support from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Brian said.

Continual cleanup efforts at Nahant have removed so much trash that it now is a thriving habitat for some 500-plus plant species, 42 animal species and more than

200 bird species. Resurging species include the once-thought-extinct river otter – Brian showed a photo of a happy little guy with a fish in its mouth.

Besides habitat, Nahant is an important factor in fighting Mississippi River flooding. Over the last decade, flooding has increased to such an extent that floods have added up to the equivalent of one full year. Since it is connected to the river, the marsh provides a place for some of that floodwater to go, Brian explained.

With money from the current fundraising Brian said more wetlands can be brought into the complex – removing junk of every description and providing more space to redevelop native wetlands and prairie environments.

Any landowner – even those of us who live on small urban lots – can “go native,” Brian said, and grow native plant species, which attract native wildlife.

Nahant, by the way, is also the name of a saltwater marsh in Massachusetts; it's an Algonquin word meaning “land between waters.”



The Nahant Marsh Education Center is open 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and 9 a.m.-noon Saturday – extended to 3 p.m. April-October. Trails are open sunrise-sunset



Announcements...

→ **An Acre of Warmth: Ann Kappeler** reported that the blanket distribution to social service agencies is continuing. “If you know of anybody else who needs blankets, let **Joe Campion** know,” she said, adding that monetary contributions will be used to buy more blankets as necessary.

→ **Guests: President Larry Thein** reminded us that our birthday month won’t be complete unless we bring at least one guest that month. “One out of every 12 visitors will become a new member,” he said.

→ **Christmas baskets: Mike Ingleby** reiterated that volunteers can pick up baskets for their recipient family 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, at the Devils Glen Hy-Vee. The club will reimburse up to \$50 per gift for each child in the family – just give the receipt to



Club Secretary Shelly Naumann. Each family’s basket will include a new blanket, Mike added.

→ **Dates to remember:** Larry Thein gave us these dates to put on our calendar:

→ **Red Badge meeting, Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022,** at the Tanglewood Chapel reception room. “We’ll also schedule another new-member induction,” he said.

→ **Awarding of grants, Feb. 16, 2022,** at the Waterfront Convention Center:

“We’ll award \$37,000 in grants – the most we’ve ever done,” he said. The event, to which media and the public will be invited, will run 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

→ **Holiday party: Harry Coin** filled in details of the **Dec. 22, noon-2 p.m.** Holiday

Party: Members come free; one guest is also free; added guests come for \$13 each.

→ **Special food –** you’ll just have to come to see what Hostess Julie, aided and abetted by **Penny McGimpsey**, will have cooked up...

→ **An interesting drink policy:** Soft drinks are included. Members get one ticket good for one drink of a harder beverage. That includes the first guest. Subsequent guests get one drink ticket... unless the guest is too young for a drink ticket, then it’s back to free soft drinks. If in doubt, ask the person behind the bar...

→ **Live music with a Country flair** from vocalist / guitarist Jordan Danielson, **Tim Lane’s** favorite live musician

→ **Scott Naumann** doing something seasonally tasteful as only he and all of the personalities who live in his head can

→ **Opportunities to support An Acre of Warmth** and, possibly, Lulu, a therapy dog to-be, who needs a little more help to complete training



BRC Happy \$\$ Plus...

President **Larry Thein** went around the room with the microphone to record these bits of members' happiness: **Dean Kraus** – enjoyed his birthday weekend...

Mayor Bob Gallagher channeling **Decker Ploehn** – if you haven't already paid \$20 – and you know why you should – pay me now... **Joe Pacha** – 49th

wedding anniversary... **Scott Naumann** – good to be back having full houses for “Murder Mysteries” at Skellington Manner, such as last weekend (with more to come – check Skellington schedule)...

Craig Windmiller – really happy to be back and headed for Mayo to get full diagnosis – thanks for the support... **Dick Hanzelka** – after 25 days in hospital, really glad to be here... **Steve Roberts** –

wife with breast cancer – Monday was her last chemo treatment, so things looking up... **Maria Osterberg** – birthday... **Tom Mielnik** – 70th

birthday... guest Matt Sturdevant – happy to be **Larry Thein**'s partner: he never seems to lack something to talk about... **Dr. Tom Olson** – birthday of his daughter in Chicago + “What do you

have when you add 10 lady pigs and 10 deer?” “Ten sows ‘n’ bucks.” (Groan!)



The meeting opened...

President **Larry Thein** hit the bell, called the meeting to order and asked **Dean Kraus** to lead the recitation of The Four-Way Test.

Tom Howard led the singing of the day's patriotic song, “America the Beautiful.” **Mike Vondran** led the Pledge of Allegiance. Larry led the Moment of Silence – during which we welcomed back **Dick Hanzelka** and

Craig Windmiller after their respective medical journeys; learned that **Greg Blaske** injured his distal bicep (about which he asked, “Know any good physical therapists?”); marked the passing of former member **Frank Schwab**, whose obit was in today's newspaper; and especially remembered our troops and all of the victims and survivors of the past week's tornadoes.

Larry channeled **Club Secretary Shelly Naumann**, who had to leave early, as he introduced guests Whitney Misfeldt, the guest of **Maria Osterberg**, and Matt Sturdevant and Dane De Decker, guests of Larry.

At the end...



... of the meeting today, **Mayor Bob Gallagher** won the drawing for a free make-up from among the names of members who shared their news in today's

installment of “BRC Happy \$\$ Plus.”

For more on Bettendorf Rotary...

Website:

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

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

BRC News staff...

Editor, reporter: Fred Anderson
fred.anderson.1144@gmail.com

Correspondent, Website host:

Shelly Naumann:

bettendorffrotary@gmail.com

To join BRC meetings...

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7823748708?pwd=Q1dKblVLSFhLZUJZVnA3YzVnLzRKZz09>

Meeting ID: 782 374 8708

Passcode: 236034

Upcoming meetings & more...

Meeting programs thanks to Program Chair **Scott Naumann, 563-505-7953;**

scottnaumann@msn.com:

Saturday, Dec. 18: Deliver Christmas food baskets to less fortunate Bettendorf neighbors

Dec. 22: noon-2 p.m. Holiday Party

Dec. 29: No meeting – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2022: Red Badge meeting at Tanglewood Chapel reception room

Feb. 16, 2022: Awarding of \$37,000 in BRC Charitable Grants, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at

the Waterfront Convention Center

April 22-23, 2022: All-Iowa District Conference (Districts 6000 and 5970), Coralville Hyatt

June 4-8, 2022: Rotary International Convention, Houston, Texas

Make up at another QC club...

[NOTE: To update any of these listings, please notify the editor; thanks]

Monday, noon: Davenport – Davenport YMCA

Monday, noon: Moline –Trinity Lutheran Church, Moline

Monday, 6 p.m.: QC Illinois – Club Room, Hy-Vee, 7th Street & John Deere

Road, Moline [changing soon...]

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



Rotary elsewhere...

The Rotary Foundation Minute...



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

Welcome to Week Two of RI's Month of Disease Prevention & Treatment.

Each year The Rotary Foundation awards up to 50 fully funded Rotary Peace Fellowships. These are for dedicated leaders from around the world to study

for 18 months at one of its seven peace centers. Rotary Peace Fellows are selected from countries and cultures around the globe. Their prior experiences in peacebuilding and their potential for future leadership roles in conflict resolution are part of the criteria.

This year, Cassandra Varanka, sponsored by Bridgton-Lakes Region Rotary Club (Dist. 7780, Massachusetts), was one of the recipients. Chosen from nearly 600 applicants from around the world, Varanka will study at the University of Queensland's (Australia) Rotary Centre for International Studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution, starting in 2023.

The Rotary Centre for International Studies is part of a global program to advance research, teaching, practical training and knowledge on issues of international relations, conflict resolution and peace-building. These centers offer a tailored master's degree in international studies, aimed at potential world and community leaders, designed to have a practical effect on addressing international and regional conflicts.

Varanka has had extensive policy experience in nuclear disarmament as a congressional aide, and in leadership positions at Foreign Policy for America and Women's Actions for New Directions. Her goal is to use newly acquired skills to forward the use of diplomatic rather than military solutions for conflict resolution. The fellowship, worth more than \$75,000, will fully fund tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation and all internship and applied field study expenses.

In Rotary,
Olabisi Gwamna, PhD
Rotary Club of Mt. Pleasant,
Editor, Foundation Minute

For more on Rotary International:
<https://www.rotary.org/>

Rotary District 6000 governor...



The R.I.S.E. Action Team shares this.

"I love getting cute little morning texts like, "your order has been shipped".

IN ROTARY FELLOWSHIP

Alka K Khanolkar | District 6000
Governor 2021-22
Email - akhanolkar6000@gmail.com
Cell – 319-504-9857

All Iowa District Conference

Friday, April 22-Saturday, April 23, 2022, at the Coralville Hyatt.
It combines Districts 6000 (south) and 5970 (north).

Early bird discount for registration by Jan. 1, 2022: check with Carolyn Scharff at the District Office, 877-976-8279.

Rotary International Convention

Houston, Texas, June 4-8, 2022
12-16 June 2021 Rotary Virtual Convention

To register:

<https://convention.rotary.org/en/houston/register>

An unexpected visitor to last week's meeting was too shy to come in from the parking lot and wish us Happy Holidays – thankful he had escaped someone's Thanksgiving table.

