



# THE BETTENDORF ROTARY CLUB NEWS

**Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club**  
*April 22, 2009, issue*

## *Next meeting:*

Noon Wednesday, April 29, 2009,  
The Fortune Garden Restaurant...

## Roundup of 2009 Iowa Legislature

We get political – Iowa legislative politics, to be exact – when our own **Linda Miller**, Republican State Representative from the 82nd District, presents a recap of the 2009 legislative session, which is scheduled to wrap up by then.



Linda has represented the 82nd District since 2007, after defeating long-time Iowa Rep. Joe Hutter in the 2006 election. She currently serves on the House committees on

Education, Ways and Means and Human Resources, where she is the ranking Republican member. She also serves on the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee.

Besides Bettendorf Rotary, Linda belongs to several other civic and professional organizations, including DavenportOne, the Bettendorf Chamber of Commerce, Scott Community Foundation Board, Davenport Community School Foundation Board, the Iowa Medical Alliance and the Scott County Medical Alliance, according to her legislative biography. She is a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Bettendorf.

If you would like to receive her legislative newsletter, email her at [linda.miller@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:linda.miller@legis.state.ia.us).

## *Last meeting:*

Wednesday, April 22, 2009 ...

## A look at the new Waterfront C.C.

On a “field trip” to the new Quad-Cities Waterfront Convention Center, the Bettendorf Rotary Club dined on a tasty lunch – and learned all about the city’s newest meeting venue from our **Decker Ploehn**, City Administrator, and



**Nancy Donovan**, manager of the Isle of Capri Hotel and the center. Decker noted all the Rotarians who played roles in making the facility a reality: Tim Downing, whose architectural firm produced the design; John DeDoncker,



**Touring the Waterfront Convention Center were Carolyn Leutwyler, Decker Ploehn, Lee Semenow and Tim Dowling.**

who as president of THE National Bank provided the financing; and **Jeff Lanum**, whose **Russell Electric** did the electrical contracting.

In describing the Isle Hotel-convention center complex, Nancy noted that it can seat 900 people for dinner, that 900 cars can park on the property, and that it has 514 hotel rooms – the largest in Iowa. The combined facility has a staff of about 500.

A “people property,” rather than an exhibition space, the Waterfront Convention Center was designed for such varied events as the recent Gilda’s Run to benefit breast cancer research; corporate meetings such as upcoming John Deere sessions with dealers from Asia and



**Kevin Kraft, Gene Miller, Ken Vandersnick and Duncan Cameron had a look behind the scenes at the Waterfront Convention Center.**

Europe; government conferences; weddings, and musical performances.

The central ballroom space can be subdivided so that three meetings – of as many as 75 people each – can be held at the same time. A full-production kitchen in the convention center rivals the facilities in many major hotels.

President Nicole McWilliams presented Nancy a plaque from Bettendorf Rotary in appreciation for all of its support – including the hors d’oeuvres and meeting space for the club’s Red Badge meetings and Lobsterfest appetizers.

After the meeting, Rotarians toured the facilities, with Nancy and Decker providing commentary.



**Dennis Heinrich, Donna Freese and Chelsea Powers socialized at the Red Badge Meeting.**

➔ **RED BADGE MEETING.** New members removed the red tags on their member badges at the Red Badge Meeting the evening of Thursday, April 23, in the St. Croix Room of the Isle of Capri Hotel.

After enjoying appetizers and beverages, the recently initiated members learned a great deal about Rotary International and the Bettendorf Rotary Club from:



**Mike Volbrecht and Jerry Felsing chatted before the formal Red Badge session began.**

- President Nicole McWilliams – welcome, history, explanation of each officer’s duties
- Present-elect David Deuth – outline of the work of International Service and Club Service committees
- Jim Spelhaug – Youth Service projects
- Chuck Mooney – his role as club Secretary-Treasurer – since September 1957
- George Daugherty – Vocational Service meetings
- S.K. Nanda – the work of the Rotary Foundation, around the world
- Dick Schillig – the 15th annual Run with Carl on Labor Day
- Frank Mitvalsky – the 3rd annual Bettendorf Rotary Lobsterfest, the Saturday before Father’s Day.

New members who attended the Red



Badge meeting were Harrison Cass, Audie Foster, Donna Freese, Jerry Felsing, Dennis Heinrich, Jeff Lanum, Kurt Lokenvitz, Steve Nielsen, Chelsea Powers,

James Richards, Sharon Sarver and Mike Volbrecht.

Others attending were: Board members Nicole McWilliams, George Daugherty,

David Deuth, S.K. Nanda, Jim Spelhaug and Chuck Mooney. Also members Fred Anderson, Lee Semenow, Dick Schillig and Karen Atnip.

### **Announcements:**

President Nicole McWilliams presided. The meeting opened with the singing – *a capella* – of

“America the Beautiful” and moments of reflection. Alas, even though a beautiful baby



grand piano was next to the rostrum, the Bettendorf *SINGING* Rotary was tunefully silent, since pianist Bernie Vogel was absent.

➔ **LOBSTERFEST.** President Nicole called attention to the sign-up sheet for **home-made desserts for the Lobsterfest, and auction items are still needed.** Todd Larsen noted that a troop



of Boy Scouts will be the primary servers, and will clean up after the event. Also, Pleasant Valley High School cheerleaders will sell Lobsterfest raffle tickets. **More Rotary volunteers are still needed.**

**Contact Todd: 743-7824.**

➔ **MEMBERSHIP CONTEST.** Todd Larsen announced that the **Steak Dinner** to be served to the two teams with the highest points – BY the teams with the lowest points– is scheduled for **6 p.m. Wednesday, May 20 at the Palmer Hills Pavilion.** There will be no regular noon meeting that day.



**Pleasant Valley High School students Amanda Phan and Dillan Dwyer talked about their RYLA experience.**

→ **RYLA STUDENTS.** Jim Spelhaug introduced two Pleasant Valley High School students – **Amanda Phan and Dillan Dwyer** – who attended the recent Rotary Youth Leadership Academy. Two Bettendorf High School students also attended, and we’ll meet them at a future meeting.



→ **WHACKED AT DA WEDDING.** Scott Naumann gave us another peek into the wacky world where Da Mob, weddings and a fundraiser to benefit Bettendorf Rotary’s

Polio Plus all intersect at 6-9:30 p.m. Friday, May 1, in the Clubhouse at The Fountains, 3752 Thunder Ridge Road (just off Devils Glen Road). He was aided and abetted by **Becky Lee Hinton**, of The Fountains, an apparently innocent



bystander who described the delicious Italian meal that will be served for just \$30 each – including beverages.

Becky had hardly finished speaking when somebody vaguely resembling **Scott Naumann** – in the worst rug anybody can remember ever seeing – grabbed the microphone and said something like, “The Godfather ordered us to pay tribute to the Polio Plus fight. So, our Rotary Gang needs some fast cash, see? Some boys from the neighborhood is gettin’ ta-getha for this **HILARIOUS Whodunit!** Mix with the characters, match wits with the suspects, and check out the clues! It’s Rico and Gina’s weddin’ as the rival families are joined ta-getha! Trust me, this here is going to be a night of laughs like this Bettendorf Gangs ain’t never seen! It’ll be Killer, trust me!!”

**Contact Scott to RSVP, or get answers to your questions, at 355-6100 or [scottn@midlandcom.com](mailto:scottn@midlandcom.com).**

→ **PV SCHOOLS FUNDRAISER.** Glen Pelecky invited golfers to participate in the Pleasant Valley Schools Educational Foundation’s fundraising golf event – to benefit PVHS student scholarships – beginning at 11 a.m. Monday, April 27, at Palmer Hills. For details, or to register, call **Glen, 344-6401, or Chris Harvey, 332-5550x-1018.**



### **The news**

**Lora Adams** reported the news... such as it was. She smiled bravely, but finally admitted that there just wasn’t any weird news that met Bettendorf Rotary standards.



## Sergeant at arms



When he heard his name called as this week's sergeant at arms, **Ken Vandersnick** admitted to those at his table that he had forgotten it was his turn. Not to let a little thing like that deter

him, he still collected \$128 for our foundations.

## How you can help with Lobsterfest

When you read this, it will be **less than 50 days** until the 3rd Annual Bettendorf Rotary **Lobsterfest!** We continue to bring on board new sponsors, and we are less than 100 tickets away from another sell-out.

But... **YOUR help** is still needed to secure **items for our silent auction.** Last year's auction was a big money maker for us, and this year's auction needs to be more successful yet. Items such as:

- Overnight hotel stays
- Restaurant gift cards
- Tickets to sporting events
- Tickets to concerts and theater productions
- Lawn care equipment
- Jewelry
- Wine Baskets
- Gourmet dinners
- Arts & Collectables



will make **GREAT** items for the silent auction. Once you've secured an item for the **Lobsterfest silent auction**, please **contact Nicole McWilliams to arrange for delivery** of the item. Contact her at **(563) 676-7660** or via email to [nmcwilliams@pensioninc.com](mailto:nmcwilliams@pensioninc.com).

## Secretary Chuck Mooney introduced 1 guest...

... his wife, Eleanor.

## Upcoming featured programs

*From Brian Kennedy, program chairman:*

➔ April 29: State Rep. Linda Miller, "State Legislative Session Recap"

➔ May 6: Joyce Gibson, Director of Lydia House

➔ May 13: Club dinner to recognize winners of membership drive

➔ May 27: Dick Schillig, Run with Carl Scholarship presentation

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### **Please use this news!**

*Invite prospective new members who might appreciate our speakers.*

Lunch and program only \$8 per visitor, payable at the door.

## **MISSING TODAY:**

Bowe-4, Brown-2, Calabrese, H. Coin-2, Daugherty, DeDoncker-2, Dobesh-16, Ellstrom-16, Gallagher, Habenicht, Haffernam, Hartsock, Heninger, James, Kempton-16, Kennedy-2, Kinsley, Koos, Link-16, Loweth, Mangler-2, L.Miller-11, Nanda, Ross-3, Rossmiller-2, Ryan, Selden-5, Sherrick-2, Spyrow-16, St. Laurent-10, Stradt, Swan-16, Tyler-6, Vogel, Volbrecht-3, Worley-2.

## **MAKE UPS:**

### **At today's committee meeting:**

Tom Coley, Gregg Blaske, Jerry Felsing, Diane Ricketts-McCool, Mike Freemire, Dick Schillig, Tom Ahlstrand, David Deuth, Ann Kappeler, Dave Falk, Lora Adams, Harrison Cass, Karen Atnip, Dave Chambers, Joe Douglas, Donna Freese, Dave Hendirck, Jeff Lanum, Jim Legare.

### **This issue of *The Bettendorf Rotary Club News* produced by:**

Carter LeBeau, photos... Chuck Mooney, reporter... Ralph Heninger, Webmeister... Fred Anderson, editor.

## **Bettendorf Rotary resources**

Here's a new recurring feature in *The Bettendorf Rotary Club News* – some hot links to take you to places on the club's Website, and on the Rotary International site, where you can find answers to many questions about Rotary.

What is Rotary? How did it get started? The object of Rotary. Avenues of Service, the Four-Way Test, the history of Bettendorf Rotary:

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

Bettendorf Rotary in community involvement:

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

Bettendorf Rotary's current officers:

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

Bettendorf Rotary's committees and their chairs:

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

Links to Rotary International, Rotary Foundation, District 6000, Polio Plus... and more:

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

### **Make up a meeting at a nearby Rotary Club:**

Monday, noon.....Davenport - The Outing Club  
Monday, noon.....Moline - Calvary Church of the Quad Cities  
Monday, 6 pm.....QC Illinois - Moline Club  
Tuesday, 7:15 am.....River Cities - Brothers Rest. Rapid City  
Tuesday, noon....Rock Island - QC Botanical Ctr.  
Wednesday, noon....Bettendorf - Fortune Garden  
Wednesday, 5 pm.....Mini Meet - Lunardi's  
Thursday, 7 am.....IA Quad Cities - The Lodge  
Thursday, noon....East Moline - Christ United Methodist Church  
Thursday, noon.....Milan - Milan Community Center  
Friday, noon.....North Scott - Steeplegate Inn