



# THE BETTENDORF ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club  
March 28, 2011, issue

## *Next meeting:*

Noon Wednesday, April 4, 2012,  
at The Fortune Garden Restaurant

## Group works for a healthier QC



As the Supreme Court mulls whether the United States will have a coherent health system, at the April 4 meeting

we'll hear about the Quad City Health Initiative from **Nicole Carkner**, its executive director. The Initiative is a community partnership working to create a healthy community. It "seeks to be our community's recognized leader for creating collaborative action on health..." according to its Website. With the Initiative since 2001, Carkner is responsible for its daily management and operations. Formerly, she was a health care management consultant in Chicago and in Fairfax, Va. To learn more, click: <http://www1.genesishealth.com/qchi/>

## *Last meeting:*

Tuesday, March 28, 2012

## Iowa faces huge STEM challenges

At the March 28 meeting, the club received a status report on one of the most important matters facing the state of



Iowa from **Jeff Weld** of the University of Northern Iowa faculty, who is administrator of the Iowa Governor's STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) Advisory

Council. Here are extended excerpts of **Harry Coin**'s extensive notes on the presentation; much thanks for Harry's excellent reporting (and occasional commentary):

"Weld advocated that the STEM program's request for \$4.7 million made of the Iowa Legislature, recently pared back to just \$1.2 million by the ... Iowa House..., be given more support. He noted that in 1992 Iowa led the nation in producing students ready for careers in STEM, while now Iowa is in the middle of the pack. This slide away from the top

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*About the experience, Harry noted he "wore Fred Anderson's badge and nobody noticed the difference – and that makes me concerned."*

was mostly due to successful efforts elsewhere (and) inattention here in Iowa.

“The STEM program aims to reverse that trend, but finds extensive challenge in that 2011 ACT college entrance test scores statewide suggested only 11% of Iowa high school graduates were college ready (for) STEM related fields. Moreover, community colleges (need) to offer courses to make up for lacks in high school learning. Last among the



challenges, he noted ... Latino and African groups lagged by 50% in STEM preparedness.

“By way of motivating the need for success STEM, Weld reported that the

Battle Research Group, studying where Iowa was best positioned to win economically going forward, identified these three areas: 1. Enhancing the existing significant Iowa asset in bioscience research and startup companies. 2. Strategically located for information technology services. 3. Advanced manufacturing.... Weld reported those with STEM skills... are experiencing only 5.3% unemployment.

“Iowa’s greatest future is under major threat owing to the realization ... that not only is the state starved for those with STEM capabilities, but the ‘pipeline’ of young in the educational system is barely a trickle of what’s required for success. While nationally 15% of college degrees are STEM related, in Iowa we are at 12%. More worrisome, 66% of Iowa’s 8th graders are NOT proficient in science

and math, according to National Assessment of Educational Progress tests.

“The proposed remedy and target of the requested funding Weld outlined is the creation of six regional Iowa centers ... to coordinate with all local talent pools to identify and score programs shown to be successful in fostering STEM related programs locally. Weld noted robotics contests, science fairs, and many other candidate programs as listed on the website to be among those evaluated. Those programs finding at least 50% financial support from industry and found to be successes locally will then become the ‘scale up’ targets to replicate across Iowa’s STEM regions.

“Weld announced the ambitious goal to accomplish within 12 months the identification and hiring of the new stem regional leadership ‘hubs’ and staffing leading to success in identifying the most locally productive programs then worthy of scale and 50-50 public - industry support. The program in the following years will be tasked with replicating and rolling out to all Iowa schools and communities the STEM successes identified in local districts....”

To learn more: <http://iowastem.org/>.

### The meeting opened...



... with **President Scott Naumann** leading the recitation of “The 4-Way Test.” **Tom**

**Howard** led the singing of “This Is My Country” accompanied by pianist **Sheri Fleming**.

After Moments of Silence – when **Lee Semenow** remembered our troops and **Jim Spelhaug** remembered the untimely passing of his brother

(<http://postbulletin.com/news/stories/display.php?id=1490293>) – the singing resumed. Tom’s selections: “My Rotary,



My Rotary” (which lulled everyone into an unsuspecting state for what was to come), “My Wild Irish Rose” (where

many blushed most impressively at the final line where ... others hoped to be the one to take the bloom off the aforementioned. Still others, who shall remain nameless – but he sat to my right and often does the Happy Buck thing – expressed the view that the Political Correctness subcommittee update and review for gender appropriateness the song book) and “Smiles” (more like leers or blushes, depending on ... who it was thinking about whom. Our club is many things. But not dull).

### **Secretary Chuck introduced: Guest:**

Bobby Meyers with **Scott Naumann**

### **Announcements...**



→ **Social night.** **Chris Glass** touted the **Amazing Wine Tasting** event at the very top-crust

Red Crow Grille, 6-8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 19. There’ll be 40-45 non-Rotarians

present, it will go until the wine runs out (**President Scott** looked to be prepping himself to lead the pack). Heavy hors d’œuvre featuring exotic new creations by the chef will be included in the \$50 per ticket event – with \$5 from each coming back to our club.



→ **LobsterFest.** **Bev Murray** Asked, “Will you be the Presenting Sponsor this year? \$5,000 makes it yours.” For tickets see **Penny McGimpsey** (333-2649 – [pmcgimpsey@qctimes.com](mailto:pmcgimpsey@qctimes.com)). Warner Restoration joined as a Silver Sponsor – \$1,000. A \$1,400 vacation to a home in the Florida Keys, and airplane rides are the latest Silent Auction additions. We’re \$14K in toward our fundraising goal of \$50,000.

**Carter LeBeau** was unexpectedly called upon to produce the number of days until LobsterFest; quicker than **Lora Adams** could come up with a news item about nudity in the courtroom Carter announced, “Merely 79 days remain!”

## The News...



And speaking of **Lora Adams** and news: A water main broke at Kimberly Road and Eastern Avenue in Davenport.... Mega Millions lotto rose above \$540 million on Thursday.... Newt Gingrich

is cutting back his campaign.... In England, a basset hound, tied up in phone wires while its owners were gone, saved its own life by hitting 999 (U.K. for 911) with its paw.... A Georgia woman stood up naked in a courtroom (Harry was right!) and pleaded guilty.... A Memphis police officer got so busy in his squad car he didn't realize his, er, "busy-ness" was being broadcast.... A tiny earless bunny would have been Germany's latest animal "celeb" – except the cameraman sent to photograph it... stepped on it (Harry's comment: "hasenpfeffer").

## Sergeant at arms...

**President Scott** collected \$112 + checks from **Jim Spelhaug** for \$100 and **David Falk** for \$63 for our Scholarship fund – which Jim noted, fund "2 Bettendorf kids, 2 PV kids, 1 Rivermont kid and 1 Scott Community student with a \$1000 scholarship each." Other **Ryan Happy \$\$** came from: Upcoming Club President and celebrated LobsterFest slacker **Mark Ross** – \$5 honoring his upcoming Rotary training Saturday in Newton, Iowa... **Lora Adams** – Vice President Joe Biden and retired Episcopal bishop Gene Robinson will be the interviewees on WQPT's upcoming issue of "The Cities."



## In closing...

... **President Scott** created the "stem-L" program, noting the importance of the L for LobsterFest in addition to science, technology, engineering and math, and that nobody is too young or too small to participate in LobsterFest....

## Missing today...

Anderson, Ashby-2, Blaske, Boeye, Brown-5, Boling, Cahalan-3, Carter, Chambers-7, DeDoncker-4, Dickson-3, Dobesh-8, Duda, Edwards, Eikenberry-3, Ellstrom-13 Felsing-2, Gudgel-2, Habenicht, Hassel-2, Heninger, Hintermeister, Hinton-13, James, Kappeler-2, Kennedy, Limberg, McWilliams-2, Mangler, L. Miller-12, Murphy-2, Nelson-13, Olson-4, Oswald, Pelecky-13, Pieart, Praul, Rolf, Schuler, Scranton-3, Stopulos, St. Laurent-4, Volbrecht-8, Willsher-4, Worley-13

## Make-ups...

Mark Ross @ Davenport  
**Other committees:** Decker Ploehn, Kevin Kraft, Diane Ricketts-McCool, Kurt Lokenvitz, John Archer, Tony Calabrese, Sharon Sarver, S.K. Nanda



**Events Committee: Melanie Boosalis,**  
 Kurt Lokenvitz, Chris Glass, **Daniel**  
**Marvin, Brent Werner,** Penny  
 McGimpsey, Beverly Murray

### Upcoming meetings...

... Thanks to program chair **Brian Kennedy.** Have program ideas? Contact Brian: 340-5114, [bmfkennedy@att.net](mailto:bmfkennedy@att.net)

**April 4:** Nicole Carkner, Quad City Health Initiative

**April 11:** Becky Bray, ISU Extension

**April 18:** Tony Singh, Hiking the Appalachian Trail

### News staff...

Very special reporter – with much thanks this week: **Harry Coin**... Editor: Fred Anderson... Correspondent: Chuck Mooney... Photographer: Carter LeBeau... Webmeister/Web-site host: Chris Glass



### Make up at another QC club...

Monday, noon: Davenport – The Outing Club  
 Monday, noon: Moline – Christ the King Catholic Church  
 Monday, 6 p.m.: QC Illinois – Arbor Village Club House, Moline

Tuesday, 7:15 a.m.: River Cities – Brothers Restaurant, Rapid City  
 Tuesday, noon: Rock Island – QC Botanical Center  
 Wednesday, noon: **Bettendorf** – Fortune Garden Restaurant  
 Wednesday, 5 p.m.: Mini Meet – Lunardi's Restaurant, Davenport  
 Thursday, 7 a.m.: Iowa Quad Cities – The Lodge, Bettendorf  
 Thursday, noon: East Moline – Christ United Methodist Church  
 Thursday, noon: Milan – Pinnacle Country Club  
 Friday, noon: North Scott – Steeplegate Inn, Davenport

### Bettendorf Rotary resources Hot links where you can find answers to many questions about Rotary.

The history of Bettendorf Rotary, and more:  
<http://www.bettendorffrotary.com/local.htm>



Bettendorf Rotary in the community:  
<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/committ.htm>

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

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

Link to District 6000's Website:

[www.rotary6000.org](http://www.rotary6000.org)