



THE BETTENDORF ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club

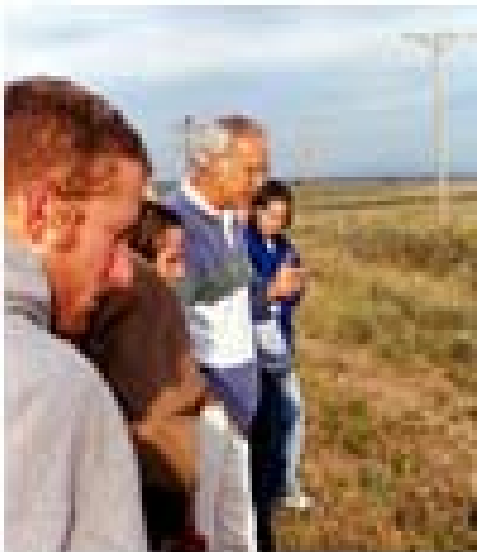
May 6, 2009, issue

Next meeting:

**Noon Wednesday, May 13, 2009,
the Fortune Garden restaurant...**

Explore the River with Dr. Moline...

If you've wanted to learn more about the Quad Cities, the Mississippi River, the history or geography of this area, this is the Bettendorf Rotary meeting for you. Dr. Norm Moline, professor of geography at Augustana College and member of the Board of River Action is our featured speaker at the meeting beginning at noon Wednesday, May 13.



Dr. Moline will focus on River Action's summer education program, Explore the River. As its Website says, "Classes are taught by professionals in river-related topics from biology to river folktales, Sylvan Island to Arsenal Island history."



Four series of classes – running June-August – are offered: Sunday Tours, Monday Fun Days, Channel Cat Talks and Riverine Walks. Sunday Tours offer tours of Mississippi River villages – Buffalo, Le Claire, Rapids City, Hampton, Port Byron and Princeton.

Every Monday Fun Day, June 1-Aug. 31, provides a unique family learning opportunity – somewhere in the Quad Cities – with hands-on activities. They're often held in collaboration with community institutions of learning, such as the Figge Museum of the Family Museum. The June 1 session, "Bug's-Eye View," meets in Le Claire Park to learn environmental lessons from a bug's point of view.

The other series of events are equally creative and informative. This is River Action's 25th anniversary year, and some new sessions have been added to the "curriculum." For more information, or to register, go to www.riveraction.org.

Dr. Moline holds the Edward Hamming Chair in Geography at Augustana, where he began teaching in 1968.

Last meeting:

Wednesday, April 29, 2009 ...

Lydia Home cares for QC families, children



Joyce Gibson, Director of Lydia Home, Davenport, was the featured speaker at the Bettendorf Rotary meeting at noon Wednesday,

May 6. Lydia Home provides programming to that benefit clients in both Iowa and Illinois to serve its mission “to strengthen families to care for children – and care for children when families cannot.”



Gibson introduced two students – **Annette Parker** and **Devea Smith** – who participate in Lydia’s Homework Club. Annette talked about her activities in the club. During the school year, a typical after-school Homework Club session involves homework, a snack and some fun time, she said. Homework Club continues to meet over the summer – in addition to help with schoolwork, Lydia



Home takes the children on educational field trips.



Gibson also introduced **Jean Heard**, who heads the Safe Families program of Lydia Home. With the goal of keeping children “out of the system,” she said Safe Families provides a secure home with

Christian values where, for example, a single mother can place her children during a time of crisis, such as illness, loss of a home or a short jail sentence.

For more information about Lydia Home, please see its Website: <http://www.lydiahome.org/>.

Announcements:

With President Nicole McWilliams presiding, the meeting opened to Moments of Reflection and the singing of one verse of “My Country, ’Tis of Thee,” *a capella* under the direction of song-meister **Tom Howard**.

We are a **singing Rotary** and so, even with the

absence of renowned pianist Bernie Vogel – who continues his tour of keyboards around the world – Tom led us in singing “R-O-T-A-R-Y,” one verse of



“America the Beautiful,” “Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah” and a tuneful wish for “Happy Birthday, Dear Rotarians.”



Tom Coley and Ken Vandersnick – part of the May Birthday Brigade – seem satisfied that half of the chocolate birthday cake had disappeared....

→ And speaking of birthdays, **Jim Spelhaug** gave \$50 and **Decker Ploehn** gave \$57 to the Club’s Scholarship Fund – each declaring the amount of the check matches the number of years since his birth. And **Jon Ryan** gave \$100 to the fund in honor of his granddaughter – with no comment about its relationship to her age....

→ President Nicole thanked all who turned out for the “Whacked at da Wedding” murder-mystery dinner last Friday evening, with the proceeds going for **PolioPlus**.



→ Nicole also announced that the Bettendorf Rotary Club received a **Significant Achievement Award** for its involvement in the Rotary Night at the Ballpark event last August.

→ Rick St. Laurent introduced the two graduating seniors from Rivermont Collegiate who will share the **Bettendorf**



Rotary Scholarship.

The two young men – **Shравan Chintalapani** and **Anup Parikh** – both plan to study medicine. Both of them have been accepted into university programs in which they will pursue medical degrees after completing their undergraduate studies. And both of them – Rick emphasized – are Rivermont “Lifers”: each has been a student at the school since kindergarten. (Rick can be pardoned his pride in

this... but where was this week’s vigilant sergeant at arms at such an obvious fining opportunity?)

→ **LOBSTERFEST:** Frank Mitvalsky said it’s only **39 days** until LobsterFest, and that **committee meetings will continue** on every other Thursday morning at the Bettendorf Library.



Carolyn Leutwyler reminded members to **sign up to provide desserts** for the event. If you don’t bake but want to provide a dessert, she said, you could buy anything – except cheesecake. **Contact Carolyn at 359-5914 and Frank at 764-8361.**



→ Carter LeBeau presented the club with two **banners from his recent make-up visits** while on a cruise – San Juan, Puerto Rico, and St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. Carter emphasized how much fun – and how easy – it is to make up at any Rotary club in the world. The Rotary International directory – Club Secretary Chuck Mooney has one – makes it easy.

→ Jeff Hassel reminded us that sign-up sheets were being passed to volunteer as a Hole #1 (THE Bettendorf Rotary hole) marshal at the **John Deere Classic**. Call Jeff at 336-3008.



→ Fred Anderson made an announcement about **prostate cancer awareness**. Prostate problems affect one man in three – and half of them get cancer. He advised every man, after age 40, to get a PSA blood test as part of an annual physical exam.

He said the **Birdies for Charity** program with the John Deere Classic provides an easy way to help provide funds for the Quad Cities chapter of Us TOO International, the support group for men with prostate cancer and their families. He has forms already filled out to benefit

Us Too – check 1-cent per birdie, for a donation of less than \$20 (if the golfers sink as many birdies this year as in 2008). **Call Fred at 355-5001.**

→ Ralph Heninger joined Fred at the rostrum to offer help to any members who might be having **difficulty receiving the weekly newsletter emails**: if the link doesn't connect you to the newsletter, copy the link and paste it into the small address window at the top of your Internet browser screen and touch the "Enter" key.



The news...

Fred stayed at the microphone to deliver the news. The day's best item:

"German police said an elderly man was so annoyed at hearing the same serenade over and over that he called authorities.

"Police said the 82-year-old man told them he was sick of the music, which would come at irregular intervals and at all hours of the day and night.

"Upon investigation, police found that the culprit was... a musical greeting card on his windowsill, where the occasional breeze opened the card just enough to play the irritating tune."

Sergeant at arms...

Sergeant-at-arms Steve Habenicht collected \$106 for our foundations as he regaled us with information about some of the “official observances” during May – 43 of them to be exact. May is



Better Hearing and Speech Month, Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month – and Older Americans Month. With an unmistakable nod toward the Birthday Table, he read the names of some movie stars who are 90 years old or older:

Secretary Chuck Mooney introduced visiting Rotarian



Terry Westbrook, East Moline, Banking

... and guests

- Brian Sherrick with John Sherrick
- Gary Hintermeister with Tim

Downing

- Dale Waterloo with George Daugherty
- Mark Fitkin with Steve Nielsen
- Peg Walker with Jon Ryan
- Andrew Guddel with Chelsea Powers

Upcoming featured programs

From Brian Kennedy, program chairman:

→ **May 20:** Club steak dinner to recognize winners of the membership drive, **6 p.m. at the Palmer Hills Pavilion.** There will be no regular noon meeting that day.

→ **June 10:** Dick Schillig, Run with Carl Scholarship presentation

→ **June 17:** Betsy Pratt of the Red Cross

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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:

Adams, Atnip, Blaske, Brown, DeDoncker, Deuth, Dobesh, Eikenberry, Ellstrom-17, Felsing-2, Freese, Haffernan, Kappeler, Kempton-17, Kennedy-4, Koos-3, Lanum, Legare-2, Larsen, Link-17, Loweth, Pelecky-2, Richards, Ricketts-McCool, Ross-5, Rossmiller-4, Sarver, Spyrow-17, Swan-17, Tyler-7, Vogel-3, Volbrecht, Worley-4.

MAKE UPS:

Eikenberry at Iowa Quad Cities

At today's committee meeting:

Harry Coin, Tom Ahlstrand, Chelsea Powers, Simon Bowe, Linda Miller, Tony Calabrese, Joe Douglas, Harrison Cross, Bob Gallagher, Jodie Foster, Dick Schillig, Ralph Heninger, Tom Coley, Frank Mitvalsky, Dave Falk, John Rabine, Rich James, Jon Ryan, Mike Freemire, Rick Hartsock, Rick St. Laurant, Ben Selden, Connie Mangler, Decker Ploehn, Jim Spelhaug, Duncan Cameron, Jeff Hassel.

'Staff' for this issue of *The Bettendorf Rotary Club News*:

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