



THE BETTENDORF ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
May 13, 2009, issue

Next meeting:

6 p.m. Wednesday, May 20, 2009,
the Pavilion, Palmer Hills Golf
Course... NO noon meeting



Steak... hamburger: some will celebrate



After the grueling contest to determine which of four teams of members could recruit the most new members, the two teams that

brought in the most new members will dine on steak, the other two teams... won't. If you haven't made a reservation, you still can – **by noon Monday. Email Todd Larson: tym2ski1@msn.com.**

Last meeting:

Wednesday, May 13, 2009 ...

This summer take the opportunity to 'Explore the River'

While his presentation on Wednesday, May 13, was about the Mississippi River – the central geographic feature of the Quad Cities – **Dr. Norm Moline**, professor of geography at Augustana College, couldn't resist the temptation to teach us something.



So he did. Geography, he said, is the science of space. So it's possible to study the geography of anything spatial – not just what we normally think of as... geography. Ponder that awhile...

Studying the geography of a region, such as the Quad Cities, Dr. Moline said, eventually leads to a Sense of Place, with the natural surroundings, architecture, history, people and other factors all combining into the definition of that sense. It was a Sense of Place of the Quad Cities, and the river that runs through it, that led, 25 years ago, to the formation of River Action.

This summer, to celebrate that anniversary, River Action has assembled an ambitious cluster of opportunities to learn about the community, the river and more. Inspired in part by Chicago's daily neighborhood walking tours, River



Action's "Explore the River" offers four series of classes – running June-August:

- Sunday Tours,
- Monday Fun Days,
- Channel Cat Talks and
- Riverine Walks.

For more **information** on River Action, or to **register** for an "Explore the River" event, go to www.riveraction.org.

Dr. Moline holds the Edward Hamming Chair in Geography at Augustana, where he began teaching in 1968. Dr. Moline graduated from Augustana College in 1964, received his M.A. in 1966 and his PhD in 1970 both from the University of Chicago.



He also promoted a series of opportunities to learn how to "Retain the

Rain." The three remaining sessions are: **Rain Garden 101**, 6-8 p.m., Wednesday, May 27, at the Bettendorf Public Library... **Green Roof 201**, 9-10:45 a.m., Saturday, June 6, at the Davenport Police Station... **Intro to Prairie Plants and Garden Design**, 9-11 a.m., Saturday, June 20, at Nahant Marsh, 4220 Wapello Ave., Davenport.

While those sessions are free, registration is required: call **322-2969** or email: ckerofsky@riveraction.org.

With President **Nicole McWilliams** presiding, the meeting opened to the singing of "God Bless America," under the direction of songmeister **Tom Howard** and Moments of Reflection. Then Tom returned, with **Wilma Nichol** at the piano, to lead us in singing "That Rotary Wheel," and because of the day's weather: "Just Let a Smile Be Your Umbrella" and "When You're Smiling."



Before she started accompanying our songs, guest pianist Wilma Nichol smiled for the camera with Hozzoner Mike Freemire.

Announcements:

➔ While we're on the subject of music, President Nicole read excerpts from a card **Bernie Vogel** sent from Italy, where – we finally learn the truth! – he's touring from Rotary club to Rotary club. (Carter, watch out – Bernie's gonna be bringing back banners...)

➔ Nicole also welcomed back **Jon Ellstrom**, whose only explanation for his long absence was a muttered, "They finally let me come to a meeting..." No explanation who "they" are or why they have such power over Jon. But we're glad he was able to come back...



→ **Harrison Cass**, in his role as superintendent of Bettendorf Schools, introduced **Jimmy Casas**, principal of Bettendorf High School, who introduced **Cam Clifford**, a BHS sophomore who attended this spring's Rotary Youth Leadership Academy, along with Mike Streit (who was unable to attend Wednesday's meeting). Cam told us about a number of things, including the challenges of leadership training (which reminded this editor of military basic training) at the Iowa National Guard camp near Des Moines. Principal Casas also mentioned the good work done by Kelly



Wagner, last year's winner of the Rotary Scholarship.

→ **LOBSTERFEST:** With (now) less than one month until the actual event, **Frank Mitvalsky** issued some reminders: the **next meeting** of the full committee will be at **8 a.m. Thursday, May 21, at the Bettendorf Library**. Sponsors should provide fresh logos – NOW (if not sooner) – to be included in the flyer that's in preparation. Sponsors also need to supply their



corporate banners ASAP. Frank also passed along kudos to **Scott Naumann** for his appearance on WOC Radio to publicize LobsterFest. **Questions? Contact Frank at 764-8361.**

The news...



Lora Adams summarized the day's top news stories... and then reported on a hapless Norwegian driver who had the poor judgment to drive under the influence (a lesson for us all, if ever we should find ourselves in Oslo or points north and be tempted to imbibe). The driver's fine: thousands of *kroner* (which convert to fewer thousands of dollars, even at current exchange rates, but still a LOT of cash).

Sergeant at arms...



Sergeant-at-arms **Jim Legare** amazed us with facts about Augustana College – founded in 1860 in Chicago... moved to Rock Island some years later (don't pin me down; I can't be expected to read *all* of my notes)... site of the first collegiate party raid, in 1948, organized and carried out by some ex-Army commandoes – on his way to collecting \$130 for our foundations.

Secretary Chuck Mooney introduced guests:

- Tom Smith with Kevin Kraft
- And prospective members:
- Andrew Gudgel
- Gary Hintermeister

Upcoming featured programs

From Brian Kennedy, program chairman:



→ → **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:

Ahlstrand, Brown-2, Chambers, Coley, Death, Falk, Foster, Habenicht, Heinrich, Kempton-18, Kennedy-5, Koos-15, Lanum-2, Link-18, Lokenvitz, L.Miller, Nanda, Pelecky-2, Powers, St. Laurent, Swan-18, Tyler-9, Vogel-4, Volbrecht-2, Worley-5.

MAKE UPS:

At today's committee meeting:

Duncan Cameron, Diane Ricketts-McCool, Frank Mitvalsky, John DeDoncker, Laurie Dobesh, Tony Calabrese, Jon Ellstrom, Jerry Felsing, Todd Larsen, Jim Legare, Greg Blaske, Bob Gallagher, Steve Pieart, Mark Ross, James Richards, Ann Kappeler, Joe Douglas, Carl Loweth, Donna Freese, Jon Ryan, Fred Anderson, Decker Ploehn.

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

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

Bettendorf Rotary resources

Hot links 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.bettendorfrotary.com/local.htm>

Bettendorf Rotary in community involvement:
<http://www.bettendorfrotary.com/community.htm>

Bettendorf Rotary's current officers:
<http://www.bettendorfrotary.com/current.htm>

Bettendorf Rotary's committees and their chairs:
<http://www.bettendorfrotary.com/committ.htm>
Links to Rotary International, Rotary Foundation, District 6000, Polio Plus... and more:
<http://www.bettendorfrotary.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