



**THE
BETTENDORF
ROTARY
CLUB NEWS**
Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
Aug. 8, 2012, issue

Next meeting:
Wednesday, Aug. 15, 2012, at the
Fortune Garden Restaurant

**What's coming for QC
mass transportation...**

For an update on passenger rail service and other transportation issues affecting the Quad Cities, our featured speaker at the Aug. 15 meeting will be **Jennifer Garrity**, public information officer of



MetroLINK, which serves the mass-transit needs of Rock Island County.

In the 1990s, MetroLINK, the Quad City Development Group and community leaders met to discuss community growth and the tools needed to make it happen. Since transportation plays a key role in propelling economic development, the Balanced Growth Initiative grew out of those meetings. The BGI examines the community's key assets "to determine the viability of a rapid transit corridor that would move people throughout our community quickly and efficiently," according to the agency's Website.

Last meeting:
Wednesday Aug. 8, 2012



**John Archer
shares his views**

It's not every Rotary club that has a member who is running for a seat in Congress. So it was something of a special moment to hear from **John Archer** after the first full month of his campaign as the Republican candidate for Congress from Iowa's 2nd District.

John opened his remarks – a condensed version of his “stump speech” followed by questions-and-answers from members – by noting the similarities between the BRC's Run with Carl and a political campaign. He referred to the “yard signs, lots of activity and a deadline” – in the case of the campaign, 90 days to the election.

Since his win in the Republican primary, he feels his campaign has “picked up momentum,” receiving endorsements from such sources as Iowa's secretary of agriculture and the National Republican

Congressional Campaign Committee, which has designated him as a “Young Guns” campaign and targeted it for a special level of support. After a brief rundown of upcoming campaign events, John took questions from the floor.

A question about the future of the Interstate 74 bridge project prompted a lengthy discussion, during which John blamed the gridlock in Congress for the slow pace in approving funds for the project. He did not make any predictions about the bridge project. Concerning the gridlock, he said, “I don’t care who created this mess – we need to break it up.... If a Democrat comes up with an idea (that works) we have to support it.” Mentioning the Mississippi River locks and dams, highways and railroads, he supported investment in the nation’s infrastructure.

John described himself as “a mainstream Republican with a little tea party...,” as he voiced support for his party’s likely platform plank of reduced (federal) spending and lower taxes for all income groups.

The meeting opened...



...with **President Mark Ross** leading the recitation of the 4-Way Test and the singing of the day’s patriotic song, “This Is My Country.” After Moments of Reflection and introductions, the singing resumed in the capable hands of song leader **Tom Howard**, aided by pianist **Gail Baldwin**, with renditions of “R-O-T-A-R-Y” and (with meteorological wishes) “Singin’ in the Rain.”



Secretary Chuck introduced...

Visiting Rotarian:

Ed Goering,
Albany, Ore.:
Safety

Guests:

Lois Goering
with Ed Goering

Tom Melchert with **Paul Scranton**
Todd & Robyn Stone with **Tom Howard**
Christine Miller with **Linda Miller**
Kyle Liske & Paul Keppy with **John Archer**
Steve Thornburg with **Mark Ross**

Announcements...



→ **WQPT Rotary Challenge. President Mark** announced we still need **three more BRC volunteers** to staff the on-air fundraiser for the QC’s Public TV station beginning at 6:15 p.m. Monday, Aug. 13. Volunteers go directly to the studios in the business park at Tremont and E. 53rd Sts., Davenport. **Lora Adams** has guaranteed you’ll be fed well and treated as royally as possible at a public broadcasting station. Remember, in previous years we have topped all other QC Rotary clubs – and it’s time we regained our title. To ensure the club’s success in this fund-drive, every member should be ready to answer the call from our volunteers and give generously to WQPT, the Quad Cities’ own public TV station.

→ **Run with Carl. Chris Glass** issued a plea for more volunteers for Run with



Carl, including providing cookies, helping pass out race packets, distributing water and working around the courses on race day. **Contact Chris:** cglass@terrostar.com or 563-355-7174.

→ **Rotary in Motion. Dick Schillig** rounded up the Week 5 results:
Jonna Schuler's Racy Rotarians: 463 miles for the week – 2,313 total so far
Chris Salm's Strutters: 258 & 2,369 total
Kurt Lokenvitz's Locos: 301 & 1,941 total.
In the Special Challenge, comparing those teams' averages with The Pacer's (**John DeDoncker**) total miles and applying the "handicap":
The Pacer: 62 miles (including 36 running, 66 biking + golf and walking across parking lots...) & 271 total
Strutters: 34-mile average
Locos: 56
Racy Rotarians: 67

"Just 3½ weeks remain in this heated contest," Dick said. "That's 26 days until Run with Carl on Labor Day."

The news...

Instead of reporting the day's news, **Fred Anderson** passed along this cautionary tale of texting terror:

About six months ago, Chance Bothe typed a text message while driving on a Texas road: "b right there." While sending it, he veered off the road into a ravine. Instead of visiting his texting pal, the young man wound up in a hospital, battling for his life.

Even more chilling was a message he'd written moments earlier: "I need to quit texting, because I could die in a car accident."

The Victoria, Tex., college student had been driving the 40 miles home, on Jan. 24, texting his friend throughout the drive. He missed a slight curve. He drove straight through it and his truck slid into a ravine. Two men witnessed the crash and pulled Chance out just as his truck burst into flames. His wounds included an open compound fractured ankle, punctured lung, facial fractures and lacerations, skull fracture, head trauma and a brain bleed. He's still recovering.

"He had to learn everything over again," Chance's mother said. "Prior to the accident, he was an extremely intelligent child. He painted, he played music, he was a math whiz."

Chance is now well enough to help his family and friends as they share his story through UnSend, a foundation they started to raise awareness about texting and driving.

"So here is the question," UnSend's Website pleads. "What can you do? Make a pledge and take a stand.... That text can wait. Your life cannot. Don't let a text message be your famous last words."

Sergeant at arms...

President Mark collected \$126 for our foundations + checks from **Craig**



Windmiller, Jerry Felsing, Chelsea Powers and Penny McGimpsey for our Scholarship Fund.

Jon Ryan Happy \$\$ came out of these members' pockets: **Craig Windmiller** –

photo on the cover of “Gold-Book” + thanks to **Decker Ploehn** for fun at Splash Landing... **Decker** – “It’s safe to flush your toilet in Bettendorf... but make sure your sewer vent is OK”... **Dick Schillig** – \$10 for the parking spot... **Jerry Felsing** – 38th birthday... **Penny McGimpsey** – 40th birthday... **Chelsea Powers** – daughter’s birthday next week + “She did peepees in the pot.”

Missing today...



K. Adams-4, L. Adams-3, Ashby, Bibik-2, Boling, Boosalis-5, Bowe-5, Brown-5, Carter-5, G. Coin, H. Coin-2, Daley, DeBuhr-3, Dobesh-2, Downing, Duda, Edwards-4, Eikenberry-3,

Ellstrom-5, Gallagher-3, Habenicht, Harrison-2, Hartsock, Hinton-3, Kappeler-3, Kass, Kennedy-3, Limberg, McWilliams-3, Mangler, Marvin-3, Murphy-5, Murray-5, Nelson-5, Obriant-2, Olson-5, Praul, Rabine, Ricketts-

McCool-2, Rolf, Sarver-3, Saul, Schuler-2, Schutte-5, Sherrick-2, Spelhaug-4, St. Laurent-5, Volbrecht-2, Werner, Willsher-5, Worley-3



Make-ups...

John Archer @ Mt. Pleasant, Iowa; North Scott, Iowa City Downtown
Carter LeBeau @ Anamosa & Webster City, Iowa

Upcoming meetings...

Aug. 15: Jennifer Garrity from MetroLINK – passenger rail and other transportation changes coming to the QC

Aug. 22: Diane Nelson, CEO of Girl Scouts Quad Cities – their move to Bettendorf, and Girl Scout programs

Aug. 29: Bill Martin, QC Chamber of Commerce – economic development and attracting new commerce to our region
Have program ideas? Contact **Brian Kennedy: 340-5114,**

bmfkennedy@att.net

News staff...



Editor, reporter: Fred Anderson... Correspondent: Chuck Mooney...
Photographer: Carter LeBeau...
Webmeister/Web-site host: Chris Glass

Check out all the new features at

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