



THE BETTENDORF ROTARY CLUB NEWS

Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
April 17, 2013, issue

Next meeting:

Wednesday, April 24, 2013, at
Fortune Garden Restaurant

Hear all about the state of our city from the mayor

Moody's Investors Service has given
the city of Bettendorf its Aa1 rating for



2013,
based on
its bonded
indebted-
ness. The
city is the
fastest
growing
among the
Quad
Cities, and
the envy of
the others
with
housing
starts up 8

percent for the third quarter. It has
excellent schools, parks and lots more.

With all of this good news, what else
can we learn about the condition of
Bettendorf in this spring of 2013?

Come to next week's meeting and hear
it all directly from His Honor, our own
Mayor Robert S. Gallagher.

Last meeting:

Wednesday, April 17, 2013

DeDoncker talks of race, economy



Our own **John DeDoncker** spoke at the
April 17 meeting about two very different
topics. Fresh from his participation in the
Boston Marathon on Monday, he
recounted how he had finished the race
more than half an hour before bombs
went off near the finish line. Then he
presented a roundup of economic
indicators that indicate the "temperature"
of the economy.

John said he was refueling his rental car
and preparing to catch a flight out of
Logan International Airport, when he saw
police cruisers speed away. "I thought it
might be a bad accident on the
Interstate," he said. Later, inside the

terminal, he was talking with another runner when he learned about the bombing. By that time cell phones were useless because of the call volume, so he used Facebook to get a message out that he was OK. “My heart goes out” to the victims, and all of Boston, he said.

Of the race before the tragedy, John said, “It was like the Bix 7 – for 26 miles,” with a congenial atmosphere for the entire route. He kept up his pace – even resisting a sign in the crowd that said, “Kiss me; I’m from Iowa” – and ran his second personal best: 3:32:18.

As for the economy, John cited a number of indicators that, taken together, show an economy that is still sluggishly trying to climb out of the worst recession since the Great Depression. Some examples:

- The 10 leading indicators are still rising ever so slowly.
- Manufacturing is still above 50, but its growth has been slowing recently.
- The consumer Confidence Index is slipping.



→The S&P Index suggests growth, but key ratios have fallen vs. 6 years ago, so “maybe there’s not enough air under the wings” to sustain the recovery, he said.
→The unemployment rate dropped a

bit, but the numbers of people participating in a search for employment are dropping, and some 14% of workers are employed outside their chosen profession. State employment rates vary widely, he said, noting Iowa’s 5.0% unemployment rate is 6th best in the U.S. while Illinois’ 9.5% rate ranks No. 48.
→The nation actually experienced “deflation” in March, he said, and there are almost no inflationary pressures.
→Housing is the “bright spot in the economy,” John said, on track to erect 1 million new homes this year. Home prices are up about 10% from December 2011, and more apartments than single-family homes are being built, he added.



New member induction

S.K. Nanda inducted **Mike Lizak**, bringing BRC’s total membership back to 100. Mike heads the Bettendorf office of Rainbow International of the Quad Cities, a professional cleaning and restoration service that cleans homes and businesses after water or fire damage and removes mold. In his remarks, S.K. noted that this date, April 19, is the birthday of Rotary founder **Paul Harris**, born 145 years ago in Racine, Wis.

Announcements...

→ **LobsterFest**: Co-chairs **Chelsea Powers** and **Sharon Sarver** again took the spotlight. Chelsea announced the addition of two new Bronze sponsors: Estes Construction (**Jeff “Boomer” Hill**) and Lindquist Ford; and an additional Silver sponsor: Iowa-American Water Co. (**Richard “Ozzy” Oswald**). That brings the sponsorship total to \$21,500, she said.

“Tickets are available,” Sharon reiterated, emphasizing that the two ticket-sales teams – the “Lobster Kings,” **S.K. Nanda, Rich James** and **Kristen Adams**, and “Tom’s Ticket Terrors,” **Tom Howard, Amber Castro** and **Doyle McCully** – are competing to see which can sell the most outside the club. “Club members are responsible for buying their



own – and their companies’ – tickets,” she added. See **Penny McGimpsey** for tickets either way, she said.

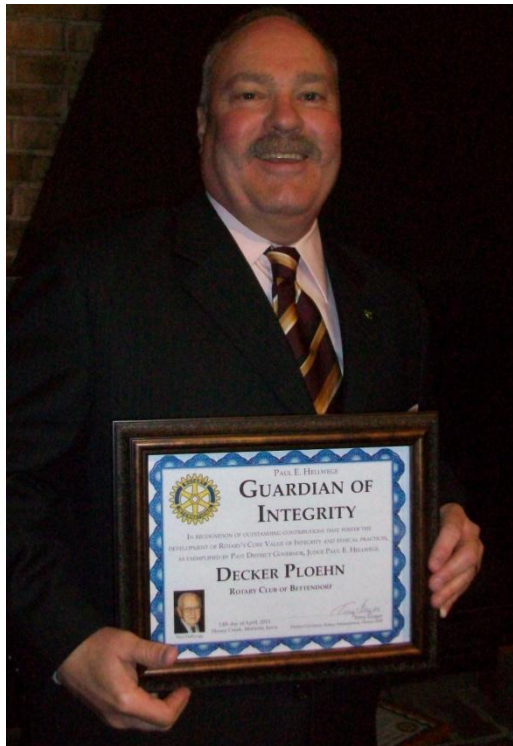
Here are the latest LobsterFest:
 = Presenting (\$5,000): THE National Bank (**John DeDoncker**)
 = Gold (\$2,500): still available
 = Silver (\$1,000): Bowe Machine (**Simon Bowe**), Bush Construction (**Tom**



Bush), Iowa-American Water Co. (**Richard “Ozzy” Oswald**), Professional Touch Cleaning Services (**Diane Ricketts-McCool**), RJS & Associates (**Dick Schillig**), Weerts Funeral Home (**Dave Death**), Werner Restorations (**Brent Werner**)
 = Bronze (\$500): **George Coin**, Community Health Care (**Jeff Hassel**), Estes Construction (**Jeff “Boomer” Hill**), Gallagher Millage Gallagher (**Bob Gallagher Sr.**), Holmes Murphy & Associates (**Chelsea Powers**), Home Instead (**Steve Habenicht**), Knilans’ Furniture & Interiors (**Amber Castro**), **Carter and Kaye LeBeau**, Lindquist Ford, Mel Foster Co. (**Brad Boeye**), Midwest Seafood, Steve’s Mirror & Glass (**Jerry Felsing**), **Sharon and Brad Sarver, Paul and Emily Scranton**, Swiss Valley Farms, Wagner’s Cleaners (**Ken Vandersnick**), Wells Fargo Advisors (**Rich James**)



→ **District 6000 Conference: President Mark** announced that BRC had won four recognition plaques at the District 6000 Conference last weekend:



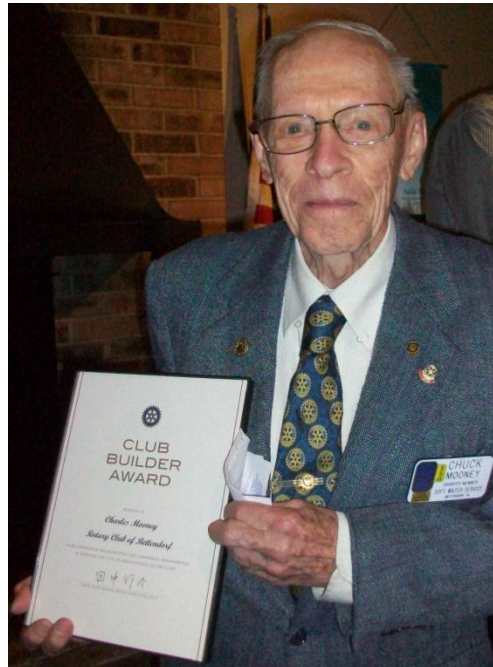
→ **Decker Ploehn** was recognized as one of the district's five recipients of the Paul Hellwege Guardian of Integrity Award this year. Decker explained that officials decided to make the award to each nominee whose home club nominated them; so past winners of the award, **Dave Deuth** and **Frank Mitvalsky**, were "grandfathered" in (despite their tender ages) and their names will appear as recipients each year.

→ The entire club also received a thank-you award from the Rotary Foundation for our financial support of RI's \$200 million challenge to support Polio Plus.

→ **Glenn Kass** and **Chris Glass** earned the award for Significant Achievement in Public Relations for organizing and publicizing the Quad-City vigil for the victims of the Newtown, Conn., school massacre. Glenn was in frequent contact



with the Newtown Rotary Club, timing the QC vigil at Modern Woodmen Park to coincide with theirs in Connecticut. Chris helped publicize the event and BRC's leadership role in it through the Website, while Glenn publicized it on Facebook and, after the fact, through the District 6000 newsletter.



→ **Chuck Mooney** received the Club Builder Award in recognition of his years (since formation of BRC!) as club secretary.

The meeting opened...

President **Mark Ross** opened the meeting by leading the recitation of the 4-Way Test. Song leader **Tom Howard**, with **Penny McGimpsey** on piano, led



the singing of “The National Anthem,” to honor victims of the Boston Marathon bombing. After Moments of Reflection, during which we were asked to give prayers and special thoughts for **Carter LeBeau** and **Doyle McCully**, the singing resumed with “Rotary Ideals” and – thanks to the second rainy meeting in a row – “Wait Till the Sun Shines, Nellie.”

Secretary **Chuck Mooney** introduced:

Visiting Rotarians:

Paul Holzworth, North Scott: Education

Doug Peterson: Iowa Quad Cities:

Supply Management

Guest:

Kristine Stone with **Decker Ploehn**

Jon Ryan Happy \$\$

(named for the late Rotarian **Jon Ryan**, whose impromptu “news casts” were legendary)

President **Mark** collected \$222 for our Foundations + \$91 from **Chuck Mooney** for our scholarship fund. Generous members were: **Chuck Mooney** –

“survived my 91st birthday”... **Decker Ploehn** – \$20 for the award + \$10 for *the* parking space... **Tim Lane** – “my friend, **Mike Lizak**, has joined, but what’s this about his crush on my wife when they were little?”... **Dr. Tom Olson** – in Florida last week when **Steve Pieart** called and told him his Dad had a dizzy spell, bringing him back to the QC... **Todd Ashby** – just weeks to the May 10 Leader-call event, “and check with me for the Rotary discount code”... **Craig Windmiller** – friends’ house hit by lightning, but all is OK now, thanks to the Bettendorf FD... **Harry Coin** – 8 volunteer taste-testers sampled the Chocolate Ambrosia pie (like Bishop’s Buffet used to make) an declared it a viable candidate for “official LobsterFest dessert” (I’ll second the motion – Ed.)... **Sharon Sarver** – thanks to **Decker** for emceeding the Family Resources fundraiser, which brought in \$80K... **Frank Mitvalsky** – his sons’ birthdays... **Dave Deuth** – congratulations to **Decker** on his award + happy that **John DeDoncker** and Dave’s friends in Boston are all OK... **Glenn Kass** – grateful for the Rotary PR award: “got a letter from the Newtown Rotary” – they’ve raised \$600K for their memorial charity, \$100K of it from Rotarians – and the fund is already helping people.

Upcoming meetings...

... Thanks to program chair **Brian Kennedy**, bmfkennedy@att.net, 340-5114, and to **Scott Naumann**, 445-4260, scottn@midlandcom.com. Have a program idea? Give ’em a call.

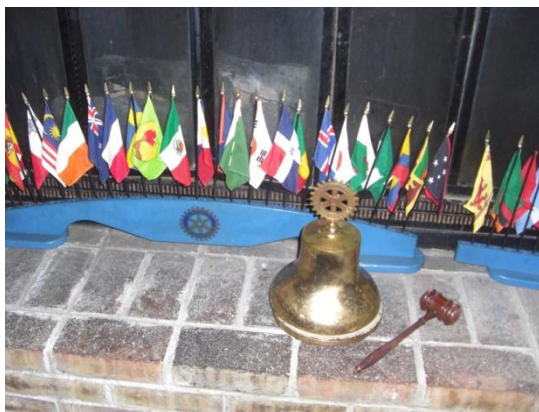
April 24: Our own **Mayor Robert S. Gallagher** – condition of the city report

May 1: Doug Fritz, CEO of Iowa Speedway, Newton, Iowa

May 8: Our own **Jay Wilshire**, Trinity Medical Center, Bettendorf

Missing...

K. Adams-2, Archer-16, Bibik, Bowe-16, Brown-16, Calabrese, Dobesh-14, Duda-2, Edwards-16, Ellstrom-16, Felsing-2, Harrison-11, Heninger-2, Hintermeister, Hinton-16, Kappeler-6, Kennedy-8, Kraft, Larsen, Limberg-3, Lokenvitz, McWilliams-5, Marvin, L. Miller-15, Murphy-16, Nelson, Oswald-3, Ricketts-McCool, Salm-9, Schutte-2, Sherrick-2, Spelhaug, Stopulos-3, Voigts-11, Volbrecht-8, Werner, Worley-2



Make-ups...:

At today's Board meeting: Lee Semenow, Jeff Hassel, George Daugherty, Chelsea Powers, Mark Ross, Sharon Sarver, Chris Glass, Chuck Mooney

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

News staff...

Editor, reporter, photographer:

Fred Anderson...

Correspondent: Chuck Mooney...

Webmeister/Web-site host: Chris Glass

Of interest of BRC members...

SFC Eric Williams, the son-in-law of last week's speaker, Dan Grinstead, sent us an email in which he thanked us for our hospitality and the opportunity for his father-in-law to speak about his experiences among Iowa Guard soldiers in Afghanistan. He went on to say:

“My second reason for contacting your organization was to assist in answering a question from that day: ‘What can businesses do for returning veterans?’

“1. Recognize the responsibility and leadership opportunities afforded to young people in the military. As a 25-year-old, I was in charge of a 19-person section, \$15 million of property, and providing personal security... to several U.S. generals throughout Iraq....

“2. In terms of PTSD, do not fear it. If a person admits they have PTSD, they've likely sought treatment, and that is encouraging.

“3. Familiarize yourself with organizations like <http://www.gotyour6.org/> who aim to bridge the gap between the civilian sector and the military.”

For more on BRC – and Rotary – see:

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