



**THE
BETTENDORF
ROTARY
CLUB NEWS**
Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
Nov. 13, 2013, issue

Next meeting:
Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2013, at the
Fortune Garden Restaurant

**Program aims to raise
epilepsy awareness**

November is Epilepsy Awareness Month, and **Monta Ponsetto**, director of epilepsy services for the Quad Cities, will present the program at the Nov. 20 meeting.

The Epilepsy Foundation North/Central Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska “leads the fight to stop seizures, find a cure and overcome the challenges created by epilepsy,” according to its Web site.

Several events were scheduled to mark the awareness month, which include:
→A “FUN-Raiser for Awareness” at Comedy Sportz on Nov. 1
→“Zumba for Awareness” on Nov. 15
→An entry in the Quad City Arts Festival of Trees parade the evening of Thursday, Nov. 23, and a tree in the Festival called “Light on Awareness,” to help “bring epilepsy out of the shadow of stigma,” according to its Web site.

For information about epilepsy and the Epilepsy Foundation, call (309)373-0377 or email efqc@efncil.org.

Last meeting:
Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2013



Before ‘Rotary speed dating’ Frank Schwab, Tim Downing and Carl Loweth...

**We tried Rotary
‘speed dating’**

Vocational Service Chair **Jonna Schuler** began the program by elaborating on the significance of vocation to Rotarians. The vocation classification on each member’s name badge differentiates Rotary from other service organizations, she said. That grows out of the tradition that, for many years, only one person from a given profession could join a particular Rotary club. Now, Jonna said, the classification signifies that the member’s vocation is represented in a Rotary club – and that the member takes the Rotary ethics, as embodied in the 4-Way Test and the Motto, into the way he or she carries out their day-to-day work.

Based on that concept, Jonna said, “Today we’re going to dig a little deeper” into each other’s vocations, or personal Rotary story, and do a kind of “Rotary speed dating.” She explained: Often we sit with the same people week after week,

but this week, we were to sit, and talk, with someone different. To make that happen in an orderly way, **Jonna** had placed a wrapped mint on each placemat, with a number, 1 to 4, on each. “If you’re sitting at a No. 1, stay where you are,” she said. “If you’re a 2, 3 or 4, move to another table – and start talking.” Everyone changed tables three times, at about 5-minute intervals.



During a regular meeting your editor has it pretty easy: a speaker speaks, I take notes, maybe do a bit of additional research, and write the story. Not this week: this time, *everybody in the room* was “the speaker.” To try to capture the flavor of that, Jonna carried a recorder to various tables, while I – being a No. 1 – stayed at one table and took brief notes on the conversations that took place there.

The recording produced an interesting version of “cocktail conversation” (with iced tea as the beverage): with a cacophonous background of dozens of voices, the recording captured a changing cast of voices who talked about:

- what their “day job” consists of,
- bits and pieces of personal autobiography and family history,
- how they came to live in the QC,
- how they came to be members of Bettendorf Rotary,
- involvement in Rotary service projects,
- involvement in other community organizations,



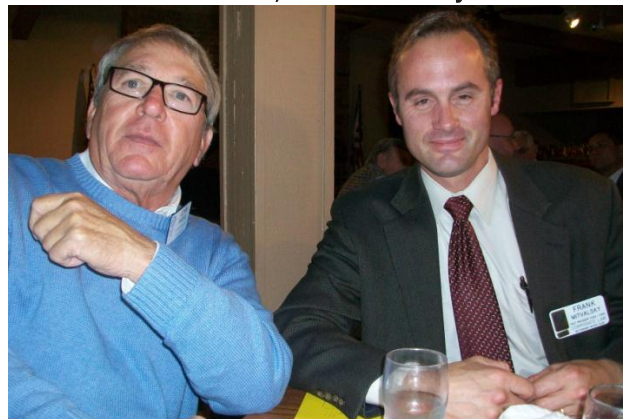
...Round 1 of ‘Rotary speed dating: Tom Kellenberger, Jeff Hassel, Theron Schutte...

→ mutual friends and acquaintances they weren’t previously aware of...
 in other words, conversations among Rotarians who are becoming better acquainted with each other – exactly what Jonna intended.

At the table where I sat, for example:
 → During lunch, **Frank Schwab, Tim Downey** and **Carl Loweth** joined me in conversation about our Thanksgiving plans, what our (adult) kids are doing and how we joined Bettendorf Rotary.

→ After the “Rotary speed dating” began, **Tom Kellenberger, Jeff Hassel** and **Theron Schutte** joined “my” table, and the conversation focused mostly on our Rotary experiences. The camaraderie

...Round 2: John Rabine, Frank Mitvalsky...





drew Tom to join BRC; Jeff recalled the profound impact of attending an International Convention; Theron said he's been able to be more active since becoming

superintendent; and I fully enjoy all of BRC's education-related projects.



→After the next table change, **John Rabine, Frank Mitvalsky** and I added more vocational and community service content to our conversation. John derives great satisfaction from mentoring his

Morgan-Stanley colleagues into a smooth-running team. Frank splits his law practice about evenly between business and family-law clients, and is president of the Scott Community College Foundation.



→At the final table swap, **Amber Castro,**

Dave Falk and **Bill Daley** sat with me. We'd just gotten a good start with our chat – learning a bit more about Amber's work with foreign-exchange students –

when time ran out... and your editor forgot to snap a group photo.

As the meeting adjourned, Jonna was heard to say, "Because of today, maybe you'll be enticed to sit with someone new next week, too."

Announcements...

→**Red Badge Meeting: President Chelsea** announced the next Red Badge Meeting – when newly inducted members learn a good deal more about Rotary and membership in Bettendorf Rotary – is scheduled for the evening of Jan. 22, 2014. She encouraged spouses or significant others to attend along with new members, and said longer-term members are also welcome.

→**BRC grant-presentation meeting: Jeff Hassel**, chair of the Charitable Giving Committee, announced the meeting to present grants to all 2014 recipient organizations has been scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2014, at the Waterfront Convention Center.

→**Thanksgiving baskets: Chris Glass** announced that Thanksgiving food baskets will be ready to be picked up at the Bettendorf Hy-Vee on Devils Glen Road at 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 23. Details about deliveries to recipient families will be emailed to volunteers.



2 minutes with S.K....

(To mark **November, Rotary Foundation Month**): **S.K. Nanda** presented Chapter 2 in the history of Rotary, picking up at

1910, just after founder Paul Harris's retirement at the close of his presidency.

The Foundation began life after the 1916 International Convention in Kansas City,



when the \$26.50 left in the treasury was designated to start a fund to be used "to do good in the world." It wasn't until 1928 that it was officially named the Rotary Foundation, S.K. said. The next

year, rotary made its first charitable donation – \$500 to the organization that would become the March of Dimes.

The death in 1947 of Paul Harris prompted an outpouring of more than \$1 million in memorial gifts in his honor, S.K. continued. "That was the real beginning of the Foundation's work."

In that same year, he said, Rotary launched what came to be known as Ambassadorial Scholarships, in which scholars study abroad for a year, living with Rotarian families as they also learn about their host country's culture.

In 1957, the Paul Harris Fellow program began. It awards fellowship status after a person contributes \$1,000 to the Foundation. "Every member of Bettendorf Rotary becomes a Paul Harris Fellow after five years," S.K. said.

He said three important programs were launched in 1965: Group Study Exchange, in which a Rotarian leads a group of non-Rotarians abroad (**Jim Slavens** led such a visit to India, S.K. noted); Awards for Technical Training, which provides funds for scholars; and

Matching Grants, which multiplies by \$8 each local club's \$1 for a foreign project.

S.K. said Rotary introduced the 3-H Grants in 1978, which provided funds for Rotary's international emphases on Health, Hunger and Humanity. The first 3-H Grant, he said, paid for a project to immunize 6 million Philippine children against polio. That eventually led to the founding in 1985 of PolioPlus, which aims to eradicate polio worldwide. [To be continued next week]

For a more detailed history of Rotary International, go to:

<https://www.rotary.org/en/history-rotary-international>.



The meeting opened...

President Chelsea Powers called the meeting to order and opened by leading the recitation of The 4-Way Test. In honor of Veterans Day on Monday, **Tom Howard** led the singing of "The National Anthem." After Moments of Reflection and introductions, Tom kept the singing going with renditions of "Vive le Rotary" and "Hey, Look Me Over" – all accompanied by **Scott Naumann's** versatile laptop.

Secretary Johanna Smith

introduced:

Visiting Rotarian:

Paul Holzworth, North Scott

Guests:

Dimy Doresca with **Jim Slavens**

Joe Binder with **Mark Ross**

Johanna reported total attendance of 51, including visitors and guests.

Jon Ryan

Happy \$\$...

(Named in honor of the late Bettendorf Rotarian, punster, jokester and all-around good guy)

President Chelsea

collected **\$146**, even though only these members had especially happy \$\$ in their pockets: **Glenn Kass** – son's 15th birthday – “one more year before he gets his driver license:... **Dave Deuth** – “Is Kevin Kraft here?” he began, noting that both the Packers and the Bears were winless last weekend, although “the Vikes got win No. 2 of the season.”



Missing today...

Adams, K. (17); Adams, L. (16); Arndt (14); Bibik (11); Boeye (12); Bowe (20); Brown (20); Bush (15); Chambers (9); Coin, G. (2); Coin, H. (3); DeDoncker (11); Dickson (11); Duda (15); Edwards (20); Ellstrom (20); Featherstone (3); Felsing (7); Franks (16); Gallagher Sr. (10); Gallagher Jr. (5); Gudgel (12); Hartsock (8); Hill (3); Hinton (17); Hipple (7); James (3); Kappeler (16); Kennedy (17); Lizak (9); Lokenvitz (13); McWilliams (15); Mannix (6); Marvin (10); Miller, L. (4); Naeve; Nelson (20); Oswald (10); Ploehn (5); Ricketts-McCool (10); Salm (15); Saul (3); Scranton (17); Sherrick (11); Spelhaug (3); Stone (5); Vandersnick; Vollbrecht (13); Werner (15); Willsher (7); Worley (20)

Make-ups...

Dobesh (Board of Directors Meeting)
Glass (Board of Directors Meeting)
Kraft (Board of Directors Meeting)
Sarver (Board of Directors Meeting)
Schuler (Board of Directors Meeting)
Spelhaug (Board of Directors Meeting)



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

Upcoming meetings...

... Thanks to program chair **Scott Naumann**, scottn@midlandcom.com, 445-4260.

Nov. 20: Monta Ponsetto, director of epilepsy services for the Quad Cities, Epilepsy Foundation of North/Central Illinois, Iowa & Nebraska

For more on Bettendorf Rotary Club:

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