



**THE
BETTENDORF
ROTARY
CLUB NEWS**
Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
April 9, 2014, issue

Next meeting:

Wednesday, April 16, 2014, at the
Fortune Garden Restaurant



**We'll get an update on
the QC Botanical Center**

Ami Jenkins is the executive director
and Dave Searl the head gardener of the



Quad City Botanical
Center, and they'll
update us at the
April 16 meeting on
the center's
programs.

Executive director
for four years, Ami

began her career at the center in 1998 as
its rental facility manager. Dave has been
head gardener since 2000 and has 27
years' experience in related positions.

Last meeting:

Wednesday, April 9, 2014



**DeDoncker: Fed
policy still aids
slow recovery**

Our own **John DeDoncker**, president of
THE National Bank, presented the fourth
in his series of annual updates on the
state of the U.S. economy at the April 9
meeting. The report bore the title "Going
Where No Fed has Gone Before" because
of the Federal Reserve's policy of
quantitative easing, or QE, a strategy the
Fed has never used before to both help
stimulate the economy and keep inflation
low, John said.



The economy continues to slowly emerge from the effects of the deepest recession since the Great Depression, and John mentioned some of the indicators. The housing sector has shown recent strength (although a smaller percentage of single-family units are being built), and consumer spending is increasing, with the index of consumer confidence at about 80%. Inflation is holding steady at about 1.5%, he said.

But some aspects of the economy are still very troubling, he said, citing higher-than-desired unemployment and persistent growth in the nation's deficit. The jobless rate is 6.7%, with some 10.5 million people unemployed – 3.8 million, or about 37%, of them for longer than 27 weeks. About 59% of the population is employed, John said, but 63% had jobs in 2006 before the big recession started, so, “It’s been a recovery without jobs,” he said, mentioning lack of confidence on the part of business decision-makers and the trend of replacing workers with automation as two contributory trends.

The national debt, John said, stands at about \$17.6 trillion, and grew by \$1.08 trillion in 2012 alone. The continually growing deficit is due to a persistent gap between income and spending – which is not being helped by the political gridlock in Washington.

In an effort to provide some economic stimulus, yet keep inflation low, former Fed director Ben Bernanke initiated the policy of QE – essentially, buying large quantities of bonds to increase the money supply. Banks, however, are holding onto much of the cash, John said, which keeps growth slow.

So, John continued, “How does the Fed get the money back from the banks and Wall Street? When (increased) spending starts again, the big question is how much growth will there be, and how much inflation?”

He said he expects the economy to continue its slow improvement with interest rates and inflation staying low for the short term.

Announcements...

→ **Program ideas:** Prompted by calls from a number of members with ideas for future meeting programs, **President Chelsea** urged anyone with ideas to contact program chair **Scott Naumann** (scott@midlandcom.com / 445-4260).



→ **LobsterFest:** **President Chelsea** noted that three in-kind media sponsors – OnMedia; Mediacom; *Quad-City Times* – had signed on at the Gold level. She urged anyone with additional leads for

sponsors to contact **Glenn Kass (309-269-3634 / glennkass@yahoo.com)**.

→**Current sponsors:**

Gold sponsors (\$2,500): OnMedia; Mediacom; *Quad-City Times*, The National Bank

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→**John Deere Classic:** “Three months from today,” **Jeff Hassel** began, “the John Deere Classic opens. We marshal the best hole – No. 1 – and we need volunteers.” **Steve Piart** is Jeff’s co-chair, and they reminded us that:

→Working one day give volunteers free admission to the entire event

→Friends, family or neighbors can volunteer, too – jot just BRC members

→And **Jean Dickson** said marshaling is a good way for students to earn community-service hours.

The JDC runs Wednesday, July 9 – Sunday, July 13.

The meeting opened...

President Chelsea Powers called the meeting to order and led the recitation of the 4-Way Test. **Tom Howard** led the



singing of the day’s patriotic song, “America the Beautiful,” aided by pianist **Ruth Symmons**.

After Moments of Reflection, the singing concluded with renditions of “Sing Rotarians” and “April Showers” – a bit of wishful thinking.

Mayor Bob Gallagher (subbing for Secretary Johanna Smith)

introduced:



Visiting Rotarian:

Ralph Heninger, Rotary Club of Davenport

Guest:

Karen Loss, American Bank & Trust

Total attendance was 53 Bettendorf Rotarians, 1 guest

and 1 visiting Rotarian.

“**Mayor Bob** did a great job filling in and taking attendance. It was greatly appreciated!” **Secretary Johanna** said later in an email [Johanna had a sick child emergency].



Jon Ryan
Happy \$\$...
 (Named in honor of the late Bettendorf Rotarian, punster, jokester and all-around good guy)

President Chelsea collected **\$394.20**, with special amounts coming from:
Glenn Kass – Trio 826 from UNI will sing music of the Holocaust at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Tri-City Jewish Center + Home Instead will have an open house, also at 3 p.m. Sunday... **Tom Howard** – another 3 p.m. Sunday opportunity: the Augustana Choir + others will sing Bach’s “The Passion of St. John,” in German, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport... **Harry Coin** – his dad, **George**, soon to be age 80, has already ridden his bike 800 miles this year... **Kevin Kraft** – “I’ve ridden my bike 13.5 miles so far this year” + \$20 for his birthday + \$1 for each of his 40 years of experience “being” that age... **Dick Schillig** – 145 days to the 20th



anniversary Run with Carl... **Mayor Bob Gallagher** – Bettendorf High School presents “The Music Man” this weekend, and his daughter is in the cast... **Steve Habenicht** reiterated to invitation to Home Instead open house... **Ralph Heninger** – son has graduated from medical school – “breaking a 4-generation tradition” as lawyers – and has secured a 4-year anesthesia residency in Chicago... **John DeDoncker** – \$26.20 for running the St. Louis Marathon with his son – “the only marathon that runs

past a brewery”... **John Rabine** - \$\$ for birthday, “rounded up a bit” to \$75... **Decker Ploehn** – spent time in Florida + brought greetings from **Joe Douglas**, “who doesn’t regret living in Florida”... **Scott Naumann** (subbing for **Todd Ashby**) reminding the Leadercast is 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. Friday, May 9, at the i-Wireless Center, Moline – \$99 with the Rotarian discount; call Les at Results Marketing, 322-2065.



In other news of BRC members...
 Artist Ward Olson, **Dr. Tom Olson’s** dad, recently donated a print of a painting of his childhood farm home to THE National Bank branch office in Chadwick, Iowa, the Carroll County town near that farm. Those present for the gift, besides the Olsons, included Bart Ottens, senior vice president of the Chadwick bank, and **Todd Larsen** from TNB’s Bettendorf headquarters.

Missing today...

(Number in parentheses: total meetings missed since July 1, 2013):
 Adams (32), Arndt (27), Ashby (6), Boeye (26), Bowe (36), Brown (38), Bush (34), Coin, G. (16), Daugherty (13), Dobesh (16), Duda (29), Eikenberry (26), Ellstrom (39), Featherstone (16), Franks (29),

Gause (17), Glass (13), Hartsock (20), Hintermeister (22), Hinton (36), Hipple (24), Hurd (12), Kappeler (33), Kennedy (36), Larsen (19), Limberg (21), Lizak (23), Lokenvitz (22), McGimpsey (10), McWilliams (33), Mannix (21), Marvin (24), Miller, L. (21), Mitvalsky (16), Naeve (14), Nelson (38), Olson (18), Ricketts-McCool (21), Ross (12), Salm (29), Scranton (33), Stone (9), Tirone (4), Vollbrecht (30), Werner (31), Wessel (11), Worley (39)

Make-ups...

Kevin Kraft (Board of Directors Meeting)
Sharon Sarver (Board of Directors Meeting)
Jim Slavens (Board of Directors Meeting)

Make up at another QC club...

Monday, noon: Davenport – The Outing Club
Monday, noon: Moline – Trinity Lutheran Church, Moline
Monday, 6 p.m.: QC Illinois – Arbor Village Club House, Moline
Tuesday, 7:15 a.m.: River Cities – Brothers Restaurant, Rapids 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:
April 16: Ami Jenkins and Dave Searl, Quad City Botanical Center
April 23: Ellis Kell, director, River Music Experience
April 30: Daniel

Sheridan, artistic director of Davenport Junior Theatre and performing arts supervisor for Davenport Parks and Recreation

May 14: Vera French Mental Health Center
May 21: Clair Peterson, director, John Deere Classic
May 28: Bob Fox, director, Mississippi Valley Fair
June 11: Nicole Kelly, Miss Iowa 2013, and the 2014 Miss Iowa contestants: special Bettendorf Rotary luncheon at The Fountains

Officers, Board, 2013-14...

President: **Chelsea Powers**, cpowers@holmesmurphy.com / 370-4695
President-Elect: **Sharon Sarver**, ssarver@famres.org / 285-9771
Club Services: **Kevin Kraft**, kevin.kraft@ubs.com / 359-4554
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Vocational Service: **Jonna Schuler**, JonnaSchuler@ClearChannel.com /
International Service: **Ann Kappeler**, kappelera@usa.redcross.org / 309-743-2166
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Past President: **Mark Ross**, mross@expensereduction.com / 529-0322
Secretary: **Johanna Smith**, Johanna_M_Smith@hotmail.com /
Treasurer: **Laurie Dobesh**, ldobesh@aol.com /
Outgoing Secretary / Treasurer: **Chuck Mooney**, 388-3544

BRC News staff...

Editor, reporter, photographer: Fred Anderson...
Correspondent/Web-site host: Johanna Smith...

For more on Bettendorf Rotary Club:
<http://www.bettendorffrotary.com/>