



**THE
BETTENDORF
ROTARY
CLUB NEWS**
Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
Aug. 27, 2014, issue

Next meeting:

Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2014, at
The Fortune Garden Restaurant



**Get an update on River
Music Experience**

At the Sept. 3 we'll hear the latest developments at the River Music Experience from **Ellis Kell**, its director of programming and community outreach, and **Deb Sandry-Powers**, CEO.

Deb is responsible for the overall operations of the facility. A lifelong resident of the Quad Cities area, she is a 1990 graduate of Marycrest College and has been active in music management and fundraising for more than 10 years.

Ellis, also a lifelong QC resident, is the contact for all educational programs including Rock Camp USA, Sound Lab, Winter Blues, music lessons, membership and development. He is a 1979 graduate of Augustana College, and has been a singer, songwriter and bandleader in the region for more than 30 years.

Last meeting:

Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2014



**Leach: 2 Iowans
key to WWII win**

Former U.S. Rep. **Jim Leach** – who, during his 30 years in Congress, had represented Iowa's 1st and 2nd Districts – stepped to the microphone At the Aug. 27 meeting and for the next half hour told the story (without once referring to notes) of how two Iowans helped win World War II. He also provided commentary that sometimes put current events into an historic perspective.

Congressman Leach's appearance came through the efforts of **Tim Lane**, who introduced our distinguished guest; Mr. Leach is now a visiting professor at the University of Iowa Law School.



Jim Leach chats with Linda Miller...

“Seventy-five years ago this week,” he began, the German foreign minister flew to Moscow to sign a nonaggression pact with the Soviet Union – which freed Germany to attack other European countries. Two days later Great Britain signed a mutual defense treaty with Poland. The stage was set for World War II – although it had already begun with Hitler’s annexation of the Sudetenland region of Czechoslovakia and Germany’s *anschluss* (“connection”) with Austria. A few years later, in one of history’s most stunning miscalculations, Hitler broke his own treaty, attacked the Russians and virtually ensured his own defeat.

Two Iowans – **Harry Hopkins** and **James Van Allen** – played key roles in helping the United States win the war, Leach said. Hopkins was a key adviser to President Franklin D. Roosevelt – although he had no official title (the press dubbed him “deputy president”), he



functioned as what has since become known as the “chief of staff.” During the depths of the Great Depression, **Hopkins** created the WPA (Works Progress Administration) to get unemployed

people back to work and spending money to stimulate the economy. It was Hopkins, Leach said, who hired Grant Wood to head the WPA in Iowa.

By 1939, as Hitler’s *blitzkrieg* plunged much of Europe into war, an isolationist Congress had passed neutrality laws to keep the U.S. from entering the hostilities. FDR knew Germany had to be stopped – but Great Britain, the only part of Europe not under Nazi occupation, could not do it alone. So he directed Hopkins to find a way to help the British, and he devised the “Lend Lease” program, under which the U.S. sent huge amounts of armaments to England.

As the war deepened, Roosevelt sent Hopkins to England where he solidified the U.S.-British alliance. Later, after Germany had invaded Russia, Hopkins went to Moscow – although he was gravely ill – where he brought the Soviets into the Alliance against the German-Italian-Japanese Axis.

Meanwhile, Leach continued, in 1939 **Van Allen**, who is best known now for his work in astrophysics, had just completed his



Ph.D. and joined a group of scientists and engineers who were working to improve conventional weapons. The U.S. Navy, like all navies at the time, was trying to fix the problem that many of its long-range, battleship-mounted artillery shells exploded before they reached their targets. Van Allen invented the “proximity fuse,” which caused the shells to explode at their intended target –

increasing their effectiveness by 50%. Later, Leach continued, Van Allen invented the “radio proximity fuse,” which greatly increased the accuracy of anti-aircraft artillery.

Bringing his commentary on world affairs to today, Leach observed that the U.S. is “the only country ever to finance two wars” – in Iraq and Afghanistan, which, he noted, are the longest in U.S. history – “with a tax cut.” In contrast, during the Eisenhower Administration of the 1950s, marginal income tax rates were more than double what they are today as the nation worked together to pay off the WWII debt.

About the wars in Southwest Asia, he said U.S. leaders at the time had no apparent feeling for the Sunni-Shia schism in Islam – with the result that “we have angered both sides (and) unleashed radicalized terrorist forces (Sunni al-Qaida and Shia Hezbollah) that are horrendous.” This has led to a “terribly vulnerable” situation for the U.S., which is an open society and therefore easier for terrorists to stage attacks, he added.

In closing, he observed that the world would be a better place if Rotary’s 4-Way Test were “the model” for actions by all public servants, worldwide.



Tim Lane and Bill Daily with Jim Leach...



Announcements...

→ President’s Cup Challenge / 20th

Run with Carl: Dick Schillig said, “The 8th week of our challenge shows the Bod Squad under the very capable leadership of **Andrew Erpelding** leading the pack – but only 2 miles separate Bod Squad at 2,288 from Daley’s Dashers (**Bill Daily** captain) at 2,286. Bod Squad is leading in spite of the ‘ringer’ advantage for Dashers. What a challenge!!” Not far behind is the Dim-Wits (**Dimy Doresca** captain) challenging with 1,984 miles. **Heather Wessel’s** Warriors are in 4th place with 1,535 miles.

“This is the final week of the President’s Cup Challenge – just 5 days left, on meeting day,” Dick said. “Continue to count steps and miles, whether they come from walking, running, biking, canoeing, swimming.... We’ve been asked to include everything (almost) – some exercise can’t be counted.... Use your imagination ;-). Count through Labor Day Run with Carl – so the cut-off is noon on Monday, Sept. 1 – by that time everyone should have crossed the finish line.

“Get those final reports to your team leader for Wednesday’s meeting and the presentation of the President’s Cup!

“Thanks to all for participating in this final Challenge for this final Run with

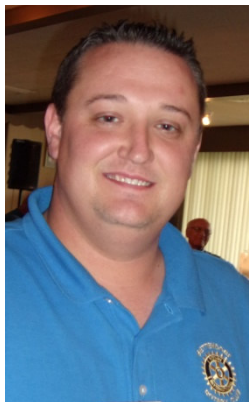
Carl year,” Dick concluded. “Thanks especially to those very dedicated and capable team leaders, Bill, Andy, Dimy, Heather – all newer and very capable Rotarians.”

Dick added that it’s still not too late to volunteering to help – just contact volunteer coordinator **Mike Vollbrecht** (mvollbrecht@shive-hattery.com / 309-277-1978).



→ **Golf Outing:** **John Rabine** reiterated the date – Sept. 10 – for the day of golf and dinner at Palmer Hills. He said signups for both hole sponsorships – at only \$100 each – and foursomes have

been good, “and there’s still room for more,” he added. John also announced that music during dinner in the outdoor pavilion will be provided by a string quartet and a brass quartet.



→ **Rotary biking trip:** **Chris Glass** said a bike ride – with all QC Rotary clubs invited to participate – has been schedule to start rolling away from Rock Island’s river-front Schweibert Park at 6:30 a.m. Saturday,

ride to Port Byron, Ill., and return. “Just show up – and have fun,” he commented.

→ **Pack 54 update:** **Frank Mitvalsky** reported that 10 Cub Scouts and 9 adults from our pack have volunteered to work at Run with Carl. Senior Cubs are

planning to join the Mitvalsky family on a Wisconsin canoe trip soon, he said. And this has been a good recruiting year, he added, with 62 Cubs now in the pack, compared with 54 a year ago.

→ **Coats for Kids:** Pledges to the Rotary District 6000 Coats for Kids program are due by Sept. 24. BRC has already raised about \$1,300. For every \$20 (the suggested minimum) pledged, **President Sharon** will donate an additional \$1. If all 105 members pledge \$20 we will raise \$2,205 – enough to buy 150 coats to help keep needy QC kids warm.

History with Harry...
(Harry Coin looks through BRC archives to discover what the club was doing on this date in years past...)



Today in **1997 Rich James** paid \$30 on the occasion of his 30th wedding anniversary! So, here’s \$30 from me because this week was our 30th wedding anniversary as well!



On this day, in this room in **2008 Jim Spelhaug**

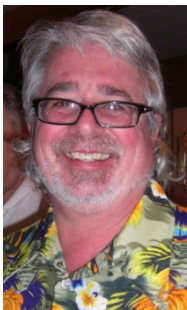
received his Paul Harris award and pin from **Doyle McCully**. Also on that day long-time club member and Red Cross executive **Ann Kappeler** and Joyce Schumacher detailed how our local American Red Cross came to the rescue of some of the many thousands who

suffered in severe weather earlier in 2008.

The hardest part of doing this little talk hasn't been getting used to public speaking or trying to talk like a normal person and not be a zombie reading from a script.

The hardest part is feeling sad having to research – but owing to time, not mention – so many really substantial things this club and our people have done this week some past year. This club has been like a steady positive breeze at everyone's back in our town and region and abroad too, making getting from here to there a little bit easier, for lots of people, and for a very long time. It's an honor really, and a little humbling, for us here and now to be part of that.

And that WAS the news!



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

In the absence of **Scott Naumann** and his musical laptop (**Tom Howard** said it's memorized 80 songs), which usually serenades us with Pharell Williams' "Happy," **President Sharon** started singing, "If you're happy and you know it..." to launch this segment – and it apparently worked very well because she collected **\$492**. Cash flowed especially from the deep pockets of: **Diane Ricketts-McCool** – \$100 for anniversary + birthday (and some creative rounding-up)... **Andy Gudgel** – 3rd baby, Lucy, has joined the family... **Kevin Kraft** – 28th anniversary... **Dave Deuth** – sad he won't be here for the 20th RWC, but happy to be in Minnesota to celebrate his

mother-in-law's 80th birthday... **Rich James** – 47th anniversary (note HWH, above).

The meeting opened...

President Sharon Sarver (who seemed to have temporarily lost her script) rang the bell... asked **Tom Howard** to lead



the singing of "God Bless America"... led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag... and finally got around to leading recitation of the "4-Way Test." **Dick Schillig** updated the President's Cup Challenge / Run with Carl final week (see Announcements) before Sharon remembered to ask Tom – expertly abetted by **Ruth Symmons** on piano – to lead the "we're-a-singing-Rotary" session with "That Rotary Wheel" and "Zip-a-Dee Doo-Dah."

Secretary Johanna Smith introduced:

Guests:

Congressman Jim Leach, speaker
Ruth Symmons, pianist

In all, 39 Bettendorf Rotarians attended and were joined by 2 guests.

Upcoming meetings...



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

Sept. 3: Ellis Kell and Deb Sandry-Powers, River Music Experience
Sept. 10: Bettendorf Rotary Club Golf Outing at Palmer Hills
Sept. 17: Jodie

Kavensky, Norma-Leah Ovarian Cancer Foundation

Sept. 24: Dr. Dennis Marchiori, chancellor of Palmer College of Chiropractic

Oct. 1: BHS teacher Chris Like: BHS is one of the first Iowa school districts to implement a new district-wide teacher-leader position in "STEAM" (science, technology, engineering, arts and math)

Oct. 8: Our own **Ryan Bell**: Locals Love US

Oct. 15: Dave Layton: Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

Missing today...

(Number in parentheses: total meetings missed since July 1, 2014):

Arndt (8), Bell (3), Bibik (4), Boeye (7), Bowe (8), Brown (9), Bush (9), Chambers (2), Daugherty (4), DeDoncker (5), Dickson (5), Dobesh (2), Duda (6), Eikenberry (9), Ellstrom (9), Erpelding (5), Featherstone (7), Gallagher, Jr. (3), Gause (6), Gudgel (6), Hartsock (5), Hassel (4), Hill (4), Hinton (9), Hipple (7), Hurd (2), Kass, Kellenberger (7), Kennedy (9), Larsen (5), Limberg (3), Lokenvitz (4), Love-Sherrick (5), Loweth, McGimpsey (2), McWilliams (8), Mannix (9), Marbach (2), Martinez (5), Naeve (8), Naumann, Nelson (9), Olson (4), Oswald (6), Ploehn (3), Powers (2), Ross (4), Salm (9), Saul (2), Schuler, Schutte (3), Scranton (7), Sherrick (5), Slavens (2), Sorenson (3), Spelhaug (2), Stopulos (4), Tirone (4), Vandersnick, Werner (9), Wessel (4), Willsher (8), Windmiller (9), Worley (8), Zachary (5)

Make-ups...

District Governor Board Meeting: Glenn Kass, Jonna Schuler, S.K. Nanda

Happy to Have a Make-up drawing: Carl Loweth, Dave Deuth

BRC News staff...

Editor, reporter, photographer: Fred Anderson

Correspondent, Web-site host: Johanna Smith

For more on Bettendorf Rotary Club:

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

For more on Rotary International:

<https://www.rotary.org/>

