



**THE
BETTENDORF
ROTARY
CLUB NEWS**
Bettendorf, Iowa, Rotary Club
March 11, 2015, issue

Next meeting:
Wednesday, March 18, 2015,
at the **Tanglewood Pavilion**

**Here's a chance to learn
all about Camp Shalom**

Tom Bley, executive director of Camp Shalom near Maquoketa, Iowa, is the scheduled speaker at the March 18 meeting. Camp Shalom is an ecumenical Christian camp with its main office in the Quad Cities.

Originally a part of the ministry of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport, today the camp is a stand-alone 401c(3) non-profit. Each summer it hosts 900-1,200 young people who participate in a variety of outdoor activities on the 311-acre property. The camp also offers retreat opportunities and group rentals.



The summer staff comprises college and high school students who serve as mentors.

Tom has been involved with the camp since the early 1990s as a member of St Paul's congregation. He and his wife Jody now provide fulltime leadership to the Camp Shalom ministry.

Last meeting:
Wednesday, March 11, 2015



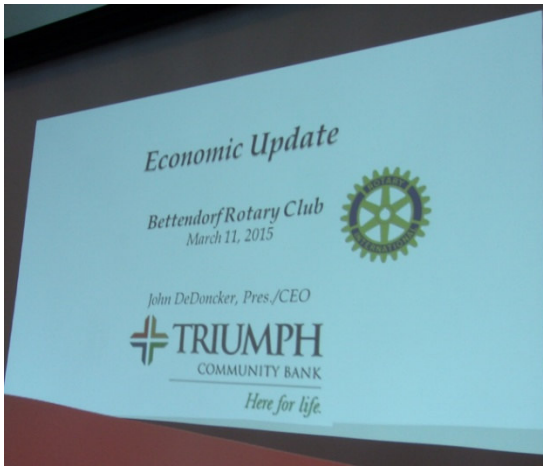
**Economic times
'are pretty good'**

As he has for the past several years, **John DeDoncker** assessed the "State of the Economy" at the March 11 meeting – and concluded, "Times are pretty good, particularly in Iowa with a strong economy."

He predicted that a year from now: GDP up about 7%; core inflation at 2% or less, the 10-year bond rate will rise from today's 2% to 3.1%, the prime rate will be 4%, unemployment will stand at 5.3%, new housing starts will hit 1.2 million and the Dow Industrial Average will be 18-19,000.

Along the way to that and other predictions, his analysis included these points:

→Gross Domestic Product: up about 2.4% over January 2014; he observed, “68% of the U.S. economy is consumer



spending on retail and food. It's finally back to normal levels after the big recession.

→CPI: Consumer prices, including gasoline, are slightly in

negative territory, John said, but without gas the index is running 1.6-1.7%, a modest inflation rate.

→Unemployment: 5.5%. The Federal now ways a 5% rate would be considered full employment, he said, and that could trigger a slight increase in interest rates.

→Wages: Median earnings of salaried workers are just getting back to levels of 9-10 years ago, John said, due in part to chronically unemployed workers (at about 2.7%) plus underemployment and a low (about 62.8%) participation rate of all who could be working.

→Manufacturing: That index stood at 52.9 in February, John reported, showing strength. Also showing more strength are housing starts, rising home prices and consumer confidence, he said.

→The national debt rises about \$3 billion a day, he said, standing now at \$18.15 trillion. The deficit has been cut in half during the last half-dozen years, John reported, and government spending equals about 21% of GDP (it was above 40% in World War II).

Summarizing the “economic drivers” for the remainder of 2015, John observed:

→The Euro-zone is flooding its area with cash, making its goods cheaper in the U.S., but it's harder for Europe to buy U.S. goods

→Russia's economy suffers the most from low oil prices – “They may ‘need’ a war to get out of their economic doldrums.”

→China “is slowing its own growth” because it over-built

→The top economies in terms of GDP: U.S., China, Euro-zone.

Announcements...

→**March meetings:** We will continue meeting at Tanglewood Pavilion for the remainder of March.

→**LobsterFest: President Sharon** had

just asked called attention to her red slacks – a reminder of LobsterFest – when who should join the meeting of our “vagabond club” but that Collector of Crustaceans himself, Larry the Lobsterman, just off the plane from Bar Harbor and ready to take orders for the Saturday, June 13 – 8th annual – event.



Larry, President Sharon and **Jonna Schuler** teamed up to make the day's HUGE announcement: Triumph Community Bank – thank you very much, **John DeDoncker** – has joined



Doland Jewelers – thank you equally, **Will Doland** – as CO-PRESENTING SPONSORS.

That development set off a shift of sponsorships: **Steve Habenicht** said he'd boost Home Instead Senior Care up to Silver if a new Bronze sponsor came aboard – and **Dr. Tom Olson** brought his Olson Family Dentistry in at that level (he waited until Jon Ryan Happy \$\$ just to build the suspense).

President Sharon announced the sponsorship dollar total now stands at \$23,000 – \$15,500 in actual cash. If all of last year's sponsors re-upped, she said, that would add \$6,500 in cash. And if the 2-year-ago sponsors also rejoined, that would add another \$2,500.

To stimulate more giving, President Sharon said she'd add \$10 to her Bronze Sponsorship for each new sponsor – and **S.K. Nanda** said he'd add that many 10-spots, too. By the end of the meeting, sponsorship totals were:

Presenting:

- Dolan's Jewelers
- Triumph Community Bank

Gold Sponsors:

- Locals Love Us

Silver Sponsors:

- N2 Publishing
- Weerts Funeral Home
- Abbey Carpet Gallery
- Iowa American Water
- Professional Touch Cleaners
- McGinnis Chamber Funeral Home
- Ascentra Credit Union
- Home Instead Senior Care
- RJS and Associates

Bronze Sponsors:

- Mel Foster – Brad and Andrea Boeye
- Swiss Valley Farms
- Estes Construction
- Holmes Murphy & Assoc.
- Gallagher, Millage and Gallagher
- George and Harry Coin
- Califf & Harper
- Steve's Mirror and Glass
- Senior Star
- Results Marketing
- Kevin and Sue Kraft/UBS
- Sharon and Brad Sarver
- Dr. Tom Olson Family Dentistry

Soon, tickets will be available, **Todd Ashby** said, and **Glenn Kass** is lining up media sponsors which will begin promoting LobsterFest in April.

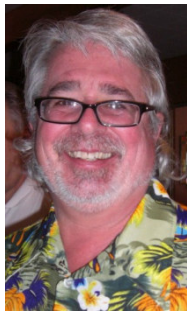


→ **'Betten-do' project: President Sharon** announced the May 6 meeting as a time to do a "one-and-done" project for a QC non-profit agency. On that date, she said, members will go to that agency, have a quick lunch and complete the job. She explained, the job could be a cleanup, fix-up, painting or other task that the agency needed. Submit ideas over the next few weeks to either her

(563.320.7180 / ssarver529@yahoo.com) or Secretary **Johanna Smith** (760.458.1218 / [Johanna M Smith@hotmail.com](mailto:Johanna_M_Smith@hotmail.com)).

We'll vote on the projects in late April, she added.

➔ **Twin Rivers RAH event:** Twin Rivers Rotary After Hours will celebrate its chartering beginning at 5:30 p.m. Monday, March 30, with cocktails, heavy hors d'oeuvres and a chartering ceremony at City View Celebrations @ Trimble Pointe, 701 12th St., Moline.



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

President Sharon collected \$249 especially from **Chuck Geisewite** – who enjoyed talking with last week's speaker, Doug Miller, whose dad was Chuck's home-room teacher... **Glenn Kass** – happy birthday... **Tom Olson** – going bronze for Lob-Fest... **Rich James** (who always – *always* – seems to miss L.T. Lobsterman) – \$100 for birthday (68) + UNI's 30th win + grandson's 2nd birthday.

The meeting opened...

President Sharon Sarver called the meeting to order and led the recitation of The 4-Way Test. **Tom Howard**, accompanied by **Ruth Symmons** on keyboard, led the singing of "This Is My Country." President Sharon led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and asked for those to remember during Moments of Silence – Terry Westbrook's father died, and Tom Howard's son has recovered from his brain bleed. After



introductions, Tom and **Ruth** returned for two more songs: "All Hail to Rotary" and "My Bonnie Lies over the Ocean" (the calisthenics version for the second verse).

Secretary Johanna Smith introduced...

Guests:

Ruth Symmons, pianist
Becca Skafidas, Northwest Bank & Trust, guest of **Sharon Sarver**
Tara Taylor, Northwest Bank & Trust, guest of **Sharon Sarver**
Amy Crist, Triumph Community, guest of **John DeDoncker**
Scott Reining, Triumph Community, guest of **John DeDoncker**

All totaled, 46 Bettendorf Rotarians attended, joined by 5 guests.



And at the end...

... of the meeting, **Chuck Geisewite** won a Happy to Have a Make-up in the drawing from among all those members who participated in Jon Ryan Happy \$\$.

Upcoming meetings...

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

March 18: Tom Bley, Camp Shalom

March 25: Jeff Ashcraft, new president, Handicapped Development Center

April 1: Aaron Tennant, Tennant Truck Lines: Truckers' Image and Economics

April 8: Kai Swanson, "Masterworks VI: Peace and Brotherhood Ode to Joy" (The QCSO Masterworks Series is being performed in April)

April 15: Judd Hulting, manager: Patriot Renewable Fuels, Annawan, Ill.

April 22: Dr. Eric Dyken, professor of neurology: "Sleep Disorders," importance of sleep for health; dangers of disordered or interrupted sleep

April 29: Kent Pilcher/**Rene Hipple:** Quad City regional vision

May 6: Done-in-a-Day projects

May 13: Brad Scott, Scott Community College Culinary Arts Program

May 20: Ken Asta: Rock Valley Physical Therapy workplace wellness program

May 27: Donna Young, designer: Isabel Bloom



Missing...

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

Bell, Bibik (22), Blaske (10), Boeye (26), Bowe (35), Bush (36), Calabrese (5), Chambers (18), Coin, G. (9), Dobesh (20), Doresca (7), Duda (22), Eikenberry (27), Ellstrom (36), Erpelding (31), Featherstone (29), Franks (23), Gallagher, Sr. (20), Gallagher, Jr. (14), Gause (21), Gudgel (27), Hartsock (22), Hassel (20), Heninger (17), Hill (23), Hinton (33), Hipple (31), Hurd (24), Kappeler (12), Kennedy (36), Lane, Larsen (20), Limberg (23), Lizak (20), Lokenvitz (14), Love-Sherrick (11), Loweth

(13), McWilliams (33), Miller, L. (23), Mitvalsky (16), Naumann, Ploehn (6), Rutherford (7), Salm (36), Saul (23), Scranton (32), Slavens (13), Stone (10), Tirone (18), Vandersnick, Werner (36), Willsher (30), Worley (35), Zachary (22)

Make-ups...

Todd Ashby, North Scott Rotary

Dick Schillig, Iowa QC Rotary

Board of Directors meeting: Ryan Bell, Bill Daley, Kevin Kraft, Tim Lane, S.K. Nanda, Chelsea Powers, Sharon Sarver, Jonna Schuler, Jim Spelhaug

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 – Club Rm., HyVee, 7th Street & John Deere Road, Moline

Tuesday, 7:15 a.m.: River Cities – Brothers Restaurant, Rapids City

Tuesday, noon: Rock Island – QC Botanical Center

Wednesday, noon: Bettendorf – Tanglewood Pavilion (during March)

Wednesday, 5 p.m.: Mini Meet – Lunardi's Restaurant, Davenport

Thursday, 7 a.m.: Iowa Quad Cities – J-Bar, Elmore Avenue, Davenport

Thursday, noon: East Moline – Christ United Methodist Church

Thursday, noon: Milan – Pinnacle Country Club

2nd and 4th Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.: Twin Rivers

Rotary After Hours – Bierstube, Moline

Friday, noon: North Scott – Steeplegate Inn, Davenport

BRC News staff...

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For more on Bettendorf Rotary:

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

For more on Rotary International:

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