

# Rotary



# Club of Mattoon

## Aaron Ifft Draws the Ace - and Wins \$550



**CONGRATULATIONS TO AARON IFFT!** Aaron's winning ticket paid \$19 in the weekly Triple Treat drawing. He then drew the Ace of Spades and won the \$550 pot!

## Club Meeting

Mattoon  
Meets at Mattoon Golf & Country Club  
6700 N Country Club Rd  
Mattoon, IL 61938-8427  
Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM

## Speakers

### April 03, 2024

[Joleen Baker-Robinson - CASA of East Central Illinois](#)

### April 10, 2024

[Jacob Dickey, WCIA Channel 3](#)

### April 17, 2024

[President Janet Grove - Update on Club Annual Goals](#)

Recognize MHS Students of the Month

### April 24, 2024

[Dawn Thompson - Standing Stone Community Center](#)

## Birthdays

Melissa McDaniel

April 5th

Robert D Becker

April 6th

James R. Livesay II

April 6th

Alex Hagen

April 7th

Mark A. McDaniel

April 15th

## Club Leaders



Janet Grove  
President



Noah Olson  
President-Elect  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Laura Reichart  
Secretary  
Club Executive  
Secretary



Doug Jackson  
President-Nominee  
Treasurer



Tina Stovall  
Club Admin Chair  
iPast President  
Public Relations Chair



Judy Baker  
Membership Chair



Scott L Eggleston  
Service Projects Chair

## 03.27.24 Meeting Notes and More!

### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Janet Grove and all in attendance recited the **Pledge of Allegiance**. The **Inspiration** was provided by Billie Constant.

### Guests

No guests attended other than the meeting speaker.

### Sergeant at Arms

President Janet collected happy dollars from Aaron Ifft (Illinois in the Sweet 16), Mike Martin (\$2 in honor of Phil Kepp), Rick Hall (his wife's birthday), Tina Stovall (great Comedy Night), Mike Snow (50/50 drawing at Comedy Night resulting in \$870 for ramp access project), Dale Righter (son's first solo jet flight), and John Covington (Comedy Night turnout).

### Business & Announcements

**March Madness** - Aaron Ifft announced that \$130 was collected, with \$65 going to the winner and \$65 going to Polio Plus. Current bracket leaders are Diana Hartbank in first and Janet Grove in second. More to come!

**Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake** - Billie Constant shared information about BFKS, scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday, April 17 and 18, and encouraged members to bowl, help support a bowler, or donate. Sponsor opportunities at the \$500, \$250 and \$100 level are also available for individuals and businesses/organizations. Contact Billie for additional information.

**RYLA** - Our club now has three local high school students scheduled to participate.

### Today's Program: Alexander Benishek, Mattoon Community Development and Planning Director

Following his introduction by President Janet, Alex shared a bit about his background prior to coming to Mattoon, including that he is originally from Sarasota, Florida, he earned a master's degree in Community & Economic Development at Western Illinois University, and his career has included service through AmeriCorps and the Peace Corps. Currently, in addition to serving as the Mattoon Community Development and Planning Director, he serves as Board President of Mattoon in Motion and as Co-Chair of the Housing Action Team. Alex provided a presentation with information on the current state of housing in Mattoon and work that is being done to move the community forward in improving the quality of life in Mattoon and providing more affordable housing, both for those who already live here and those who would like to. Alex noted that the City Council and Planning Commission are addressing any needed changes in city ordinances and zoning requirements and that public input is being sought all along the way. He thanked volunteers from the community and Lake Land College for their assistance. A March 14 Housing Town Hall, sponsored by Elevate, the City of Mattoon, Mattoon in Motion and the Illinois Housing Development Authority, provided a discussion of the results from a recent housing survey, and an opportunity for community input to help determine upcoming housing priorities for Mattoon. (The presentation is linked below.)

[Mattoon Housing Presentation by Alex Benishek](#)

### Triple Treat

CONGRATULATIONS TO AARON IFFT for winning \$19 in this week's raffle, and for drawing the ACE OF SPADES to win the \$550 pot!! We will begin a new deck next week!

### Raffle Drawing

This week's winner was Jennifer Nay, ticket sold by Gary Swearingen.

The meeting closed with members reciting **The Four-Way Test of the things we think, say or do**.

### Upcoming Club Programs/Events

**April 3:** Joleen Baker-Robinson, CASA of East Central Illinois

**April 10:** Jacob Dickey, Meteorologist, WCIA 3 News

**April 17:** Janet Grove, Update on Club Annual Goals. Recognize April MHS Students of the Month

**April 24:** Dawn Thompson, Standing Stone Community Center

**Check the Club website at [mattoonrotary.org](http://mattoonrotary.org) or DACdb for more programs and events!**

### Program Committees

**April:** Chair: Doug Jackson, Samantha Barr, Lindsey Butler, Jason Donnelly, Amanda Honn

**May:** Chair: Chris Strohl, Larry Larvick, Laura Reichart, Susan Riggert

**June:** Chair: Jason Heuerman, Rick Hall, Matthew Froeschle, Gary Swearingen

**Reminder: Community Events** (*Represent Rotary; send us a selfie in your Rotary t-shirt; earn a make-up!*)



Michael W. Martin  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair  
Past President



Rick Hall  
Club Director



Gary L. Swearingen  
Club Director



Kimberly A. Denton  
Past President  
Youth Exchange  
Office  
Youth Services Chair



Lindsey Butler  
Youth Exchange  
Counselor

