

Rotary



Club of Mattoon

02.14.24 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 President-Elect Noah Olson.

Guests

Joshua Zoppa, Executive Director, Mattoon Community Food Center, and Brett Bennett, program speaker, were meeting guests.

Sergeant at Arms

Sergeant Rick Hall encouraged and received donations including those from Gary Swearingen announcing the upcoming relocation of SC3F Wealth Management to their new building, one building east of their current location; Dean Willaredt and Scott Eggleston celebrating the Chiefs Super Bowl Championship; Rick Hall celebrating the new MATTOON sign located downtown at the corner of 19th and Broadway (Check it out!); and Malcolm O'Neill's donation of \$40 from the recent Super Bowl pool - the donation will go to the Access Ramp Project.

Business & Announcements

Meeting Location: February 21, 28 and March 6 Club meetings will be held at the **Mattoon Public Library**, Community Room, Lower Level. Will return to the Mattoon Golf & Country Club on March 13.

Peace Meals - Next week for Rotary sponsorship is March 11. Sign-up sheet will be coming soon!

Rotary Comedy Night - March 23 - Yost Convention Center - Gary Swearingen reminded all members to purchase their tickets quickly. Last year's event sold out. Tickets are \$50 each. Sponsorships are still available! Contact Gary for more information.

Club Matching Program to The Rotary Foundation - Mike Martin reminded all members of this opportunity to increase their donations toward a first Paul Harris Fellow or a new level of Paul Harris. Contact Mike ASAP if you'd like to benefit!

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Update - Kim Denton shared that BIONIC and Class-E programs are both working to recommend sophomore students for club-sponsored participation in this two-day event to be held in April. Information about Rotarian volunteer opportunities at the event are coming soon.

Rural Urban Day - President Janet announced that we will wait until 2025 to host the next Rural Urban Day.,

Presentation of Check to Mattoon Community Food Center

Joshua Zoppa, Executive Director, was recognized and presented a check for the remaining financial donations for the 2023 Food Drive. (See photo with additional information.)

Program: Brett Bennett, Consolidated Communications, Fidium Fiber Internet

John Covington introduced Brett Bennett, a 20-year employee at Consolidated Communications, who shared information regarding the new Fidium Fiber Internet Service. Brett shared how the new product enhances internet services in our community, providing additional support to allow for work from home and online educational opportunities. He noted that Consolidated is always leading with new technology to benefit users. Brett shared that the current fiber build has expanded in the last several years providing more capacity/bandwidth. 68% of Mattoon now has access to Fiber. Brett answered numerous questions from members in attendance, both at the end of his presentation and throughout lunch!

Raffle Drawing

This week's winner was Mike Worden, Hayesville, North Carolina.

Triple Treat

This week's winner of \$20 was Scott Eggleston. The larger prize of \$452 was rolled over to next week.

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

Upcoming Club Programs/Events

February 21: Club meeting @ Mattoon Public Library - Community Room, Lower Level. Program: Jennifer Keller, Executive Director, United Way of Coles County

February 28: Club meeting @ Mattoon Public Library - Community Room, Lower Level. Program: Curtis Wudtke, Principal, St. John's Lutheran School

March 6: Club meeting @ Mattoon Public Library - Community Room, Lower Level. Program: TBA

March 13: Club meeting @ MG&CC. Program: TBA. Recognize March Students of the Month.

March 20: Club meeting @ MG&CC. Program: TBA

March 23: Comedy Night at Yost Convention Center - Get your tickets!

March 27: Club meeting @MG&CC. Program: TBA

Check the Club website at mattoonrotary.org or DACdb for more programs and events!

Program Committees

February: Chair: Steve Kite, Bob Clark, John Covington, Sara Marshall

March: Chair: Kim Denton, Melissa McDaniel, Rodney Morris. Kim Uphoff

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!*)

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

February 21, 2024
Jennifer Keller,
Executive Director,
Coles County United Way

February 28, 2024
Curtis Wudtke,
Principal, St. John's Lutheran School!
Updates on enrollment and school building project

Birthdays

Alyssa Nichols
February 19th
Ali Nichole Young
February 26th
Lindsey Butler
March 4th
Michael W. Martin
March 4th
John M Covington
March 15th
Heidi Larson
March 15th

Club Leaders



Janet Grove
President



Doug Jackson
President-Elect
Treasurer



Noah Olson
President-Elect
Sergeant-at-Arms



Laura Reichart
Secretary
Club Executive Secretary



Tina Stovall
Club Admin Chair
iPast
President
Public Relations Chair

Rotary Presents Check from 2023 Food Drive to Community Food Center



Mattoon Rotarians recently presented a check to Joshua Zoppa, Executive Director, Mattoon Community Food Center. The check for \$18,015 represents the monetary donations submitted through Rotary to support the December 2023 Rotary Community Food Drive. Rotarians and community volunteers also collected 8,755 pounds of food through the drive. Thanks again to all of the volunteers who walked door-to-door and to all of the generous donors of food and money. What a great community of caring! (In photo: Joshua Zoppa with Janet Grove, Mattoon Rotary President, and Larry Nichols, Rotarian and Treasurer for Mattoon Rotary Charities Foundation.)

Rotarians Supporting EIU Community Ambassador Scholarship Program



Several Mattoon and Charleston Rotarians recently gathered to support the re-launch of the Eastern Illinois University Community Ambassador Scholarship Program, a one-time \$2,000 scholarship to encourage local high school graduates to continue their education at EIU and to stay in the community for their professional career. Many local businesses and individuals have contributed to the scholarship fund. For more information, visit <https://www.eiu.edu/ambassador-scholarship>. (In photo: Mattoon Rotarians Gary Swearingen and Bob Becker; Charleston Rotarians: Craig Cunningham, Dennis Pluard, and Jay Gattrell. Not pictured, Mattoon Rotarian Kim Uphoff.)



Judy Baker
Membership
Chair



Scott L.
Eggleston
Service
Projects
Chair



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