

# The Rotary Club of Clinton

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 77 | ISSUE 39 | NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 10, 2023



### MEETING LOCATION

#### MONDAY ROTARY

RASTRELLI'S RESTAURANT:  
TUSCANY EVENT CENTER  
2417 CLEVELAND ST.  
CLINTON, IA

#### THURSDAY NIGHT ROTARY:

SECOND AND FOURTH THURSDAY OF  
THE MONTH AT 5:30 IN RASTRELLI'S  
BALDACCI ROOM  
(238 MAIN AVE, CLINTON, IA)

### MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. BOX 1361  
CLINTON, IA  
52733

### EMAIL ADDRESS

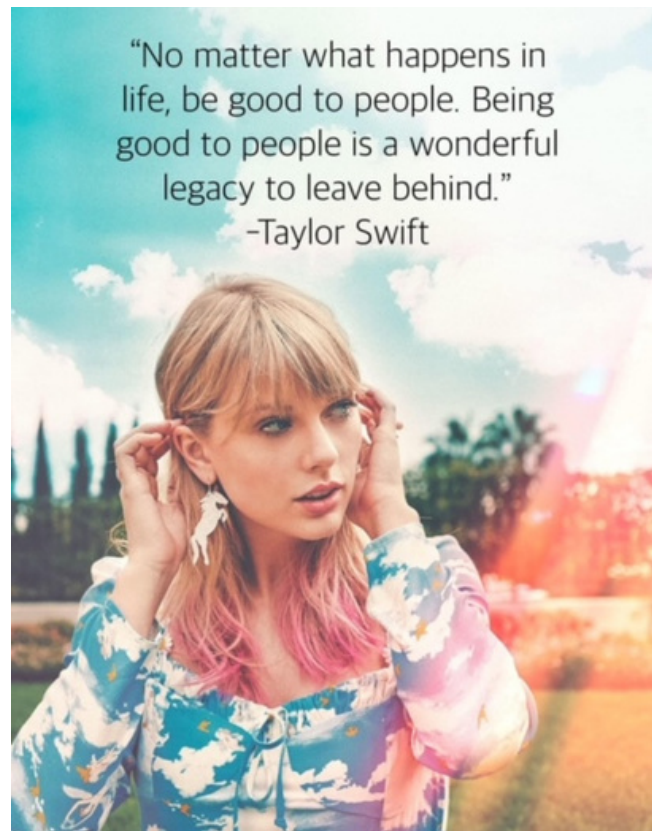
ROTARYCLUBOFCLINTONIA@GMAIL.COM

### WEBSITE

ROTARYCLUBOFCLINTON.COM

### SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

- [FACEBOOK](#)
- [LINKEDIN](#)
- [YOUTUBE](#)



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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## PRESIDENTIAL NEWS

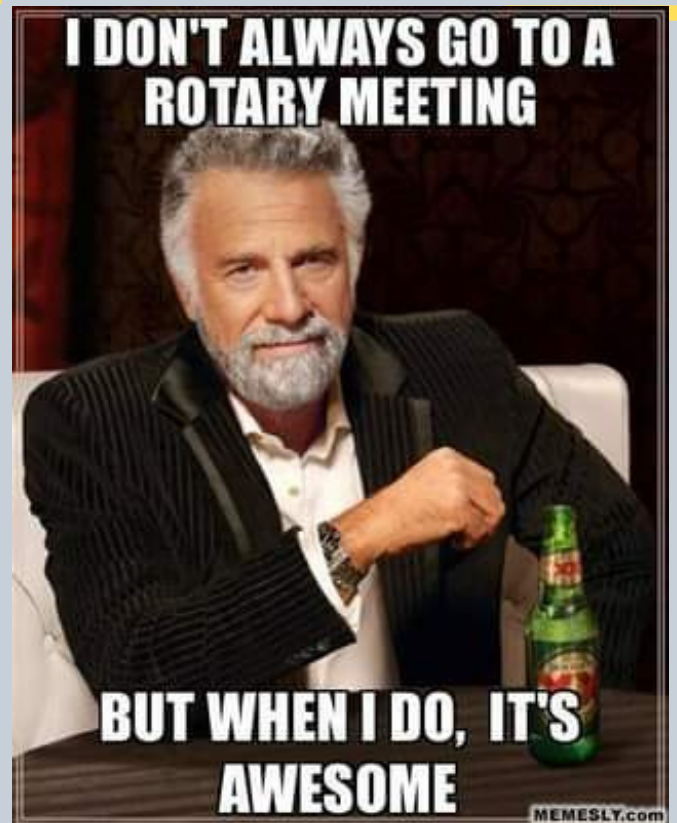
- ON SATURDAY, APRIL 22, THE DISTRICT 6000 CONFERENCE IS IN CORALVILLE! THE CONFERENCE IS AT CORALVILLE RADISSON HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER, FROM 5:00 PM - 8:30 PM. COME ONE, COME ALL!
- CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DISTRICT GOVERNOR-ELECT, NORLAN!!!! WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU, NORLAN!
- THANK YOU, ANDY GREENE, FOR STARTING THE FOOD-SHARING INITIATIVE WITH INFORMATION REFERRAL!
- WE NEED HELP WITH THE BOO BASH!!! PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO HELP OUT WITH THE COMMITTEE. :)
- JUNE 24 IS OUR ANNUAL NIGHT OUT AT THE LUMBERKINGS! MARK YOUR CALENDAR.



## KEY DATES

- APRIL 10: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING @ 10:45
- APRIL 10: BIG RIVER PACKAGING FEATURING KIP SIMPSON
- APRIL 17: KIMBERLY DICKEY WITH ROCK CREEK SOLAR, LLC
- APRIL 24: CHRIS STREETS WITH THE CLINTON AREA SHOWBOAT THEATRE

## Check It Out!



# WEEKLY ROUND-UP

## WEEKLY STATS

### SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

APRIL 03: \$113

YTD TOTAL: \$5292

SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS TO FOUNDATIONS YTD: \$1,500

TOTAL: \$6,792

### ATTENDANCE:

ONLINE: 0

IN-PERSON: 29

TOTAL FOR APRIL 03: 31

### GUESTS:

- KELLEY LAUGHLIN
- DOUG PETERS
- JUSTIN WILKINSON

YTD: 142

### MEMBERS:

- CURRENT MEMBERS: 77
- MEMBERSHIP GOAL: 84



**Doug Peters. (Logistics Manager), Kelley Laughlin (HR), and Justin Wilkinson (Site Manager)**



[Watch our meeting here](#)



Nestle Purina is one of our areas top employees and this past Monday, we had the opportunity to learn about the company from three of its employees.

Kelley Laughlin started the presentation off by discussing some of the statistics about the Clinton Plant. To begin with, the plant is non-union with 575 total employees. Of this, 447 are hourly and 128 are salaried. Men make up 69% of their staffing, while women are at 31%. In 2022, they had a 17% turnover and have hired over 270 people since 2020. The physical plant is 110 acres (744,000 square feet) and includes 23 packing lines, 6 treat extruders, which are what cook the food, and 26 dry extruders. The Clinton plant is a dry pet food and treat-producing factory. They produce Beggin' Strips, Canisters, Sachets, Pro Plan Veterinary Diet (PPVD), Pro-Plan, and ONE.

In 2022, they produced 287,000 tons of dry pet food and in 2023, they are expected to produce over 308,000 tons. The Clinton plant is the primary producer of Beggin' Strips! In the factory, they have about 194 formulas, and 87 of what they produce is only produced in Clinton!

Justin Wilkinson continued the discussion and told us that the big thing they want to talk about is the people of Nestle Purina. "Our people are our key focus for developing and keeping our company safe so recordable injuries and making sure people are safe every day is a big focus for us. Last year, unfortunately, we had four recordables, so far this year we're at zero, which is a great trend for us and is really something our whole team takes very seriously...we're working really hard to make sure manufacturing isn't what you think of when you see 'I Love Lucy'," stated Wilkinson.

Some of the capital improvements for this plant consist of additional extruders, three new packing lines for the dry food, and automation for packing lines. Spot the Dog (pictured on the left) is a Robotic dog that helps with preventative maintenance. "Spot runs routes through the factory. He goes and looks for hot spots on dryers, and hot spots on different pieces of equipment and if he sees those he'll send a notification back to the maintenance team...he also is looking for air leaks so as we're being responsible in the environmental world."

Finally, Doug Peters took over and spoke to us about adding warehouse and storage space. They're working on adding storage space and creating a new storage system of a Racking Structure for their further growth. This system will significantly help operations and decrease how long it takes to load a truck.

Thank you so much to these wonderful people for talking to our club! We wish you all nothing but success.

# LOOKING FORWARD...

## PROGRAMS

- **APRIL 10:** KIP SIMPSON OF BIG RIVER PACKAGING WILL SHARE HIS PASSION FOR MAKING THE WORLD'S PREMIER BOXES AND BIG RIVER PACKAGING.
- **APRIL 17:** KIMBERLY DICKEY OF ROCK CREEK SOLAR, LLC, WILL SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ROCK CREEK SOLAR PROJECT IN CAMANCHE, IA.
- **APRIL 24:** CHRIS STREETS WILL DISCUSS THE CLINTON AREA SHOWBOAT THEATRE.

## INVOCATION

APRIL 10: BILL GREENWALT  
 APRIL 17: NORLAN HINKE  
 APRIL 24: PAUL HOLMER

## GREETER

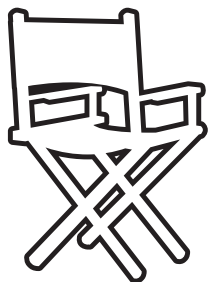
APRIL 10: JULIE DUNN  
 APRIL 17: ANDY FERGURSON  
 APRIL 24: GARY FOSTER

## PROGRAM CHAIRS

APRIL: ANDY SOKOLOVICH  
 MAY: MARY CONNELL & DALE DALTON  
 JUNE: JILL O'NEILL

## FELLOWSHIP CHAIRS

APRIL: MARY SWANSON & MARY BETH SMITH  
 MAY: ANDY SOKOLOVICH & DOUG HARRIDGE  
 JUNE: NORLAN HINKE



*Happy everything*

## Celebrations

### APRIL

#### BIRTHDAYS:

- RON GUTIERREZ            APRIL 04
- SUE WATKINS            APRIL 04
- RYAN VEENSTRA        APRIL 09
- DAVID PILLERS           APRIL 12
- CHRIS FARWELL         APRIL 18
- JOE BROWN              APRIL 23
- KATHY FORREST         APRIL 27

### APRIL

#### ANNIVERSARIES:

- DEE WILLOUGHBY
  - 39 YEARS; APR 01 1984
- CHRISTIE COLLINS
  - 6 YEARS; APR 03 2017
- DENNIS LAUVER
  - 24 YEARS; APR 04 1999
- PAUL HOLMER
  - 18 YEARS; APR 06 2005
- RYAN VEENSTRA
  - 12 YEARS; APR 11 2011
- JULIE EGGERS
  - 6 YEARS ; APR 17 2017
- RYAN GREKOFF
  - 1 YEAR; APR 18 2022
- SABRINA LIPPENS
  - 1 YEAR; APR 18 2022
- RICH KLAHN
  - 12 YEARS; APR 18 2011
- KATHY FORREST
  - 7 YEARS; APR 18 2016
- NORLAN HINKE
  - 19 YEARS; APR 19 2004
- CHRISTOPHER FARWELL
  - 26 YEARS; APR 21 1997
- MIKE KROEMER
  - 10 YEARS; APR 22 2013
- LYNN MCGRAW
  - 15 YEARS; APR 28 2008
- JENNIFER GRAF
  - 15 YEARS; APR 28 2008

## The History of the Rotary Bell

In 1922, U.S. Rotarians organized an attendance contest; the challenge was that the losing clubs would join in giving the winning club a prize. The Rotary Club of New York City was declared the winner and to them was awarded as a prize a bell from a popular patrol boat, which was placed on wood that came from HMS "Victory", Admiral Nelson's vessel at the battle of Trafalgar. Since then, the bell used in Rotary meetings started to represent, as on the ships, order, discipline and the time to guide us through the weekly hour and a half meetings. The bell informs us with its sound the beginning of the Rotary meeting, at which time people present should stand, same as at the end, in order to salute the national and Rotary flags. The gavel symbolizes the authority invested in the Rotarian elected to the highest position in Rotary, and through him/her reminds those present of his/her authority. When presidents transmit their positions to their successors at the end of their mandate, they give the bell their last hit turning the gavel over to their successor, symbolizing the transfer of authority.



### Rotary Board of Directors for 2022-2023

- ANDREW KIDA: PRESIDENT
- BRAYDON ROBERTS: PRESIDENT-ELECT
- DALE DALTON: TREASURER
- SUSIE MESECHER: SECRETARY
- CARRIE DONAIRE
- CHERYL FREY
- ROD TOKHEIM
- JILL O'NEILL
- CHRISTIE COLLINS: PAST PRESIDENT
- ANDY FERGURSON: FOUNDATION

### Rotary Foundation Board of Directors for 2022-2023:

- GARY FOSTER\*: PRESIDENT
- MARK RUTENBECK\*: VICE-PRESIDENT
- JOHN FREY\*: SECRETARY
- DALE DALTON\*: TREASURER

### Directors

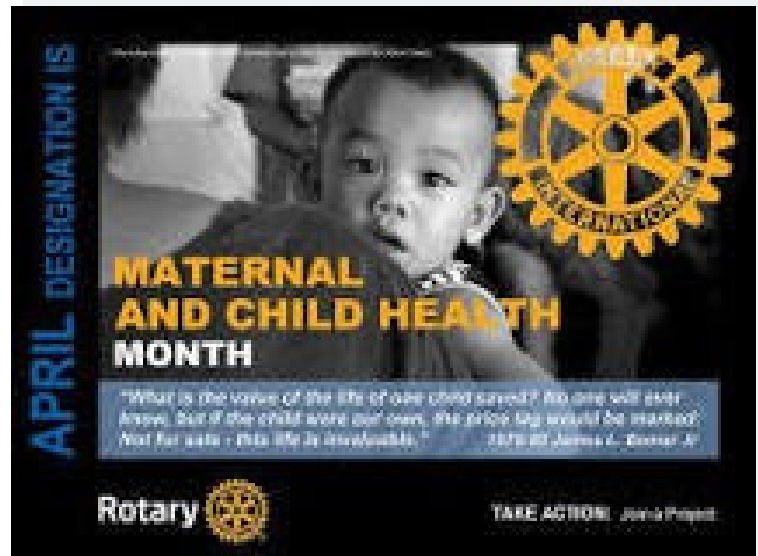
- JIM BRUHN\*
- KATHY FORREST
- JENNIFER GRAF\*
- KATHY KLAHN\*
- LYNN MCGRAW
- BRIAN WRIGHT\*

## FOUNDATION MINUTE

WELCOME TO WEEK 1 OF RI'S MONTH OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH.

THE NEWS THIS WEEK IS FROM BELIZE, CENTRAL AMERICA, WHERE ZOILA PALMA GONZALEZ, A JOURNALIST AT BREAKING BELIZE NEWS, REPORTS ON A ROTARY INTERNATIONAL GLOBAL GRANT FOR A PROJECT AT THE KOLBE FOUNDATION, A NONPROFIT AGENCY DEDICATED TO HELPING INMATES AND THEIR FAMILY. VALUED AT \$174,000, THE ROTARY FOUNDATION GLOBAL GRANT WILL PROVIDE ACCESSORIES AIMED AT IMPROVING THE LITERACY STANDARDS OF INMATES AT THE BELIZE CENTRAL PRISON IN HATTIEVILLE. THROUGH A LEARNING SOFTWARE DUBBED RACHEL (REMOTE AREA COMMUNITY HOTSPOT EDUCATION AND LEARNING), THE PROGRAM WILL TEACH OVER 400 INMATES ENGLISH AND PHONICS, READING, WRITING, MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SKILLS. THE RF GLOBAL GRANT PROVIDES INMATES WITH 240 CHROMEBOOKS, HEADSETS, DESKS, PRINTERS, STATIONERY AND TRAINING.

THE PILOT PROJECT IS BEING OFFERED AT ST. MARTIN DE PORRES SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS TO HAVE ACCESS TO THE LITERACY ACCESSORIES. THE ROTARY CLUB OF PORT MOODY PARTNERED WITH TRF ON THE GRANT.



IN ROTARY,

OLABISI GWAMNA, CLUB SECRETARY  
MOUNT PLEASANT ROTARY,  
EDITOR, FOUNDATION MINUTE