



Rotary
Club of Clinton



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 13, 2026

VOLUME 80 | ISSUE 34 |
NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF
APRIL 13, 2026

MEETING LOCATION

Monday Rotary

Rastrelli's Restaurant:
Tuscany Event Center
2417 Cleveland St.
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](#)

Life is short.
Smile while
you still have
teeth.

unknown



playworkatrepeat.com

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ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Presidential News

The Rotary District Conference will be held May 1-2 in Coralville. [Click HERE to REGISTER!!!](#)

We Need Your Help!

The club is also assembling a “Weekend in Clinton” basket for the conference’s silent auction, featuring local attractions, experiences, and possibly a hotel stay. Volunteers are welcome to help gather items.

Rotary Youth Camp (RYLA) Applications Open

Last summer, our club sponsored three high school students to attend RYLA. Applications are now open for this summer, and we plan to send students again. The program is open to sophomores and juniors (not seniors). We have budgeted to send two students and are also exploring additional sponsorships from club members. More information, including costs and how to sponsor a student, will be shared in the coming weeks.

Mount St. Clare Scholarship - Applications Open

Clinton National Bank’s Mount St. Clare Scholarship is now open for applications through April. A total of \$220,000 in scholarships will be awarded this year to approximately 100 students, with awards ranging up to nearly \$10,000. Scholarships may be used for undergraduate or graduate studies.

Apply online through the Clinton National Bank website by clicking the “Scholarships” link.

Key Dates

- April 13: Megan Pray Dove from Downtown Alliance, what's going on downtown, and events scheduled
- April 20: The Dispensary of Fulton - Jeff Soenksem
- April 27: Joe Hoinkis from LyondellBassell, what happens during a turnaround on site & economic impact for the Clinton area
- May 01: Rotary District Conference in Coralville!
- Tuesday, June 30: Club Picnic at the Clinton Lumberkings

Check It Out!

If you can help with cleaning up the Downtown area on Saturday, April 11, please reach out to Andy!

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON WEEKLY ROUND-UP

WEEKLY STATS

GUESTS:

- Rebekah Lower
 - Nicolas Lirio
- YTD: 181

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

- Rotary Club: \$182
YTD: \$5,782.00
 - Foundation: N/A
YTD: \$5,195.00
- YTD Total: \$10,977.00

MEMBERS:

- Current Members:
69
- Membership Goal:
84



**WATCH OUR
MEETING HERE!**

Nicolas Lirio:
Preserving Family Legacies
Through Storytelling

[Roots and Story](#)

We were grateful to welcome Nicolas Lirio, a story interviewer with Roots and Story, as our guest speaker. Nicolas delivered a compelling, heartfelt program that was highly recommended by the Pella Rotary Club and other Rotary groups.

Roots and Story is a family-founded business centered on preserving personal histories through professionally produced video interviews. The company was inspired by a deeply personal experience when a family member faced a cancer diagnosis. During that time, the founders realized the profound value of capturing stories, memories, and life lessons on video—sparking a mission to help other families safeguard their legacies and connect generations through storytelling.

Nicolas shared the moving story of interviewing his own father, who later passed away after a battle with cancer. Through that experience, he discovered that even after years of hearing familiar stories, there were still meaningful moments and insights that had never been shared before. While watching the full interview can be emotionally difficult, Nicolas emphasized how short video clips—often just 30 to 60 seconds—have become priceless keepsakes that he revisits frequently.

Roots and Story offers a comprehensive service that includes in-depth interviews, professional video production, and the creation of both long-form recordings and shorter highlight clips. These clips allow families to easily revisit special memories and share them with others. The value of these recordings often grows over time, especially after the loss of a loved one, when hearing their voice and seeing their expressions becomes truly invaluable.

In its first year, Roots and Story has completed more than a dozen interviews and continues to gain interest, particularly among families who want to preserve the stories of parents and grandparents. Nicolas also noted a common challenge: while many families recognize the importance of capturing these stories, older generations are sometimes hesitant to participate, making it even more important to start the process early. Roots and Story represents a unique and meaningful way to honor loved ones, preserve family history, and create lasting connections for future generations.

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON LOOKING FORWARD

PROGRAMS

- **APRIL 13: MEGAN PRAY DOVE FROM DOWNTOWN ALLIANCE, WHAT'S GOING ON DOWNTOWN, AND EVENTS SCHEDULED**
- **APRIL 20: TBD**
- **APRIL 27: JOE HOINKIS FROM LYONDELLBASSELL, WHAT HAPPENS DURING A TURNAROUND ON SITE & ECONOMIC IMPACT FOR THE CLINTON AREA**

INVOCATION

APRIL 13: BRIAN KELLY
APRIL 20: ANDREW KIDA
APRIL 27: KATHY KLAHN



GREETER

APRIL 13: SAVANNAH DAUGHERTY
APRIL 20: GARY DELACY
APRIL 27: TOM DETERMANN

PROGRAM CHAIRS

APRIL: SUE WATKINS
MAY: CHRISTIE AKINS



FELLOWSHIP CHAIRS

APRIL: MARY SWANSON & MARY BETH SMITH
MAY: ANDREW KIDA



Celebrations

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Levi Jones April 02
- Sue Watkins April 04
- Lindsay Morhardt April 07
- Ryan Veenstra April 09
- David Pillers April 12
- Carson Deppe April 21
- Joe Brown April 23

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Christie Akins
 - 9 yrs; Apr. 03 2017
- Dennis Lauver
 - 27 yrs; Apr. 04 1999
- Paul Holmer
 - 21 yrs; Apr. 06 2005
- Ryan Veenstra
 - 15 yrs; Apr. 11 2011
- Alethea Cahoy
 - 2 yrs; Apr. 15 2024
- Ray Gimenez
 - 2 yrs; Apr. 15 2024
- Graham Timion
 - 3 yrs; Apr. 17 2023
- Rich Klahn
 - 15 yrs; Apr. 18 2011
- Norlan Hinke
 - 22 yrs; Apr. 19 2004
- Mike Kroemer
 - 13 yrs; Apr. 22 2013
- Lynn McGraw
 - 18 yrs; Apr. 28 2008
- Jennifer Graf
 - 18 yrs; Apr. 28 2008
- Lindsay Morhardt
 - 2 yrs; Apr. 29 2024

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON

R.I. Admin

The Four-Way Test

1. Is it the **truth**?
2. Is it **fair** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **good-will** and **better friendships**?
4. Will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?

Rotary Board of Directors for 2025-2026

- Andrew Green: President
- Dale Dalton: Treasurer
- Carrie Donaire: Past-President, International Service
- Andy Ferguson: Foundation
- Paul Holmer: Fundraising
- Susie Mesecher: Secretary
- Jill O'Neill: Public Image
- Braydon Roberts: Service to Youth
- Rod Tokheim: Sergeant-at-Arms
- Sue Watkins and Cheryl Frey: Community Service Projects

Rotary Foundation Board of Directors for 2025-2026

- Gary Foster*: President
- Kathy Klahn*: Vice-President
- John Frey*: Secretary
- Dale Dalton*: Treasurer

Directors

- Jim Bruhn*
- Dale Dalton*
- Jennifer Graf*
- Kathy Klahn*
- Lynn McGraw
- Sue Watkins
- Paul Holmer*
- Heather Farwell

ROTARY MOMENTS

ROTARY SEEKS PROFESSIONALS LEADING PEACE AND PROGRESS

Explore master's and postgraduate certificate programs at top universities



APPLY FOR A FUNDED ROTARY PEACE FELLOWSHIP

Are you a young professional or seasoned changemaker working in peace and development? Now's your moment.

Apply for a fully funded Rotary Peace Fellowship and join a global network of leaders building more peaceful, resilient communities. Our fellowship programs strengthen your expertise in peace studies, conflict transformation, and sustainable development — helping you grow your career and your impact.

Apply by 15 May for the opportunity to begin your studies in 2027.

Learn more and start your application:

<https://on.rotary.org/4lszHAz>