

The Rotary Club of Clinton

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 77 | ISSUE 40 | NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 17, 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,
RUSTY BARREL LOUNGE
(224 5TH AVE S, 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

"THE SECRET, ALICE,
IS TO SURROUND
YOURSELF WITH PEOPLE
WHO MAKE YOUR
HEART SMILE.
IT'S THEN, ONLY THEN,
THAT YOU'LL FIND
WONDERLAND"

IN THIS ISSUE...

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY **2**

WEEKLY UPDATES **3**

LOOKING FORWARD **4**

R.I. ADMIN **5**

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 26 IS OUR ANNUAL NIGHT OUT AT THE LUMBERKINGS! MARK YOUR CALENDAR.



KEY DATES

- APRIL 17: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 10:45
- APRIL 17: GRETCHEN NOLLMAN, ASSISTANT GOVERNOR OF DISTRICT 6000
- APRIL 24: CHRIS STREETS WILL DISCUSS THE CLINTON AREA SHOWBOAT THEATRE.
- MAY 01: KIMBERLY DICKEY OF ROCK CREEK SOLAR, LLC, WILL SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ROCK CREEK SOLAR PROJECT IN CAMANCHE, IA.

Check It Out!

ROTARY IS OUR NAME.
SERVICE
Above Self
IS OUR GAME!



IMAGINE
ROTARY

Rotary



WEEKLY ROUND-UP

WEEKLY STATS

SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

APRIL 10: \$95

YTD TOTAL: \$5387

SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS
TO FOUNDATIONS YTD: \$1,500

TOTAL: \$6,887

ATTENDANCE:

ONLINE: 2

IN-PERSON: 27

TOTAL FOR APRIL 10: 29

GUESTS:

- KIP SIMPSON
- KATHRYN WYNN CALVIN

YTD: 144

MEMBERS:

- CURRENT MEMBERS: 77
- MEMBERSHIP GOAL: 84



[Watch our meeting here](#)

Kip Simpson with Big River Packaging spoke to us on Monday and delighted us with the details of their primary product -- bakery boxes and other paper board products, aimed at the bakery market. All of these products are designed, manufactured, and shipped right from their plant, on Lincoln Way. Big River Packaging (BRP) was started by Bob

Simpson and John Huling. Kip Simpson became BRP's third employee. Simpson stated that the success of Big River Packaging stemmed from its marketing concept. "Bob and John's strategy for BRP was twofold. First, they're going to target smaller customers who were often ignored by the big packaging corporations and treat these people like they were a big deal like they were important. But this would mean setting up the business to handle short-order runs with a lot of changeovers in order to produce items of smaller value or volume. The second was from day one and based largely on the experience that they had had elsewhere Bob and John wanted Big River Packaging to be a great place for the people of the Clinton area to work." In 2005, they had eleven employees and now, they have sixty employees, which is still considered small for a converting plant!

"Those first years were tough. We had the factory looking good, machines were ready to go, our people were eager. But as it is with any start-ups, there were challenges," Simpson stated. Big River Packaging made boxes for a multitude of products, including high-end caffeinated lip balm, organic shampoo for treating lice, and even swag boxes. "We ran those jobs in accordance with our business plan -- we treated those people who put in those orders, those short runs, like our business depended on it because it did." When Co-Founder John Huling was at Krumpets, he asked if they needed boxes for the bakery, which led to a discussion about boxing needs for keeping cupcakes upright. From this point forward, Big River Packaging focused on bakery packaging.

Simpson got interested in e-Commerce and was able to design the website for Big River Packaging, which allowed them to ship to all over the U.S. and increase their sales drastically. "I remember the first week that we made \$500 from the Internet!," Simpson excitedly explained. Free Shipping and Same Day Shipping also helped Big River Packaging stand out and contributed to the company getting off the ground. In discussing Big River Packaging's continued success, Simpson discussed how they treat all of their customers, no matter what size of the company or what volume they do with BRP. "People like it when companies listen to them. I mean like really listen and act. And word of mouth is the best advertising." Big River Packaging serves over 300,000 customers internationally.

Just last week, Senator Joni Ernst presented Big River Packaging with a copy of a Congressional acknowledgment, recognizing the firm as one of her picks for Small Business of the Week. Big River Packaging is the eighth recipient.

Thank you, Kip, and we wish you and Big River Packaging success for years to come!

LOOKING FORWARD...

PROGRAMS

- **APRIL 17:** GRETCHEN NOLLMAN, ASSISTANT GOVERNOR OF DISTRICT 6000
- **APRIL 24:** CHRIS STREETS WILL DISCUSS THE CLINTON AREA SHOWBOAT THEATRE.
- **MAY 01:** KIMBERLY DICKEY OF ROCK CREEK SOLAR, LLC, WILL SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ROCK CREEK SOLAR PROJECT IN CAMANCHE, IA.



INVOCATION

APRIL 17: NORLAN HINKE
APRIL 24: PAUL HOLMER

GREETER

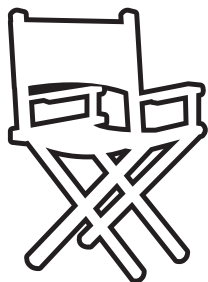
APRIL 17: ANDY FERGURSON
APRIL 24: GARY FOSTER



happy everything

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



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

WEEK 2 OF RI'S MONTH OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH.

GIFTS OF ANY SIZE TO TRF SUPPORT EDUCATIONAL, HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. ROTARIANS AND ROTARY CLUBS THE WORLD OVER CONTRIBUTE TO THE FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT ROTARY'S AREAS OF FOCUS, WHICH HELP ADVANCE WORLD UNDERSTANDING, GOODWILL, AND PEACE THROUGH THE IMPROVEMENT OF HEALTH, THE SUPPORT OF EDUCATION, AND THE ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY.

A FEW WEEKS AGO, THE ROTARY CLUB OF PADUCAH (KY) RECOGNIZED ONE OF ITS MEMBERS FOR DONATING \$250,000 TO TRF. ADDRESSING HIS FELLOW ROTARIANS AT THE CEREMONY, THE DONOR, JOHN WILLIAMS, SR., ENJOINED MEMBERS TO BE GENEROUS IN THEIR CONTRIBUTION. IN AN ONLINE REPORT BY AUDREY HOLMES AND NIKKI BOYETT, ROTARIAN WILLIAMS STATED THAT HIS "... HOPE AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO YOU IS WHEREVER YOU ARE IN YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE ROTARY FOUNDATION, AT WHATEVER LEVEL THAT MIGHT BE, CONSIDER MOVING TO THE NEXT LEVEL. IT'S AN OUTSTANDING PROGRAM TO SUPPORT..."

WILLIAMS HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE ROTARY CLUB SINCE MARCH OF 1971. THE DONATION MAKES HIM THE FIRST MEMBER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF PADUCAH TO QUALIFY FOR THE ARCH KLUMPH SOCIETY, WHICH RECOGNIZES THE ROTARY FOUNDATION'S HIGHEST TIER OF DONORS.

IN ROTARY,

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