



Rotary
Club of Clinton



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 27, 2026

VOLUME 80 | ISSUE 36 |
NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF
APRIL 27, 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

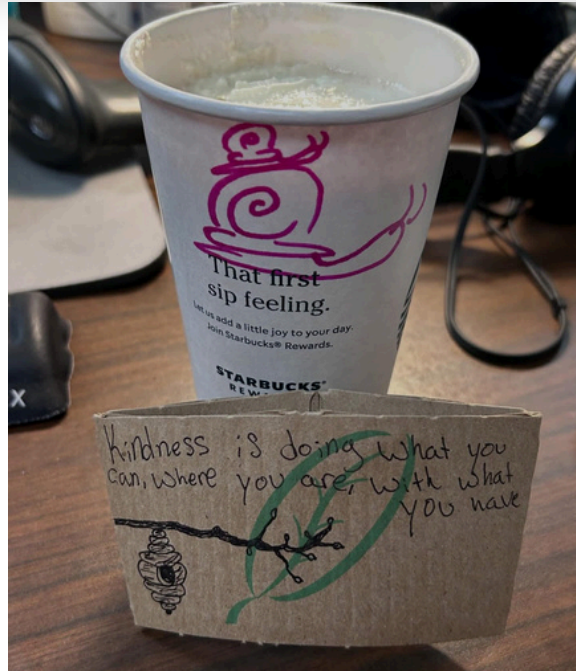
RotaryClubofClintonIA@
gmail.com

WEBSITE

RotaryClubofClinton.com

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

- [Facebook](#)
- [LinkedIn](#)
- [YouTube](#)



IN THIS ISSUE...

Executive Summary 2

Weekly Updates 3

Looking Forward 4

R.I. Admin & Rotary Moments 5

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Presidential News

Time is running out! 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! Help us share the magic of Clinton!

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.

Welcome
New Members!

Carson Deppe!

Key Dates

- 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!**
- May 04: Curtis Mansion Historical Foundation
- May 11: J Devin Land, PHD, Community Leader & Executive Director of L'Arche
- May 18: Rachel Heise from 7 Hills South Brewing
- May 25: NO MEETING, MEMORIAL DAY
- Tuesday, June 30: Club Picnic at the Clinton Lumberkings

Check It Out!

Volunteer to help with Fellowship and Programs next year! Reach out to Doug Bertrand to help!

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

WEEKLY STATS

GUESTS:

- Jeff Soenksem
- Randy Meier
- Ari Lewerenz
- Kris Golden

YTD: 187

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

- Rotary Club: \$206.00
YTD: \$6,104.00
- Foundation: \$240.00
YTD: \$5,435.00
YTD Total: \$11,539.00

MEMBERS:

- Current Members:
69
- Membership Goal:
84



WATCH OUR MEETING HERE!

**The Dispensary of Fulton:
Jeff Soenksem Shares Industry
Insights and Growth**

Jeff Soenksem, Chief Operating Officer of the Fulton dispensary, spoke about the evolution of his company and the broader cannabis industry. With roots in Colorado's early cannabis market, Soenksem returned to Illinois to help launch one of the state's first medical cannabis facilities, which opened in Fulton in 2016. The company has since expanded to multiple locations and recently added a cultivation center.

He emphasized the highly regulated nature of the industry, noting strict tracking, testing, and compliance requirements at every stage—from cultivation to retail. "We're more regulated than the pharmaceutical industry when it comes to tracking cannabis from seed to sale," explained Soenksem. Despite these challenges, the business has grown steadily, adding recreational sales in 2021 and continuing to expand operations.

Soenksem highlighted the significant tax contributions to local governments, including a 3% city tax that has supported community resources like law enforcement. However, he also pointed out the heavy overall tax burden and ongoing federal restrictions, which limit banking access and prevent standard business deductions.

The discussion also covered emerging trends, such as THC-infused beverages, which currently operate in a regulatory gray area, and the increasing variety and potency of cannabis products. Soenksem stressed the importance of consumer education, particularly around safe usage and differences in consumption methods. "It's a very psychoactive substance, so we want to make sure people know what they're consuming and how to do so responsibly."

He addressed common concerns, including workplace drug testing policies, medical recommendations, and the challenges of determining impairment. He also explained the distinction between THC and CBD, noting CBD's non-psychoactive, anti-inflammatory benefits.

Overall, Soenksem underscored the importance of regulation, education, and responsible use as the industry continues to evolve.

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON LOOKING FORWARD

PROGRAMS

- **APRIL 27: JOE HOINKIS FROM LYONDELLBASSELL, WHAT HAPPENS DURING A TURNAROUND ON SITE & ECONOMIC IMPACT FOR THE CLINTON AREA**
- **MAY 04: CURTIS MANSION HISTORICAL FOUNDATION**
- **MAY 11: J DEVIN LAND, PHD, COMMUNITY LEADER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF L'ARCHE**
- **MAY 18: RACHEL HEISE FROM 7 HILLS SOUTH BREWING**
- **MAY 25: NO MEETING, MEMORIAL DAY**

INVOCATION

APRIL 27: KATHY KLAHN
MAY 04: RICH KLAHN
MAY 11: MIKE KROEMER
MAY 18: DENNIS LAUVER
MAY 25: NO MEETING, MEMORIAL DAY



GREETER

APRIL 27: TOM DETERMANN
MAY 04: CARRIE DONAIRE
MAY 11: JULIE DUNN
MAY 18: HEATHER FARWELL
MAY 25: NO MEETING, MEMORIAL DAY

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

ROTARY MOMENTS

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



See how at:
malariapartnersinternational.org



To be part of the Rotary Action Group against Malaria, [click HERE.](#)