

# The Rotary Club of Clinton

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 76 | ISSUE 33 | NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 21, 2022



### MEETING LOCATION

RASTRELLI'S RESTAURANT:  
TUSCANY EVENT CENTER  
2417 CLEVELAND ST.  
CLINTON, IA  
MEETING BEGINS AT 12:00

### MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. BOX 1361  
CLINTON, IA  
52733

### EMAIL ADDRESS

ROTARYCLUBOFCLINTONIA@GMAIL.COM

### WEBSITE

ROTARYCLUBOFCLINTON.COM

### SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

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

Never be limited  
by other  
people's  
limited  
imagination.

~ Dr. Mae Jemison



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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## PRESIDENTIAL NEWS

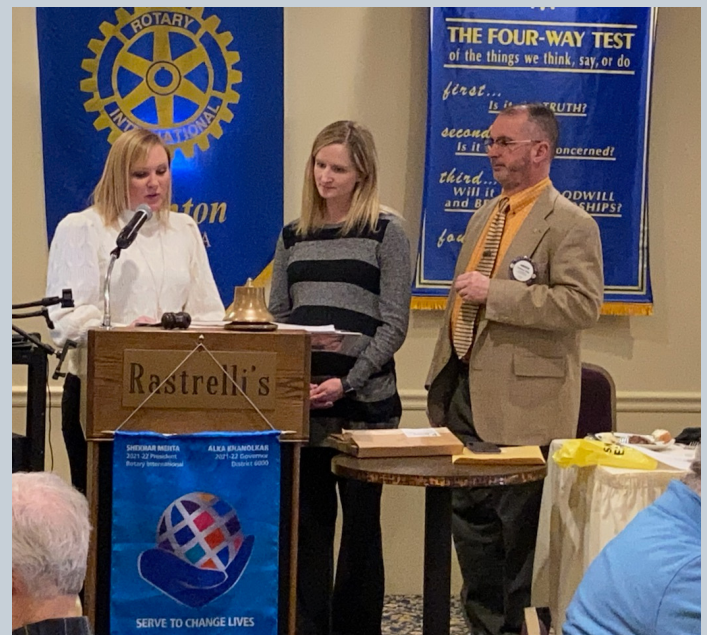
OUR ALL-IOWA DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2022 WILL BE HERE BEFORE WE KNOW IT! THIS CONFERENCE IS THE FIRST TIME IN 75 YEARS THAT THE TWO DISTRICTS HAVE COME TOGETHER FOR A DISTRICT CONFERENCE. SOME HIGHLIGHTS: FRIDAY LUNCH COME AND LISTEN TO AARON PUTZE FROM THE ROTARY CLUB OF WAUKEE, AUTHOR OF "YOU ARE DESTINED FOR GREATNESS" ON HAWKEYE CHUCK LONG! THERE WILL BE A TREE PLANTING FRIDAY AFTERNOON IN OBSERVANCE OF EARTH DAY, PLUS FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES THAT AFTERNOON. FRIDAY EVENING IS AN OPTIONAL EVENT AT BIG GROVE BREWERY WHERE YOU WILL RECEIVE A SPECIAL ROTARY GLASS WITH ONE DRINK TICKET AND HEAVY APPETIZERS. SATURDAY WILL BE AN ACTION-PACKED DAY THAT STARTS WITH A WONDERFUL "HAWKEYE BREAKFAST" FOLLOWED BY A VARIETY OF SESSIONS. LUNCHEON WE WILL FEATURE RN RACHEL FISHER A HUMAN TRAFFIC SURVIVOR, FOLLOWED BY A PANEL ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING. AWARDS, BREAKOUT SESSIONS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES WILL FOLLOW IN THE AFTERNOON. DINNER SATURDAY NIGHT WILL CELEBRATE THE SUCCESS OF THE LAST TWO DAYS.

**VIEW YOUR REGISTRATION CHOICES AT THIS LINK.** THE EARLY BIRD PRICE DISCOUNT IS AVAILABLE UNTIL MARCH 22. MAKE YOUR ARRANGEMENTS NOW TO ATTEND THIS DISTRICT WIDE EVENT AND MEET ROTARIANS FROM OUR DISTRICT AND FROM DISTRICT 5970!

## KEY DATES

- **FEB 21: NO MEETING**
- **FEB 28: GROW CLINTON, ANDY SOKOLOVICH**
- \*\*WE WILL BE VOTING ON OUR NEW 2022-2023 BOARD MEMBERS ON FEBRUARY 28!!!!!! PLAN TO BE WITH US!!!!!!\*\*\*\***
- **MARCH 07: COMMITTEE BREAK OUT DAY**

## Check It Out!



**WELCOME TO OUR CLUB, MELISSA!**



# WEEKLY ROUND-UP

## WEEKLY STATS

### SCHOLARSHIP FUND:

FEBRUARY 14

MEETING: \$121

YTD: \$4013.00

### ATTENDANCE:

ONLINE: 3

IN-PERSON: 31

TOTAL FOR FEB 14: 34

### GUESTS:

- HILLARY BURKEN
- AIDEN ESTES
- CAILYN PIERCY
- ELLA PENCA
- NAIMAGO BEELER
- HATTIE NICKLES
- ETHAN BUER

YTD: 109

### MEMBERS:

- CURRENT MEMBERS: 77
- MEMBERSHIP GOAL: 84



AIDEN ESTES AND HILLARY BURKEN FROM CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTED "SYNERGY" TO OUR CLUB. SYNERGY IS A S.T.E.M-DRIVEN INITIATIVE THAT IS FOCUSED ON GIVING STUDENTS REAL-LIFE SKILLS AND THE ABILITY TO WORK WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO IMPROVE THE CITY. SOME OF THEIR PROJECTS INCLUDE ESPORTS (AIDEN'S FOCUS), THE MAYOR'S YOUTH COMMISSION, CCSD WEBSITE UPDATE, AND AMERICAN FLAGS THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.

JUST A FEW OF THEIR COMMUNITY PARTNERS ARE KAREN ROWELL (CLINTON DOWNTOWN ALLIANCE), FRANCIS BOGGUS (KEEP IOWA BEAUTIFUL), SAM MULGREW (MURAL CURATOR), CHERYL HERMANSON (ARTIST), AND CHRISTIE COLLINS (EDWARD JONES).

SYNERGY DECIDED TO INVEST IN MURALS IN OUR CITY. "BASICALLY, THE WHOLE GOAL IS TO BRING PEOPLE HERE AND TO MAKE PEOPLE WANT TO STAY HERE," BURKEN STATED. SYNERGY IS WORKING ON TWO MURALS IN CLINTON -- ONE WILL BE DOWNTOWN. THE MIDWEST PETS FOR LIFE MURAL IS VERY INTERACTIVE, FEATURING ANGEL WINGS THAT YOU CAN STAND IN FRONT OF, AS WELL AS DOG WINGS! THE OTHER MURAL WILL BE ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. THIS DESIGN WILL BE PRINTED OUT ON METAL AND DISPLAYS HISTORICAL PICTURES FROM CLINTON. **TO HELP DONATE TO SYNERGY AND THE MURALS, YOU CAN SEND A CHECK TO CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL WITH "SYNERGY" IN THE MEMO LINE.**

VIEW OUR  
MEETING  
ONLINE BY  
CLICKING  
HERE.

Clinton, IA  
est. 1856

"Eastern Gate to the Corn State"

Midwest Pets For Life



# GREENHOUSE PROJECT

SEATTLE ROTARIANS VISIT THE GREENHOUSE PROJECT IN OAXACA, MEXICO.  
READ FURTHER FOR SUSAN SOLA'S ARTICLE ABOUT THE VISIT.



## Rotary Supports Mexican Subsistence Farm Families *(by Susan Sola)*

The Rotary Clubs of the University District in Seattle, Clinton, Iowa and Billings, Montana have collaborated with the Rotary Club of Bella Vista Atizapán outside Mexico City for several years to provide family greenhouses to help Mexican subsistence farm families in drought-stricken Oaxaca state stay together and avoid the men having to leave their families and migrate to find work. This powerful model project has



*Greenhouse owner (left) with Susan Sola, Paula Laschober, agronomist-intern Laura and Rotarian project leader Jesus Hernandez*

grown and inspired others: initial results are very promising in Chapantongo, Hidalgo state, where there is more water but similar levels of rural unemployment, and the same clubs are supporting new larger, cooperative greenhouses run by 5-6 families each.

In January 2022, Mexican Rotarians Jesus Hernandez and Juana Aguilar hosted Seattle Rotarians Susan Sola and Paula Laschober on a visit to some of the 160+ rural families in the Huajuapán de León district who have received greenhouses.

The farmers expressed their gratitude and positive experiences growing tomatoes, chilies, cilantro, green beans, onions, carrots, radishes, lettuce, zucchini, pumpkins and other crops to feed their

families and bring in extra income. They also shared a delicious meal using some of these fresh, organic vegetables and proudly demonstrated their neat greenhouses full of beautiful, healthy vegetables in the middle of a dry, arid landscape.

It was inspiring to meet and talk to the enthusiastic women and men who have worked very hard to make successes of these greenhouses, which have made big changes in their lives. Families can now fill a large part of their nutritional needs and use any extra produce to barter, share, sell or use in micro-businesses such as tiny cafes, taquerias or food sales. Customers have even started to come directly to buy from them. Experiments are under way to raise nopal cactus and can it to sell, and to raise and roast peanuts, adding value to them in the form of candies and baked goods.

This project has inspired rural networking and collaboration, idea generation and incipient optimism among a population that has suffered from isolation and challenging geography, climate change, limited infrastructure and services and, most recently, higher unemployment and poverty exacerbated by the pandemic. Food from the greenhouses helped to support rural villages kept in quarantine for long periods during COVID. Victor Martinez, the local administrator and educator, and the Mexican Rotarians have made enormous efforts to sustain and keep the project moving forward during COVID and to communicate this progress to the U.S. Rotary partners via personal success stories and photos. We all celebrate when we see the picture of a woman harvesting her first, beautiful crop of tomatoes, a man generating other types of income by saving hours of farm work with greenhouse drip irrigation, or children working and learning together with their parents in their greenhouse.



*Greenhouse owner (in front) with Mexican Rotarians Juana Aguilar and Jesus Hernandez, and local administrator Victor Martinez*



# GREENHOUSE PROJECT

SEATTLE ROTARIANS VISIT THE GREENHOUSE PROJECT IN OAXACA, MEXICO. READ FURTHER FOR SUSAN SOLA'S ARTICLE ABOUT THE VISIT.



## Rotary Supports Mexican Subsistence Farm Families (by Susan Sola) - continued

Susan and Paula's trip confirmed and strengthened the ties between our clubs and our confidence in the project's management. Mexican Rotarian Claudio Cruz, the Oaxaca native who founded and led the project until his death from COVID last year, would be proud of our joint U.S.-Mexico collaboration and results to date. He would be cheering us on as we look toward the next chapter in helping to meet the many needs of these very deserving people.



Chapantongo greenhouse owner with Jesus Hernandez of Bella Vista Atizapan Rotary Club



Drip irrigation conserves scarce water and helps produce several crops per year. Victor Martinez examines peanut crop.



(left) Where water is not found nearby, cisterns fill during May-September rainy months and are supplemented with tanked in water in dry months. Greenhouse owner with Victor Martinez.



Local agronomists Laura and Margarito collaborate with both training and practical knowledge.



(left) Bella Vista Atizapan Rotarians with Chapantongo greenhouse owners.

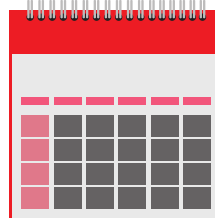


# LOOKING FORWARD

## PROGRAMS

FEB 21: NO MEETING

FEB 28: GROW CLINTON, ANDY SOKOLOVICH



## INVOCATION

FEB 21: NO MEETING

FEB 28: GREG JASPER



## GREETER

FEB 21: NO MEETING

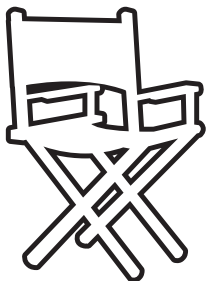
FEB 28: CARRIE DONAIRE



## PROGRAM CHAIRS

FEBRUARY:

JULIE DUNN



## FELLOWSHIP CHAIRS

FEBRUARY:

PAUL HOLMER & RYAN VEENSTRA



## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS:

- JERRY VAN SCOY FEB 01
- CARRIE DONAIRE FEB 04
- DENNIS LAUVER FEB 05
- JULIANN BRAY FEB 23
- ROD TOKHEIM FEB 25

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- SUE WATKINS
  - 8 YEARS; FEB 03 2014
- DANIEL HOUSENGA
  - 11 YEARS; FEB 07 2011
- BRIAN KELLY
  - 1 YEAR; FEB 08 2021
- THERESA NIELSEN
  - 3 YEARS; FEB 11 2019
- CHERYL FREY
  - 14 YEARS; FEB 25 2008

### 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?

# R.I. ADMIN

## DG'S ALKA KHANOLKAR'S R.I.S.E

THE R.I.S.E. ACTION TEAM WILL PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR INSPIRATION AND SPECIAL EVENTS THROUGHOUT THIS NEW ROTARY YEAR.

“TO SUCCEED IN LIFE, YOU  
NEED THREE THINGS: A  
WISHBONE, A BACKBONE,  
AND A FUNNY BONE.”  
– REBA MCENTIRE

IN ROTARY FELLOWSHIP

ALKA K KHANOLKAR | DISTRICT GOVERNOR 2021-22

ROTARY DISTRICT 6000

EMAIL - AKHANOLKAR6000@GMAIL.COM

### Rotary Board of Directors for 2021-2022

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

### Rotary Foundation Board of Directors for 2021-2022:

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

### Directors

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

## FOUNDATION MINUTE

WELCOME TO WEEK 4 OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL'S MONTH OF VOCATIONAL SERVICE!

THE MINUTE THIS WEEK TOUCHES TWO OF THE ROTARY FOUNDATION'S 7 AREAS OF FOCUS: WATER AND SANITATION AND DISEASE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT. THE DAILY INTER LAKE, A LOCAL NEWSPAPER IN KALISPELL, MONTANA, REPORTS THAT THIRTEEN ROTARY CLUBS IN WESTERN MONTANA HAVE BEEN GRANTED A \$39,000 ROTARY FOUNDATION GLOBAL GRANT TO FUND ONGOING CLEAN WATER INITIATIVES IN GUATEMALA. ACCORDING TO THE NEWSPAPER, "THE GRANT PROJECT, NAMED "CLEAN HANDS, CLEAN WATER," PARTNERS WHITEFISH ROTARY CLUB (INTERNATIONAL SPONSOR) AND ROTARY CLUB GUATEMALA WEST(HOST CLUB), WITH SUPPORT FROM THE 13-MEMBER WESTERN MONTANA ROTARY COALITION. SPEARHEADED BY ROTARIAN DAVE RENFROW, COLUMBIA FALLS ROTARY CLUB, THE PROJECT HAS INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE, SUGGESTING THAT SMALL INVESTMENTS IN CLEAN WATER CAN STIMULATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PREVENT DISEASE, AND REDUCE THE FLOW OF IMMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES' SOUTHERN BORDER. RENFROW SAID THE PROJECT IS AIMED DIRECTLY TOWARD MITIGATING MALNUTRITION CAUSED BY LACK OF CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION PRACTICES, WHICH RESULT IN LOW SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND SUBSEQUENTLY, LOW LIFETIME INCOMES."

AVERAGE FAMILY INCOME IN THE PROJECT AREA, LOCATED IN THE WESTERN HIGHLANDS OF GUATEMALA, IS \$4.50 PER DAY, AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS APPROXIMATELY THREE YEARS. WHEN COMPLETED THE PROJECT WILL SERVE FOUR COMMUNITIES AND 2,500 RESIDENTS WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF 318 HOME BIO-SAND WATER FILTERS, NINE COMMUNITY-SIZE BIO- SAND FILTERS FOR 30 FAMILIES EACH, NINE WELL-HEAD COVERS AND SUBMERSIBLE PUMPS, AND FOUR SCHOOL-SIZE TIPPY TAP HAND-WASH STATIONS.

### FAST FACTS: GUATEMALA

- BIRTHPLACE OF THE MAYAN CIVILIZATION; CONTINUALLY INHABITED FOR 20,000 YEARS; HOME OF 3 UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES; MOST POPULATED CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRY; TWO COASTLINES; LOCATION ON 3 TECTONIC PLATES REASON FOR MAJOR EARTHQUAKES; OVER 30 VOLCANOES 4 OF WHICH ARE CURRENTLY ACTIVE
- 90% WATER DANGEROUS TO DRINK DUE TO POOR INFRASTRUCTURE, POLLUTION, UNREGULATED SANITATION.
- ROTARY CLUB OF GUATEMALA WAS CHARTERED IN 1977.
- SEVERAL ROTARY CLUBS AROUND THE GLOBE CONTRIBUTING TO WASH AND GWP TO SUPPLY POTABLE WATER THROUGH FILTRATION SO THE HIGH MORTALITY RATE FROM WATER BORNE DISEASES COULD BE DRASTICALLY REDUCED FROM ITS CURRENT 30,000+ PEOPLE, OF WHICH 90% ARE CHILDREN.

IN ROTARY,  
OLABISI GWAMNA PH.D,  
ROTARY CLUB OF MT. PLEASANT  
EDITOR, FOUNDATION MINUTE