



Rotary
Club of Clinton



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 13, 2026

VOLUME 81 | ISSUE 01 |
NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF
JULY 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

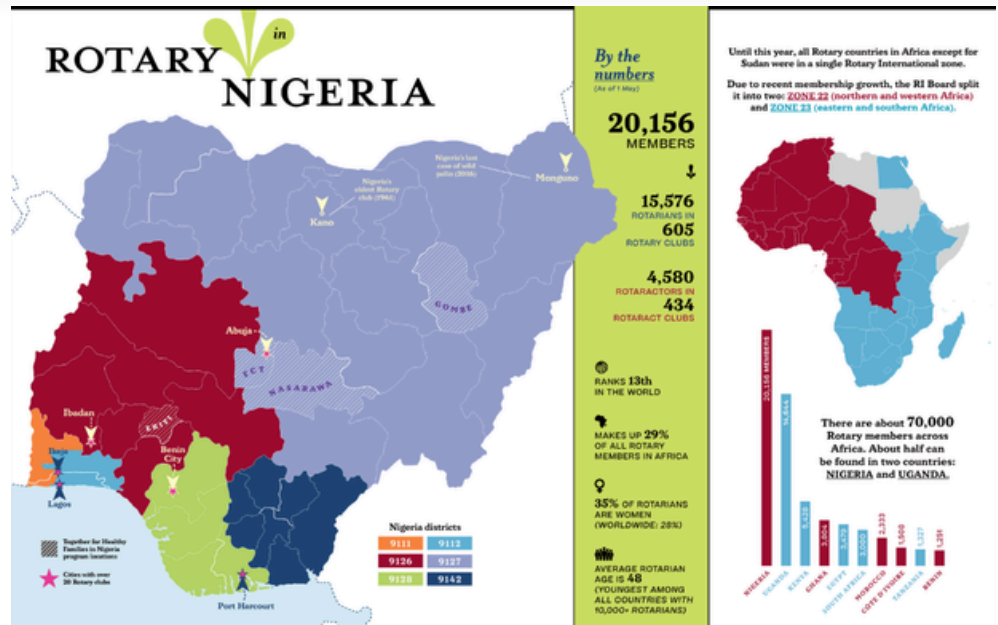
RotaryClubofClintonIA@
gmail.com

WEBSITE

RotaryClubofClinton.com

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

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



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ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Presidential News

Thank You to Citizens First Bank for donating their proceeds from the LumberKings game! \$214 is going to Rotary Local Tree Fund that Andy is working on!

That money will be paired with \$145 that the club raised from Pass the Hat!

Congrats to our most recent Paul Harris Fellows:

- Mary Swanson was honored with a Paul Harris Fellow +3 distinction.
- Norlan Hinke was recognized for reaching the Paul Harris Fellow +6 distinction!

Both members were thanked for their generous contributions and ongoing support of Rotary's mission.



Key Dates

- July 13: VIRTUAL: Dr. Anshu Chandra, a Rotarian with the Niskayuna Rotary Club and Director of the Haiti Eye Clinic through the Global Eye Project.
- July 20: Dolly Parton Imagination Library, Clinton County
- July 27: Clinton Public Library, Summer Reading Program

Check It Out!

Let's Support Venezuela!



Their recovery begins with our compassion.
Let's Support VENEZUELA.

The recent earthquakes have left families and communities across Venezuela facing tremendous challenges. Rotary is mobilizing to provide emergency relief, essential supplies, and long-term recovery support—but we can't do it alone.

Every contribution helps bring hope, comfort, and critical assistance to those who need it most.

Learn how you can help:

rotaryzones3334.org/disaster-recovery

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON WEEKLY ROUND-UP

WEEKLY STATS GUESTS:

- Jon Aytes
YTD: 1

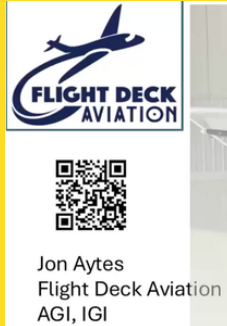
SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

- Rotary Club: N/A
- Foundation: N/A

Club and Foundation YTD
Total: \$N/A

MEMBERS:

- Current Members:
69
- Membership Goal:
75



Flight Deck Aviation Highlights Opportunities in Pilot Training

 **YouTube**
**WATCH OUR
MEETING HERE!**

Rotary members welcomed John, owner of Flight Deck Aviation at the Clinton Municipal Airport, for an engaging presentation on flight training and aviation careers.

Jon shared that Flight Deck Aviation recently celebrated its second year of operating at the Clinton airport, where the school provides flight instruction using two well-maintained Cessna 172 aircraft. He emphasized that the demand for qualified pilots remains strong, driven by mandatory retirements, industry growth, and emerging opportunities in aviation and drone operations.

The flight school serves students of all ages—from teenagers pursuing aviation careers to adults fulfilling lifelong dreams of earning a pilot's license. Jon explained that becoming a private pilot typically takes six weeks to eight months, depending on training frequency, with costs ranging from approximately \$12,000 to \$15,000. Those pursuing professional aviation careers can advance through commercial and flight instructor certifications before becoming eligible for regional and major airline positions.

Safety, thorough preparation, and quality instruction are central to Flight Deck Aviation's training philosophy. John also highlighted the benefits of training in the Midwest, where diverse weather conditions help prepare pilots for real-world flying.

In addition to flight training, Flight Deck Aviation and the Clinton Municipal Airport host several community events throughout the year, including spot landing competitions, flower bombing contests, and family-friendly aviation activities that help connect the community with its local airport.

Following the presentation, our club donated the children's book *The Littlest Airplane* to the Clinton Public Library in Jon's honor.

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON LOOKING FORWARD

PROGRAMS

- JULY 13: VIRTUAL: DR. ANSHU CHANDRA, A ROTARIAN WITH THE NISKAYUNA ROTARY CLUB AND DIRECTOR OF THE HAITI EYE CLINIC THROUGH THE GLOBAL EYE PROJECT.
- JULY 20: DOLLY PARTON IMAGINATION LIBRARY, CLINTON COUNTY
- JULY 27: CLINTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, SUMMER READING PROGRAM

INVOCATION

JULY 13: BRAYDON ROBERTS

JULY 20: DAVE ROSE

JULY 27: MARK RUTENBECK



GREETER

JULY 13: WESLEY GOLDEN

JULY 20: JENNIFER GRAF

JULY 27: VAL HILL

PROGRAM CHAIRS

JULY: SUSIE MESECHER

AUGUST: WES GOLDEN

SEPTEMBER: JENNIFER GRAF



FELLOWSHIP CHAIRS

JULY: BRAYDON ROBERTS

AUGUST: RICH KLAHN & LEVI JONES

SEPTEMBER: ANDY FERGURSON



Celebrations

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Jennifer Graf July 01
- Tom Determann July 21
- Brady Sachsenmaier July 26
- Susan Mesecher July 29

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- P. Michael Rastrelli
 - 37 yrs; July 01 1989
- Jill O'Neill
 - 8 yrs; July 02, 2018
- Amie Boetje
 - 2 yrs; July 15, 2024
- Brady Sachsenmaier
 - 1 yr; July 21, 2025
- Mary Connell
 - 30 yrs; July 29 1996
- Rod Tokheim
 - 20 yrs; July 31, 2006
- Gary DeLacy
 - 9 yrs; July 31, 2017

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 2026-2027

- 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 2026-2027

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

Directors

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| • Jim Bruhn* | • Kathy Klahn* | • Paul Holmer* |
| • Dale Dalton* | • Ryan Veenstra | • Heather Farwell |
| • Jennifer Graf* | • Sue Watkins | • Rich Klahn* |
| | | • Christie Atkins* |

ROTARY MOMENTS FROM OUR CLUB:



TRUSTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Leading with gratitude

I love the idea of a gratitude journal. The practice is simple: Write down three things each day that you are grateful for, and watch how it shifts your mindset, your energy, and even the way you move through the world.

To me, gratitude is more than a feeling; it is a force.

And in Rotary, gratitude is a reflection of who we are. When we thank our donors, we are acknowledging their contribution and honoring their belief in a better world.

I write in my gratitude journal often — not every day but enough to keep me grounded. I want to share with you an entry from January, written during the International Assembly. The assembly is more than our annual learning event for district governors-elect; it's a gathering filled with inspiration and moments that stay with you long after the lights dim.

My first entry was in gratitude to Debbie and Russell Doby.

In 2022, Debbie, then a district governor-elect, missed out on that inspiring assembly experience because of the pandemic. Then, a year later, just a few days before the district conference she was excited to host, Debbie and her husband were in a head-on collision. The other driver was killed; Debbie and Russell survived, miraculously.

Out of tragedy, they found grace. They

created an endowment fund for their district at the Arch Klumpp Society level, choosing to transform pain into purpose.

My second entry reflected on Ravishankar and Paola Dakoju from the Rotary Club of Bangalore, India. At the assembly, the couple pledged \$50 million to The Rotary Foundation, an extraordinary gift representing 85 percent of their wealth. Ravishankar said, "When you give more than you think you can, life returns to you more than you can ever imagine." That single sentence captures the heart of Rotary.

My final entry was in gratitude to Moh Eid and Chuck and Carol Stocking. After Moh's brother, Ibrahim, a humanitarian aid worker, was killed while helping victims of war, Chuck was moved to create the Ibrahim Eid Fund to support Rotary Peace Fellows. Their leverage gift was \$100,000 toward a million-dollar goal. That is what it looks like when grief becomes hope.

And today, my gratitude entry is for you. For longtime members and brand-new faces, for those who give year after year and those preparing to make their first gift. Thank you.

Let gratitude be our compass this year.

JENNIFER JONES

Foundation trustee chair