



Rotary
Club of Clinton



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 21, 2025

VOLUME 80 | ISSUE 03 |
NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF
JULY 21, 2025

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](#)

**“The people who
are crazy enough
to think they
can change the
world are the
ones who do.”**

STEVE JOBS



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

We need YOU on a Rotary Committee! Start thinking about what areas you can help in: Youth Services, Community Services, Membership, Fundraising, Publicity, and Foundation!

Boo Bash Alert!!!! Our Annual Boo Bash is coming up...circle it now on your calendars for Friday, October 24, 2025! Boo Bash Committee is looking for new members -- they're meeting weekly in July, on Wednesdays at 4:00 at the Copper Mill (2750 So. 27th Street Clinton IA 52732)!

If you can volunteer to help with the RYLA Camp at Grinnell College, it's from July 26 - August 1. Please reach out to Andy for more information!

Key Dates

- July 21: Anna Current will speak about the Xicotepec service project she participated in this spring and her experiences with RYLA and Rotaract.
- July 28: President Andy Green will present on his Rotary year
- August 04: Allyson, the President of the International Skiing Fellowship of Rotarians

Check It Out!



Photo of Tom Gump

It took years of waiting (first to get the legislation through our state's legislature, the signing by our state governor, and then, the ordering and manufacturing); but the wait is over - my Minnesota Rotary International license plates arrived

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON WEEKLY ROUND-UP

WEEKLY STATS

ATTENDANCE:

Online: 02

In-person: 32

Total for July 14: 34

GUESTS:

- Mike Zimmer
- Brady Sachsenmaier
- Steffan Holtert

YTD: 07

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

- Rotary Club: \$ 178

YTD \$ 329

- Foundation: N/A

YTD \$0

YTD Total: \$329

MEMBERS:

- Current Members: 67
- Membership Goal: 84



[WATCH OUR
MEETING HERE!](#)

Senator Mike Zimmer

First-term Iowa State Senator Mike Zimmer, recently shared honest reflections on his first year in the legislature. Here's a brief rundown:

- **Two-Party System Limits Access:** The Capitol is structured for Republicans and Democrats only. Independents and third parties face systemic obstacles at every level, from staff to rules.
- **Heavy Volume, Low Support:** With over 1,200 bills introduced, it's nearly impossible to keep up, especially without dedicated staff. The House moved much faster than the Senate, leaving many bills unexamined.
- **Committee & Subcommittee Work:** The senator serves on five committees. Subcommittees are where citizens have the most voice—sometimes swaying lawmakers. One powerful example: A local pharmacist's testimony changed the senator's stance on pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reform.
- **Transportation Frustration:** A bipartisan concern arose around the lack of progress in expanding Highway 30 between Lisbon and DeWitt. The senator questioned why the DOT receives less scrutiny than other departments, especially when major routes elsewhere have been prioritized.
- **Floor Debates Are Mostly For Show:** By the time bills hit the floor, the majority party has already made the decisions. Public debate rarely changes outcomes.
- **End-of-Session Maneuvers:** The "standings bill" at session's end allows leadership to sneak in last-minute policies without hearings. One late addition forced counties to pay for state 911 upgrades—no warning, no debate.
- **Property Tax Debate Looms:** With corporate and income taxes capped, the legislature is pressuring cities and counties to lower property taxes—without replacing that lost revenue. The senator warned that this will likely shift costs to sales tax, which hits low-income Iowans hardest. He cautioned that local services may suffer and that Iowans must decide what they're willing to pay for.
- **Voting Record:** The senator supported 77% of the 171 enacted bills, missing just 8 votes due to family and work obligations.
- **Minority Party Reality:** As a Democrat in a GOP-controlled Senate, the senator acknowledged that passing his own bills was nearly impossible—but he focused on listening, improving bills, and holding leadership accountable.

Senator Zimmer summarized his hope for the future, "You can't always win the vote, but you can still shape the conversation—and that's where real change begins."

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON LOOKING FORWARD

PROGRAMS

- July 21: Anna Current will speak about the Xicotepec service project she participated in this spring and her experiences with RYLA and Rotaract.
- July 28: President Andy Green will present on his Rotary year
- August 04: Allyson, the President of the International Skiing Fellowship of Rotarians
- August 11: Clinton Community Schools, Update from Curriculum and Instruction
- August 18: Clinton Community Schools: Update on Student Services
- August 25: Clinton Community Schools: Update on CHS Construction: Phase 2 and 3/ Legislative Updates

INVOCATION

JULY 21: SUE WATKINS
JULY 28: CHRISTIE AKINS



GREETER

JULY 21: LYNN MCGRAW
JULY 28: LINDSAY MORHARDT

PROGRAM CHAIRS

JULY: SUSIE MESECHER & JILL O'NEILL
AUGUST: GARY DELACY & WES GOLDEN



FELLOWSHIP CHAIRS

JULY: BRAYDON ROBERTS
AUGUST: RICH KLAHN



Celebrations

HAPPY

BIRTHDAY

- Jennifer Graf July 01
- Tom Determann July 21
- Susan Mesecher July 29

HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY

- P. Michael Rastrelli
 - 36 yrs; July 01, 1989
- Jill O'Neill
 - 7 yrs; July 02, 2018
- Amie Boetje
 - 1 yr; July 15, 2024
- Mary Connell
 - 29 yrs; July 29, 1996
- Rod Tokheim
 - 19 yrs; July 31, 2006
- Gary DeLacy
 - 8 yrs; July 31, 2017

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: Community Service Projects

Rotary Foundation Board of Directors for 2025-2026

- Gary Foster*: President
- Mark Rutenbeck*: Vice-President
- John Frey*: Secretary
- Dale Dalton*: Treasurer

Directors

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

Rotary Club of Clinton

PROUDLY PRESENTS

The 7th Annual

BOO BASH

FRIDAY,
OCTOBER 24, 2025

5:00 PM

THE COPPER MILL
2750 SO. 27TH STREET
CLINTON IA 52732

GET READY FOR A SPOOKY-GOOD TIME!

THE 2025 BOO BASH WILL FEATURE:

LIVE & SILENT AUCTIONS

RAFFLES & GAMES

BUFFET DINNER

CASH BAR

WWW.ROTARYCLUBOFCLINTON.COM