



Rotary
Club of Clinton



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 16, 2026

VOLUME 80 | ISSUE 31 |
NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF
MARCH 16, 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](#)

Strive not to be a success, but
rather to be of value.

- Albert Einstein

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ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Presidential News

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. Volunteers are welcome to help gather items.

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. More information, including costs and how to sponsor a student, will be shared in the coming weeks.

Mount St. Clare Scholarship - Applications Open

Clinton National Bank’s Mount St. Clare Scholarship is now open for applications through April. A total of \$220,000 in scholarships will be awarded this year to approximately 100 students, with awards ranging up to nearly \$10,000. Scholarships may be used for undergraduate or graduate studies.

Apply online through the Clinton National Bank website by clicking the “Scholarships” link.

Key Dates

- March 16: Roots & Story - Preserving Legacies - Aaron Corbin
- March 23: The Sawmill Museum & Dambo Trolls Update - Andy Green
- March 30: Clinton Community College / Bickelhaupt Arboretum Update - Brian Kelly, Ann Eisenman, and Douglas Smith
- May 01: Rotary District Conference in Coralville!
- Tuesday, June 30: Club Picnic at the Clinton Lumberkings

Check It Out!

Congrats!



Dale Dalton!

Paul Harris + 5

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON WEEKLY ROUND-UP

WEEKLY STATS

GUESTS:

- Emily Kleinschmidt
YTD: 165

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

- Rotary Club: \$95.00
YTD: \$5,323.00
- Foundation: N/A
YTD: \$995.00
YTD Total: \$6,318.00

MEMBERS:

- Current Members:
69
- Membership Goal:
84



**WATCH OUR
MEETING
HERE!**

Grow Clinton Update

At our recent Rotary meeting, Grow Clinton President & CEO Andy Sokolovich and Vice President of Economic and Community Development Matt Parbs shared updates on the organization's work supporting business growth, workforce development, and tourism in the Clinton area.

Grow Clinton was formed in March 2022 through the merger of the Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce, Clinton Regional Development Corporation, and the Convention & Visitors Bureau, creating a unified organization focused on economic development, community growth, and tourism promotion.

A major focus is supporting entrepreneurs and small businesses. Through a partnership with NewBoCo and the Small Business Development Center, Grow Clinton now offers local entrepreneurs access to one-on-one business coaching, educational programs, and resources to help launch and grow businesses while avoiding common startup pitfalls.

The organization also highlighted significant economic development projects, including the Atlas Roofing Corporation facility at the Lincolnway Industrial Rail & Air Park. The project represents an investment of over \$250 million and is expected to create approximately 150 jobs. Another development, Super 8 Logistics, will bring new warehouse capacity and rail-connected logistics opportunities to the area.

Grow Clinton continues to invest in workforce development initiatives, including a new Process Technician training program developed in partnership with Eastern Iowa Community Colleges and local employers such as ADM, 3M, and LyondellBasell. The program prepares students for high-demand manufacturing roles that can lead to starting salaries around \$60,000 and potential six-figure earnings within a few years.

Additional efforts include leadership training programs, community engagement initiatives, tourism promotion, and partnerships supporting local history and revitalization projects.

Sokolovich and Parbs emphasized the importance of community support, positive storytelling, and collaboration to attract investment and ensure Clinton continues to grow.

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON LOOKING FORWARD

PROGRAMS

- MARCH 16: ROOTS & STORY - PRESERVING LEGACIES - AARON CORBIN
- MARCH 23: THE SAWMILL MUSEUM & DAMBO TROLLS UPDATE - ANDY GREEN
- MARCH 30: CLINTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE / BICKELHAUPT ARBORETUM UPDATE - BRIAN KELLY, ANN EISENMAN, AND DOUGLAS SMITH

INVOCATION

MARCH 16: VAL HILL
MARCH 23: PAUL HOLMER
MARCH 30: GREG JASPER



GREETER

MARCH 16: MATTHEW CASTLEMAN
MARCH 23: PETE CLAUSON
MARCH 30: MARY CONNELL

PROGRAM CHAIRS

MARCH: JULIE DUNN
APRIL: SUE WATKINS
MAY: CHRISTIE AKINS



FELLOWSHIP CHAIRS

MARCH: DENNIS LAUVER
APRIL: MARY SWANSON & MARY BETH SMITH
MAY: ANDREW KIDA



Celebrations

HAPPY

BIRTHDAY

- Daniel Housenga March 06
- Mary Swanson March 17
- Andrew Kida March 18
- Brian Kelly March 24

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Brigham Tubbs
 - 28 yrs; March 01, 1998
- Matthew Castleman
 - 1 yr; March 03, 2025
- Levi Jones
 - 1 yrs; March 17, 2025
- Gary Foster
 - 28 yrs; March 29, 1998

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 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

ROTARY MOMENTS

People of action around the globe

By Brad Webber

Canada
The Rotary Club of Chilliwack, BC, Canada, in British Columbia, held its volleyball tournament in November, attracting 28 teams to a fundraiser that the club has hosted since 1995. "Many local businesses participate by registering a team, and they have their staff come out and play," says Kim Ashley, the club's president. "Each player brings a new toy to donate to Chilliwack Community Services as part of the Christmas Sharing Program." The project supports the club's foundation, which focuses on the needs of children, including dental work, medical assessments, and counseling. In all, the matches have raised more than \$200,000 and collected 10,000 toys over the past 30 years.

1900
Volleyball introduced in Canada

United States
Everett Singleton was an educator who helped integrate schools in Coltonville, Illinois, in the 1950s. When interactors from Coltonville High School learned that Singleton's gravesite lacked a marker, they organized a Dine-to-Donate event to raise the \$1700 needed for a proper headstone. Honoring Singleton, who died in 1970, was second nature to the civic-minded students, says Brad Sierstich, the club adviser. Singleton, who grew up in the town's Black neighborhood during segregation, served as a teacher at various schools and as a principal. "Our students have been eager to get involved, give back to their community, and help others," says Sierstich, a member of the Rotary Club of Coltonville, Maryville, Caseyville.

\$1K to \$3K
Average headstone cost in U.S.

England
An event to celebrate Indian culture featured local luminaries with Bollywood connections and raised about \$2,200 for the Rotary Club of Madras' service work. Attendees included Chittil Shah, choreographer to celebrities, and vocalist Alaiya Pishkama, both of whom now reside in the United Kingdom. Ten of the club's 55 members are from India or have Indian heritage. "The laughter, dancing, and genuine sense of connection in the room showed just how powerful cultural celebration can be in bringing people together for a good cause," says Lisa Hunter, charter president of the club. The November event helped fund a Parkinson's disease support group and a trip by the club's vocational training team to Uganda for a maternal and child health initiative.

1.9 million
People of Indian ethnicity who live in England and Wales

Malta
The Rotary Club of Gozo has discovered a formula for civic and social media engagement: Tell community members just how much they're appreciated. After rolling out the glittery Prize of Gozo Awards in 2022, the club saw a burst of interest in the work of Rotarians on Gozo, one of Malta's three populated islands. "The event is our showcase of the year," says Tom Welch, a past president of the club who proposed the ceremony, which is supported by the Times of Malta newspaper and a government ministry. "While not a fundraiser, it raises our profile: a touch under 40,000 views on Facebook, 600 new followers, and over 2,000 engagements. It also provides us with a collection of wonderful speakers and drives membership growth."

41,000
Population of the island of Gozo

Japan
The Rotary Club of Tokyo Hiroo embarked on a melodic mission in October, collaborating with the Rotary Club of Beverly Hills in California to bring the music therapy program Music Minds to people with Alzheimer's. Over several visits, club members brought drums, cowbells, and other percussive instruments to care facilities and encouraged participants to clap along as the Rotarians struck up tunes. "Music Minds helps older adults with memory loss reengage," says Miyuki Ochi, president of the club. "Watching older adults' faces light up through music is one of the greatest joys of our service."

4.4 million
Approximate people with dementia in 2022