Rotary Club of Clinton

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 03, 2025

VOLUME 80 | ISSUE 16 | NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 03, 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

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Presidential News

Start Planning Now! Our District Conference will be on May 01 in Coralville. You can add it to your calendar NOW. 🙂

Program Chairs: Presenters need to email presentations to the Rotary Gmail and bring them on a flash drive to ensure a smooth presentation! Please and thank you. 🙂

If you can help sponsor the Victory Center's Thanksgiving Meal, please contact Pastor Ray Gimenez!

Key Dates

- November 03: Alethea Cahoy with Energize Clinton
- November 10: Al Loffelholz Discussing CPR
- November 17: Ari Lewerenz, Dambo Trolls project
- November 24: TBD

Check It Out!

Since 2019, our club has partnered with the University District Rotary in Seattle and Rotarians in Mexico to support subsistence farmers in Oaxaca, one of Mexico's poorest regions. What began with a single greenhouse has grown to over 150, and now includes water cisterns to ensure year-round food security despite climate challenges. Families are staying together, farmers are transitioning to sustainable crops like nopal cactus, and the community itself contributes labor to each project.

This year marks a milestone: the project has advanced to a $60,000 Rotary Global Grant, with contributions from our club, Seattle, and Mexico—multiplied by district and Rotary Foundation support. Thanks to your donations, the cisterns are now filling with rainwater, sustaining farms through the dry season. This effort reflects the very best of Rotary: collaboration, adaptability, and lasting impact for families.

Rotary Club of Clinton

PROUDLY PRESENTS

Boo Bash

Thank You, Sponsors!

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MARY CONNELL • DALE & BOBBIE DALTON • PAUL & CHRIS HOLMER • ANDREW & KRISTEN KIDA

WEEKLY STATS

ATTENDANCE:

Online: 03
In-person: 44
Total for October 27: 47

GUESTS:

- Josh Davis
- Braydon Davis
- Tyson Graves
- Brenda Thornton
- Chuck Thornton
- Gianna Watkins
- Kaylee Davis
- Ava Bousman
- Margie Robbins
- Marissa Bloyd
- Bree Dalton
- Robert Carroll

YTD: 86

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

- Rotary Club: $264
  YTD $2,720
- Foundation: N/A
  YTD $125

YTD Total:$2,845

MEMBERS:

- Current Members: 67
- Membership Goal: 84

U.S. Highway 30

🚧 Clinton Transportation Update: Progress, Persistence & Plans for the Future

Watch Our Meeting Here

Community leaders gathered to share major updates on regional transportation efforts spanning decades of work to improve Highway 30, the Mill Creek Expressway, and the North River Drive corridor.

History & Accomplishments:

Since the mid-1990s, local advocates like Dave Rose, Brenda Thornton, and others have pushed for critical infrastructure projects. Their advocacy brought in over $100 million in federal funding, completing major projects such as Mill Creek Expressway, Liberty Square, and portions of Highway 30.

Highway 30 (Iowa Side):

Efforts continue to fully four-lane Highway 30 from Lisbon to Clinton. Despite public support, the Iowa DOT currently plans a "Super 2" expansion instead of a true four-lane. Local legislators passed two House bills to prioritize full four-laning, with strong bipartisan support. Advocates emphasized that a divided four-lane highway is 60% safer and vital for regional economic growth.

Highway 30 (Illinois Side):

On the Illinois side, only 17 miles remain unfinished. They continue to advocate for completing the four-lane connection from Chicago to Cedar Rapids, emphasizing its importance for freight efficiency and regional development. Over $9 million has already gone into studies, and local leaders are seeking renewed support from Governor Pritzker and IDOT to move the project forward.

North River Drive Revitalization:

Dave Rose, Brenda, and Chuck highlighted the vision for North River Drive, a proposed riverside roadway aimed at reopening access to the north riverfront and boosting business development in the Lyons district. The project would extend traffic flow, enhance recreation space, and attract investment. Funding efforts have already secured $1.65 million, with another $750,000 request pending to make the project "shovel ready."

Shovel-Ready Emphasis:

Speakers reiterated the importance of keeping local projects shovel ready so they can seize state and federal funding opportunities quickly. Past experience showed that readiness directly impacts which communities receive infrastructure dollars.

Key Takeaway:

The meeting underscored decades of teamwork, advocacy, and relationship-building — from city halls to Washington, D.C. — to ensure Clinton and the surrounding region remain connected, competitive, and ready for growth.

LOOKING FORWARD

PROGRAMS

- NOVEMBER 03: ALETHEA CAHOY WITH ENERGIZE CLINTON
- NOVEMBER 10: AL LOFFELHOLZ DISCUSSING CPR
- NOVEMBER 17: ARI LEWERENZ, DAMBO TROLLS PROJECT
- NOVEMBER 24: TBD

INVOCATION

NOVEMBER 03: PETE CLAUSEN
NOVEMBER 10: MARY CONNELL
NOVEMBER 17: DALE DALTON
NOVEMBER 24: SAVANNAH DAUGHERTY

GREETER

NOVEMBER 03: RYAN VEENSTRA
NOVEMBER 10: KAREN VICKERS
NOVEMBER 17: CHRISTIE AKINS
NOVEMBER 24: BRENT ALBRECHTSEN

PROGRAM CHAIRS

NOVEMBER: HEATHER FARWELL
DECEMBER: DOUG BERTRAND

FELLOWSHIP CHAIRS

NOVEMBER: DAVE SIVRIGHT & SUSIE MESECHER
DECEMBER: DOUG BERTRAND

Celebrations

- Claire Buyert — Nov 09
- Dale Dalton — Nov 15
- David Rose — Nov 20
- David Sivright — Nov 22

- Dale Dalton
  - 47 yrs; Nov. 01 1978
- Gregory Jasper
  - 30 yrs; Nov. 01 1995
- Braydon Robert
  - 7 yrs; Nov. 12 2018
- David Sivright
  - 33 yrs; Nov. 16 1992

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 Fergurson: 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