Rotary Club of Clinton

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 09, 2026

VOLUME 81 | ISSUE 17| NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 09, 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

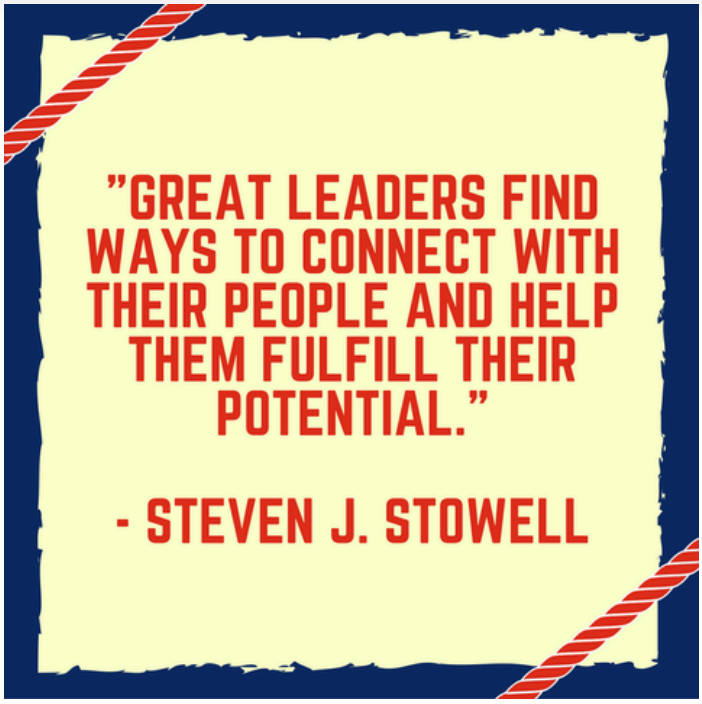
RotaryClubofClintonIA@gmail.com

WEBSITE

RotaryClubofClinton.com

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

- Facebook
- LinkedIn
- YouTube



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Presidential News

We have a sign-up sheet to distribute dictionaries! Contact John Frey if you would like to help. We're working on pairing up the delivery of the dictionaries with the delivery of our Kicks for Kids program.

Billings have been emailed on October 5-7 and apologizes if sent more than once. Please remit payment ASAP as payment for Rotary International and Rotary District 6000 dues have not been paid by the Club and are past due.

Pastor Ray needs help and turkeys for the annual Thanksgiving meal! Please contact him at: jeremiah3117@yahoo.com to volunteer to help!

Key Dates

- November 09: Gabi Torres – Paint It Back, Gabi Bird Artist
- November 16: Mason's Lighthouse - Shanna Sieck, mother of Mason and PDG Steve Dakin
- November 23: Matt Parbs -Grow Clinton, Small Business, Shop Local & Business Start Ups
- November 30: Dan Sullivan - Adcraft & Sully Sports
- December 07: Clinton High School's Acapella Choir

Check It Out!



Special thanks to member Christopher Smith for taking photographs at our Boo Bash!



ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON

WEEKLY ROUND-UP

WEEKLY STATS

GUESTS:

- Kari White
- Jaylynn DeBoer
- Kristin Bergston
- Ava Bousman
- Daniel Tyler
- Jordan Tegeler

YTD: 69

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

- 10/05/26: $175
- 10/12/26: $311
- 10/19/26: N/A
- 10/26/26: $153

Club and Foundation YTD: $2,866.00

MEMBERS:

- Current Members: 69
- Membership Goal: 75



WATCH OUR MEETING HERE!

Happy Joe's: A Business Built on Family, Fun, and Community

Kari White, owner of Happy Joe's Pizza and Ice Cream, shared the inspiring story behind the restaurant and the values that continue to guide its success. Lawrence "Joe" Whitty founded Happy Joe's in 1972 on a simple but powerful belief: everyone deserves a place where they are welcome and included.

Kari and her husband, Brandon, have carried that mission forward, making family, quality, and community involvement central to their business. Happy Joe's operates on seven guiding pillars: fun, fairness, quality, image, balance, community involvement, and risk-taking. These principles shape everything from customer service and food preparation to supporting the community.

Kari also shared exciting news about the future of Happy Joe's. Following a change in ownership, the new organization is looking to the Clinton location as its model for all 48 U.S. restaurants and 11 locations in Egypt. Kari and Brandon are traveling to locations across the country, sharing the practices that have made their restaurant successful, including fresh-made dough, quality food, cleanliness, and outstanding customer service. New store openings are being paused while the existing locations work toward these standards.

Perhaps the most meaningful part of Kari's presentation was her emphasis on giving back. Since 1974, Happy Joe's has hosted a special-needs Christmas celebration, growing from just 20 children to approximately 800 children annually. The celebration includes pizza, ice cream, cookies, gifts, Santa, and Christmas carols. Because of growing needs and financial and transportation challenges, Kari hopes to find additional sponsorships to keep this cherished tradition going and ensure more children can participate.

Kari reminded everyone that community involvement comes back tenfold. Whether through holiday celebrations, local events, or simply making everyone feel welcome, Happy Joe's demonstrates how a small business can make a lasting difference. Her message was a wonderful reminder that successful businesses are built not only on what they serve, but also on the relationships they build and the communities they support.

LOOKING FORWARD

PROGRAMS

- NOVEMBER 09: GABI TORRES – PAINT IT BACK, GABI BIRD ARTIST
- NOVEMBER 16: MASON'S LIGHTHOUSE - SHANNA SIECK, MOTHER OF MASON AND PDG STEVE DAKIN
- NOVEMBER 23: MATT PARBS -GROW CLINTON, SMALL BUSINESS, SHOP LOCAL & BUSINESS STARTUPS
- NOVEMBER 30: DAN SULLIVAN - ADCRAFT & SULLY SPORTS

INVOCATION

NOVEMBER 09: CHRISTIE AKINS
NOVEMBER 16: MARINA BAER
NOVEMBER 23: DOUGLAS BERTRAND
NOVEMBER 30: AMIE BOETJE





GREETER

NOVEMBER 09: DAVID PILLERS
NOVEMBER 16: DEREK PILLERS
NOVEMBER 23: BRAYDON ROBERTS
NOVEMBER 30: DAVID ROSE

PROGRAM CHAIRS

NOVEMBER: HEATHER FARWELL





FELLOWSHIP CHAIRS

NOVEMBER: SUSIE MESECHER

Celebrations

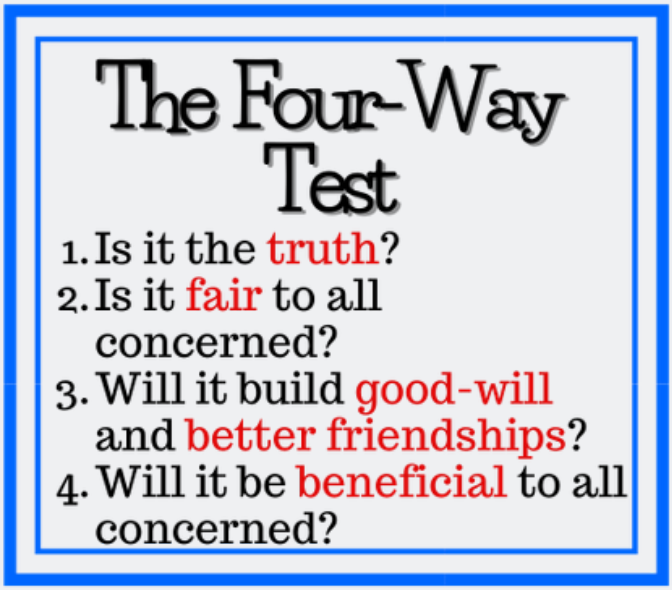
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Claire Buyert — November 01
- Dale Dalton — November 15
- David Rose — November 20
- David Sivright — November 22

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Dale Dalton
  - 48 yrs; Nov. 01, 1978
- Greg Jasper
  - 31 yrs; Nov. 01, 1995
- Braydon Roberts
  - 8 yrs; Nov. 12, 2018
- David Sivright
  - 34 yrs; Nov. 16, 1992

R.I. Admin



Rotary Board of Directors for 2026-2027

- 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 2026-2027

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

Directors

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

ROTARY MOMENTS

Bill Gates has contributed well over $5Billion to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative since 2007.

As a polio survivor and Global #EndPolio Advocate I'm forever grateful for his leadership, and generosity.
I'm also incredibly grateful for the hard work and ongoing support of the Gates Foundation staff!

Thank-you! Thank-you! Thank-you!
Together we end polio

Watch a video here from Facebook about Polio!