Rotary Club of Clinton

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16, 2026

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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

YOUR LIFE IS AS GOOD AS YOUR MINDSET.

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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 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!

Holiday Network Sponsorship Opportunity

Alex Vangler visited to share details about this year's Holiday Network program, which is supporting more than 800 children from over 300 families. With approximately 230 sponsorship tags still available, community members, businesses, and organizations are encouraged to participate. Each tag includes a child's name, clothing sizes, and interests to help sponsors select thoughtful gifts. A suggested spending amount is $45–$50 per child. In addition to wrapped gifts, families receive essentials such as coats, shoes, socks, and underwear. Members are encouraged to take a tag or share the opportunity with their workplace or organization to help make the holidays brighter for local children and families

WEEKLY STATS

GUESTS:

- Gabi Torres
- Emily Gipe
- Alexandria Teagler
- Josie Srp
- Lanie Sienes

YTD: 74

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

- 10/26/26 Meeting: $163.00
- 11/02/26 Meeting: $186.00
- 11/09/26 Meeting: Club and Foundation

YTD: $3,306.00

MEMBERS:

- Current Members: 69
- Membership Goal: 75



WATCH OUR MEETING HERE!

Gabi Torres: The Transformative Power of Art in Clinton

Local artist and creative placemaker Gabi Torres shared her inspiring journey of bringing public art and new energy to Clinton during her presentation to Rotary.

A Clinton native, Torres returned home after attending the University of Iowa, completing graduate studies in New York City, and living in Seoul, South Korea. After a 100-day road trip exploring communities across the country, she realized that the qualities she admired in other cities were already present in Clinton—or were things she could help create right here at home. Motivated to change how people viewed their hometown, she began using art to bring joy, connection, and renewed community pride.

Among her most recognizable projects is The Grove, an outdoor art installation and pocket park that transformed an underutilized space into a welcoming community gathering place. She also highlighted her collaboration with Clinton County Conservation, creating 72 silk art panels using natural dyes from plants and materials gathered in local conservation areas.

Torres also discussed Paint It Back, the creative placemaking initiative she founded with Chris Shannon. The organization brings artists to Clinton to transform buildings and public spaces through murals and other artistic experiences. This year marked its first move from the Lyons District into downtown Clinton, welcoming nine artists from across the United States and Mexico City.

Looking ahead, Torres is preparing for an exciting project in Marshalltown, where she will transform an alley into an artistic green space inspired by The Grove. She also shared highlights of her work on the Clinton Arboretum renovation, including a glass art installation featuring more than 300 pieces of blown glass and a 57-foot mural.

Her message to Rotary was simple but powerful: Art creates a new way of seeing, a reason to care, and the energy to transform. Through creativity, collaboration, and a deep love for her hometown, Gabi continues to demonstrate how public art can strengthen communities and inspire residents to see new possibilities in the place they call home.

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON

LOOKING FORWARD

PROGRAMS

- 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 16: MARINA BAER
NOVEMBER 23: DOUGLAS BERTRAND
NOVEMBER 30: AMIE BOETJE





GREETER

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

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 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*

ROTARY MOMENTS



Photo courtesy of Rotary Club of Tiaong-Hiyas

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!