Rotary Club of Clinton

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 27, 2025

VOLUME 80 | ISSUE 15 | NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 27, 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

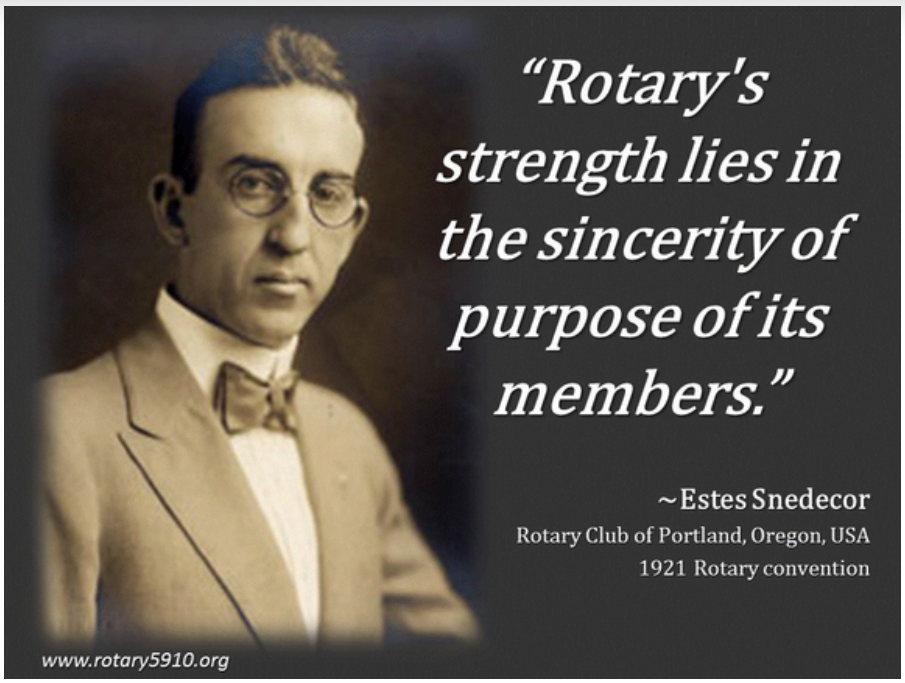
RotaryClubofClintonIA@gmail.com

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

- Friday, October 24: Boo Bash!
- October 27: Brenda Thornton - North River Drive
- November 03: Alethea Cahoy with Energize Clinton
- November 17: Ari Lewerenz, Dambo Trolls project

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

Friday, October 24, 2025

The Copper Mill
2750 So. 27th Street
Clinton IA 52732

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT WWW.ROTARYCLUBOFCLINTON.COM

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NEXTera ENERGY

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ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON
WEEKLY ROUND-UP

WEEKLY STATS

ATTENDANCE:

Online: 05
In-person: 38
Total for October 20: 43

GUESTS:

- Wayne Steen
- Cindy Hinke
- Marissa Bloyd
- Claire Kenneavy
- Bree Dalton
- Avery Balog
- Javien Dearing
- Carter Dunham

YTD: 74

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

- Rotary Club: $175
  YTD $2,456.00
- Foundation: N/A
  YTD $120

YTD Total:$2,631.00

MEMBERS:

- Current Members: 67
- Membership Goal: 84

Watch Our Meeting Here

DG Norlan Hinke

We had the privilege of talking with Rotary Club of Clinton's own, District Governor Norlan Hinke this week!

District Focus Areas:

1. Membership Growth & Retention:
   - U.S. Rotary membership continues to decline, while Ukraine's has doubled since the war began.
   - The district aims for 1% growth (≈30 new members).
   - Emphasis on retention and engagement—closing the "back door" where Rotary loses as many members as it gains.
   - College clubs at Iowa and Iowa State are thriving, nearly doubling membership.
2. Foundation & Polio Plus:
   - Only Pakistan and Afghanistan still report active polio cases—just 20 this year, down from 90 last year.
   - A district challenge is underway: each club's contributions to Polio Plus will be matched 6:1 through district funds and the Gates Foundation.
   - Rotary aviators recently set a Guinness World Record for flying the Atlantic to raise funds for Polio eradication.
3. Public Image:
   - Renewed emphasis on visibility and storytelling—highlighting why Rotary's work matters, not just what it is.
   - Clubs are encouraged to showcase service, wear Rotary gear, and strengthen local awareness.
4. Technology & Support:
   - A new district technology team will assist clubs with digital tools and grant applications.
   - New district administrator: Megan Van Koten (Pella) succeeds Carolyn Sharp, who retired after 20 years of service.
5. Club Projects & Priorities:
   - Tree planting: Goal—one tree per member.
   - Mental wellness initiatives: Clubs urged to partner with local organizations (NAMI, schools, or community groups) to support youth and seniors facing isolation or stress.

District Conference Preview:

- Scheduled near Coralville, featuring Past RI President Stephanie Urchick and RI Membership Chair Tom Gump.
- Includes an inspirational speaker and a Kentucky Derby-themed evening.

"If you believe you can do it, you can do it." — A call to action for all Rotarians to lead with purpose and optimism.

LOOKING FORWARD

PROGRAMS

- OCTOBER 27: BRENDA THORNTON - NORTH RIVER DRIVE
- NOVEMBER 03: ALETHEA CAHOY WITH ENERGIZE CLINTON
- NOVEMBER 10: TBD
- NOVEMBER 17: ARI LEWERENZ, DAMBO TROLLS PROJECT
- NOVEMBER 24: TBD

INVOCATION

OCTOBER 27: MATTHEW CASTLEMAN
NOVEMEBER 03: PETE CLAUSEN
NOVEMBER 10: MARY CONNELL
NOVEMBER 17: DALE DALTON
NOVEMBER 24: SAVANNAH DAUGHERTY

GREETER

OCTOBER 27: BRIG TUBBS
NOVEMEBER 03: RYAN VEENSTRA
NOVEMBER 10: KAREN VICKERS
NOVEMBER 17: CHRISTIE AKINS
NOVEMBER 24: BRENT ALBRECHTSEN

PROGRAM CHAIRS

OCTOBER: TOM DETERMANN
NOVEMBER: HEATHER FARWELL
DECEMBER: DOUG BERTRAND

FELLOWSHIP CHAIRS

OCTOBER: JENNIFER GRAF
NOVEMBER: DAVE SIVRIGHT & SUSIE MESECHER
DECEMBER: DOUG BERTRAND

Celebrations

- Matthew Castleman — Oct 01
- Ronald McGauvran — Oct 04
- Douglas Bertrand — Oct 12
- Andrew Green — Oct 26
- Amie Boetje — Oct 28

- Susan Mesecher
  - 6 yrs; Oct. 01 2019
- Tom Determann
  - 30 yrs; Oct. 02 1995
- Pete Clausen
  - 34 yrs; Oct. 07 1991
- Paula Steward
  - 8 yrs; Oct. 09 2017
- Val Hill
  - 22 yrs; Oct. 20 2003
- Juliann Bray
  - 22 yrs; Oct. 27 2003
- Shannon Sander-Welzien
  - 12 yrs; Oct. 28 2013
- Luke Duenser
  - 2 yrs; Oct. 30 2023

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: 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