



Rotary
Club of Clinton



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 07, 2026

VOLUME 81 | ISSUE 09 |
NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF
SEPTEMBER 07, 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](#)

BETHE
CHANGE
YOU WISH TO SEE IN
THE WORLD
-MAHATMA GANDHI



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ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Presidential News

Tree Planting — September 12

Please plan to participate in the club's tree-planting project on September 12. The goal is to plant one tree for every Rotary member, with planting taking place at several locations.

- Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Sawmill.
- Bring family and friends to help!!!
- The city will assist by digging the tree holes in advance.
- Volunteers are needed to help with planting, watering, mulching, and transporting materials.
- **Pickup trucks, shovels, rakes, and other helpful equipment are especially needed.**

🎃 Rotary Boo Bash — October 30

The annual Boo Bash will be held on October 30. Support our event by:

- Becoming a sponsor
 - Volunteering the evening of the event
 - Donating or assembling a basket
 - Helping contact local businesses for support
- Sponsorship forms are available, and members can also sign up online.

Victory Center Needs Support

The Victory Center is seeking additional funding. Its food pantry has served 1,434 families so far this year, and the organization is also preparing for its annual Thanksgiving meal. Speak with Pastor Ray for more info!

Key Dates

- **September 07: NO MEETING**
- **September 14: Ari Lewrenz - Dambo Trolls update**
- **September 21 Uganda International project update**
- **September 28: Women in Business featured speakers Kemi Busker and Sue Watkins**

Check It Out!

Welcome New Members!

👏 **Welcome, Regina Leman!** 👏

The club welcomed Regina Leman as its newest member. Regina is the HR manager at Sethness Roquette, where she has worked for nine years. The company manufactures caramel color and employs approximately 74 people in Clinton.

Regina joined Rotary because she wanted her company to be more involved in the community and was impressed by the club's many local service projects. She lives in Clinton and has two adult daughters.

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON

CLUB NOTIFICATION

Rotary Club Dues Increase

The Club recently completed a review of its budget after identifying an annual operating shortfall of approximately \$9,000. The review found that club dues have not kept pace with rising costs. Dues were last increased in 2019, while the cost of meals and other club expenses has increased significantly.

To address the immediate budget shortfall, the Board has approved a 20% increase in membership dues, effective with the October 1 billing. Quarterly dues will increase \$36 per quarter.

Dues are used to cover the club's operating expenses, including meals, Rotary International and district-related costs, ClubRunner, publications, printing, and other administrative expenses. Charitable contributions, scholarships, and funds raised through activities such as Boo Bash are not used to cover these operating expenses.

The Budget Review Committee will continue looking for ways to reduce expenses and improve the club's financial management. The goal is to avoid large increases in the future by reviewing costs more regularly and keeping dues more closely aligned with inflation and operating expenses.

The increase is intended to ensure that funds donated to Rotary can continue to support community projects and charitable causes, rather than being needed to cover the club's operating costs.

Members with questions about the change are encouraged to speak with the Board or Budget Review Committee.



ROTARY CLUB OF Clinton's BOO BASH



**GET READY FOR THE SPOOKIEST NIGHT OF
THE YEAR, FULL OF MAGIC AND MISCHIEF!**



**October 30, 2026
5:00 PM**



**Copper Mill
2750 S 27th St, Clinton, IA**

Live DJ & Dance Floor

Best Costume Contest

Spooky Drinks & Treats

Silent Auction

Dress Code: Silly, Scary, or Spooky, Make it unforgettable!
Sponsorship Opportunities are Available!



www.rotaryclubofclinton.com

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON WEEKLY ROUND-UP

WEEKLY STATS

GUESTS:

- Jim Bengston
- Jace Burgland
- Theresa Shultz

YTD: 20

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:

- Rotary Club: N/A
- Foundation: N/A

Club and Foundation YTD
Total: \$1,181.00

MEMBERS:

- Current Members:
69
- Membership Goal:
75



 **YouTube**
**WATCH OUR
MEETING HERE!**

**Clinton High School:
Preparing Students for the
Workforce**

Rotary welcomed **Clinton High School Principal Theresa Shultz** and **Work-Based Learning Coordinator Jim Bengston**, who shared an update on the newly renovated high school and the district's growing work-based learning program.

The high school renovation is expected to be completed by November. The updated building features bright, open spaces, more natural light, and expanded commons areas. Lunch periods have also been extended to 42 minutes, giving students more time to connect and recharge during the school day.

A major focus of the presentation was work-based learning. Beginning with the Class of 2028, students must complete at least one work-based learning credit to graduate. The program moves students from career awareness and guest speakers to job shadows, internships, and eventually on-the-job training.

The program is already making an impact. Last year, about 70 job shadows were arranged, helping students explore careers and discover their interests. This year, the focus is on internships and giving students hands-on experience with local businesses and organizations.

One example is Jace Burgland, who completed an internship with River City Fencing, creating video content for the company's social media. The experience has allowed Jace to build his filmmaking skills while gaining real-world experience and connections.

Bengston emphasized that community partnerships are key to the success of work-based learning. Local businesses and organizations can get involved through job shadows, internships, project-based learning, career presentations, and other opportunities.

Businesses and community members are also encouraged to attend **Future Ready Planning Night on September 30 from 5–7 p.m. at Clinton High School**. The event connects students with businesses, colleges, military representatives, unions, and other organizations to explore career opportunities.

ROTARY CLUB OF CLINTON LOOKING FORWARD

PROGRAMS

- SEPTEMBER 07: NO MEETING
- SEPTEMBER 14: ARI LEWRENZ - DAMBO TROLLS UPDATE
- SEPTEMBER 21: UGANDA INTERNATIONAL PROJECT UPDATE
- SEPTEMBER 28: WOMEN IN BUSINESS FEATURED SPEAKERS KEMI BUSKER AND SUE WATKINS

INVOCATION

SEPTEMBER 07: NO MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14: MARY SWANSON
SEPTEMBER 21: MARSHA THRALL
SEPTEMBER 28: GRAHAM TIMION



GREETER



SEPTEMBER 07: NO MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14: BRIAN KELLY
SEPTEMBER 21: KATHY KLAHN
SEPTEMBER 28: RICH KLAHN

PROGRAM CHAIRS

SEPTEMBER: JENNIFER GRAF
OCTOBER: TOM DETERMANN
NOVEMBER: HEATHER FARWELL



FELLOWSHIP CHAIRS

SEPTEMBER: ANDY FERGURSON
OCTOBER: JENNIFER GRAF
NOVEMBER: SUSIE MESECHER



Celebrations

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|------------------|---------|
| • Christie Akins | Sept 05 |
| • Mike Kroemer | Sept 13 |
| • Kathy Klahn | Sept 15 |
| • Karen Vickers | Sept 15 |
| • Cheryl Frey | Sept 17 |
| • Julie Dunn | Sept 20 |
| • Brigham Tubbs | Sept 21 |
| • Andy Fergurson | Sept 21 |
| • James Bruhn | Sept 22 |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- Ronald McGauvran
 - 48 yrs; Sep. 01 1978
- Christopher Smith
 - 1 yr; Sep. 15 2025
- Douglas Bertrand
 - 30 yrs; Sep. 16 1996
- Karen Vickers
 - 30 yrs; Sep. 23 1996
- Marsha Thrall
 - 4 yrs; Sep. 26 2022
- James Bruhn
 - 30 yrs; Sep. 30 1996

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 2026-2027

- Andrew Green: President
- Dale Dalton: Treasurer
- Carrie Donaire: Past-President, International Service
- Andy Fergusson: 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 Atkins*

ROTARY MOMENTS



From Florida to Thailand, Rotary clubs are finding creative ways to meet community needs and support good causes. In Sebring, Florida, Rotarians helped build a much-needed public restroom to accommodate visitors drawn to the city after its appearance on HGTV's Home Town Takeover. In Ontario, the Rotary Club of Sarnia-Bluewaterland raised more than US\$42,000 through its annual used book sale, with leftover books supporting organizations as far away as Canadian troops stationed in Latvia.

Meanwhile, a UK Rotary club is putting pets to work for polio eradication through the PolioPlus Society Kennel Klub, where animal-loving donors pledge at least \$100 annually to PolioPlus. And in northern Thailand, the Rotary Club of Chiang Mai International turned a tethered hot-air balloon into a fundraiser, dropping 300 golf balls onto a green and raising about \$4,000 for projects benefiting children.