

MILESTONE

Rotary celebrates 100



John Rohlf/Clinton Herald

Mike Kearney (left) and Dee Willoughby share a laugh before the Clinton Rotary's 100th Anniversary celebration at the Eagle Point Lodge.

*Looks forward
to the future,
Lodge project*

BY JOHN ROHLF
Herald Staff Writer

CLINTON — The Clinton Rotary Club and members of the public gathered at the Eagle Point Park Lodge to celebrate Rotary's 100th anniversary and discuss a potential future project that will spruce up one of Eagle Point's most well-known features.

Clinton's Rotary Club, a volunteer service organization aiming to help the Clinton community, celebrated the anniversary

Wednesday by hearing about past accomplishments and participating in a ribboncutting at the lodge. However, much of the attention for the event focused on what they have planned for the future, including a possible renovation project at the Eagle Point Lodge.

In order to complete that project, the Rotary Club needs to raise \$1 million. The Rotary Club has raised over \$650,000 since April 1, and Rotary Club Fundraising Chairman Dee Willoughby and Club members believe the \$1 million-goal can be within the next 60 days.

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Dee Willoughby

100
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"A million bucks in Clinton, Iowa, that seems like a really big number," Willoughby said. "But we decided not to do feasibility studies because we didn't have to spend a lot of time thinking about whether it was a good idea. We knew it was a good idea. You had the Rotary brand. You had Eagle Point Park. With two great brands that are great brands together you end up with a good project."

According to Willoughby, one of the reasons they want to have renovations done to Eagle Point Lodge is to maintain what it was originally designed for - to be used as a lodge rather than just a banquet hall. "Clinton has a great history of being a lumber town," Willoughby said. "We don't want this to become a banquet hall. We want it to stay a lodge."

According to Willoughby, they plan to renovate both the east and west sides of the lodge and work to improve the appearance of the facility. They will use \$500,000 to renovate both the east and west sides, with no work being done on the north or south sides. They also will replace the area behind the walls inside the lodge.

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