



# CLINTON ROTARY CLUB

## July Newsletter - Week 1

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### Recap

This week we welcomed Judge Don Layton. Judge Layton oversees the General Sessions Division I Court for Anderson County. He handles civil cases up to \$25,000, misdemeanor cases up to 11 months and 29 days, as well as felony preliminary hearings. He oversees between 7,000-8,000 cases per year. This year he will celebrate his 20th anniversary, making him the longest acting judge in Anderson County.

He spoke about the changes he's observed over the last 20 years. The most predominant change he's noticed in those coming before the court, is a growing sense of entitlement, expectation of no consequences, and lack of accountability. Evidence of this is shown in the growing scheduled drug test failure rate, which is currently at 45%. These are people that know the date of their scheduled drug test coming up, but still fail it due to their attitude toward accountability.

Judge Layton said that the hardest part of his job is administering justice, not necessarily enforcing the law. Enforcing the law is easy because an action has either broken the law or not broken the law. However, administering justice is the difficult part that requires greater discernment, such as a mother stealing formula to feed a starving child. Because of this, he said he reminds himself every day to always try to listen with his heart, and not just his head.



## Membership

### Welcome new member:

- Bob Jameson – Retired school teacher

### Visitors this week included:

- Kaden Webber – our official junior member

## Upcoming Speakers

**July 17**

John Quillen – Summited Mt. Everest

**July 24**

Jeff Mynatt – Volunteer Rides

- Chad – PSI Probation (visited with Judge Layton)

## Special Announcement

### Youth Program in Peril

Tom Connolly has to reduce the hours he has been spending on our Youth Programs. Unless we have volunteers to replace him on some activities, those programs will disappear. For example, the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) requires volunteers to accompany up to 8 award recipients, from our high schools, to Crossville on Saturday, September 22. If we have one volunteer who can stay all day, that would be great. Or two volunteers can chaperone, splitting up the day with one in the morning and one in the afternoon. If we have no one volunteer, we cannot award RYLA to any student, depriving them of a professional leadership training opportunity and a prestigious award. Our participation in RYLA will vanish into the dustbin of history.

If you can help or if you would like more information, PLEASE call Tom Connolly 865-482-518 or text to 865-806-6062, or email [tfxconn@yahoo.com](mailto:tfxconn@yahoo.com). Thank you!

## Opportunities to Fulfill

As a reminder, there will be a few small changes to officer positions this year. The Youth Services Committee and the Public Relations Committee will be broken down

**July 31**

Bear Stephenson – Special Presentation

**August 7**

Regina Copeland – E911 Director  
(\*Officers - board meeting at 11:15)

## Rotary Club Officers

**Vicki Violette**  
President

**Ron Eslinger**  
President-Elect

**Bill Gallaher**  
Past President

**Jerry Schlandt**  
Secretary

**Mike Shrader**  
Treasurer

**Ronnie Fox**  
Speaker Coordinator

**Gary Coleman**  
Foundation Chair

**Tom Connolly**  
Youth Service Chair

**ET Stamey**  
Membership Director

**Bear Stephenson**  
Membership Director

into smaller categories that will require additional volunteers to help fulfill the tasks involved.

**Leighann Green**  
Public Relations Director

### **Youth Services Volunteers Needed**

Tom will remain Youth Services Chairperson but will drastically cut back on hours, as mentioned above. Therefore, volunteers are needed for the following positions (see attachment for detailed descriptions):

- CHS Interact
- ACHS Interact
- RSCC Rotaract
- Youth Exchange Program - Jay Birkbeck

### **Public Relations Volunteer Needed**

The Public Relations Committee will also be broken down into specific tasks, one of which we still need a volunteer for. Leighann Green will continue to do the newsletter and Ron Eslinger has volunteered to create and build a website for us. However, we still need a volunteer to handle social media. The job responsibilities would include:

- Social Media – post on Facebook and Twitter weekly with relevant content such as speaker information, member updates, upcoming events or projects, and community outreach information.

**Please see Vicki if you are interested in fulfilling any of these positions.**

## **Announcements**

The club received a thank you card from Angie Shumaker, expressing her appreciation for sending flowers for her husband's funeral. Please continue to keep her and her family in your prayers.

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Michael is selling tickets again to benefit ASAP of Anderson County. Tickets will be on sale through next Saturday for \$5 each. The drawing will be held at the fair and you do not have to be present to win. First place is a cash prize of 50% of the money taken in from ticket sales, second place is a LED 4K TV and third place is an Echo Dot.

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George Paynter is looking for volunteers to help ADFAC pack backpacks for students for the upcoming year. Our Rotaract and Interact Clubs are meeting tomorrow to do this if you are interested in helping!

## Community News

The 'Best 6 Days of Summer' is almost here! The Anderson County Fair will begin on Monday, July 16th and run through Saturday, July 21st. Gates open every night at 5:00 pm. General admission is \$5 for ages 7 and up. There will be lots of fun entertainment for all ages including some great music this year! ET passed out nice pamphlets with more detailed information and a schedule of events.

## Exchange Student Updates

Kaitlynn Sherwood's May RYE Report from Peru

I had yet another lovely month here in Peru! I went on the last student tour. Which meant I traveled to Ica, Nazca, another time in Arequipa, and returned to my city for a Rotary conference. While in Ica, I went sandboarding! This was so fun, but so awful since I wear contacts. Which meant I kept getting sand all over my contacts.

Then we went to Nazca where we flew in a small plane over the Nazca Lines. It was incredible because each figure was bigger than expected. I think my favorite figure was the "Astronaut" which I am convinced is actually an alien. You're probably very confused, I will post pictures below!



Anyways, after we went to Arequipa and we didn't do much. I just went to a cool river and drove around the city with my host family of Arequipa. Our last stop was my city, Cusco. In Cusco, we went to a Rotary conference where we made a small presentation about the community service projects we had done (such as building the water tower in the jungle). Another thing I did, today actually, was go to a religious festival with my family called Corpus Christi. This yearly festival only happens in Cusco. It's basically just a ton of people showing their paintings of the Catholic angels. I finally tried cuy (guinea pig), since it's a typical meal of Corpus Christi. I have 2 words to describe how I felt about eating a guinea pig: "NEVER AGAIN." It didn't taste bad, but considering it still had its head, hands and body. I'm scarred for life. I'm joking it wasn't that bad, but I would never eat it again haha.

Unfortunately, some of my exchange friends have already returned to their countries, which is making the realization that my exchange is ending so surreal. Everyone keeps asking me "Are you excited to go home? How do you feel? What are you looking forward to the most about returning home?" Well, folks, I'm in a discreet panic-mode. Yes, I am excited to see my family back home. Yes, I miss the food from the United States. No, I don't know what I will do with my life after my exchange. One thing I can say is that I

think I will never be ready to leave my exchange friends. I should've gotten closer to the students from the US because all of my best friends are from Europe haha! Meaning I won't see them for a while, until one of us has enough money to visit each other.

I have 13 days left in Peru, and I intend on making the best of these last days. I'll let you know how it goes in the next/final report. (:

## District News

Pack the Park for Polio is on July 30th! The annual Tennessee Smokies game will be held at 7:00 pm at the Smokies Stadium in Kodak. Tickets are \$12 each and include a \$6 stadium credit. \$5.50 from each ticket is donated directly to help fight polio. If you cannot attend the game, you may still purchase one and donate your ticket as well.

Clinton Rotary Club

Meeting Address: 101 S. Hicks Street Clinton, Tennessee 37716

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 524 Clinton, Tennessee 37717