



North Scottarian

North Scott Rotary - Eldridge and Davenport, IA
December 17th, 2025

Rotary International President
Francesco Arezzo, Ragusa, Italy

District 6000 District Governor
Norlan Hinke, DeWitt, Iowa

Associate Assistant Governor Coordinator
Jeff Ashcraft, North Scott

Assistant Governor:
Doug Peterson, Iowa QC Club

Officers:

President
Deanna Jensen-Valliere

President-Elect
Tony Knobbe

Vice President
Sara Somsy

Vice President-Elect
Danielle Hines

Treasurer
Steve Fahrenkrog

Sergeant-At-Arms
Ryan Johnson

Past President Ex-Officio
Greg Schaapveld

Board Members 2024-26
Jill Grunwald
Marcia Brandt
Jordon Williams
Matt Russ

Board Members 2025-27
Bill Hoover
Paul Kalainoff
Katie White
Jennifer Kress

Executive Secretary
Deb Peterson
dennis.peterson1@gmail.com
563-570-4185

PROGRAM RECAP

Rick Davis Speaking and Networking Tips and Tricks

Rick Davis, with Davis Presentation Group, previously with Moments Performance Group gave the main presentation.

He instructed each table to have a table topic discussion about which holiday tradition you'd keep if you could only keep one. We each had time to discuss with our tables and hear from other Rotarians on what they thought. Then he asked what was one thing you learned about someone at your table. He pointed out that when you know something about someone you are more likely to connect with them later in a business context. It was a really great exercise that honestly did lead to getting to know others better. Rich Golinghorst shared that one of his traditions is to exchange LAST year's fruit cake!

He also shared a few tips for public speaking and networking. First off you always put your name tag on your right side so that when you go to shake hands it is easily visible.

Additionally, if you are nervous when it comes to public speaking he shared you can tap your index and thumb together and think of a time you felt really great, confident and proud. Do that a few times. You are training your brain to feel proud, confident and in control when you touch your index finger to your thumb. Then when you go to speak or are in an uncomfortable situation touch your index finger to your thumb because you've trained your brain that when you do that you feel confident.

Program Recap provided by Bill Hoover.

CLUB SERVICE

SONG LEADERS:
Dec 19th: Drew Wilson

SERGEANT AT ARMS:
Dec 19th: Kelly Meyer

NEWSLETTER:
Dec 19th : Mindy Leahy

INSPIRATION:
Dec 19th: John Maxwell

GREETERS:
Dec. 19th: Marcia Brandt and Mindy Leahy

PIANO:
Dec 19th: Marguerite Holzworth



UPCOMING PROGRAM

Holiday Party Extravaganza!

Join us at the Hilton Garden Inn during our normal meeting time for an Informal Holiday Celebration with Christmas carols, cookie exchange and Christmas Sweater Contest organized by Rich Horst and Tracy Lindaman

No cash? No problem! Scan below to send \$ to @NSRotary via Venmo.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thurs, Dec 18th: Holiday Food Baskets 4:45 - Meet at Devils Glen Road Hy-Vee and at 5:30 at JB Young. Reach out to Pat Olsen to sign up for more info

Fri, Dec. 19th : 7:20 am Friendly Friday NSJH

Fri, Dec. 19th: Informal Holiday Celebration with Karaoke, cookie exchange and Christmas Sweater Contest organized by Rich Horst and Tracy Lindaman at Hilton Garden Inn

Sat, Dec. 20th: Holiday Food Baskets, 1:30 - Meet at the Devils Glen Road Hy-Vee

Fri, Dec. 26th: No Meeting Holiday Break

Fri, Jan. 2nd : No Meeting Holiday Break

Fri, Jan. 9th: Board Meeting 10:30 Hilton Garden Inn

Fri, Jan. 9th : Mike Paustian Agriculture related, arranged by Tony Knobbe

Fri, Jan. 16th : Date held for holiday party more info TBA

Fri, Jan. 23rd : Mike Zapolski from Augustana College discussing College Sports - NIL, Transfer Portal, etc. arranged by Tony Knobbe

Fri, Jan. 30th : 7:20 am Friendly Friday NSJH

Fri, Jan. 30th : Membership Development Committee Presentation

Fri, Feb 6th: TBA arranged by Marcia Brandt

Fri, Feb 13th: Valentines Days Meeting

Fri, Feb 20th: TBA arranged by Scott Case

Fri, Feb 27th: Tony Knobbe and Greg Schaapveld discussing Artificial Intelligence

MEETING RECAP

Attendance on December 12 was 56 members, 5 guests and **Duncan Cameron** on Zoom. Guests were Scott Garvin, guest of **Greg Schaapveld**, Scott Rochau, guest of **Lori Rochau**, Ryann Petersen with NSHS Service Club, Dustin James and Rick Davis. **Nathan Kessler** was the sergeant and collected \$76 in fines. **Dick Cole** gave \$89 for celebration of his birthday on December 16.

Becky Bray gave a great inspiration with a lesson to always do our best work, since we never know when doing so will be helpful (in potentially unexpected ways).

Paul Holzworth introduced **Steve Powell** who gave tribute to Teri Wittkowski, accompanied by pianist Tewanta Lopez, with a rendition of "Beneath the Shadow of the Cross."

Pat Olsen shared this year's gala is expected to net the 2nd highest funds raised, at \$108,928 (with the highest ever being when Bill and Linda Tubbs did a matching gift of up to \$50,000). Over the past 13 years we have netted over \$1 million from the Gala. Next year's Gala is at the Waterfront Convention Center on Friday November 20th, 2026.

We have 204 Holiday Food Gift Baskets funded and will be distributed to North Scott Schools; the Davenport School District; and local relief agencies.

Tom Messer presented a check from First Central State Bank for the band shell for \$30,000!

Theresa White announced the next Friendly Friday, 12/19 at 7:15am at NSJH, we'll be giving out candy canes.

Deanna Jensen-Valliere shared we raised over \$500 for our club's "adopted" family from Family Resources. She gave special thanks to **Mindy Leahy, Josh Koerperich, Tracy Lindaman**, and **Stephanie Eckhardt** for helping with shopping for the family.

Also of note: **Jack Schinckel** was not here today. Anyone who can is encouraged to offer him a ride to meetings.

Kelly Meyer announced the Special Olympics Basketball Skills event on January 24th at the Middle School in Eldridge. More details to follow.

Ryan Petersen announced the High School Service Club has two projects, Cozy Cases and the Dance Marathon. They raised almost \$10,000 last year. More details to follow.

notes submitted by Bill Hoover and cont'd on next page

TERI WITTKOWSKI

Visitation

Friday December 19th
Faith Lutheran Church

500 W Le Claire Rd, Eldridge, IA 52748
4:00 - 7:00 pm

Celebration of Life

Saturday December 20th
Faith Lutheran Church

500 W Le Claire Rd, Eldridge, IA 52748
Starts at 11:00 am

TIPS FOR OUR SERVER

We will be collecting tips for our server one last time on Dec 19th. Thank you.

MEETING RECAP CONTINUED

Dick Cole gave a "little" check to the club to celebrate his upcoming (89th) birthday.

Deanna Jensen-Valliere spoke about the urgent need for shelter for homeless people in the Quad Cities and she met Erwin King (Soles for Children) at a recent event. Mr. King acknowledged the North Scott Rotary and **Bill Hoover** in talking to Deanna.

John Deere Classic was listed as the Best Charitable Impactive Integration Award; Birdies for Charity continues to lead the PGA in per capita charitable giving, having exceeded \$200,000,000. Shout out to **Jen Kress** and her hard work!

The Regional Innovation Center (**Joe Stutting**) is receiving a \$30,000 award for the small animal and veterinary program from the Purina Foundation.

FIRST CENTRAL DONATION!



Big THANK YOU to First Central for their generous donation to the Venue at Sheridan Meadows. Wow! What a great start to fundraising. Behind the scenes Pat Olsen and the rest of the committee have been working hard at planning and logistics. I'm sure we'll soon hear more information on how we can help and a push for more fundraising! More info to come but for now, THANK YOU to Tom Messer and First Central State Bank!

DEC. 5TH ATTENDANCE

Dec. 5 recap (was not in Dec. 10 newsletter)

Attendance on December 5 was 63 members, 4 guests and 2 on Zoom. Guests were Mike Vondran, guest of **Scott Case**, Ryan Hicks, guest of **Tracy Lindaman** and 2 speakers from Family Resources. Jim Smith collected \$96 in fines.

Attending via Zoom were **Theresa White** and **Steve Suiter**.

HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

We have 2 opportunities to help deliver the Holiday Food Baskets this week. Please let me know if you can help on either or both days.

THURSDAY 12/18

4:45 - Meet at Devils Glen Road Hy-Vee
At approximately 5:30 we will deliver the food baskets to the JB Young building in Davenport (1702 N Main Street, Davenport, Iowa)
We will hand out 75 baskets to families in the Davenport School District at their Holiday Event. We should be wrapped up by 6:30

SATURDAY 12/20

1:30 - Meet at the Devils Glen Road Hy-Vee
We will deliver Holiday Baskets to families in the North Scott School District and the Davenport School District. We will have 129 baskets to deliver this day. We need a lot of volunteers for this so please consider volunteering, even if you can only deliver one basket.

Please reach out to Pat Olsen to volunteer!



STEVE SERENADES US

Last week Paul Holzworth introduced Steve Powell and gave a short back story to how long theyve both known Teri Wittkoski. Paul invited Steve to sing to our club in honor of Teri. Thank you, Steve!

