



Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines / Fridays @ 11:45 - Cozy Cafe 8535 Birchwood Ct.

February 6, 2026

This Week's Program:

Chuck Current &
Josh Spain
Meals from the Heartland

Greeter:

Mark McAndrews

Invocation:

Wendi Wilson

Sergeant:

Justin Nickel

Scribe:

Tony Hunt

Future Programs

2/13: TBA

2/20: TBA

2/27: Matt Hauge
Polk Country Housing
Trust Fund

Message from the President

Dianne Downing



I hope everybody had a really good weekend.

I was so excited to go to the Salvation Army awards banquet and it was so neat for our club to receive an award. You can see the picture of the award and me and Lou. He gave me the award.

We just need to keep up the good work and keep doing some service projects. If anybody has anything in mind, please let me know and I'll take it to the board.

Looking forward to seeing you all on Friday and hopefully some warmer weather.



Scribbles

Robin Fulton Mary's Helping Hands

We were privileged to host Robin Fulton at our club meeting. She is with non-profit organization called Mary's Helping Hands. This organization has as its main mission providing basic needs for children in the first two years of their lives.

The service began from a Zoom call in which a request was made for support to a program for expecting parents. People responded with a drive for clothing donations. Lauren Burke, then founded Mary's Helping Hand and it became officially a non-profit in 2021.

Mary's Helping Hands provides 110 items, free of charge, specifically for prenatal and infant care. Through grant funds and partnerships with numerous organizations, such as Prairie Meadows, Catholic Charities, Alpha Women's

Center, United Way, Every Step and Waypoint, Mary's Helping Hands is able to also provide food assistance, maternity clothes for expecting mothers, baby clothes, car seats, furniture and Pack n Plays.

From its modest beginnings, Mary's Helping Hands has grown exponentially from 67 individuals served to nearly 7000 individuals in over 3000 families served. The service has given nearly 200,000 items to parents with children less than two years old.

One of the most touching stories in which Mary's Helping Hands intervened to help a single father with a premature child whose wife of died of cancer during birth. The baby spent many days in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of a hospital. The father lost his job due to caring for the infant.

Learn more: <https://www.maryshelpinghandsiowa.org/>.

We presented her a check for \$100 from the Club and she expressed her heartfelt gratitude for this donation!

Scribe, Leray D. Glendenning



2025-26 Officers & Directors

- Dianne Downing, President
- Wendi Wilson, President Elect
- Bill W. Corwin, Treasurer
- Bill W. Corwin, Secretary
- Ed Arnold, Board Member
- Bill D. Corwin, Board Member
- Tony Hunt, Board Member
- Kelly Peterson, Board Member
- Tim Olejniczak, Past President

Other Locations

Monday

West Polk County, Food Depot, 3000 SE Grimes Blvd, Suite 200 in Grimes (Noon)

Tuesday

- Ankeny, Ankeny Golf & Country Club, (11:45)
- Ankeny, Magee's Irish Pub, (6:00 pm)
- Johnston, Hyperion Golf & CC, (7:00 am)
- Dallas Center, Memorial Hall, (Noon)
- Norwalk, City State Bank, (Noon)
- West Des Moines, DM Golf & CC, (Noon)

Wednesday

- East Polk County, Lutheran Church of the Cross (7:00 am)
- Adel, Adel Public Library, 303 S. 10th St. (Noon)

Thursday

- Waukee, Des Moines Golf & Country Club, (6:45 am)
- Des Moines, Embassy Club - Ruan Bldg, (Noon)
- Winterset, Pizza Ranch, (Noon)
- Rotary Club of HOPE, First & Third Thursday of Month (5:30 pm - Virtual Zoom Meeting)

Friday

- Des Moines, AM, Wakonda Club, (7:00 am)

Upcoming Events

Feb 9-14 Waukee Rotary Blood Donor Week



Kelly Peterson
Birthday June

Where do you live? Johnston

Describe yourself in one word
Doer

What do you do for a living?
Youth Development

Family members
Steve Commitment without paperwork
Deejay, Eldest daughter
CJ, Her awesome husband
Frankie, Granddaughter extraordinaire
Chris Son, a.k.a. blonde boy
Sam, Blonde boy, high school crush

Tell us about a good Rotary experience:
Translating in Ensenada at a Rotary dental clinic multiple times when I lived on the West Coast

What would you like to have our club accomplished this year?
Get the word out how awesome our club is



Ed Arnold - Program Chair

Future Info

	Greeter	Invocation	Sergeant	Scribe
Feb 13	Tim Olejniczak	Jack Bell	Wendi Wilson	Mark McAndrews
Feb 20	Kelly Peterson	Dan Boes	Bill W. Corwin	Tim Olejniczak
Feb 27	Doyle Sanders	Bill D. Corwin	Jack Bell	Kelly Peterson

Can't complete your assigned duty? Please assist by finding your substitute!

Items for the Nor'Wester should be submitted by end of the day each Monday. Please send to:

Dianne Downing

iowagirlddn@gmail.com

