



Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

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

March 13, 2026

This Week's Program:

John Claes
GiGi's Playhouse

Arranged By:
Bill D. Corwin

Greeter:

Wendi Wilson

Invocation:

Tony Hunt

Sergeant:

Justin Nickel

Scribe:

Julia Taylor

Future Programs

3/20: TBA

3/27: Robin Fulton
DM Playhouse
Treasure Trunk Theatre
Program

Message from the President

Dianne Downing

Paul Percy Harris (April 19, 1868 – January 27, 1947) was a Chicago, Illinois-based attorney. He founded the club that became the humanitarian organisation Rotary International in 1905.

In 1905, Harris organized the first Rotary Club "in fellowship and friendship" with three clients and local businessmen, Silvester Schele, Gustavus Loehr, and Hiram Shorey. His initial goal was solely to create a club of professional and business men for friendship and fellowship. Soon, Harris realized that Rotary needed a greater purpose.

When Harris was elected as third president of the Chicago Rotary Club in 1907, the club initiated its first public service project, the construction of public toilets in Chicago. This step transformed Rotary into the world's first Service Club. This action was facilitated by the formation of the Executive Committee (now Ways and Means Committee). This Committee was open to all members and their noon meetings began tradition of club luncheon meetings. Harris had great ambitions for Rotary's growth, and very early in the organization's history new clubs were started, first on the west coast, and then all over the US and in Europe. By 1910, at least 15 new clubs had begun in major cities. That August, the existing 16 Rotary Clubs held a national convention in Chicago. There they unanimously chose to unify as the National Association of Rotary Clubs. Eventually, the organization became the International Association of Rotary Clubs, helping to realize Harris's dream worldwide. Through his work with the Rotary Club, Harris received awards from numerous national governments.



Congrats!

*Our favorite server Beth
receives a Paul Harris Award
from Doyle Sanders*





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

Let's Plant a Tree

Scribbles

Nick Osborne Curling & Rotary Fellowship

Waukee Assistant City Manager, Nick Osbourn came to central Iowa from Janesville, WS. When he started work there, he replaced a man who curled. He was asked numerous times if he was going to take up curling. Finally, he attended an open house and discovered it was a lot of fun. He has now been curling for 10-12 years.



The skills involve balance, muscle memory, strategy and luck while physical strength is not very important. Nick explained that it is played on a 150 foot "sheet" (of ice). The stones are 42 pounds of granite from a quarry in Scotland and cost about \$900. They are concave on the bottom which makes them rotate on the ice giving rise to the name of "curling."

The curling broom, originally made of horse hair, is now made of synthetic materials. One of the player's shoes is smooth enabling the player to slide on the ice. Players' pants are like insulated yoga pants to make the arena temperature of 35-40 degrees comfortable. The player called the "Skip" calls the strategy. Ice in the curling arenas is very smooth and takes weeks to get ready.

Nick reminded us of the 115 Rotary Fellowships which include the Curling Fellowship. There is a Fellowship for about every interest you can think of including professions, sports, and hobbies. Check it out at Rotary.org. He participated in the 2012 Rotary Curling Fellowship Bonspiel (Tourney) in Glasgow. The Fellowship arranged host family dinners and a banquet with Scottish dancers.

Scribe, Doyle Sanders

Bill D. Corwin - Program Chair

	Greeter	Invocation	Sergeant	Scribe
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Mar 20	Bill W. Corwin	Mark McAndrews	Bill D. Corwin	Wendi Wilson
Mar 27	Jack Bell	Tim Olejniczak	Leray Glendenning	Justin Nickel
Apr 3	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting

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

Future Info



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

Dianne Downing

iowagirlddn@gmail.com