



Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

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

March 14, 2025

This Week's Program:

Eric Idehen
DMACC Experience

Arranged By:

Doyle Sanders

Greeter:

Joe Kobes

Invocation:

Wendi Wilson

Sergeant:

Kelly Peterson

Scribe:

Julia Taylor

2024-25 Officers & Directors

Tim Olejniczak, President

Dianne Downing, 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

Jack Bell, Past President

Future Programs

3/21: TBA

Prez Sez

Tim Olejniczak



I hope everyone had a good weekend and has adjusted to losing an hour of sleep this weekend! I want to start off by saying thank you to everyone for participating in Friday's meeting. Not having a speaker show up is not something I really prepare for, but I also know that people have things come up in their day to day lives. But to everyone who shared and asked questions thank you for taking part. To echo one of the highlights of the meeting I want to say thank you one more time to Ed and everyone who helped with the polio plus basketball game, where right around \$10K was raised for Polio Plus. I want to say thank you for feedback on Friday as well, and thanks to the feedback that I have gotten we are going to try and do a better job with committees, so it isn't just one person doing all the work for specific events. This upcoming Friday I will be having sign up sheets for different committees that anyone is welcomed to join. For right now we will have a: Golf Committee, Speaker committee, new brochure for our club, and our fundraising card committee. Going forward if we are ever doing a fundraising event, or you have something for the club, or maybe there is just another area you think we need a committee on please let me know. What I like about having different committees is that it also allows members to have a little bit more of a chance to get involved and help in areas that interest them.

I will get together with Ed so we can get it on the schedule, but I would like to just do a club update meeting at some point in the next month or so. One thing that opened my eyes this last Friday was how beneficial it is for our club to sometimes just talk and share some ideas, but also updates with each other. The board is always discussing items, but it was nice to hear from all members on Friday. I think it would be beneficial for us to have an official town hall meeting, so others have time to get prepared but to go over financials, foundation, service projects, board ideas, ect. And then also have a portion of just some Q&A where members can ask anything, give feedback on what was discussed, or share some ideas on something they would like to see our club do. It could just be me, but this last Friday was one of my more favorite meetings in a while just talking about our club. I feel like it was the first time in a while where we were able to have a big discussion together, and it wasn't just the board having input on some decisions going forward.

My one quick note I will discuss today, and I know I have talked about it before, but change. Change is scary and at times uncomfortable and I am personally someone who doesn't like change. But I also think change can bring a lot of opportunities. I think of us as a club in a little over a year we have changed locations twice, but I personally think for both food and meeting we have found a much better location (especially once we get new sound barriers). We have changed some of our service projects, one being a yearly clothing drive where I would estimate in just two years of doing it we have donated over 5,000lbs of clothing. Now this year we are changing to not doing a pickleball tournament and strictly focusing on the golf tournament, and I know I am missing some and there will be more change, I am sure. My point is though when I look back at all the change that has taken place, is for the most part after getting over the initial hurdle it's been worth it. So, my challenge to everyone and to the club as well. If there is something you have feared doing or a change that you have been scared to make take the leap of faith! You never know what is on the other side until you take a little risk. I am excited about what our club has ahead of us this year, and as always if there is ever anything anyone thinks I should look into please let me know.

Have a great week!

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, Downtown Holiday Inn – Mercy, (7:00 am)

Upcoming Events

District Conference - April 12th

CFUM - April 21

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

Tim Olejniczak

Timothy.Olejniczak@edwardjones.com

Rotary International

RI President

Stephanie A. Urchick
hosts members, scholars,
& other peacebuilders to
outline peace strategies



Building peace requires thoughtful, sustained efforts and meaningful partnerships, Rotary International President Stephanie A. Urchick told attendees at a peace conference in Istanbul. The presidential conference, held 20-22 February, focused on "Healing in a Divided World."

In her opening address, Urchick described the dedication required for true healing to take place.

"Our time together here is a testament to our shared belief in the power of peacebuilding," she said. "But let's acknowledge something essential: The act of 'Healing in a Divided World' is not something we can achieve quickly or easily. It takes an intentional commitment over time."

Participants from various backgrounds outlined how that commitment could take shape.

At a session focused on technology and media, speakers discussed how technology can reinforce both peace and conflict. They highlighted the impact of artificial intelligence, the ways technology can bolster peacebuilding efforts, and the expansive threat of misinformation.

Sheldon Himelfarb, an award-winning filmmaker and the founder of PeaceTech Lab, called for peacebuilders to forge a global response to misinformation. The danger it poses, he argued, is comparable to that of war, pandemics, and climate change.

"Misinformation [is] a problem so serious, and so far-reaching, that I believe it is rapidly becoming (if it's not there already) an existential threat to the planet," he said. "Fortunately, each day there are more and more people working on this new existential threat, developing tools for fact checking, content labeling, media literacy, AI for peacebuilding, and more."

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News & Features Section

Future Information

Ed Arnold - Program Chair



Greeter

Invocation

Sergeant

Scribe

Mar 21	Mark McAndrews	Jack Bell	Bob Moore	Wendi Wilson
Mar 28	Wendi Wilson	Dan Boes	Kelly Peterson	Jack Bell
Apr 4	Kelly Peterson	Bill D. Corwin	Doyle Sanders	Dan Boes

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

