



Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

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

January 24, 2025

This Week's Program:

**Brenda
Auxier-Mailey**
African Experience

Arranged By:

Ed Arnold

Greeter:

Bob Moore

Invocation:

Tony Hunt

Sergeant:

Kelly Peterson

Scribe:

Leray Glendenning

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

1/31: Angie Arthur
& Amy Croll
Homeward Iowa

2/7: Darlene Wagner
Urbandale School
District - Programming

Prez Sez

Tim Olejniczak



I hope everyone is having a good week and staying warm! I also hope that the first week at the cozy café went well. Just a quick update to have some closure on everything so we can move on from this topic. But, just first off wanted to confirm that the plan for now is to continue to meet at Cozy Café until the end of my term, this is allowing the board time to evaluate Cozy Café, but also giving us time to look at some different options and not be rushed, and to not change locations for a third time this year. I did get a hold of the Ramada and Jade was very nice about us deciding to move on. Ed and I got everything out of their last week. So again, for the final time and then I will stop being a broken record about it, Cozy Café until end of my term.

The one topic I will discuss today is the Presidential Inauguration, and I am not brining this up to go down a political road, but instead just about how much tradition is involved in it. With it taking place on MLK day I had the day off, so I was able to watch almost the whole event until the college football national championship came on! But two things really stuck out to me. First as I mentioned is the tradition of the day from truly the start of the day until almost end of the day. It could be me, but I truly love our countries traditions. And it just made me think of Rotary. The United States will be celebrating their 250th anniversary and Rotary has been around a very long time as well (I know I should know the exact year). But, like the inauguration we have a lot of great traditions in Rotary as well, and then when you start to think about it, almost everything that has been around very a long time is cemented by great traditions. That is something I hope to see continue with Rotary is to continue a lot of our great traditions that make us unique, and I will always do my best to try and honor each of them.

Second, adaptability. The inauguration is probably one of the largest events in our country every four years, and I can't imagine how many hours go into the planning of it. I am sure the people are up all day and night guessing from the time they know who the president elect is until the actual day, but it very well could start even sooner than that. But this year they got thrown a huge curveball about 72 hours out that it was going to be all inside. So, to me that was just a reminder how important it is to be able to adapt. I know it hasn't been ideal just like not having the inauguration outside wasn't ideal, but I want to say thank you to everyone for being willing to adapt with me when it comes to our meeting location, and as we continue to adapt on where the best spot for our club to meet long term will be. Lastly, when it comes to adapting like they did yesterday they still were able to uphold so many of the inauguration traditions. So, I will end with this like I said earlier I love our traditions, but I think we still need to be looking at ways that we can adapt our club and rotary while keeping our traditions alive as well.

I hope everyone has a great week!

Scribbles...

Tamsin Webb - Families Forward

Our club was treated to a presentation by Tamsin Webb, Director of Development & Public Relations for Families Forward. As of July 2023. Bidwell Riverside Center and Hawthorn Hill officially merged into Families Forward, an organization where the

Continued...

This & That

Scribe Continued...

NEW

Meeting Location

Don't forget,
we will be meeting at the

Cozy Cafe
8535 Birchwood Ct.
Johnston, IA

This is our new meeting location
each week for the foreseeable future

We look forward to seeing you there!

Upcoming Events

CFUM - February 17th & April 21

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

Tim Olejniczak

timolejniczak7@gmail.com

original four programs – Bidwell Pantry, Child Development Center, New Directions Shelter and The Home Connection – work together to provide compassionate life-changing assistance to families and their path to self-sufficiency.

Bidwell Pantry helps families put food on their table and clothes on their backs. By helping them in these specific ways they hope to reduce the strain families are experiencing so they can focus on other goals that will break the cycle of poverty. The pantry is open Monday – Friday, 10am to 5pm. IDs are preferred but not required. If no ID, a limited amount of food is available to them. The pantry is a no boundary pantry, all are welcome, no matter where you live.

The Child Development Center Strives to empower young children, regardless of income or background, to be capable life-long learners. The center offers full-day care for children ages 2-5 years old and provides developmentally appropriate environments for each age group. Their curriculum focuses on literacy, language, mathematics, social-emotional/physical/cognitive skills. Each day students are provided healthy and nutritious meals that fulfill the child and adult care food program standards.

New Directions Shelter provides free, temporary, emergency shelter and services for families with children experiencing homelessness. They help families get a new start through professional case management, counseling and advocacy. Case management staff assist clients with resume development, completing job applications, finding employment, attending job fairs and job interviews, obtaining job training and acquiring affordable childcare. The shelter provides eight private bedrooms, balanced meals and laundry facilities.

The Home Connection program provides supportive housing for families with children experiencing homelessness. The program's goal is to move families from homelessness to permanent housing with an emphasis on financial independence. The case management staff works with families to identify the causes of their homelessness and develop a plan, with goals, to remedy causes and attain financial independence within approximately 2 to 4 years. To be eligible for this program, at least one adult must be working or actively looking for employment. Parents must also be involved in their children's education and development and volunteer in the community.

Scribe, Joe Kobes

Future Information

Ed Arnold - Program Chair



	Greeter	Invocation	Sergeant	Scribe
Jan 31	Jack Bell	Joe Kobes	Dan Boes	Bill Grask
Feb 7	Dan Boes	Mark McAndrews	Bill D. Corwin	Tony Hunt
Feb 14	Bill D. Corwin	Bob Moore	Dianne Downing	Mark McAndrews
Can't complete your assigned duty? Please assist Tim Olejniczak by finding your substitute!				

