



# Nor'Wester

## Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

[www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines](http://www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines) / Fridays @ 11:45 - Cozy Cafe 8535 Birchwood Ct.

**January 31, 2025**

***This Week's Program:***

**Angie Arthur  
Amy Croll  
Homeward Iowa**

***Arranged By:***

Ed Arnold

***Greeter:***

Jack Bell

***Invocation:***

Joe Kobes

***Sergeant:***

Dan Boes

***Scribe:***

Bill Grask

### ***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***

**2/7:** Darlene Wagner  
Urbandale School  
District - Programming

**2/14:** Steve Dakin  
Rotary Foundation

**2/21:** Dave Wagner  
Underground Natural Gas  
Storage

## Prez Sez

*Tim Olejniczak*

I hope that everyone had a good weekend and is having a good week so far! I am sorry that I missed last week, I did go to Paris with Billie, and I thought that I would be back in time for the meeting, but a few audibles got called and ended up getting home Sunday. I will be there though this Friday! It was cold and raining during our time in Paris, but still the history and architecture is amazing there. Paris is Billie's favorite city as she studies abroad there during our first year that we were together, so it is always fun for us to go back, and I have a tour guide with me the whole time even though neither of us speak the language!



As I have mentioned before though I love to travel and especially to other countries, because I love seeing different cultures and just way of life. But, I have yet to go anywhere and thought wow I would rather this in this country over the USA. Every time I come home, I am always so thankful that I get to call America home and to be an American. I know it is just my perspective, but I truly believe we do live in the greatest country in the world and we are blessed to be American. I used to never travel international before dating Billie, but now in almost nine years and multiple countries later, many different things that have taken place in America over the last nine years, I still strongly believe we are blessed to live here. So, here are my two takes from my trip abroad to Paris and how to tie them in slightly to Rotary.

First, embrace history. Paris is truly amazing with the architecture and how even to this day any new construction still must keep the historical look. They truly take pride in their history and making sure that each building in Paris embraces that. So, same with Rotary. I think it is great that we embrace Rotary and even as we do new things or make some adjustments to never get away from the history of Rotary and what has made us so great.

Second, is simple be thankful. As I mentioned when I travel abroad, I am so thankful to be an American, and I think it is so easy at times to take for granted how great our country truly is, just like it is so easy to take for granted the relationships, friendships, and many other things in our life for granted. So, my challenge for this week is to find someone in your life and just tell them and remind how thankful you are to have them in your life.

Lastly, there will be strawberry Rhubarb pie this week at the meeting. Hannah passed on how it was missed last week! See you all Friday!

## Scribbles...

### ***Brenda Auxier-Mailey - African Experience***

It was a delight to have Past-President Brenda Auxier-Mailey share with the club her recent trip to Tanzania. Brenda was inspired by her friend Agnes, to visit this African country.

Tanzania has been able to maintain a relatively peaceful existence in contrast to the war-torn countries around her. This is because all the refugees coming from the other countries settle for a time in Tanzania. Tanzania is a country of bustling cities, such as the capital, Arusha and a country of country sides in which animals wonder and nomadic tribes of people live.

Brenda visited the Maasai Tribe. They are nomadic people who live in portable thatched-roofed huts surrounded by "fences" of gathered thorn bushes. Their dances consist of jumping movements.



Continued...

## Don't Forget!

### New Meeting Location

**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**

Timothy.Olejniczak@edwardjones.com

In many African countries there are many orphaned children due to the mortality rate of mothers who die in childbirth. A significant number of these women are considered too young to be giving birth to children. As a result, there are many orphanages which house these children.

Brend visited St. Mark's Children's Home and Orphanage. This home was founded in 1983 with the help of Rotary International. It houses 200 children. A unique feature of this home is that they accept children who may yet have one parent alive.

She shared in Tanzania there are national parks They have the distinction of having no human population living. In contrast other areas, known as conservation areas, blend human population with nature. With an adventurous spirit, Brenda embarked on five safaris. These excursions afforded first hand and up-close observation of what Brenda called the "Big Five" and the "Ugly Five" animals. Among the "Big Five" are the lions, leopards, rhinoceros, elephants, and cape buffaloes. Brenda noted specific characteristics of each animal, such as lions living in groups and expressing a roar that can be heard five miles in the distance.

The "Ugly Five" animals include the spotted hyena, and the warthog, which must kneel when eating because of their short necks. The other "ugly" animals are the wildebeests, vultures and the marabous stork. Other animals, beyond these specific lists, which are visible on the safaris are the impalas, which can jump three times their height and run at the speed of 55 miles per hour. There are also the Dik-Diks, of the antelope family, which are on the endangered species list due to being hunted for their bones from which jewelry is made. Other animals mentioned were the giraffes, zebras, primates, mongoose, hippopotamus, cheetahs, and ostriches. Of interest was the fact that one ostrich egg can feed ten men. The tsetse fly can carry a sleeping disease and for this reason, blue and black colored cloth soaked in poison are hung in the camping areas. The flies are attracted to these colors.

If one is looking for an adventure in nature beyond the local zoo, Tanzania would be a great place to visit.

Thank you, Brenda, for the fascinating presentation!

Leray D. Glendenning, Scribe

## Future Information

Ed Arnold - Program Chair



	Greeter	Invocation	Sergeant	Scribe
Feb 7	Dan Boes	Mark McAndrews	Bill D. Corwin	Tony Hunt
Feb 14	Bill D. Corwin	Bob Moore	Dianne Downing	Mark McAndrews
Feb 21	Jack Bell	Kelly Peterson	Leray Glendenning	Bob Moore
Can't complete your assigned duty? Please assist Tim Olejniczak by finding your substitute!				

