



Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines / Fridays @ Noon - UGCC 4000-86th St. Urbandale

Prez Sez

Jack Bell

A few weeks ago, I wrote that the beginning of the calendar year is generally a time to catch our collective Rotary breaths. Somehow, we are now in February so we can conclude that it is no longer the "beginning of the calendar year". President Elect training, the annual Iowa Wolves game, RLI, the District Conference and the annual district community grant process are just around the corner.

There is plenty of information available at rotary6000.org about the district's grantmaking process, describing how the grants are essentially block grants from the Rotary Foundation, funded with members' (ie, all of our) dues. Today I'd like to highlight some of the ideas for grants that clubs in our district applied for. Just under 30 clubs (right around 50%) applied during fiscal 24. You may recall that our club applied for – and received – a grant for our annual Coats for Kids effort.

Other examples that fellow Rotarians came up for grants included:

- Subsidies for families with children interested in participating in the Challenger Little League.
- Two new gas stoves for the House of Compassion in Marshalltown
- Funds for a local affiliate of Dolly Parton's Imagine Library
- Winter coats, hats and gloves for veterans
- Acquisition and mounting of four highly visible public AEDs
- Repairs to the NAMI building in Iowa City
- Upgrades to a historic theater in Nevada
- The Dictionary Project (one of my favorites from my time in Maryland)

The above listing is only a minor sample of the grant applications submitted, yet spans the range of education, the Arts, food insecurity, homelessness, veterans, youth and mental health.

Rotary does indeed Create Hope, and the funding associated with our district grant program is one of the many ways. What are your ideas for grants for FY25?

Scribbles...

Katie Stokka - LifeServe



Katie came to our club meeting filling in for her co-worker who had a sick child at home. Katie is a graduate from Urbandale High School and has had training in nursing and has been with LifeServe for 13 years. She was planning to come to see how a presentation would go and support her coworker. At the last minute she found out she would be presenting. She did tell us it was her first time presenting. It was difficult to tell because her passion for the subject and the quantity of information she presented was excellent.

Katie sees her career and a link in the chain that save lives every day. That came through as she shared some statistics, history, and some new happenings around the LifeServe Blood Center. LifeServe is home to 350 team members, over 150 volunteers, and 14 donation centers. They cover 3 states and have over 135,000 registered donors. They also operate 9 Mobile staging sites. They have been saving lives since 1947. The Blood center started as a project of a Des Moines area grocer, Ike Smalls. He offered \$5 to anyone who would supply blood to assist his customer. In 1947 Smalls was appointed the first director of the Polk County Blood

Continued...

February 2, 2024

This Week's Program:

**Dylan DeClerk
Can Play**

Arranged By:

Jack Bell

Greeter:

Leray Glendenning

Invocation:

Julia Taylor

Sergeant:

Joe Kobes

Scribe:

Bill D. Corwin



2022-23 Officers & Directors

Jack Bell, President

Tim Olejniczak, President Elect

Bill W. Corwin, Treasurer

Dianne Downing, Secretary

Ed Arnold, Board Member

Bill D. Corwin, Board Member

Kelly Peterson, Past President



Future Programs

**2/9: Elizabeth Sedrel
Living History Farms**

2/16: TBA

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, Echo Valley Golf Course, (6:30 am)
 West Des Moines, DM Golf & CC, (Noon)

Wednesday

East Polk County, Caring Hands, (7:00 am)
 Adel, 1016 Main St. Raccoon Valley Comm. House (Noon)
 The Greater Des Moines Club, check the District 6000 website for time and location

Thursday

Waukee, Des Moines Golf & Country Club, (6:45 am)
 Des Moines, Embassy Club - Ruan Bldg, (Noon)
 Winterset, Pizza Ranch, (Noon)

Friday

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

Upcoming Events

District Foundation Socials
February 19 & 26

CFUM Supper Club (To-Go)
Monday, February 26

District Assembly
Saturday, March 30

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

Jack Bell
jackbell@yahoo.com

Scribe Continued

Donar Services by the Des Moines Hospital Association. From humble beggings the center has grown to what it is today. The blood donated to LifeServe stays in the communities where it is donated. Local hospitals are under contract to get there blood from only LifeServe.

They also guarantee the price of the blood for as long as the hospital stays under contract. They have many unique programs for the donors to be recognized and encouraged. High school Scholarships, the Red Cord Program for a high school student that donates 3 times. The center has a way for the recipient of the blood to thank the donor personally while keeping the donor's identity private. LifeServe is opening a brand-new state of the art headquarters on Johnston Drive and Merle Hay Road later this year. You can donate blood at the location, and it will also be the administration headquarters for the organization. The images that were shared of the facility are incredible. It will be a popular spot to donate blood for sure. There are opportunities to purchase things for the building with permanent naming rights such as plants, trees and bricks.

The statistic shared that it takes 200,000 people to donate as often as possible to supply our area with blood, and that less than 10% of those eligible to donate actually do. This is a easy way to help our community and save lives and many of our club members shared that they are have donated to the level of gallon or multiple gallons over their lives.

If you would like to learn more about any of these details visit www.lifeservebloodcenter.org.

Scribe, Bill D. Corwin

Birthdays

Feb 2 Dave Piersel



Future Information



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

Ed Arnold - Program Chair				
	Greeter	Invocation	Sergeant	Scribe
Feb 9	Bill Grask	Wendi Wilson	Wendy Kriegshauser	Jake Heston
Feb 16	Tony Hunt	Kelly Peterson	Bob Moore	Mark McAndrews
Feb 23	Joe Kobes	Dan Boes	Tim Olejniczak	Wendi Wilson
<i>Can't complete your assigned duty?</i> Please assist Jack Bell by finding your substitute!				