



Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

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

Prez Sez

Jack Bell

Before transferring to central Europe in the early 90's there was plenty of cultural training, expectation management and other preparation. I recall taking a two-day course about how be aware of cultural differences, if not actually being able to completely assimilate. Instructors used the term culture "shock" so much that I was conditioned to think that upon presenting myself at baggage claim in Budapest my knees would buckle, and I would awaken in my hotel under a picture of Eva Gabor.

What I encountered was the opposite of "shock". It's a much more gradual development: welcoming events, interest and the barrage of questions gradually fade until you are left with the realization that outside of work few will understand you (in either language), preemptively requesting the check before seating was critical for lunch in less than 3 hours, and to not acknowledge someone's Name Day was tantamount to calling a more senior colleague "Thou" instead of "You" before the requisite amount of time and formal invitation. Another surprise was the prohibition on clinking mugs that suddenly (to me, at least) expired in 1998, exactly as planned back in 1848.

I note this because another of the many unfamiliar events was International Women's Day. I recall entering the office in March 1993 and was greeted with an array of flowers and candy. Mistaking the festivities for something like a wedding (or another Name Day celebration), I entered my office and asked what was happening. My officemate, Eszter, looked at me and said "...igaz, te Amerikai vagy...". She went on to explain how important International Women's Day was in Hungary – and told me that yes, flowers had been arranged for our assistant.

Despite having been back in the US for over a decade, I'm still not certain how well-known March 8 is here. I did some searching and found several Rotary recognitions throughout the world, with themes of Embrace Equity and Inspire Inclusion. I think I'll check in with my prior colleagues in Budapest to see what they'll be doing on March 8.

Rotary Inspires Inclusion, Jack

Scribbles...

Chris Bertelson - Rotary Foundation



Chris came not only to talk about the work of the Rotary Foundation but also how it has personally had an impact on his life.

How the Foundation Works

"Easy to make a buck, but hard to make a difference". Chris joined Rotary for many reasons: Someone had been bugging him to join- so he finally gave in, Fellowship, and Giving back. He then gave us a demonstration of how \$100 contribution to the Foundation goes to three places.

1. Polio Plus, money given to this fund is then matched with the Gates Foundation and has 3X the impact. So, \$10 would become \$30 which could immunize 50 children.
2. Endowment, \$20 stays in the fund, gathers interest to \$20.50 and continues to grow and to keep giving to the work of Rotary (interest only is spent).
3. Annual Fund, \$100 invested for 3 years they release in grants to the World Fund to fund the work in the 7 Areas of Focus. These are in the form of both Global and Community grants and the funds go even further with the matching funds from the requesting clubs.

Continued...

March 8, 2024

This Week's Program:

Dr. Jimmy Reyes

Diabetes Mgmt & Familial Project - Nigeria

Arranged By:

Craig Butterfield

Greeter:

Bob Moore

Invocation:

Dianne Downing

Sergeant:

Julia Taylor

Scribe:

Bill Grask



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

- 3/15: Tim Olejniczak Professional Development
- 3/22: TBA
- 3/29: 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

- Pickleball Planning Meeting - Friday, March 8
- District Assembly - Saturday, March 30
- Pickleball Tourney - April 12 & 13
- District Celebration - Saturday, April 20
- CFUM Full Service Meal - Monday, April 22

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

Jack Bell
jackbell@yahoo.com

Scribbles

Rotary has and continues to have a four-star rating on Charity Navigator.

How Rotary Foundation has Impacted his Life

Chris talked about his travels around projects funded by the Rotary Foundation.

1. 2015 he traveled to South Africa around eyeglasses and well projects. Was able to meet with local officials about the impact and future expansion of these projects.
2. 2019 he travelled to West Africa around clean water and housing projects. The local government was focused on community needs assessment and sustainability.
3. 2023 he traveled to India where he helped administer polio vaccines and visited a local school that had a sign that proudly proclaimed, "Funded by Rotary". All these trips were impactful in seeing firsthand the flow and use of funds and the good work globally accomplished through the Rotary Foundation.

How We Can Support Rotary

1. Give annually to the Foundation.
2. Advocate and inform others of the work of the Foundation.
3. Wear your pins as an inspiration and to set an example to others to give. It also allows you to easily talk to others about your "why" in giving to the Foundation.

The annual \$1,000 level to become a Paul Harris member was set in the 1950's and has not changed even though today it would be equal to \$9,000. There are many levels of giving that allow people to be recognized as a major donor. Chris talked about members he has met that gave \$10,000, \$25,000, \$250,000 and one person he met that had given millions of dollars to support the work of the Foundation. He described three phases in life: Learning, Earning and Returning. He encouraged us all to be life-long learners and to commit to the cause and work of the Foundation with our time, talent, and treasures. He closed with a quote from Winston Churchill who said, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give".

Kelly Peterson, Scribe



Future Information

Ed Arnold - Program Chair



| Ed Arnold - Program Chair | | | | |
|--|----------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | Greeter | Invocation | Sergeant | Scribe |
| Mar 15 | Tim Olejniczak | Wendy Kriegshauser | Dan Boes | Jake Heston |
| Mar 22 | Julia Taylor | Leray Glendenning | Bill D. Corwin | Tony Hunt |
| Mar 29 | Wendi Wilson | Bill Grask | Dianne Downing | Joe Kobes |
| Can't complete your assigned duty? Please assist Jack Bell by finding your substitute! | | | | |