



# Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

[www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines](http://www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines) / Fridays @ Noon - UGCC 4000-86th St. Urbandale

## Prez Sez

Leray Glendenning



"Hope has two beautiful daughters: anger and courage. Anger at the way things are and courage to ensure they don't stay that way," so said Augustine, the great social change agent and theologian. Olympia LePoint knows what it is to live this out. Raised in the rough section of South Central Los Angeles, Olympia knew what it was to live in a "war zone" of gangs, bullying in her school, and not having enough to eat at home. She was smart but afraid she wouldn't be able to learn or achieve enough to be the first in her family to go to college. She wanted to inspire young people to go into science fields. She knew there was a deficit in math and science education in the United States. By an act of providence she graduated from High School and was accepted at California State University and began her major in math and science. She again graduated and landed a job in the aerospace industry. This was the big turning point of her life, but she was not satisfied because her dream of helping young people get their education in math and science was not fulfilled. In her own words she says: "I had to reprogram my brain, and I wanted to help others do that too. I decided I was going to hire myself," she says. But she had no idea how to start her own business. So she decided to write a book to help kids get over their fear of math. Creditors were calling and she wasn't sure how she would pay her rent. But

fueled with the anger that refuses to let things remain the way they are and the courage to act in faith believing that help would come from somewhere, Olympia kept moving forward.

In answer to her prayers, she soon met her friend: Maureen Tepedino invited her to a meeting of the Rotary Club of Los Angeles. When she stepped into the meeting, LePoint recalls, "I hadn't felt so uplifted in years. Two people asked me if I was interested in joining, and yes just came out of my mouth." She was exciting to be around other businesspeople, some of whom became mentors. One of those was Paul Richey, a longtime Rotarian and Regional Managing Director of Focus Investment Banking in Los Angeles. Richey brought his 40 years of experience to the table and Olympia was willing to listen. In 2013, LePoint published her book "Mathaphobia" – part memoir of her own struggles, part guidebook on how to conquer the fear of math. She went on to complete other projects in helping students and adults face their fears. As she wrote in her book, "If I became a rocket scientist, given such early dysfunction, I am convinced that you can be anything you desire: if you choose to work on removing fear from your life." That is the power of Rotary – the intersection in which young people seeking to overcome their past and their fears meet with mentors who have walked the journey and overcome the paralysis of their own fears. The world becomes a better place! A difference is made! Who is in the intersection of your life?

## Scribbles...

### David Piersel & K. Reynolds Terrace Hill Piano Contest

As it often happens, some of our best programs come from within our very own membership. Friday was no exception, for we were treated to an informative presentation on the history of the Terrace Hill Piano Competition for which our Club has provided financial support in the past.

Dave Piersel served on the governing board of the competition for a number of years before becoming its current Chairman. The Board



continued...

March 23, 2018

### This Week's Program:

Patrice Petersen-Keys  
& Cindy Lentz  
Polk County Conservation

#### Arranged By:

Beth Goedken

#### Greeter:

Kasey Vogel

#### Invocation:

Brenda AM

#### Sergeant:

John Pittman

#### Scribe:

Dan Boes

### 2017-18 Officers & Directors

Leray Glendenning, President

Penny Luthens, President Elect

Bill Corwin, Treasurer

Dianne D-Nelson, Secretary

Doyle Sanders, Rotary Foundation

Wendi Wilson, Int' Service

Ed Arnold, Membership

Mark McAndrews, Youth Services

Kasey Vogel, Public Image

Beth Goedken, Programs

Brenda A-M, Past President

### Future Programs

3/30: Marty Lester  
Mentor Iowa

4/6: Kristi Knous  
Community Foundation of  
Greater DSM

4/13: TBA

## Other Locations

### Monday

West Polk County, Toyota of Des Moines, (Noon)

### Tuesday

Ankeny, Ankeny Golf & Country Club, (11:45)

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, Prairie Meadows, (7:00 am)

Adel, Patrick's Restaurant, 211 S 7th St, #C, (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, Wakonda Club, (Noon)

Winterset, Pizza Ranch, (Noon)

### Friday

Des Moines, AM, Wakonda Club at 3915 Fleur Dr. (7:00 am)

## Upcoming Events

### Grant Management Seminar

Mar 23 - 5:00 - 8:00 PM Newton DMACC campus.

### District Training Assembly

March 24 - 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM - Newton DMACC campus

### A Toast to Rotary

April 14 - West Des Moines Marriott  
5:30 PM - 9:00 PM.

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

**Jenifer Mercer-  
Klimowski**

Phone: 515-237-2203 Fax: 515-237-2283  
jmercerc-klimowski@emcnl.com

## This & That

### There are Many Ways to Help!

Here is another great opportunity to help us reach our goal of every Rotarian being involved in two projects before the Rotarian year is complete in June. The Mayor's Bike Ride will be held May 6. You can contact businesses, friends and colleagues to sign up as sponsors, sign up to visit area Rotary Clubs to promote the Bike Ride and sell raffle tickets, sell raffle tickets to your friends and neighbors, donate to the Bike Ride, invite friends and neighbors to ride or plan to volunteer for operating the Mayor's Bike Ride. If every Rotarian will do something it will make a difference. Questions? See Ed Arnold or Joe Kobes.



## Future Information



### Beth Goedken - Program Chair

<u>Program</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Invocation</u>	<u>Sergeant</u>	<u>Scribe</u>
Mar - 30 - Mentor Iowa	Roger Nyberg	Dianne Downing-Nelson	Brad Helgemo	Bill Corwin
April 6 - Community Foundation	Ed Arnold	Jenifer Mercer-Klimowski	Bill Grask	Jim Arthur
April 13 - TBA	Penny Luthens	Diana Reed	Wyatt Earp	Brenda AM
<p><i>Can't complete your assigned duty?</i> Please assist Leray by finding your substitute!</p> <p>Email that information to lglandenni@aol.com also please cc Jenifer Mercer-Klimowski - jmercerc-klimowski@emcnl.com.</p>				



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## Scribe Report continued...

of Trustees is composed of seven members from Iowa. Iowa is unique in that no other state sponsors such a competition associated with the governor's office. It is the Board's responsibility to set the Administrative Rules governing the competition and oversee all money raising efforts. Details of the competition are established by the Board and strictly enforced.

The first scholarship competition was held in 1986 for only Iowa high school seniors. Critchett Music started the very first competition with the purpose in mind of refurbishing the Steinway Grand Piano in the Governor's Terrace Hill residence. Simon Estes and Roger Williams did a concert to raise the first seed money for the scholarships and piano repairs. Today, two judges with a strong background in music are recommended by the Board of Trustees, preferably from outside the state of Iowa, for purposes of judging the competition. A third judge is selected and is seated in the audience in case there needs to be a tie breaker. The two judges selected stay over night in the Terrace Hill guest rooms and in the past have been treated to breakfast with the governor in the governor's private quarters within Terrace Hill. Judges are not invited back for two years. Currently the competition takes place at Iowa Public Television and is held the second Saturday in February.

Competition participants must be a senior from Iowa. The winners of the contest must attend an Iowa college, major or minor in piano and are required to take a minimum of one music class per semester. Each participant's performance last 15 – 18 minutes, they must play at least three pieces of music and strictly adhere to the Administrative Rules established by the Board of Trustees. Three scholarships are awarded ranging from two to five thousand dollars each and are paid out over a period of two years.

David introduced Kevin Reynolds, Governor Reynold's husband who was last year's third judge. Kevin is a graduate of ISU where he majored in Agronomy. For the past 36 years he has been employed by the Soil Conservation Service of Iowa and has had the opportunity to live in about every type of soil in Iowa from the very best to the very worst soil conditions.

Joe Kobes, Scribe

## Bonus Scribe Report - March 9th

Reminders of upcoming Rotary events: We have A Toast to Rotary coming up, so don't forget to register ahead of time to secure your spot.. Also, we have Grant Seminars in Newton coming up; check out the District 6000 website for further details.

President Leray Glendenning set a goal of 5 new members before the end of his presidential year. We have already added 2 new members in the last few months. Please be in action for the next several weeks, and invite someone in your circle to attend a Rotary meeting, a social gathering, a service project or the tree planting this spring, and expose them to what a great organization in which we belong.

The second goal he gave us at his induction ceremony was for every member to be involved in at least 2 service projects this year. So far we have logged as a Club over 1000 hours in Rotary Service!! Let's help each other get engaged in the future projects we have scheduled. There will be a tree planting scheduled this spring. We have our Mayor's Bike Ride and there are many opportunities to get involved there, ranging from selling raffle tickets to cooking, passing out water at stations, and recruiting riders. Have you volunteered and met this goal yet? This is our Rotary and we are NOT just a lunch club!

We had a nice discussion of the rewards of being involved at CFUM. We know we are all busy and it is easy to lose site of our mission....A local focus with a broad reach. We have passion, we established a vision as a Club this past year, and we have leadership in place to move our Club forward. Thank you for your involvement in this Club. We appreciate everyone's efforts!

Wendi Wilson, Scribe