



Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

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

Prez Sez

Leray Glendenning



It was quite a step up from operating a twenty-six inch single cylinder Briggs and Stratton push mower in a lawn business to a propane-fueled 940 Case tractor with a six-bottom plow in tow. With the significantly increased size of machinery and power, came also the increase of a fraction of an acre to hundreds of acres to work. I was in the upper years of High School and the job was to follow after the combine with the tractor and plow, turning over the freshly harvested stubble of winter wheat in southern Kansas. It was here I learned a valuable lesson that would prove to be true in the rest of my life.

With only brief instruction from the farmer I found my way to the field, set the plow in the ground began the jostling journey across the field looking back over my right shoulder to insure that the machinery was covering all of the ground. Reaching the fence row at the other end of the field, I lifted the plow and made the wide turn, dropped the plow into the soil again and made my way back across the field. Back and forth for several furrows all seemed to be going well. But then I noticed as I looked back across the ground the plow had uprooted that the furrows were anything but straight. I decided to try a new tactic. Instead

of looking back to watch the plow, I began to look forward and steered the tractor toward a fence post in the distance on the other side of the field. Occasionally I looked back to check the equipment, but quickly returned my focus to where I wanted to go. Something amazing happened as looked back to examine the newly cut furrows . . . they were all straight. The lesson: if you want to go in a straight line to your goal, you must look ahead and not behind. The corollary truth is that if you have properly placed and prepared what is behind you, you will not need to keep looking back. It all falls into place as you move forward.

So it is with everything we do including Rotary. Last year we completed a visioning activity that set our goals for the next five years. As we come closer to the end of the first year of implementing the vision we are completing projects and goals. It is wise to take a glance back and insure that the vision and structures are falling into place as planned. But the focus must always looking forward to next steps, new goals, new commitments, new causes, and new leadership. Rotary is not interested in merely a manicured "front lawn" but in a productive field of service in which seeds have been sown for a future harvest. What is true for our involvement in Rotary is also true for our personal lives. Where is your focus?

Scribbles...

Martin & Cezi Glendenning Syrian Refugees/Education

Martin and Cezi Glendenning presented an exceptionally informative program concerning the education of Syrian children classified as refugees by the United Nations.



The presentation began with a history of the events following the Arab Spring that led to the current hostilities in Syria. 400,000 people have been killed in this conflict (1/2 non-combatants) and 5.6 million persons displaced (1/2 of the pre-conflict population, 1/2 of those children). Layered on top of events were the political considerations of Syria's immediate neighbors that influenced the options open to those fleeing for safety as well as political considerations of the European countries most able to shelter refugees. The Dublin Regulation further muddies the

continued...

April 27, 2018

This Week's Program:

AJ Johnson
Report on Urbandale

Arranged By:

Beth Goedken

Greeter:

Joe Kobes

Invocation:

Jim Lipscomb

Sergeant:

A J Johnson

Scribe:

Ed Arnold

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

5/4: Mike Schoville
Update - IA Small Business

5/11: Bart Quick
VA Hospital

5/18: Jill Featherstone
Des Moines Art Center

Applause Applause!

More Rotary

Dear CFUM Volunteers,

Thanks to you, we made a difference Monday evening. We served 25 hungry adults and 105 children a great dinner. We know that a student who is not hungry is more cooperative, pays better attention, and is less disruptive than hungry classmates. Such a great service you provide!!

Thanks to Jean Lipscomb and Jim for the disappearing cupcakes and to Ed Arnold for delivering the Hy-Vee order. If you shop at Hy-Vee on Douglas, look up Chef Dave at the hot food line (just south of the bakery) or the store manager, and give them a special thank you for helping us out. Without them, we would not have it so easy.

Thank you for serving, Larry



Upcoming Events

Mayor's Bike Ride - Sunday, May 6

Spring Social - Blank Park Zoo
Wednesday, May 30

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

It is Almost Here...

We are less than two weeks away from the Seventh Annual Mayor's Bike Ride on Sunday, May 6. I hope your raffle tickets are gone and that you are doing all you can to turn the over five hundred interested people in the media accounts into committed participants. Register online at: <https://urbandalenetwork.org>



Wednesday, May 30 we will take a walk on the wild side at the Blank Park Zoo for our Spring Social outing! There will be a social hour and with heavy appetizers to follow and an opportunity to tour the zoo exhibits.

Scribe Continued...

waters by giving clear definition to refugee status, but also leaving enough detail out in the treatment of refugees that unwilling countries have room to make the path of refugees more difficult.

The average refugee student has missed 2.4 years of education (with some as many as 6 years). Parents desire the opportunity for education for their children even while it does carry some risk. Research has found that students in school are better able to cope with the difficulties of their lives. Education gives hope for a better tomorrow; provides a structure in an unfamiliar environment; provides peer and social support; enhances peace building; and reduces other risky behaviors. School also helps in acting as an immediate, intensive integration to local language and culture. It is often a combined effort that involves the entire family that also draws in parents in helping their children.

Education of refugee children benefits the child, the family and the community where they will eventually reside. It is a powerful catalyst for refugees seeking a better life.

Scribe, Mark McAndrews

Future Information



Beth Goedken - Program Chair

<u>Program</u>	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Invocation</u>	<u>Sergeant</u>	<u>Scribe</u>
May 4 - IA Small Business	Dan Boes	Randy Taber	Brenda Auxier-Mailey	Jim Arthur
May 11 - VA Hospital	Bill Corwin	Doyle Sanders	Dianne D-Nelson	Larry Sample
May 18 - DM Art Center	Jim Arthur	Julia Taylor	Jenifer M-Klimowski	Larry Sample
<i>Can't complete your assigned duty?</i> Please assist Leray by finding your substitute! Email that information to lglendenni@aol.com also please cc Jenifer Mercer-Klimowski - jmercerc-klimowski@emcnl.com .				