



# Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines  
www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines / Fridays @ 11:45 - Ramada, 5000 Merle Hay Road

August 9, 2024

*This Week's Program:*

**Alysa Goethe**  
Iowa Diabetes Association

Arranged By:

Bill W. Corwin

Greeter:

Julia Taylor

Invocation:

Joe Kobes

Sergeant:

Jack Bell

Scribe:

Bill Grask

## 2024-25 Officers & Directors

Tim Olejniczak, President

TBA, President Elect

Bill W. Corwin, Treasurer

Dianne Downing, Secretary

Ed Arnold, Board Member

Bill D. Corwin, Board Member

Tony Hunt, Board Member

Kelly Peterson, Board Member

Jack Bell, Past President

## Future Programs

8/16: TBA

8/23: TBA

## Prez Sez

Tim Olejniczak

Hello August! I can't believe summer is almost over, and that the fair is starting this Friday. I don't like heat or crowds too much, yet I always find myself out at the state fair multiple times. Bauder's peppermint ice cream on the stick is something that I highly recommend that is always my one must along with some of the famous chocolate chip cookies. I could type on and on about the fair and everything I like and dislike about it, but I won't bore you with that. Instead, going to talk to you about a conversation that I had with one of my buddies this weekend when we were together. A little background quick though of where I was, each year a group of guys that I did FACD (Financial Advisor Career Development) with try to get together for a guys weekend, and we shoot for once a year. Four of us got really close while we were living in St. Louis together for six months and have stayed in touch for the 8 years since we moved away even though we all live in different states. This year we did a golf trip in Michigan which is where one of the members in our group lives and golfed everyday for four days straight. On day three I was sharing a golfcart with my buddy John who is from Texas and that is when our convo started that really got my mind working



John turned to me and just said how he was burnt out on golf, it's day three of playing still had another day to go and just he was mentally checking out of golf. I told him that if I was being honest I was at that point myself, however our other two buddies on the trip with us kept talking about how they wanted to try to play 36 holes that day and maybe even add another round to tomorrow, and they were fully engaged and loving it. Don't get me wrong I had a great time and the courses were absolutely beautiful Michigan and if you enjoy golf I highly recommend playing some of the courses out by lake Michigan. But, back to my story as John and I were talking in our golf cart on day three I just told him I think the true difference between us and the two that were in the other cart is that we like golf and they love golf. And, that got my mind turning, I enjoy going and playing golf once a weekend maybe at times twice but that is more than enough for me. So, that led into a discussion our cart about the difference between liking something and loving something. For me, I love football especially college football I could go all day everyday watching college football games or going to them, or I love going to the gym that's my time to just detox and have some me time. I think everyone can probably think of something they like vs love.

Well, I am a huge over thinker so I got to thinking how could this apply to Rotary and it was about how so many members leave within the first five years of joining. Part of me wonders is that because they "liked" the idea or "liked" doing things for the community but just didn't truly love it? Maybe they liked being a part of the club but just couldn't get to that point of love. If I am being honest I think that was even myself the first couple years of Rotary after I joined and due to covid and going virtual is I liked what they were doing and being a part of the club but I didn't really start to truly "love" Rotary until I was to be around the group and feel truly embraced by our club and see all the impactful things that we do.

So, my challenge to all of us here this week, is go do something that you are truly passionate about and something that you love. Maybe it's going to the state fair, trying out a new bottle of wine, hitting up the theater, or whatever it is go do, because I don't think we actually go do the things we truly love enough. Also, if you see someone or know someone who truly has a passion for giving back tell them about Rotary and bring them to a meeting, the more people we have who truly love to get involved the stronger we will be as a club.

See Everyone Friday!

Tim

# Scribbles

## Sara Kurovski - Make A Wish Foundation



Sara presented at our club meeting this week. Sara is a graduate of Lincoln High School, Truman State University for her undergraduate degree and Drake University master's in public administration. She is also the current Mayor of Pleasant Hill, along with her main job as President and CEO of Make A Wish Iowa. She is married to her high school sweet heart Todd and has 2 active sons.

A friend's son Chris had leukemia and was not doing well. Chris wanted to be a law enforcement officer. They found a way to make him an officer for a day, they swore him in, got him an actual uniform, allowed him to arrest a "bad guy". He did pass away and received an officer funeral. A few months after he passed the group thought we should do this again, They started the started Make a Wish Foundation and now the foundation is helping critically ill children all over the US every day.

Every child receiving a wish has a medical team examining when and if this is the correct time to grant the wish. They sometimes hold things back and other time accelerate the time table. Every wish is done with medical guidance and oversight.

Sara shared the purpose of Make A Wish Iowa. Make a Wish works to create a memory for children fighting a critical illness. It is sometimes the best memory from the family during that time or if the child does pass away of the illness the best memory of their lives. The good news is only about 10 of the children they serve.

Sara shared a video done by a family of a young boy Evan who did not survive his cancer. The parents and Evan's older brother all shared their experience with Make a Wish and how a memory they all cherish was created by the wish. It was a Disney trip. The family's praise rang true to everyone in the meeting. Many eyes were watering from the message of the video. Ways to assist Make A Wish Iowa in their mission. Volunteers, Donations, or Start a Fund Raiser.

Make A Wish began as a passion project for a group of Phoenix AZ, Law enforcement officers and state troopers.

To learn more about any of these details visit:  
<https://wish.org/iowa>

Scribe, Bill D. Corwin

## Upcoming Events

Trail Clean-Up - August 25 at 1:30 pm

CFUM - August 26

NW Rotary Golf Tournament - August 29

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

**Tim Olejniczak**

timolejniczak7@gmail.com

## Anniversary

Leray Glendenning 28 Years

Bill Grask 25 Years



## Future Information

Ed Arnold - Program Chair



	Greeter	Invocation	Sergeant	Scribe
Aug 16	Wendi Wilson	Mark McAndrews	Dan Boes	Tony Hunt
Aug 23	Jack Bell	Bob Moore	Bill D. Corwin	Joe Kobes
Aug 30	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting
<i>Can't complete your assigned duty?</i> Please assist Tim Olejniczak by finding your substitute!				

