



Nor'Wester

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

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

Prez Sez

Kelly Peterson

Well it's that time of year again when we reflect on what we are thankful for. My family does that tradition that we go around the table and say what we are most thankful for over the past year. I will not be with family this Thanksgiving, and holidays have been a challenge since relocating to Iowa. My daughter is heading to Buffalo to celebrate with her new in-laws and my son always spends Thanksgiving with his girlfriend's family as Thanksgiving IS their holiday, because mom is Jewish and dad is Catholic. So, this weekend we are having a "friendsgiving" and on the actual day, we will spend the day with my "Iowa Family." So for that, I am thankful, for the people who have included me in their "family." I am also thankful for the wonderful people of this Rotary Club who have welcomed me, become my friends and my new "Rotary Family."



Being Foundation month, I am aware and thankful that my giving, along with the generosity of other Rotarians, does so much good in the world. I am a Paul Harris plus 3, and I know there are members of this Club who have committed to and given to the work of the Foundations for decades. I think that every Rotarian every year is an important goal, and I am proud that it is a goal that our Club strives to achieve. I know that I've talked about giving to the Foundation in the past; but during Foundation month, perhaps, revisit what your giving level is and if you are able to do more in support of the Foundation.

We are not meeting next week, so I will take this opportunity to wish you and yours a happy and blessed Thanksgiving.

Scribbles...

Joseph Giunta - Des Moines Symphony



On Friday NW Rotary members were treated to a presentation by Maestro Joseph Giunta, one of America's most distinguished, versatile, and dynamic conductors. Maestro Giunta is a musician of international acclaim. He is recognized as an important American conductor for his innovative programming and for his compelling interpretations of traditional and new music. His musical depth combined with his boundless energy and contagious enthusiasm makes him one of the most respected and successful orchestra leaders in the United States.

Maestro Giunta has been the Music Director of the Des Moines Symphony for thirty-four years and is currently riding the crest of the most successful era in the Orchestra's rich history. He has transformed the Orchestra into one of the finest regional orchestras in America.

Over the course of his career, Giunta has guest conducted many of the great orchestras of the world, including the Chicago Symphony, the MN Orchestra, the London Philharmonic and the Philharmonia Orchestra of London. In the United States, he has conducted the orchestras of Indianapolis, Nashville, N. Carolina, Florida & Vermont, among others. He has also conducted orchestras in Mexico, South America, Europe, Canada, Japan, and the United Kingdom.

On November 21, 1937, Drake University professor Frank Noyes conducted the first concert of the Des Moines Civic Orchestra, a joint effort between university and community musicians. The event followed more than a decade of earlier efforts to form a permanent group, which would eventually change its name to the Des Moines Symphony. It was about this time that it became very fashionable to dress up and sit close to people of distinction and

Continued...

November 18, 2022

This Week's Program:

Tony Montgomery

Home Inc.
Affordable Houseing

Arranged By:

Dan Boes

Greeter:

Dianne Downing

Invocation:

Kyle Pieper

Sergeant:

Derek Sparks

Scribe:

Donna Larson

2022-23 Officers & Directors

Kelly Peterson, President

Jack Bell, President Elect

Bill W. Corwin, Treasurer

Dianne Downing, Secretary

Ed Arnold, Board Member

Eric Idehen, Board Member

Donna Larson, Board Member

Tim Olejniczak, Board Member

Kyle Pieper, Board Member

Larry Sample, Board Member

Bill D. Corwin, Past President

Future Programs

11/25: No Meeting
Happy Thanksgiving!

12/2: Doyle Sanders
Rotary Foundation

Scribe Continued...

be associated with people who made money. Railroads, highway transportation, industry and construction were booming. All made for a perfect environment for funding of great orchestras. By 1950, nearly all orchestra and symphony performances were sold out, making it impossible to attain tickets to a performance without actually knowing some one of prominence. By the mid-1970s Des Moines Symphony Orchestra had more than doubled its classical season from five concerts to six concert-pairs. In 1979, the Symphony moved into its current home at the Civic Center of Des Moines. In 1989, Living History Farms hosted the first of ten annual Popcorn Pops concerts and Joseph Giunta became music director and conductor. In 1994, the first Yankee Doodle Pops concert took place on the steps of the State Capitol, which attracts an audience of more than 100,000, making it the largest single-day attendance of any concert event in the state.

In 1995 Giunta was in New York and wanted to attend a concert at the New York Lincoln Center featuring the greatest cellist of all times in the world. He was sure he wouldn't be able to get a ticket but decide to try anyway. The Center had 2,700 seats and only 1,100 had been sold. It was then that he decided the classical music business was in a real decline and in trouble.

Because of this experience, Giunta decide to stay in Des Moines and make a difference. He strongly felt the problem was, we were no longer teaching arts education in elementary schools. Students need to be exposed to classical music and learn the art of listening. Listening skills will be something they will carry with them the rest of the life and may well determine how successful they are in future employment.

With this thought in mind, he convinced the Symphony Board Chairman to convert the Masonic Temple building into The Temple of the Performing Arts. Civic leaders and some of the biggest families in Des Moines stepped up and raised eight million dollars for the renovation. This renovation in turn has provided the impetus to renovate the entire neighborhood, featuring sculpture gardens, major insurance company buildings and a city library. Without this kind of commitment, Des Moines might be just another ordinary "River City."

Respectfully, Joe Kobes

Upcoming Events

St. Vincent DePaul Volunteer Day
Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2023 @ 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Christmas Party - Christophers Beaverdale
Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2023 - Time TBD

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

**Jenifer Mercer-
Klimowski**

Phone: 515-490-3539
elliotsudmom@yahoo.com

Birthdays

November 12

Shannon Heinen



**Happy
Thanksgiving**

Future Information



Ed Arnold - Program Chair				
	<u>Greeter</u>	<u>Invocation</u>	<u>Sergeant</u>	<u>Scribe</u>
Nov. 25	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting
Dec. 2	Leray Glendenning	Brad Helgemo	Mark McAndrews	Dave Piersel
Dec. 9	Eric Idehen	Bill Grask	Bob Moore	Larry Sample
<i>Can't complete your assigned duty? Please assist Kelly Peterson by finding your substitute!</i>				