



# 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

Kelly Peterson

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and then BOOM!, in crashes the holiday season. I am looking forward to ringing the bell for Salvation Army this week, as it will be a first for me. In my previous club it seemed that laying wreaths at the Veterans' cemetery and bell ringing always fell on the same day, so I never got the chance to ring the bell. The bell ringing tradition started in 1900 with a teenage volunteer in New York City named Amelia Kunkel. Although others taking collections for the cause were often done in a kettle, she became frustrated by the many bankers who walked by and ignored her. Kunkel went into a nearby Woolworth's department store and bought a small bell for ten cents. The rest as they say was history. The kettles and bells now help crowdfund for the organization in 131 countries.



So I got to thinking, is it just a coincidence that two of the Rotary clubs I belonged to ring bells for the Salvation Army at Christmas time, or is this yet another way that Rotarians make a difference through this small act of service? Well, I googled it and no, not a coincidence, Rotary is represented far and wide as volunteers ringing the bell for the Salvation Army. I found hundreds of entries of clubs participating in this annual service project. From Rochester, NY to Montgomery, AL, Phoenix, AZ, to Corpus Christi, TX, to Minnesota, North Dakota, California, of course Iowa, and on and on and on. It appears that Rotary has been committed to this cause for decades, Service Above Self once again having a global impact. So in my last club we used to have a competition with the other clubs as to who could raise the most money. Yes, there was a trophy involved and sponsoring a social gathering for the participating clubs. Something to think about in the future? I mean, we could use another trophy and the bragging rights that goes along with it and you know me, I'm always up for a social gathering! Again food for thought, and if your not ringing the bell on December 3rd, please drive by and support the cause!

Yours in Service, Kelly

## Scribbles...

### *Tony Montgomery - Home Inc. Affordable Housing*

Transforming lives, strengthening communities.

The NW Rotary Club's speaker on Friday was Tony Montgomery, executive director of Home, Inc. Tony provided an excellent presentation of their organization. Home Inc. has a vision such that every person is to have a place to call home.

As Mr. Montgomery provided in his presentation, Home Inc., was founded in 1967 through the efforts of citizens concerned about the lack of decent, affordable housing. This is also the oldest private, non-profit housing organization in Des Moines and currently has 11 employees. They develop affordable housing, counsel individuals and families so they obtain and retain housing and provide education to tenants, landlords and home buyers.

Their mission is to assist individuals and families struggling to make ends meet. With the rising costs of rent, food, fuel, and other necessities, they had a 20% increase this past year.

Continued...



December 2, 2022

### *This Week's Program:*

Doyle Sanders  
Rotary Foundation

Arranged By:

Doyle Sanders

Greeter:

Leray Glendenning

Invocation:

Brad Helgemo

Sergeant:

Mark McAndrews

Scribe:

Dave Piersel

### *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*

12/9: TBA

12/16: Jim Dietz-Kilen  
Living History Farms

12/23: No Meeting  
Merry Christmas!

## 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, Caring Hands, (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, Embassy Club - Ruan Bldg, (Noon)

Winterset, Pizza Ranch, (Noon)

### Friday

Des Moines, AM, Drake University - Courtside Club (7:00 am)

## Upcoming Events

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

**Iowa Wolves Polio Plus Basketball Night**  
Saturday, February 4, 2023 @ 7:00 PM

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

**Jenifer Mercer-Klimowski**

Phone: 515-490-3539

elliotspudmom@yahoo.com

## Scribe Continued...

In 2022 they expanded affordable homeownership options for low-moderate income households, investing nearly \$1 million in construction, improvements, and repairs in low-income neighborhoods. Additionally, they have started building an accessory dwelling unit on a Home, Inc. property that can accommodate multi-generational households or even provide families a source of rental income.

Mr. Montgomery shared some of the staggering statistics of those in need within our community. Nearly 58,000 households in the Des Moines are cost-burdened, spending more than 30% of their income on housing. High demand, limited availability and rising rental and mortgage rates have made accessing housing challenging. According to the (2022) Iowa Housing Profile, National Low Income Housing Coalition), there are 98,194 extremely low-income renter households.

With the services that Home, Inc. provides through their education, counseling, housing development, they have been able to assist 2650 tenants, 1159 landlords and distributed \$1,245,247 in funding. Through the continued support of many generous community leaders, businesses and individuals, they can continue to reach their vision of providing the necessary homes so many need.

Scribe, Donna Larson

## Birthdays

November 19 Wendi Wilson

November 24 Bill W. Corwin

November 29 Dan Boes



## Future Information



Ed Arnold - Program Chair				
	<u><i>Greeter</i></u>	<u><i>Invocation</i></u>	<u><i>Sergeant</i></u>	<u><i>Scribe</i></u>
Dec. 9	Eric Idehen	Bill Grask	Bob Moore	Larry Sample
Dec. 16	Shannon Heinen	Marv Johnson	Julia Taylor	Tim Olejniczak
Dec. 23	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting
<i>Can't complete your assigned duty? Please assist Kelly Peterson by finding your substitute!</i>				