



# Nor'Wester

## Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

[www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines](http://www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines) / Fridays @ 11:45 - Ramada, 5000 Merle Hay Road

**December 6, 2024**

***This Week's Program:***

## Rotary Donations Program

Arranged By:

Ed Arnold

Greeter:

Wendi Wilson

Invocation:

Dan Boes

Sergeant:

Jack Bell

Scribe:

Leray Glendenning

## 2024-25 Officers & Directors

Tim Olejniczak, President  
Dianne Downing, President Elect  
Bill W. Corwin, Treasurer  
Bill W. Corwin, Secretary  
Ed Arnold, Board Member  
Bill D. Corwin, Board Member  
Tony Hunt, Board Member  
Kelly Peterson, Board Member  
Jack Bell, Past President

## Future Programs

**11/13: TBA**

**11/20: No Meeting**  
Happy Holidays

**11/27: No Meeting**  
Happy New Year

## Prez Sez

*Tim Olejniczak*



I hope everyone had a great thanksgiving! It is crazy to think that Thanksgiving has already come and gone and now we are looking ahead to Christmas and New Years. My only complaint for this Thanksgiving is that Marv didn't ask any of us to join him down in Hawaii! I am not sure what the holiday season looks like for everyone, but for me the holidays are always crazy! My parents are divorced and with Billie's family included in the mix I had a total of three separate Thanksgivings, so it is safe to say that I ate my fair share of food, but thankfully my pants still fit come Monday. Thanksgiving though is always one of my favorite holidays in the fact that it truly is just about trying to get together with people, eat as much food as possible, and watch football with the people you care about. But we don't need to talk about any of the football games that took place over Thanksgiving weekend, and on Friday I will be declining and have no comment about a certain game that took place on Black Friday.

A few house keeping notes since we were off last week. First off, we are meeting at the RAMADA this Friday and on 12/13. This Friday we are going to be giving away 4 checks to 4 different nonprofits each for \$750, and then will be hearing a little bit about each nonprofit and how our funds maybe of help to them. December 13th will just be a normal meeting at the Ramada, and then we will have NO MEETINGS on 12/20 and 12/27. We are not meeting on 12/20 in hopes that we get a good turnout for our Rotary Holiday party this year! Also, this Saturday (12/7) we are going to be ringing the bell for Salvation Army at Hobby Lobby, I am not sure if all of the slots are filled yet or not, but if you are interested, please reach out to Tony or talk to him this Friday!

I have two quick take aways or thoughts that generated from Thanksgiving. First off, is to just be thankful, to me it was eye opening to hear the Urbandale food Pantry and even UCAN touched on how many families need help for Thanksgiving this year and that just made me realize I truly should be thankful that we were able to have 3 separate feasts this year. On the flip side made me realize how we can continue to help people right in our backyard in Urbandale whenever we get the chance to either serve or help provide good for those in need. Secondly is to be in the moment. I was thinking when I was at my aunts house how lucky I am to still have some grandparents alive and able to join us, and that I don't know how many more Thanksgiving, Christmas's or other holidays that I will have left with them, so just truly be in the moment and enjoy every minute that you do have with your loved ones.

I am excited to see everyone on Friday and I hope everyone has a great rest of your week!

## Scribbles...

*Jazmin Diaz - UCAN*

UCAN was started in 1998 and early years focused on helping seniors with yard clean up, transportation, and meals on wheels types of services. Over 5,000 services were provided this past year and the group is currently undergoing Strategic Planning to clarify their role in supporting the community in the future.

Continued...

## Other Locations

### Monday

West Polk County, Food Depot, 3000 SE Grimes  
Blvd, Suite 200 in Grimes (Noon)

### Tuesday

Ankeny, Ankeny Golf & Country Club, (11:45)  
Ankeny, Magee's Irish Pub, (6:00 pm)  
Johnston, Hyperion Golf & CC, (7:00 am)  
Dallas Center, Memorial Hall, (Noon)  
Norwalk, Community State Bank, (Noon)  
West Des Moines, DM Golf & CC, (Noon)

### Wednesday

East Polk County, Lutheran Church of the Cross (7:00 am)  
Adel, Adel Public Library, 303 S. 10th St. (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, Downtown Holiday Inn – Mercy, (7:00 am)

## Scribbles Continued...

All services are volunteer based and because of that, a 48 hour lead time is necessary to provide the support.



The current focus is on bridging the gap for families. That includes preparing Thanksgiving boxes with rice beans, eggs, and ham. This year over 1,000 hams are going to be distributed.

In supporting youth during the cold winter months, they are doing boots, scarves, and warm gear for the schools in need and provide from toddler sizes thru 10/12 youth sizes.

There is also "adopt a family" effort which has 50 families signed up, Business and local sponsors provide presents for those families in need.

An afterschool program is also supported by UCAN at Urbandale Middle school and in hopes of bringing back the same type of after school programming for the younger students.

Strategic planning is focusing on how to help the most people it can for the future.

Scribe, Julia Taylor

## Upcoming Events

Christmas Party December 18th  
Christopher's Restaurant Beaverdale

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

**Tim Olejniczak**

timolejniczak7@gmail.com



## Birthdays

November 24 Bill W. Corwin

November 29 Dan Boes

## Future Information

Ed Arnold - Program Chair



	Greeter	Invocation	Sergeant	Scribe
Dec 13	Dan Boes	Bill D. Corwin	Dianne Downing	Bill Grask
Dec 20	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting
Dec 27	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting	No Meeting
Can't complete your assigned duty? Please assist Tim Olejniczak by finding your substitute!				

