



NOR'WESTER

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines
www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines

Prez Sez...

Wendi Wilson

As Rotarians, we are here each week because we believe in Service Above Self. And through Rotary, we can have an impact beyond what we could ever hope to as individuals. Working alone, only so much can be done, but when we work together and pool our resources with the resources of the Foundation, we can make a difference that will be remembered for generations. It is up to all of us.



Abbie, Prez & Gabi

Scribbles

Jerry Fleagle IA Grocers Association

Jerry Fleagle, the President of the Iowa Grocer's Association, spoke to us about the hot button issues in the grocery industry. He represents about 600 Iowa grocers from the mom and pop stores to the Walmarts.

First, the Economy has changed the industry in several ways. Store sales are flat to down so they have had to add value to their services to compete. There has been a shift from dining out to dining in and from "steak to hamburger". People are hunting for value, buying store brands, not buying as much organics and using coupons more. Stores are having to adapt to thrive. Iowa has seen the number of stores decrease from 1400 in 1995 to 750 in 2005.

Second, although we have the safest food supply in the world, our consumer confidence is lower. Food recalls are done too late to help consumers (ie. the peanut recall). The industry is moving toward a third party food accreditation because the government is too slow in providing regulations.

Third, are the fees being assessed to retailers for customers using credit cards. This is the 2nd or 3rd largest expense for the retailer. This causes the costs to go up on the food themselves. America banks charge the largest fees for credit card sales in the world.

Fourth, the cost of fuel and the potential for mandates on biodiesel will increase the costs of food. We saw some of this last year with the increases in fuel costs changing dairy prices.

Fifth, the industry is focusing on recycling. They would like to see comprehensive recycling done. Des Moines has recently changed to single stream recycling where everything goes into one container. They are looking at ways to create incentives for people to recycle. Consumers are forgetting about aluminum cans when it comes to recycling. Iowa grocers have four goals for their new "Build with Bags" campaign. First they want to double the plastic bags recycled during the next 24 months. Second they want the consumer to reduce consumption of plastic bags. Third they want to encourage and implement ways to get the consumer to use re-usable bags. And fourth, they want to develop a grant program where the monies/products from the recycled bags will fund playground equipment.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendi Wilson



January 22, 2010
Program:

Club Program

Gene Gabus & Chuck Corwin

Arranged By:

Wendi Wilson

Greeter:

Beth Goedken

Invocation:

Brad Helgemo

Sergeant:

Rick Grant

Scribe:

Bill Corwin

2009-10

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- Wendi Wilson, President
- Eric Dickinson, President Elect
- Brad Helgemo, Secretary
- Wanda Armstrong, Treasurer
- Ed Arnold, Director
- Jim Arthur, Director
- Chuck Corwin, Director
- Rick Grant, Director
- Marcus Dunn, Director
- Cam Torstenson, Past President
- Dianne D-Nelson, Exec Sec
- Mark McAndrews, Exec Treas

Future Programs

1/29: Aimee Beckman
Collier

2/5: Mike Chapman
IA Historical Museum

Other Local Meetings

Tuesday

Ankeny, Ankeny Golf & Country Club, (11:45)

Johnston, Hyperion Golf & CC, (7:00 am)

Dallas Center, Memorial Hall, (Noon)

West Des Moines, DM Golf & CC, (Noon)

Wednesday

East Polk County, Prairie Meadows, (7:00 am)

Adel, Patrick's Restaurant, 211 S 7th St, #C, (Noon)

Thursday

Waukee, Des Moines Golf & Country Club, (6:45 am)

Des Moines, Hotel Fort Des Moines, (Noon)

Winterset, Northside Cafe, (Noon)

Friday

Des Moines, AM, Wakonda Club at 3915 Fleur Dr. (7:00 am)



We'll Be Singing . . .

Opening: America, the Beautiful

Song Time:

Auld Lang Syne - #7
Smiles

Items for the Nor'Wester should be submitted every Wednesday by Noon. Please send to:

Chuck Corwin

Phone: 515-226-7605

Fax: 515-223-9301

ccorwin@bryton.com

Rotary Minute...

The International Assembly

The International Assembly is held each year before February 15 to prepare district governors-elect from around the world for the office they will assume on July 1st. Accompanied by their spouses, the 530 incoming governors join a host of experienced Rotarian leaders for a week of training and motivational sessions. At the assembly, they meet the special Rotarian who will serve as RI Rotarian during their year as governors, and they learn the RI theme for the coming year, around which they will build their district's activities.

International Assemblies have been held throughout the United States. But regardless of the venue, the message on the sign above the plenary hall remains unchanged: "Enter to learn...go forth to serve."

Contribute to the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund

The Rotary Foundation has established the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund, a donor advised fund, to streamline the flow of contributions from U.S. Rotarians.

The fund will be directed by account holders who will work with local Rotary clubs and districts, as well as emergency relief agencies, to meet the most pressing needs of people in affected areas.

Use your cell phone to make a one-time US\$5 donation. Text ROTARY to 90999.

Contribute Now!!!

Future Information

Program

Chairperson:

Gil DeRoos

Jenifer M-K, Jan. 29

TBA, Feb. 5

Nancy Johnson, Feb. 12

Greeters

Chairperson:

Nancy Johnson

Rick Grant, Jan. 29

Jeff Bremer, Feb. 5

Paul Kirpes, Feb. 12

Invocation

Chairperson:

Jim Pittman

Beth Goedken, Jan. 29

Marcus Dunn, Feb. 5

Gil DeRoos, Feb. 12

Sergeant

Chairperson:

Kevin Smith

Gene Gabus, Jan. 29

Ed Arnold, Feb. 5

Brad Helgemo, Feb. 12

Scribe

Chairperson:

Larry Sample

Randy Gambill, Jan. 29

Bill Grask, Feb. 5

Brad Helgemo, Feb. 12