

# NOR'WESTER

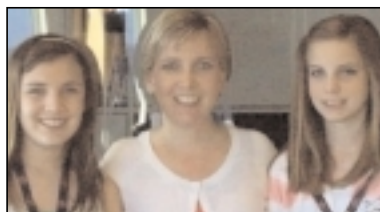
## Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

[www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines](http://www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines)

### Prez Sez...

Wendi Wilson

As I mentioned last week, the board authorized \$1000 to be sent to District 6000 to be matched with dollars from World Vision to help with the relief efforts in Haiti. Haiti is the home to 17 Rotary Clubs and in excess of approximately 350 Rotarians. These Rotary clubs are spread throughout the country of Haiti with 5 of them being located where catastrophic destruction had taken place. Port au Prince, Delmas Airport, Petion-Ville, Carrefour, Jacmel were most seriously affected. District 7020, which includes Haiti, has flown in 55 planes filled with more than 50,000 pounds of medical equipment and supplies into the cities of Pignon and Port-de-Paix to bypass logistical problems in the hard-hit capital of Port-au-Prince. The Rotary Foundation has established the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund for U.S. Rotarians who want to donate toward recovery efforts. The fund has raised more than \$100,000 so far. A one-time \$5 donation to the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund can be made by texting ROTARY to 90999.



Abbie, Prez & Gabi

### Scribbles

## Club Program

Today's program was an update of our own Rotary Club. President Wendi started out talking about the club's website at [www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines](http://www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines) and what is available to all members from the website. Wendi reminded the members that it is their responsibility to keep their own information up-to-date, including mailing address, phone numbers and e-mail address, so the club will have accurate information when contacting members. The administration section of the site includes access to your attendance records, various club documents including the Club's by-laws and current year operating budget and view and print a Club directory. Check it out and see if your information is up-to-date.

Chuck Corwin told us about the Charles Gabus Memorial Bike Ride, both a review of the 2009 Ride and a preview of the 2010 Ride. The 2009 Ride had about 100 registered riders and raised money to support four local projects - Reach out and Read, Urbandale Police Department, Urbandale Parks & Recreation and the Des Moines Bicycle Collective. Some of the money from the 2009 Ride is also earmarked for a literacy project working with Sudanese refugees.

The goals for the 2010 Ride is to have at least 250 riders. He discussed the planning that is going into the event, which will be held on Sunday June 20th. There will be a raffle, a coupon book with discounts coupons that will offset, in value, the registration fee for the riders. The Ride will include new routes of 20, 40 and 60 miles and the committee is planning on setting up three rest stops along the routes for refreshments and a chance to talk to the riders about Rotary. The net proceeds will be used to support some of the same projects as 2009 plus using \$5,000 to fund a Club project selected by the members and board.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Corwin



January 29, 2010

Program:

Aimee Beckmann

Collier

Arranged By:

Jenifer M-K

Greeter:

Rick Grant

Invocation:

Beth Goedken

Sergeant:

Gene Gabus

Scribe:

Randy Gambill

## 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

2/5: Mike Chapman  
IA Historical Museum

2/12: Del Christiansen  
IRIS, Inc.

# Rotary in Haiti



**Houston Rotary Team**  
The Rotarian team arrives home in Houston, Texas, USA, four days after Haiti earthquake.

## Rotarians witness chaos in Haiti

As president of the Rotary Club of Houston, it had been Michelle Bohreer's dream to travel to Haiti and conduct a service project to improve the lives of children there.

On 12 January, 45 minutes into a weeklong trip to Port-au-Prince to do just that, the dream quickly spiraled into a nightmare.

Bohreer and a team of five Rotarians from Houston were heading into Haiti's capital city to implement a water project for an orphanage when a powerful earthquake rocked the area, causing widespread devastation.

"Minutes after the quake happened, thousands of people poured out into the street running and screaming. Hundreds were walking around bleeding," says Bohreer. "It was moments like that when the absolute catastrophe hit you."

The quake, the worst in the region in more than 200 years, flattened much of the capital, killing as many as 200,000 and leaving millions more injured. A massive international relief operation is underway to bring food, water, and medicine to those who need it.

"I was overwhelmed by sights, sounds, and smells that I will never forget," says team member Vicki Brentin, past president of the Houston club. "I held tight to the hands of frightened, injured children and looked deep into the eyes of their mothers or fathers begging for help. That left a compelling and lasting impression on me."

Unable to leave the country, the team members spent four days in Port-au-Prince trying to help in any way they could. They found a collapsed hospital, sifted through the wreckage, and found Tylenol and antibiotic ointment to distribute to injured people.

"The injuries were too severe for the medicine we had, but receiving care of any kind during that time gave them hope. It gave us hope," says Bohreer. "I've never been so proud to be a Rotarian."

### Read the rest of their story at:

[www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/100120\\_news\\_haiti.aspx](http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/100120_news_haiti.aspx)

## We'll Be Singing . . .

Opening: God Bless America  
Song Time:  
The 4-Way Test - #18  
When You're Smiling - #82

BIRTHDAYS

January 26  
**Jim Fay**

BIRTHDAYS

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](mailto:ccorwin@bryton.com)

## Future Information

### Program

Chairperson:  
**Gil DeRoos**

TBA, Feb. 5  
Nancy Johnson, Feb. 12  
Nancy Johnson, Feb. 19

### Greeters

Chairperson:  
**Nancy Johnson**

Jeff Bremer, Feb. 5  
Paul Kirpes, Feb. 12  
Nancy Johnson, Feb. 19

### Invocation

Chairperson:  
**Jim Pittman**

Marcus Dunn, Feb. 5  
Gil DeRoos, Feb. 12  
Dick Cummings, Feb. 19

### Sergeant

Chairperson:  
**Kevin Smith**

Ed Arnold, Feb. 5  
Brad Helgemo, Feb. 12  
Marcus Dunn, Feb. 19

### Scribe

Chairperson:  
**Larry Sample**

Bill Grask, Feb. 5  
Brad Helgemo, Feb. 12  
Phil Houle, Feb. 19