



NOR'WESTER

Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines

www.clubrunner.ca/northwestdesmoines

Prez Sez...

Wendi Wilson

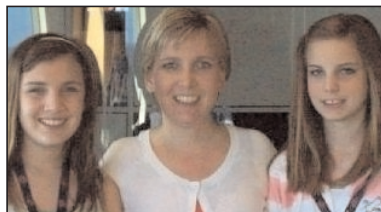


The Rotarian magazine this month has an excellent article about listening. Many of us are poor listeners. We multitask, interrupt each other, and are easily distracted. Being able to listen, really listen, to someone is a awesome gift. It can bring benefits to the

listener as well as create a culture of openness. This can

benefit us in our work places, our clubs and our families. Take some time to think about what is being said rather than formulating your response.

Take time to listen and get inspired.



Abbie, Prez & Gabi

Scribbles

Judge Larry Eisenhauer

Judging on the Frontier Iowa Judges in Europe

Judge Larry Eisenhauer joined us to relay his experiences as an international judge in working for the United Nations in Kosovo. Judge Eisenhauer is a Drake University alumnus, past president of the Rotary Club of Ankeny and a Paul Harris Fellow!

Judge Eisenhauer framed his personal experiences with the stories of two other Iowan's experiences as international judges: Charles Wennerstrum and Leon Powers. Both men served as international judges during the Subsequent Nuremberg Trials in 1948.

Judge Powers heard what became known as the "Wilhelmstrasse Trial" involving the various war crimes. Judge Wennerstrum was the presiding judge in the "Hostages Case" which considered the actions of German Generals stationed in Yugoslavia.

This case centered around Nazi reprisals against the civilian population for Partisan attacks on German targets. The status of the Partisan's as combatants, whether lawful or

unlawful, was at the care of the court's deliberations. These issues continue to be pertinent today as our justice officials consider the standing of prisoners held at the US base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; are they lawful or unlawful combatants, and how should they be treated based on that determination?

Judge Eisenhauer arrived in Kosovo in 2005 following years of conflict in the former Yugoslavia as Serbian forces attempted to drive Albanian populations from the country.

His case experiences in Prizren and Pristina included a human trafficking case, a murder case and work as the investigating judge on a bridge bombing case. He observed how deep and powerful the ethnic conflicts in the former Yugoslavia really are, noting the local ability to describe the deep impact of the Battle of Kosovo as if it had just happened, even though it occurred in 1389.

continued....



March 5, 2010

Program:

Dave Bush

Extraordinary Health

Arranged By:

Kevin Smith

Greeter:

Chuck Corwin

Invocation:

Cam Torstenson

Sergeant:

John Pittman

Scribe:

Nancy Johnson

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

3/12: Jeff Fleming
Des Moines Art Center

3/26: Anuradha
Vaitheswaran
Appellate Court Judge

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: God Bless America

Song Time:

My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean - #48
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...

Literacy Projects

The month of March is literacy month. I would like to talk with you about how much literacy is a problem in the world around us. An estimated one billion people - one-fourth of the world's adult population - are unable to read. Illiteracy among adults and children is a global concern in highly industrialized nations and in developing countries.

The tragedy of illiteracy is that those who cannot read are denied personal independence and become victims of unscrupulous manipulation, poverty, and the loss of human dignity.

Many Rotary clubs have surveyed the needs of their community for literacy training and developed projects to meet those needs. In our case, we began reading with the children at Longfellow Elementary over 15 years ago.

I can remember stories that told us that only about 30% of these kids could read at or above their age level. All others were well below.

A few years ago a new school was built where Longfellow once stood. It has been renamed George Washington Carver Elementary and the number of kids attending has increased dramatically. Many of our members read with these kids every week and it is just amazing what an hour of our time each week can do to improve the literacy of these children. Thanks again to all of our volunteers.

Scribbles continued...

Judge Eisenhower's experiences underscored, for him, what a difficult and complicated group of issues surround the treatment of combatant prisoners in the modern world of the war on terror.

Cam Torstenson, Scribe

Future Information

Program

Chairperson:

Gil DeRoos

Dave Nagel, March 12

No Meeting, March 19

Phil Houle, March 26

Greeters

Chairperson:

Nancy Johnson

Don Chafa, March 12

No Meeting, March 19

Matt Bunker, March 26

Invocation

Chairperson:

Jim Pittman

Julia Taylor, March 12

No Meeting, March 19

Kevin Smith, March 26

Sergeant

Chairperson:

Kevin Smith

Dave Smith, March 12

No Meeting, March 19

Joe Kobes, March 26

Scribe

Chairperson:

Larry Sample

Paul Kirpes, March 12

No Meeting, March 19

Joe Kobes, March 26