



NOR'WESTER

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

Prez Sez...

Wendi Wilson

Rotary International is constantly working on making the world a friendlier place to live. The more we know about different cultures, people, and lives, the smaller our differences seem to be. Our club sponsored Kashmira Chawla as a Ambassadorial Scholarship applicant this past summer and she has been awarded the scholarship. The purpose of the program is to further international understanding and friendly relations among people of different countries and geographical areas. Kashmira Chawla is a graduate of Drake

University with a degree in biochemistry, cell and molecular biology. As Kashmira pursues her M.D., she wants to focus on serving under-served populations in the United States and in developing countries. Her program of study will allow her the freedom to interact and gain an understanding of another people's way of life.



Abbie, Prez & Gabi

Scribbles

Caryn West Author, Artist, Poet, Graphic Designer & Publisher

Caryn West's dream in life was to increase the awareness of international human rights violations through original painting, poetry, essays, lectures, and more.

Caryn's book, *The Trouble with the Alphabet*, paints a portrait through the eyes of children around the world. With one country represented by each letter of the alphabet, the book addresses many heart wrenching issues plaguing the world's children: genocide, child labor, human trafficking, use of child soldiers, poverty, and AIDS to name a few. It clarifies the issues through short essays that aim to enlighten even the "informed".

Caryn explained the book began when she was painting the alphabet on canvases for her son's bedroom and started thinking about the harsh realities facing children around the globe. She mentioned she and her husband were at a festival and they stopped to see a fortune teller and the lady kept saying that she could see Caryn signing her name over and over again and went on to say it would be global. Her and her husband left the fortune teller's tent not thinking too much about it and now they can look back and smile on that one reading of the fortune teller.

The first portrait Caryn West created was a life-size drawing of Sammy Davis, Jr. to accompany a book report about his autobiography, *Yes I Can*. The portrait was done in crayon, and she was only nine years old. She attended the Pasadena Art Center of College of Design, most of her experience is self-taught through taking on projects with the intuitive belief "I can do this". Over the years she has experimented in acrylic painting and graphic design. Along the way she developed a passion for telling stories through art and always dreamed of becoming a writer as well. Her work has primarily been in the commercial arena but her true passion is working on humanitarian projects where she can use creativity to highlight global issues that pull at her heart. She believes that by planting seeds within our children and showing them the difference between right and wrong will eventually build better leaders.

Caryn currently lives in Colorado with her husband and three children.

Diane Porter
Scribe



September 18, 2009

Program:

Stephen Quirk
Youth Emergency
Services & Shelter

Arranged By:

Phil Houle

Greeter:

Beth Goedken

Invocation:

Diane Porter

Sergeant:

Beth Goedken

Scribe:

David Smith

2009-10

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Wendi Wilson, President
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Jim Arthur, Director
Chuck Corwin, Director
Rick Grant, Director
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Cam Torstenson, Past President
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Mark McAndrews, Exec Treas

Future Programs

9/25: Mike Wallace
Dallas County Conservation

10/2: Rotary Volunteers

CGMBR Club Report

The inaugural Charles Gabus Memorial Bike Ride was held on July 5th, 2009, starting at the Walker Johnson Park in Urbandale and following that cities trail system.



Distance choices of 5 miles, 20 miles and even 60 miles were options for the 100 riders. Participants were served hamburgers and hot dogs before and after the ride. There were 32 members of the club (over half) that participated on the day of the event. Day of the event Committees included Registration/Packet Pick up, Family Fun Activities, Food and Beverage, Bike Trails/Course, and the Clean Up team.

The project was strongly supported by sponsorship from 37 cash donors, with over half were from Northwest Rotary members. The total from sponsors was \$23,300. In addition there were 10 in-kind donors

A Raffle offering a bike and other prizes grossed \$5,375.

Beneficiaries include Reach Out and Read, Urbandale School 4th Grade dictionary purchase, Urbandale Police, Urbandale Parks and Recreation (for trail improvement) and the Des Moines Bicycle Collective. The Collective reconditions donated old bikes. They are made available to kids, homeless and near homeless and refugees that need inexpensive transportation.

Assistance with information and encouragement was provided by the Janesville WS Morning Rotary Club. They have had a bike ride for eight years.

Co-chairs of the event were Gene Gabus and Chuck Corwin. A committee of 15 club members met on a bi-weekly basis for breakfast for nine months to plan the event.

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



We'll Be Singing . . .

Opening: My Country 'Tis of Thee

Song Time:

The 4-Way Test (#18)

In the Good Old Summertime (#39)

Future Information

Program

Chairperson:

Gil DeRoos

Chuck Corwin, Sep. 25

Diana Reed, Oct. 2

Leslie Malcom, Oct. 9

Greeters

Chairperson:

Nancy Johnson

Leslie Malcom, Sep. 25

Wanda Armstrong, Oct. 2

Jim Arthur, Oct. 9

Invocation

Chairperson:

Jim Pittman

John Pittman, Sep. 25

Jim Pittman, Oct. 2

Roger Nyberg, Oct. 9

Sergeant

Chairperson:

Kevin Smith

Richard Keith, Sep. 25

Gene Gabus, Oct. 2

Bill Grask, Oct. 9

Scribe

Chairperson:

Larry Sample

Julia Taylor, Sep. 25

Tim Walpole, Oct. 2

Dick Amick, Oct. 9