



ROTARY CLUB OF WEST EL PASO

P.O. Box 13164 * El Paso, TX 79913

Website: www.rotarywestelpaso.org

Email: westelpasorotary@elp.rr.com



Newsletter - Week of November 28, 2011

This Week: On Monday - *November 28* - Carey will talk about his mission trip to El Salvador.

- *December 5* - Sofia Fernandez (Outbound Youth Exchange Student) will review her thoughts about Denmark

- *December 12* - Speaker to be announced at a later date.

- *December 19* - Beate Burdett & Candlelighters - Our annual holiday gift basket meeting.

Family Adoption Awareness Picnic: November was National Adoption Awareness Month--The 2nd Annual El Paso Adoption Awareness Picnic took place on November 19th. Earlier in the morning 21 children were officially adopted in a ceremony at El Paso City Hall into their forever families from having been in the CFPS Foster Program, a few of the families came to the picnic and were celebrated. The event is one of several hundred that have taken place over the years that helps to link Child and Family Protective Services across the state of Texas and other cities in the nation to facilitate meetings of foster children with potential "forever adoptive families". Although he is very humble about admitting it, Lionel Betancourt from San Benito, TX helped to promote the first one with his club over a decade ago and most of the other ones that have taken place nationwide. He has flown to El Paso three times to help promote this event and the ones in Southern New Mexico that are sponsored by the Rotary Club of Anthony. He will fly to any city that has service with Southwest Airlines to help promote an event and has gone to Rotary International Conventions the last several years to help promote adoption worldwide.

It was a beautiful autumn day at the Horseshoe Farm and Ranch in the Lower Valley owned by Bill and Lupe Dempsey (who used to be a CASA volunteer). About 150 members of foster families and foster children were celebrated at the picnic. The Rotary Club West El Paso and the Rotary Club of East El Paso sponsored the event with monetary donations solicited by Ashlee Wells, a senior at UTEP and daughter of Tom Wells, Lupe Dempsey, Elizabeth Muller from CFPS. Tom Wells a former member of the East Club brought his horses from Sierra Blanca to the event as the main attraction/entertainment for the families. Many of the children had never seen a horse, much less ride one. The donations helped to pay for all of the food, and the entertainment. There were two Interact Students representing Franklin HS (Sofia Fernandez and her friend Jacob Hupfer,) and three from Coronado HS (Brianna Carmen, Vianni Paquian, and Ana Sofia Tribaldos) who were very busy painting faces of children and two Rotaract members from UTEP helping at the sack races. Our own Carina Munoz, Francis Reyes, and Rafael Padilla helped extensively with the serving line. The club members present from the East Club were Bill Sparks, Jack Fairall and Luis Palacios. The food served were hotdogs, cheeseburgers, chips and fruit for dessert.

The event steering committee members were Gail Gale (RCWEP), Ashlee Wells, Lupe Dempsey, Elizabeth Muller (DFPS), Luis Zamaripe (DFPS) and Tom Wells. Thanks to everyone for a fun time and a job well done.

Sad News: Valerie Maros' brother passed away on November 18th. Remember Valerie in your prayers and be sure to express your condolences to her in this time of need.

Hanksgiving: Hanks High School Interact club in collaboration with Rotary Club of West El Paso, East El Paso Rotary, Coronado and Fabens Interact clubs organized its community program called "HANKSGIVING". This year Interactors assembled and distributed 500 boxes of food to needy families residing in the area and also in shelters like: Open Arms, Salvation Army, Dame La Mano, Sacred Heart, Villa Maria, Rescue Mission, Ronald McDonald House, among others. The Rotary Club of West El Paso contributed with an in-kind donation of 7 turkeys and boxes of stuffing with a value of \$100. For 4 days, high school students and volunteers prepared the food baskets and distributed to the assigned families. Interactors are a great example of how youth can make a positive impact in the lives of the people in our community.

Australia RFE (Rotary Friendship Exchange)

The [Rotary Friendship Exchange](#) is a program enabling Rotarians and their families to carry out reciprocal visits with Rotarians and their families in countries other than their own, either on an individual or team basis. It provides them with an opportunity to experience other cultures firsthand. Introduced in 1984, this program aims to advance international understanding among Rotarians by offering them an opportunity to form personal contacts and make long-lasting friendships while exploring different areas of the world.



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Interact Friendship Exchange
"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"



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Gerri Wootten recently returned from a multi-week RFE trip to Australia with other District 5520 Rotarians, including PDG Dick Jones. To quote Gerri: " Planes, trains, buses, and automobiles – We did it all while in Australia. Arrived in Melbourne, and spent the next 3 days touring the area west of the city with the Werribee-Wyndham Rotary Club, on a minibus we rented. We saw a zoo, toured an historic mansion, drove along the coast road west of Melbourne for a day. Then we moved to Bendigo, a 2 hour train ride northwest from Melbourne, visited museums, a gold mine, rode a river boat, lunch with the kookaburras, a wedding dress exhibit (!), and just about anything else they wanted us to see. After 4 days, it was back on the train to Kyneton, a little closer back toward Melbourne. Three days of picnics, rock climbing, a visit to the field where flight first took place in Australia, and lots of winery visits. Then another train to Melbourne and the Hawthorn Rotary Club. Now we are in the city, and city sights. We visited the Tutankhamen exhibit, the Museum of Modern Art, churches, strolled the streets of a truly beautiful city, sat in a sidewalk café by the river and watched the working world go by. It was a wonderful experience and I hope anyone who can do it, takes advantage of the opportunity. We had fantastic hosts and have made lifelong friends. "

Here are a few pics from one of my hosts. The first pic is my hostess Gaeleen, Dick Jones and me. They were taken at the train station while we prepared to move to out next town. The last one is of some of the group climbing a rocky outcropping that many tourists visit in the area.



El Salvador Humanitarian Mission:

Carey & Donna Beamesderfer spent two weeks in the country of El Salvador from November 7-21 on a Rotary Mission trip to build a home for a family in the village of San Jose Villaneuva. They will present pictures and details of their trip at Monday's club meeting. Read their report at: <http://www.rotarywestelpaso.org/news/ELS2.pdf>



Rotary Minute: Rotary International is a worldwide organization. With more than 32,000 clubs in over 200 countries & geographical areas, Rotarians gain an understanding of humanitarian issues through international service projects and exchange programs. Rotary was also founded on fellowship, an ideal that remains a major attraction of membership today. Club members enjoy the camaraderie with like-minded professionals, and club projects offer additional opportunities to develop enduring friendships. Rotary club members who travel have friendly contacts in almost every city in the world. One of Rotary's highest objectives is to build goodwill and peace throughout the world. Rotary Friendship Exchange, Youth Exchange, Volunteer Mission Projects, Ambassadorial Scholarships, and Rotary Fellowships and Action Groups all represent Rotarians reaching out to the world to become better citizens. Check on the next page to find out one of the requirements for an Eagle Scout to be a "Citizen of the World."



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Attention: Citizens of the World? This is what you need to do to earn the Boy Scout "Citizenship in the World Merit Badge." It's one of the badges required to become an Eagle Scout. Are you up to the challenge? Can you:

1. Explain what citizenship in the world means to you and what you think it takes to be a good world citizen.
2. Explain how one becomes a citizen in the United States, and explain the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizenship. Discuss the similarities and differences between the rights, duties, and obligations of U.S. citizens and the citizens of two other countries.
3. Do the following:
 - a. Pick a current world event. In relation to this current event, discuss with your counselor how a country's national interest and its relationship with other countries might affect areas such as its security, its economy, its values, and the health of its citizens.
 - b. Select a foreign country and discuss with your counselor how its geography, natural resources, and climate influence its economy and its global partnerships with other countries.
4. Do TWO of the following:
 - a. Explain international law and how it differs from national law. Explain the role of international law and how international law can be used as a tool for conflict resolution.
 - b. Using resources such as major daily newspapers, the Internet, and news magazines, observe a current issue that involves international trade, foreign exchange, balance of payments, tariffs, and free trade. Explain what you have learned. Include in your discussion an explanation of why countries must cooperate in order for world trade and global competition to thrive.
 - c. Select TWO of the following organizations and describe their role in the world.
 1. The United Nations
 2. The World Court
 3. World Organization of the Scout Movement
 4. The World Health Organization
 5. Amnesty International
 6. The International Committee of the Red Cross
 7. CARE
 8. Rotary International
5. Do the following:
 - a. Discuss the differences between constitutional and non-constitutional governments.
 - b. Name at least five different types of governments currently in power in the world.
 - c. Show on a world map countries that use each of these five different forms of government.
6. Do the following:
 - a. Explain how a government is represented abroad and how the United States government is accredited to international organizations.
 - b. Describe the roles of the following in the conduct of foreign relations.
 1. Ambassador
 2. Consul
 3. Bureau of International Information Programs
 4. Agency for International Development
 5. United States and Foreign Commercial Service
 - c. Explain the purpose of a passport and visa for international travel.
7. Do TWO of the following and share with your counselor what you have learned:
 - a. Visit the Web site (of the U.S. State Department. Learn more about an issue you find interesting that is discussed on this Web site.
 - b. Visit the Web site of an international news organization or foreign government, OR examine a foreign newspaper available at your local library, bookstore, or newsstand. Find a news story about a human right realized in the United States that is not recognized in another country.
 - c. Visit with a student or Scout from another country and discuss the typical values, holidays, ethnic foods, and traditions practiced or enjoyed there.
 - d. Attend a world Scout jamboree.
 - e. Participate in or attend an international event in your area, such as an ethnic festival, concert, or play.



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