

LA MESA



Rotary Club of West El Paso

VOLUME 44 NUMBER 2

JANUARY 13, 2008

NEW CLUB OFFICER NOMINEES ANNOUNCED FOR NEW ROTARY YEAR

The Club's Nominating Committee is recommending the following slate of nominee officers for the Club. If approved by the membership by vote at the January 28th Club meeting, these officers will begin their terms when the new Rotary year starts on July 1, 2008. Thanks to this group of outstanding Rotarians for stepping forward for an additional measure of service to the Club and to our community in the coming Rotary year.

Jesse Allen - President
LuAnn Wieland - President-Elect
Karen Walton - Vice President
Carey Beamesderfer - Secretary
Sofia Kaplan - Treasurer
Jim Weddell - Sergeant-At-Arms

Rob Sesich - Club Service
Burt Blacksher - Public Relations
Dana Vogelmeier - Community service
Gail Gales - Youth Service
David Veloz - Vocational Service
Chava Gonzalez - International Service

UPCOMING ROTARY EVENTS

January may be the lull after the busy December holidays in some quarters, but not on the Rotary calendar. We have the following Club activities planned for the New Year. For more detailed information, see the "meetings" our new and improved Club website at www.westelpasorotary.org:

- Our Rotary District 5520 will be once again using a raffle for a cruise to raise funds for Rotary. Club member Gerri Wootten will be handling the sale of tickets which cost \$10 each – all members are asked to buy and/or sell at least ten tickets. This year's cruise will be a Fall foliage cruise up the New England coast from October 12th to 19th. For all of you "desert rats" out there who have only seen Fall foliage in pictures or have been limited to the golden Aspens in Cloudcroft, a great opportunity to see what people in the Mid-West and New England get to see each Fall.
- President Ken Slavin announced that the regular monthly Board Meeting of the Club will be held tomorrow, January 14th right after the Club Meeting. All members are welcome to attend.
- 15th Annual Celebrity Chef will be held on January 25th. For more details go this link on the Club's website: <http://www.rotarywestelpaso.org/spev/Chef.pdf>

- District 5520 Day of Service is March 29th. Dana Vogelmeier and David Veloz will be coordinating a blood drive as our Club's contribution to this District 5520-wide day of service.
- District 5520 Convention here in El Paso on April 24th to 26th.

AMBASSADORIAL SCHOLAR, LARAE MALOOLY, SPEAKS TO CLUB

Those who attended the first Club meeting of 2008 on January 7th left the meeting with an improved understanding of the people of the Netherlands and a better understanding of their view of America, and of such is the mission of Rotary's Ambassadorial Scholarship program.



Larae Malooly, who is from El Paso, completed a year in Amsterdam as an Ambassadorial Scholar. She is continuing to live in Amsterdam while she completes a Masters Degree there in International Relations.

Ambassadorial Scholarships which were begun in 1947, are Rotary Foundation's oldest and best-known program. Since then, nearly 38,000 men and women from about 100 nations have studied abroad under its auspices. Today it is the world's largest privately funded international scholarships program. Nearly 800 scholarships were awarded for study in 2005-06. Through grants totaling approximately US\$500 million, recipients from about 70 countries studied in more than 70 nations.

The purpose of the Ambassadorial Scholarships program is to further international understanding and friendly relations among people of different countries and geographical areas. The program sponsors several types of scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students as well as for qualified professionals pursuing vocational studies. While abroad, scholars serve as goodwill ambassadors to the host country and give presentations about their homelands to Rotary clubs and other groups. Upon returning home, scholars share with Rotarians and others the experiences that led to a greater understanding of their host country.

Those that heard Larae speak and saw her slide presentation, would agree that she fulfilled this program's goal to be "goodwill ambassadors to the host country, and to give presentations about their homelands to Rotary clubs and other group". Larae told the Club that she has already made this presentation to many other El Paso Clubs with plans to present to all of the City's clubs.

Larae is funding much of her stay now in Amsterdam by serving as a European tour guide for two American companies. She is in the midst of writing her master's thesis.

Editor's note: At the last Club meeting you heard member Ric LoBello comment on his trip to the Rio Bosque Wetlands, located in the Lower Valley in El Paso. Below are portions of an article he contributed to the Chihuahuan Desert Education Coalition newsletter about these Wetlands – a wonderful feature of El Paso that many of us have now discovered thanks to Ric.

New Years Day at Rio Bosque Wetlands

by Rick LoBello



If you have not visited Rio Bosque Wetlands Park, now is a great time. The park is open daily and entrance is free. For more information visit the park's website at www.riobosque.org. This wetland area is very important to many resident and migratory birds including those shown below. **Each species was seen in the park on New Years Day, 2008.**

American wigeons are commonly seen in winter. USFW Photo.

Red-tailed hawks are easily identified by their red-tails.

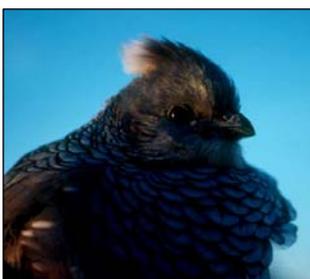
Robert Shantz Photo.



American coots are commonly seen but often confused to be ducks. They are actually members of the Rail Family. USFW Photo.



Northern pintail, USFWPhoto.



Cotton-top or scaled quail. Two species of quail live in the park. Rick LoBello Photo.



... stripped gears



Test your Rotary and Sports Knowledge!! The photo at the left is:

- a) A disgruntled Giants fan who thinks the Cowboys won the playoff game today
- b) A Cowboys fan who is trying to blame today's score on the pigeon!
- c) A totally confused Ohio State football fan who hasn't recovered from the loss to LSU last week
- d) Member Ingo Klein with a favorite hat at a recent Club Meeting.

West El Paso Rotary Upcoming Programs

- ✓ January 14th - David Dodge – The Importance of BRAC to El Paso
- ✓ January 21st - To be determined

Rotary Websites

Rotary Club of West El Paso
www.rotarywestelpaso.org

Rotary District 5520
www.rotary5520.org

Rotary International
www.rotary.org

eClubOne
<http://www.rotaryclubone.org>

The 4-Way Test

Members of Rotary use a simple test to guide their actions in life. Here it is:

“The 4-Way Test of the things we think, say or do:

1st Is it the TRUTH?

2nd Is it FAIR to all concerned?

3rd Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER

FRIENDSHIPS?

4TH Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?”

ROTARY CLUB OF WEST EL PASO

Officers

President	Ken Slavin
President Elect	Jesse Allen
Vice President	LuAnn Wieland
Secretary	Pat Brower
Treasurer	Mike Schmid
Sergeant at Arms	Bart Oglesby
Past President	Ric Ligner

Directors

Club Service	Rob Sesich
Vocational Services	Irma White
Community Service	Dana Vogelmeier
Youth Services	Carey Beamesderfer
International Services	Chava Gonzalez

District Officers

Governor	Jackie Morgan
Assistant Governor	Jimmy Melver

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Wes Schotten

La Mesa is published by the Rotary Club of West El Paso, Inc.

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