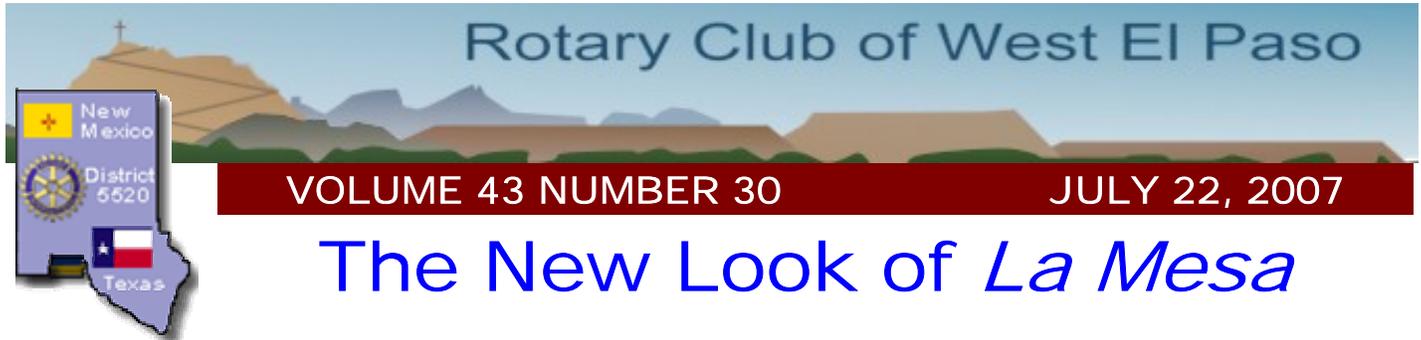


LA MESA



For quite a few years, Ric Ligner has published our newsletter while Ric and I more recently have both, along with other members, contributed stories and photos. Beginning with this issue I will take over the publishing (graphics and layout, etc.). As many of you know Ric is a graphics professional, and I'm, well, just a hack, so

bear with me a bit as I come up to speed. A large "thank you" to Ric for all his work on La Mesa in past years!

Got something to contribute to La Mesa? wes@thehayesgroupintl.com.

- Wes Schotten, La Mesa Editor

Rotary Websites

Rotary Club of West El Paso
www.rotaryweselpaso.org

Rotary District 5520
www.rotary5520.org

Rotary International
www.rotary.org

West El Paso Rotary – Upcoming Programs

July 23rd – County Attorney Jose Rodriguez
who will be speaking on the public corruption investigation in El Paso – a great time to invite a potential member guest!

July 30th – Club Assembly



ONE MORE TIME . . . ALL ABOUT OUR PARADE!

What a parade!! It was our Tenth Annual 4th of July Parade. The smiles and excitement of some twenty thousand spectators that lined the parade route were proof positive of its success.

Just a few days before the parade, our entries numbered only about fifty. By 9:00 AM when the Parade

pulled out of the staging areas, that number had magically swelled to eighty-two entrants, requiring a spill over staging area in the Western Hills School parking lot. As usual, West Side Rotarians responded to this last minute challenge with ease and aplomb and all went off with nary a hiccup.

Perhaps most spectacular of all was the work done on our new Club float – see the metamorphosis below from concept to reality with the Wounded Warrior Parade Marshals on board.

A big thanks to Cliff Walsh and his Parade Committee who began planning this all in January. The Committee did a great job of orchestrating hundreds of details to be taken care of by dozens of Club members, spouses and other volunteers.

From Concept to Reality – the New Club Float



The design is complete



Last minute details at the Parade site



The finished product, complete with our Parade Marshals

New Club Officers Sworn in at Installation Banquet



Some fifty West El Paso Rotarians and their guests gathered at the El Paso Tennis & Swim Club on the evening of June 27th to enjoy some food and fellowship, and to install our new slate of Club officers for the new Club year which began on July 1st.

Dan Schulte, former District 5520 Governor and long-time El Paso Rotarian served as guest speaker and recounted the history of Rotary District 5520 to the group.

Dan also did the honors, by swearing in the new officers who will be led by new Club President, Ken Slavin.

At the left: New West El Paso Rotary President Ken Slavin (left) is installed by former District Governor, Dan Schulte (right)



Dan Schulte speaks to members and guests at the June 27th Installation Banquet



Ken's Korner—Rotarians Matter

Who am I? Why am I here? You may have asked those questions lately especially after the "Chicken Dance." When I was invited to join Rotary 13 years ago, I did not know much about Rotary other than it was a service club of business people and most big cities had a few. At the time, I was searching for some outlet to be able to give back to my community. Little did I know, Rotary offered that opportunity plus much more: a way to have an impact on the world! From polio eradication to fighting malaria to promoting world peace through peace scholars to computers for an African school to a Juarez school for street kids to camp RYLA to school supplies for needy El Paso kids to our 4th of July Parade to our exchange student, you touch people and change lives daily—kinda cool, isn't it?

If you think so, then I ask two things: (1) get involved more by signing up for a committee at our July 30 Club assembly and (2) "Share Rotary" with a friend who would make a great new member for our club. Growing up, my father would always tell me: "Ken, by the time you die, make sure that it mattered that you lived." Rotary gives us the opportunity to matter and what a great gift that is to us if we take advantage of it. Let's have a great Rotary Year!

Ken Slavin
2007-2008 President,
Rotary Club of West El Paso

Closing notes . . .

Just a few of the dozens of volunteers that made our Parade the success that it was!!

