

# LA MESA



Rotary Club of West El Paso

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## 15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CELEBRITY CHEF GALA

*By Wes Schotten, La Mesa Editor*

On the evening of January 25<sup>th</sup>, El Paso Rotarians and friends of the community gathered at the Celebrity Chef gala held at the El Paso Convention Center. This event raises money for the Texas Tech School of Medicine in El Paso. Six El Paso Rotary Clubs sponsor the event, including our own Rotary Club of West El Paso. Nineteen El Paso chefs, representing nineteen El Paso eating establishments, were represented and served over five hundred diners. Everything from sweet potatoes and ribs to “Sambuca Panna Cotta with a Wild Berry Caramel and topped with a Champagne Zabaglione” were presented for the enjoyment of the lucky participants. A personal favorite (I had two) was the “Fruit Empanada in a Pecan-Run Sauce” concocted by Chef Roger Canales from *Savor El Paso*.



*Photo Above: Mango's at Nash Gardens featured "Fig, Goat Cheese and Prociutto Pizza"*

Rotarians serving and being served were in evidence everywhere. Over a dozen of our Club members worked the event by bussing tables and performing other duties in exchange for eating the delicious food. The Rotary Club of West El Paso sponsored one table of ten persons at a \$100 each – Ken Slavin and wife Suzanna, Chava Gonzalez and wife Margarita, Jesse Allen and his wife Ann, and Wes Schotten and his wife Anna were among those who bought seats at the Club's table. For \$100 each, these lucky folks got to eat full-time without the bothersome distraction of bussing tables and other work!

Veterans briefed newbies on the best techniques for selecting among the nineteen food stations – start early to avoid the lines; long lines usually mean good food; pace yourself and leave room for deserts. Even the disorganized with no plan ended up well fed but overwhelmed with the variety.

Before dinner began and until well after, auctions of the silent type and the live type as well as the sale of raffle tickets for themed baskets of goodies were conducted. The ultimate affirmation of the gluttony of some occurred when auctioneer Larry Otten yelled "Sold!" late in the festivities as someone bid over fifteen thousand dollars for a new Harley Davidson "Fat Boy" (?) motorcycle to cap the evening's auctions.

In addition to the great food and fellowship one of our male Club members put it well – "This is a great date to take your wife on".



*Top Left: Suzanna and Ken Slavin enjoying the Celebrity Chef activities;*

*Top Right: Our Exchange Student from Switzerland, Salome Koller stops by to say hello at the WELP table between her volunteer duties at Celebrity Chef*

*Left: A set of \$10 raffle tickets bought a chance to win one of dozens of themed gift baskets at Celebrity Chef.*



... stripped gears



## West El Paso Rotary Upcoming Programs

- ✓ **January 28<sup>th</sup> - Not Known to the Editor as we go to print, but probably something related to fitness for the new year!**

### Rotary Websites

**Rotary Club of West El Paso**  
[www.rotarywestelpaso.org](http://www.rotarywestelpaso.org)

**Rotary District 5520**  
[www.rotary5520.org](http://www.rotary5520.org)

**Rotary International**  
[www.rotary.org](http://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:**

**1<sup>st</sup> Is it the TRUTH?**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Is it FAIR to all concerned?**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**

**4<sup>TH</sup> 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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