



## East Wichita Rotary: The Yankees of Rotary clubs

# Rotary Notary

April 7 2010

### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

TIMOTHY O'SULLIVAN	7
DAMON SCHIMMING	11
JESS FRIEZE	13
OWEN MCEWEN	13
SUE PEARCE	20
MARC CAMPBELL	23
SY FISCHER	23

### Speaker: Deborah Fischer Stout, Northern Flyer Alliance

Have you ridden a train? If so, when was the last time? Train travel may become more commonplace in a few years thanks to the efforts of Deborah Fischer Stout and the Northern Flyer Alliance.

“Transportation is the key to economic growth,” said Deborah, who claims studies show a 3.2-1 return on investment before the end of the first year in operation, projected for 2014.

Her plan is to “close a 200 mile gap” in train travel between Wichita and Ft. Worth TX. With this connection, one could ride from Chicago to Kansas City to



Wichita to Ft. Worth.

The route was closed in 1979, Deborah said, due to budge cutbacks.

Deborah anticipates around

175,000 riders per year, who will enjoy benefits such as cheaper travel than a plane or car, safer travel, and the ability to work and sleep while traveling, something one can't do—or shouldn't do—while driving. Can you imagine the number of text messages you could safely send while in the train rather than driving?

To best capitalize on travelers spending money along the route, the train schedule would be only during the day.

During a recent ice storm in the Dallas area, airports and roads were closed but trains still ran.

### CALENDAR

- *APRIL 14-Mike Smith, "The Phantom Crashes"*
- *APRIL 21-Jack Pelton, Cessna*
- *APRIL 28-Lucy Alfonso, Spanish Teacher, The Independent School*
- *MAY 5-Janice Smith, TOP Learning Center*

### A rich man's joke is always funny

**Jon Bachura** of YEK thanked those of us who've volunteered in the tutoring program: **John Alefs, Jim Boone, Rigby Carey, Lee Elrick, Phyllis Hampel, John Hoffman, Jerry Jones, Mike Loveland, Elton Parsons, Jaden Randle, Fred Thurlow.**

The 27th annual Wichita Children's Home golf tournament is May 17 at Crestview Country Club. New this

year is a Junior Golf Clinic. PGA touring pro **Woody Austin** will be the speaker at the dinner on May 16 then **Woody** will play one hole with each group during the tourney.

The River Festival ticket booth sheet will be on **Cindy's** desk. We'll sell tickets for the Food Court on May 10 and 13.

Thanks to **Jim Pirtle** from D-

O-C-S on Command we have a new, improved Rotary roster. This is the picture **Andy Anderson** chose for himself:



## Health Care, Kevin Rathert-style



Kevin's recent heart and liver transplants cost \$800,000

Kevin Rathert shared with our table his recent bout with life and death.

Kevin said he noticed a problem in late 2006: "I couldn't run very far. I had to stop and catch my breath so I thought, 'Something's going on.'"

Initially, the diagnosis was heart attack, however, Kevin mentioned to the cardiologist that his mother died at 59 due to a blood disorder: "The blood jams your heart until it can't

pump."

It's a hereditary problem so there's a 50% chance that Kevin's young children will be affected.

Because Kevin was still determined to be healthy, even though he was told he'd need a heart and liver transplant, Kevin had to wait to qualify for the list.

Eventually, his health deteriorated to the point where he qualified for the list then was told he'd have to wait 1-

2 years.

So Kevin was placed on the list on a Monday and called the following Sunday. The catch: he had to be at the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota in four hours or he'd lose his spot on the list.

Kevin arranged a private plan to get him to the Clinic where he received the transplants.

"Life is a gift," Kevin said, "I will tell you that."

## Beware of the young doctor and the old barber

*Greeter-Rigby Carey*

*Prayer-Spencer Stelljes*

*Announcements-Britt Fulmer* sought news so **Randy Sumner** announced that he recently celebrated his 35th wedding anniversary.

Britt said a new, over-bearing boss wanted to eliminate all slacking at the factory. During a tour, the boss noticed a kid leaning

against a wall. The boss asked the kid how much he made per week. The kid said \$400. So the boss gave him \$1600, told him to leave, and never return. The boss then asked another employee about the kid. "Oh," the employee said, "he's a pizza delivery man."

**Dave Sproul** said we've raised almost half of the \$50,000 for the George Fah-

nestock scholarship fund.

**Tim Link** said after recruiting 13 new members, we're one short of our goal of 145 East Rotarians and we have "12-14" more in the pipeline. The recruiting competition continues until April. "Our recruiting will never end," Tim said, "But this has given us a nice booster shot."

**POLIO PLUS  
CAMPAIGN**

**WSU - \$870**

**KSU - \$310**

**KU - \$250**

## A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory

On the ABC News program 20/20 last Friday was the story of local youngster Chase Kear, who suffered a severe head injury while pole-vaulting.

The neurosurgeon who treated Chase is Dr. Raymond Grundmeyer, from the Abay Neuroscience Center where I'm the Administra-

tor.

Initially, Dr. Grundmeyer didn't think Chase could be saved. Yet, the family asked Dr. Grundmeyer to perform surgery. Dr. Grundmeyer agreed though warned the family that Chase, if he survived, could be non-functioning. However, fol-

lowing surgery, Chase recovered, a condition Dr. Grundmeyer called "miraculous."

The Vatican sent a representative to our office to interview Dr. Grundmeyer to determine if this is a miracle. The Vatican hasn't completed its investigation but if nothing else, this has been memorable for all involved.



*Will it be beneficial to all concerned*