

Rotary Notary

Speaker: Janice Smith, The Opportunity Project

If you want to build a house for your favorite mouse, where would you begin?

Would you have a roof? Would it be made of cheese? After all, it's the

The kids these days are smarter than we are



mouse you aim to please.

Not only is The Opportunity Project (TOP) performing an invaluable service for a sometimes forgotten segment of our population, but the

goal is to make learning fun.

"I think we need more than ever people who can problem solve and communicate," said Janice Smith, who runs the two Opportunity Project locations in Wichita.

TOP was founded 10 years ago thanks to the ideas and funding of the Barry and Paula Downing Foundation. Janice has been with the organization since its inception.

TOP focuses on providing education to low income families. The first location was in Wichita's lowest income area, Oaklawn. The second location opened four years ago near The Boys and Girls Club in Northeast Wichita.

One of the unique learning programs is DWLS, Open Windows Learning Studios. It's in that envi-

ronment where the kids might be tasked to build a mouse house. In the process, the kids learn about construction and caring for pets. Or the kids might be assigned to build a castle. While doing so, they determine what one might do inside the structure and they learn about the history of castles and the events of the era.

The short-term goal, Janice said, is to make the kids "Kindergarten ready."

Without TOP, the kids' parents might not be able to afford day care and might not be able to work.

With TOP, each kid is monitored until, hopefully, they reach college.

It's a good investment, Janice said. For each dollar spent, we save \$7 in future social services.

Business Brief: Brian Burrus, Industrial Uniform

Brian Burrus is the co-owner of Industrial Uniform and Logo Depot, which specializes in work apparel and "trinkets and trash," industry slang for pens, mouse pads, magnetic business cards, etc.

The company has 22 employees, one who of whom is retiring soon after 44 years with the organization.

Brian said his company sells to all

types of businesses, such as restaurant chains, gas companies, aircraft manufacturers, etc.

Brian said one of the popular new offerings is a Web site enabling employees to order their own work apparel.

Recently, IU/LD added embroidery and screen printing to its list of services.

The company was founded in 1938, was at Washington and Waterman for 47 years then moved a few months ago to 902 E. Indianapolis.

Eating tip-Brian's friend, **John Hurst**, was taught by his Mother to eat deliberately. John will take a bite, wipe his mouth, take a drink, then repeat. "People won't invite me to dinner anymore," John said, "because I don't finish eating until midnight."

CALENDAR

- > **MAY 12**-Fireside-Riverfest Food Court
- > **MAY 19**-To be determined
- > **MAY 26**-Mac Carter, Better Business Bureau
- > **JUNE 2**-No Meeting

BIRTHDAYS

DENISE IRWIN	5/7
KAREN NORTON	5/7
DUKE EVANS	5/17
BARRY PURDY	5/25
JAMES REMSBERG	5/28
JIM BIEHLER	5/31
MICHAEL LOVELAND	5/31

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



There are more fools in the world than there are people

Greeter-**Angie Holladay**

Prayer-**Larry McNeil**

Guests-Past President **Steve Taylor** introduced periodic member **Dr. John Schlicher**, who, like many of us, is follically challenged. "John thinks if you comb your hair with something other than a washcloth," Steve said, "you are taking too much time."

Announcements-**Britt Fulmer** said **Reuben Saunders** and

John Alefs were pictured in the paper at the Sunrise Scrambler.

As Past President **Mike O'Bryhim** made his regal entrance today, he noticed breakfast for lunch. "My favorite meal," Mike said. **Jess Frieze** replied, "Mike, every meal is your favorite meal."

Britt said a scrawny computer geek was drinking at a bar when a large biker type entered, pushed the geek aside, and drank his liquor. The geek began crying

uncontrollably. The biker dude was shocked by the wimpy reaction. The geek said, "I've had the worst day of my life. I was fired from my job, my wife ran away with another man, my car was stolen, and I decided to end it all by pouring poison in my drink to end it all. Then some idiot like you shows up and drinks it."

The Wichita Children's Home golf tourney and accompany events are May 16 and 17 at Crestview Country Club.

Talk sense to a fool and he calls you foolish

New member-**Howard Lachenmayr** introduced **Don Baxter**, who owns the investment firm of Baxter & Associates. Don can be heard on Sunday mornings on KNSS radio.

River Festival -We're one person away from filling all spots in the Food Court ticket sales. See **Karen Norton** if you want to work from 3

to 5 p.m. next Thursday. Also, you get an East Wichita Rotary car magnet but ensure it adheres to your vehicle. Past President **Sue Pearce** saw the magnetic signs, 2' wide and 1' tall, and thought those were our new name badges. Our meeting next week is at that very Food Court. We'll meet at the NE corner of Century II at noon.

Membership drive-**Tim Link** said **Karen "The Closer" Norton** was first with four new members. Karen received \$250. There was a 10-way tie for 2nd with one new member each. In a drawing, **Mike O'Bryhim** was 2nd and won \$150 **Howard Lachenmayr** was 3rd and received \$100. We've added 14 new members for a total of 145.

WORD DUH JOUR

Rubicund

(adjective)

[ROO-bi-kahnd]

Inclined to a healthy reddish color

Looking for summer fun: Try Zipping



The Zip Line is the most fun you can have attached to a cord above a mountain

Steph and I went to Branson last weekend and we were among the first group to ride the new Zip Line. The only problem with that: as we entered the facility, they were still building the platform where we'd finish the ride then jump 60' to the ground. So after a delay of about an hour, our adventure began. We rode a jeep half-way up a mountain to the starting platform. One quarter mile away

was the end. That was a little unnerving. There were 13 of us in the group and Steph and I were last so we were able to watch the others deal with the stress. We were fitted with mountain-climbing-type gear then one-by-one, our cords were attached to a pulley and a strong cable. To begin, you simply step off a platform about 30' above ground. The ride was great. It lasts around 30 seconds

at 50 MPH and before you know it, you're at the destination platform. Interestingly, that's when most people were most uncomfortable. Similar to a bungee jump, you're attached to a cord that drops you straight to the ground. One lady said she couldn't do it. She sat for several minutes before finally pushing herself off the platform. She landed safely. As did all of us.