



Fair to All Concerned? There was table talk, tough play and good fun at the 2nd Annual CWR Euchre Party

Winners:

**Art Warren and Mark Ritz** in the 1<sup>st</sup> round; **Steve Whitsitt and Chris Hansen** in the second round.

Thanks to **Anita Broeren** for hosting; **Barb Burch, Cindy Somers, Jon Rector, Art, Cindy and Matthew Warren, Jane Solon, Christie Martin, Race Racioppi and Rachael Wright** for helping with set-up and take-down. There were seven tables (28 players) in each round and by all accounts the event was great fun. Looking forward to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual.



### Mark Your Calendar:

- Feb. 18 – Art Warren will speak to the club about the Bag Toss
- March 26 – Latino Day at Parkland College (Service Project)
- April 8 – Arrival of GSE Team from India

### Your Tin Cup Dollars – February, 2009

#### Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club Toy Box Auction

The Steak and Burger event, a major fundraiser for Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club, will be held on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn. This year it will include an “event within an event” which is a Toy Box Auction. In general, this is how the event will work:

There will be up to ten handcrafted boxes of varying sizes which are being designed and donated by Gary Hentges of Hentges Construction. Boxes will be themed by package and feature toys for kids and grown ups of all ages. The boxes will be auctioned off in a silent auction the night of the event. Sponsorship of boxes is \$500.00.

Sponsorship to fill boxes would start at a value of \$250. DMBGC is hoping to display some of the boxes in the sponsors’ places of business before the event; and sponsorship recognition would be placed with the box if displayed prior to event, as well as recognition the night of the event. All proceeds will go to the Don Moyer Boys and Girls Club.

**Our Tin Cup dollars for February will go toward sponsorship of one Toy Box for the auction.**

Questions or want to donate more? Contact Champaign West member **Cathy Tanner**, who is the Chair of the Toy Box Auction, 217.403.3301.

### *At the December and January Board Meetings:*

#### December:

The board approved requests from **Greg Gonda** and **Dave Keeling** for Senior Attendance Excused status. The board also approved leave of absence requests submitted by **Darren Myers** (who has a new baby at home) and **John Clausen** (who broke his leg badly in December).

Two prospective members were approved subject to the 7-day notice – **Sarah Shea**, proposed by **Jim Butler**; and **Dan Shunk**, proposed by **Aaron Buckley**.

**Mike Hirschi** reported that the estimate for the septic system for the Rotary homes in Azacualpa came in at around \$21,000.00. We have access to a District Simplified Grant of \$1,500 that can be applied to this, providing the project is complete by July, 2009. It is also possible the cost can be reduced.

The board discussed the concept of “adopting” the Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club, including taking over as signature presenter of the new Bag Toss fundraising event that DMBGC began in 2008.

#### January:

Three more prospective members were approved subject to the 7-day Notice - **Karen Foster** (sponsored by **Tom Hodson**); **Joseph Thurman** (sponsored by **Bill Muirheid**); and **Chuck Abbott** (sponsored by **Jon Rector**).

Resignations were accepted with regret from **Tim Wild** and **Joe Petry**.

Past Secretary **Linda Hamilton** graciously filled in for **John Clausen** as acting Secretary.

All club members are welcome at the next board meeting, to be held **Tuesday, February 24, noon**, at the Champaign Public Library.

## President Eric Announces New Initiatives for 2009

It may be hard to keep track of all the projects Champaign West Rotary has going on in the next few months. President Eric Robeson wants our members to know, "It's not that we're scatterbrained. We're just adhering to our mission."



Here are a few highlights:

**1. Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club Focus; "Bags '09"** – Part of our club's mission is "Responding to the needs of youth in our community." With that in mind, the board has decided to concentrate our service efforts this year on the DMBGC. Several members of the club serve on the board for this organization (Mark Ritz, Jane Solon, and Jim Vasica) and our own Rachael Wright, is assistant director of the organization, so funds we raise will be well stewarded. But it was Art Warren who suggested taking over the Bag Toss fundraiser. Art previously got our club involved with Relay For Life, and helped it become a signature event for Champaign West and a very successful fundraiser. The Bag Toss will be a fun focus for us while helping keep the Boys & Girls Club, a crucial community resource, open and healthy. Look for more information from Art and other club members in upcoming weeks.

**2. Polio Eradication** – Another part of our club's mission is "Improving the greater world community through individual and club support of Rotary International Programs". To that end, our club will be participating in the Pennies for Polio campaign that will be kicking off in March. Bill and Joni Utnage will be spearheading our club's efforts.

**3. Continued Honduras Efforts** – We will be hearing more in upcoming weeks about improvements the club will be helping with in Azacualpa, now that we have completed the construction of the cottage that was our first big gift for the children's home. We have been awarded a grant to help with the cost of installing a septic system for the houses near the children's home.



## Woody Chenault and the GSE Team Take India By Storm

Woody is back, 10 pounds lighter, but you can read about his adventures with the 2009 District 6490 outbound GSE team in India, at their blogsite

([www.indiagse2009.blogspot.com](http://www.indiagse2009.blogspot.com)). You will see great pictures like these. Above, Woody and his team pose with the GSE team from India that will be traveling to Illinois beginning April 4.

Below, our team poses at the India Gate in Delhi.

The team enjoyed the District 3050 Conference in Jaipur and the tremendous hospitality of their Rotarian hosts in various Indian cities.

They returned to the States on January 26, no doubt exhausted and much enlightened.

Woody is excited to be welcoming the inbound GSE team in our area in April. There are four team members, all male and all of whom speak English reasonably well. Woody and his wife plan to host the team leader, but will be looking for other Champaign homes for April 8-11 and possibly also May 2-3. Hosting is primarily an evening and early morning obligation, since the visitors will be busy touring Champaign sights during the day.

Woody says that the Rotarians of District 3050 really rolled out the red carpet for him and his team, so he'd like us to return the excellent treatment. He'll address our club on March 25 (don't miss it!) about his trip.



**If you have questions or would be interested in hosting one or more of the GSE team members, contact Woody ([wchenault@net66.com](mailto:wchenault@net66.com)) or Karla Peterson of the Champaign Rotary Club ([karla.peterson@comcast.net](mailto:karla.peterson@comcast.net)).**

## Welcome New Members

**Scott Keeble**, is an Associate Pastor at the First Presbyterian Church Southwest Campus in Champaign. He is sponsored by both Jon Rector and Dave Seiler. Scott and his wife Melissa have two children, Kobe and Maya.



Scott Keeble

**Rich Bengtson** is the brother and sponsoree of Brad Bengtson. Rich is a business account executive at Comcast, and moved here from California where he also worked for Comcast. Rich is a Parrothead among other interests and achievements.

**Dan Shunk** was sponsored by Aaron Buckley. Dan is GM of a moving company called "Two Men and a Truck". His wife is Rene and he has two young children.

**Sara Shea** was sponsored by Jim Butler. Sara is a staff accountant at DANSR, Inc. She visited Perth, Australia through Rotary Youth Exchange and is eager to be part of the organization that gave her that opportunity.

**Karen Foster** was brought in by Tom Hodson. Karen is a Champaign City Council member and a member of a different party than Tom. But we're sure

differences are part of what makes Rotary interesting!

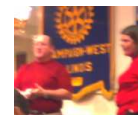
Pres-Elect Jon Rector brought in **Chuck Abbott**. Chuck is from Potomac, Illinois, and Jon was surprised a few of us know where that is.



Dan Shunk



Karen Foster



Sara Shea