



SERVICE Above Self

Fargo West Rotary

Newsletter August 2008

Fargo West Rotary, PO Box 9237, Fargo, ND 58106

President's Message *By Paula Grimestad*



Wild Spirits of the Forest! No, I'm not describing the adventurous group of Rotarians participating in the Dragon Boat Races, although we did drive right past Thunder Bay on our way to pick up the "The Wild Spirits".

I'm, instead, talking about the seven timber wolf pups that the Harley Raffle made happen. The wolves were born at Bear Creek Wildlife Sanctuary in Barrie, Ontario, a 31-hour drive one way. The trip included some of the most beautiful landscapes I've ever witnessed and wildlife just as incredible, moose, bear and eagles to name just a few. Bernie Ness generously provided the van for us to travel in.



It was perfect for the trip – very comfortable for us and plenty of room for the pups.

In the back of the van we built a large wooden box for all the pups and supposedly enough room for one of us to be in with them. The trip back included some interesting moments. Imagine seven pups in the back of a van needing to eat every five hours from a bottle.



Is it our turn to eat yet?

We were stopping at gas stations just long enough to mix formula in the restrooms and filling up the bottles. We would then get back on the road and pass pups one by one up from the back to the front passenger, who would then feed the pup, pass that one back and receive a new one. Formula was splashing and spraying everywhere, all over the pups, the van and us.

We were quite the sight. By the time we got back we were exhausted but exhilarated at the same time by the many excited people from the media, Zoo staff and fellow Rotarians waiting to meet the pups.

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Pres Message *cont*

The excitement has not slowed down. Rain or shine zoo visitors anxiously wait to see the wolves at 11am, 2pm and 6pm everyday. So far this summer attendance is up 17% from last year. The Zoo is having a great summer and the exhibit should be open some time in August.

Fargo West Rotary’s long and strong commitment to the zoo started with Takin Ridge, a \$100,000 exhibit that features two endangered species, the East Caucasian Tur and Sichuan Takin. This is still the only exhibit where zoo visitors can see East Caucasian Tur.

Fargo West kicked off the dream of making “Wild Spirits of the Forest” a reality by contributing the first two \$20,000 donations through the Harley Raffle and then covering the costs of importing the pups this year. The Zoo is an important asset to the community not only by bringing tourists to Fargo, but also by being a place for families to spend quality time together.

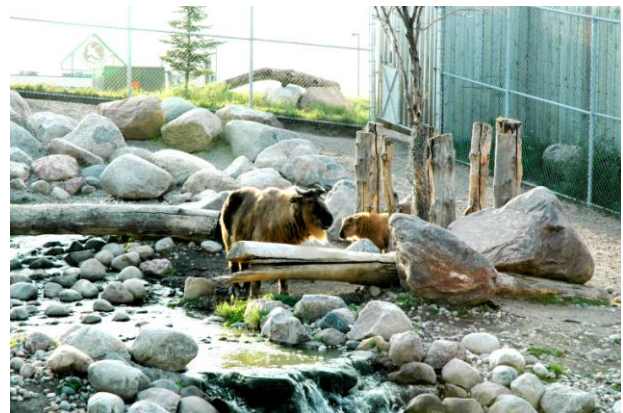
Make Dreams Real

Takin Ridge

Hopefully, our members took advantage of the opportunity to see Takin Ridge while they were at the zoo. It is the exhibit President Paula mentioned.

There was a new Sichuan Takin calf, but the East Caucasian Turs were not out that night. The reason is that the turs want to play with the calf (it’s much closer to their size than mom or dad!) and will occasionally head butt the calf. Evidently, this was the case with the last calf and the tur’s pointed horns actually caused some damage to the calf.

The Sichuan Takin is found in the Eastern Himalayan Mountains. This is the animal that the beast in Beauty and the Beast is designed after. Look at its face, put a lion’s mane on it, and you have Beast. You can see the similarity when he stands on his hind legs to look out of the fence at the traffic.



Takin & tur together

Zoo Social

Over 70 people — Rotarians and family members — enjoyed their night at the Red River Zoo on July 28. President Paula Grimestad invited the club to view the new wolf exhibit and meet the wolf pups. The weather was gorgeous and the food delicious! Even the forecasted rain stayed away.

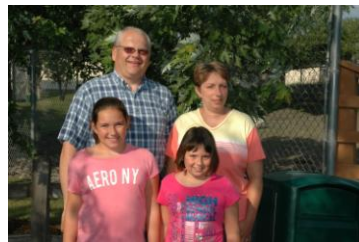


The trapper's cabin is the main facility for teaching and observing the wolves. It is designed for great viewing opportunities. The wolves are being hand-raised so they are not afraid of humans and will not try to hide when people arrive.

Enjoy the photos!



Thank you to Bernie's Wine & Liquors for donating the beverages. And thank you Carol Rogne and your committee for planning this fun event!



Laura Ramirez, our 2005 Exchange Student from Columbia surprised us with a visit. She was staying with her host family — the Hannaher's. The bonds that are formed with students are very strong indeed.

The wolf pups were perfectly lined up to watch the deer cooling off in the next exhibit!

Happy Birthday!

- 8/9 Tom Fellman
- 8/17 Dani Arnold
- 8/18 Bernie Ness
- 8/29 Ryan McManus



And they just ate!



More Zoo Photos



They need rocking chairs, don't you think?

***"Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply.
Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God."***

Peach Sale

August 18 is the day of our peach sale. Remember, there is no meeting that day.

The semi arrives first thing in the morning. Our members volunteer their time to work shifts throughout the day so our customers can drive right up, give us their names and we load their peaches. Since this is a Fargo West Rotary event, volunteering does count as a make-up.

You have been emailed copies of letters fellow Rotarians have sent to their family and friends. Please resend any notices to your list, as people forget to order.

We have over 1,000 lugs left to sell in two weeks! This is going to take a herculean effort on the club's part to come close.

A special thank you to Jim Thompson, Eide Bailly, and Jed Krieg, Olaf Anderson, for paying for the mailing of flyers; David Wrolstad, Gate City, for printing the flyers; and Heather Johnson-Kjos for providing the mailing labels. All of this has saved the club several hundred dollars.

All the proceeds go to our donations fund. Without this money, we could not do what we do in the community, nor could we participate in the international arena.

Fargo West Rotary has a long and generous history of giving... let's keep it going!



August is Membership Extension Month

Rotary International sets a theme for each month and year. August is membership and extension month.

Rotarians are business and professional leaders who take an active role in their communities while greatly enriching their personal and professional lives. A Rotary club contains a diverse group of professional leaders from the community that the club serves.

It is important to know here the important premise on which Rotary bases its membership and this is the Classification principle: Each active member of a Rotary club is classified according to the member's business or profession.

It should be clearly understood that classifications are determined by activities or services to society rather than by the position held by a particular individual. In other words, if a person is the president of a bank, he or she is not classified as "bank president" but under the classification "banking."

The classification principle is a necessary concept in assuring that each Rotary Club represents a cross section of the business and professional service of the community.

Remember that a service club's success is dependent on attracting new members as well as retaining present members. Nothing could be more important to prospective members than the level of energy they feel during a club visit.

Prospective members need to see and feel your enthusiasm as well as your pride for your membership in Rotary. When club members are friendly, inviting, and inclusive, a potential Rotarian receives the most important message: *You are welcome here and will have the opportunity to participate in something important.*

Fargo West Rotary has many 'new' members, so do make an effort to get to know them. This enriches and strengthens the club and while making all of us better Rotarians.

Important Rotary Info

August Meetings - Membership Extension Month:

8/4 Joyce Newton — Project HERO

8/11 Tony Grindberg — Research & Technology Park

8/18 **Peach Sale — no meeting**

8/25 Tim Rice — Sweet Comfort

Make up meetings at any of these local clubs:

Fargo West Rotary meets Monday noon at the Holiday Inn

Moorhead Rotary meets Tuesday noon at the Moorhead Country Club.

Fargo Rotary meets Wednesday noon at the Radisson Hotel.

FM/AM Rotary meets Thursday at 7:00a.m. at Seasons at Rose Creek Golf Club

FM/AM Make up meeting is at 5:15pm the 1st & 3rd Wed of every month at the Radisson Hotel in the lounge



RI 2008-09 theme