



LA MESA



ROTARY CLUB OF WEST-EL PASO

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Rotarians at the Zoo

Last month I celebrated my fifth year working at the El Paso Zoo. I have learned much about the Zoo and our city during that time including what I knew all along...most Rotarians love the Zoo. They also love children and animals and that is why I am organizing a special volunteer opportunity for all of my Rotarian friends. This summer I want to invite Rotarians and their friends who are interested in volunteering 8 hours a month over the next year to become Zoo volunteers. To make sure I sign up as many Rotarians as possible, I plan to offer six hours of Saturday morning or evening sessions over a two week period once I find out who is interested. If that is you then please give me a call or drop me an email so that we can organize a class this summer. Volunteer opportunities include: hosting our major animal exhibits; hosting our conservation action computer center donated by our club and Juarez Industrial, showing live animals to children; helping

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Parade Committee "In Motion" Toward 4th of July

The West El Paso Rotary Club will hold its tenth annual Fourth of July Parade this year. The theme for the parade is "Humanity in Motion". The event is once again being chaired by Cliff Walsh. Parade Committee meetings are held most Fridays at JB's Café at 7:00 AM.

The parade is shaping up nicely and the committee is expecting the parade to have the usual 70 to 80 entrants – officially we have 17 registrants at this point which is typical progress. Member Carey Beamesderfer and his wife have done a great job this year in soliciting entrants and handling registrations.

Here are some highlights of the Parade planning:

- The El Paso Fire Department will once again feature is 1948 Mack Fire Truck; one of the Deputy Chiefs will be a parade participant. The jumbo US flag from Flags Across America has been secured for the Parade route.
- Major progress was achieved through some work by members Rick LoBello and Bob Peterson – City Council has approved funds for Parade security for the 2008 parade – unfortunately our appeal to them did not garner fund-

ing for security for 2007. This is significant as it represents the bulk of the cost of the entire parade and saves the Club about \$7,000.

- Representatives from "Wounded Warriors" at Fort Bliss will be our Parade Marshall's and will ride on the West El Paso Rotary float. We may still need to borrow a trailer for the Club float!
- Letters to various dignitaries have gone out thanks to member Ellen Speights. At this point Congressman Reyes is the only one that has confirmed, but we are expecting more.
- Chava Gonzalez is the Chair of Parade Day activities, and Jesse Allen will be contacting the membership soon for Parade day volunteers.
- Parade publicity will be taking place in the form of billboards and radio spots as coordinated by member Lorraine Huit.
- Charlie Birkelbach has helped us secure the high school and church Parade staging areas which will be the same as last year.
- Cliff has contacted the Dean of Students and the Alumni Association at UTEP for about their participation.

supervise youth volunteer activities; working in the commissary helping to prepare animal diets; working with facilities helping to take care of our landscaping and behind the scenes support projects; working with the Education Curator on website content and photography projects (need your own digital camera); working with the Education Specialist on the zoo library; and working with the Volunteer Coordinator on office assignments. And remember, as a Zoo Volunteer you pick your assignment and picking up snakes and animal poop is not required.

So much is happening at your Zoo and you are going to love becoming a volunteer. We have a great Volunteer Coordinator, Annie Langenfeld, who has been with the Zoo for many years and has herself contributed over 5000 hours of volunteer service. To learn more about Zoo happenings visit our website news section at www.elpasozoo.org. To learn more about our volunteers read our Pachyderm Press Volunteer Newsletter at www.elpasozoo.org/edu. I hope to hear from many of you soon.

Rick LoBello
Zoo Education Curator



How Swede It Is: Andersson Wins In Wisconsin

LAKE GENEVA, Wis., June 3, 2007

Unlike the LPGA Tour, where a Swede has won regularly for the last decade or so, it has been since 1983 that a native of Sweden has won on the Duramed FUTURES Tour. That was the same year that Sofie Andersson was born, and 24 years later today, Andersson became the Tour's second Swedish winner.

"Being four shots behind going into the last day and then to win by one, that's pretty cool," said Andersson of Angelholm, Sweden, a rookie who earned her first professional title at this week's \$90,000 Aurora Health Care Championship at four-under-par 212.

Cool, indeed. Especially since the rookie and recent graduate of the University of California-Berkeley shared private housing with the other Swedish rookie who led for the first and second rounds of this week's event. Caroline Larsson dominated the headlines and public attention for 36 holes, but it was Andersson who hung around the top three spots and made her move in today's final round, carding a timely two-under-par 70 with birdies and par saves at just the right moment on the tough-playing Palmer Course at Geneva National Golf Club.

But did she feel like the other Swede?

"Yes," said Andersson, who turns 24 next Wednesday and whose \$12,600 winner's check moved her to fifth place on the Tour's money list and to first in the season rookie race. "Caro-

line has played well all week. I didn't really expect this outcome when I woke up this morning, but after the second storm delay today, I heard that the leader was at four-under par and I was at three under and I thought, this is good."

Play was halted twice in the final round because of storms that blew in quickly, but even those disruptions didn't derail Andersson, who had fellow Duramed FUTURES Tour professional Dana Lacey on her bag.

"We all had dinner Saturday night and since I had missed the cut, I asked if either one of them wanted me to caddie on Sunday," said Lacey of Perth, W. Australia.

Both Swedes wanted Lacey on their bag, so they did "rock, paper, scissors" for her services. Andersson won in a best-of-three attempt. So Lacey set out with Andersson today to chase her first pro win.

But early on, it wasn't just a



Rotary Websites

Rotary Club of West El Paso:
www.rotarywestelpaso.org

The IOS Futures Golf Classic:
www.elpasofutures.org

Rotary District 5520:
www.rotary5520.org

Rotary International:
www.rotary.org

eClubOne:
<http://www.rotaryclubone.org>

head-to-head contest between two Swedish friends who travel in the same car and stay in the same private housing. For much of the final round, it was Larsson trying to hold off amateur Esther Choe, who birdied her first two holes to move within one shot of Larsson.

The 17-year old had three birdies and two bogeys on her first five holes, and then took a share of the lead at four-under par when Larsson double-bogeyed the ninth. But when Larsson added a bogey on the 11th, Choe grabbed a one-shot lead and seemed poised to make a run at the title in her first Duramed FUTURES Tour appearance.

Larsson wasn't done yet. She stroked a 6-iron to six feet and converted for birdie on the 13th hole to regain a share of the lead, but lost it on the next hole when her four-foot par save lipped out. A missed green on the par-three 16th cost Larsson another bogey and ended any chance of chasing on the difficult closing holes.

"I really tried all the way to the last shot and I didn't give up for a second, but it didn't feel like anything went my way today," said Larsson of Danderyd, Sweden, who carded a final round score of 76 and finished tied for fourth with Jane Park (73) of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.

It was Andersson who played strong on the final holes. She rolled in an uphill seven footer for birdie on the 15th hole and suddenly found herself tied for the lead with Choe with three holes left to play.

"Sofie is a great ball striker and a great player, so I was just trying to stay positive with her," said Lacey.

And that included a lot of support on the 18th hole, when Andersson began feeling the pangs of pressure. She received relief from casual water on the 18th fairway, but landed short of the green. Left with a precarious 15-yard flop shot to the hole -- of which 13 yards was grass and three yards was green -- Andersson never showed the nerves that made her ask Lacey for a bag "just in case" as they walked up the 18th fairway. Andersson neither lost her lunch nor her courage as her deft chip landed two feet from the hole to secure the par save.

"There wasn't much green to work with for that shot, but she played it to perfection," said Lacey. "She knew she had to get it up and down to have a chance to win and she did it."

Third-year player Brandi Jackson of Greenville, S.C., got hot with birdies on holes 8, 9 and 10, and then birdied the 17th to go to three-under -- one shot off the lead with one hole to play. But Jackson took par on the 18th and cruised into a tie for second with a two-under-par, final-round score of 70.

With Larsson and Park now two shots behind Choe and Andersson, all Andersson could do was wait. They could return to the 18th tee for extra holes or Choe could win the tournament outright on the last hole. Instead, the amateur Choe gassed her approach shot and flew over the green onto a hill with deep rough.

Choe's downhill chip was a tester, but the 2006 Rolex AJGA Player of the Year landed her ball to 12 feet above the hole. She had benefited by watching Park's putt from nearly the same

line, but Choe's par putt broke two feet to the right. Choe carded an even-par 72 to tie for second with Jackson at 213 (-3).

But this time, it was Andersson's turn. And in a bright sun shower, underneath the arc of a rainbow and only a few fairways over from the cacophony of a million singing cicadas, the other Swede had become the latest Swede to win in more than two decades.

Marie Wennersten had no idea when she won back in 1983 that so many great young Swedish talents would follow. And Andersson, who went to instructional seminars with Wennersten when she was 12, had no idea that one day, she would add her own name to the history books as only the second representative from her homeland to win on this American golf tour.

"I've always kind of played behind someone, including behind Karin [Sjodin] and Louise [Stahle] when we were amateurs," said Andersson, who finished tied for third earlier this season in McAllen, Texas. "But I feel more comfortable there."

With the win safely in her pocket, Andersson quietly slipped around a corner fence, away from the crowd gathered on the 18th green. She called home and spoke to her family in the Swedish night. And before she closed her telephone to walk to the awards ceremony, Andersson used her cell phone camera to snap a shot of the large rainbow -- its base nearly touching the 18th fairway. She would take a piece of the winning rainbow with her, storing it on her phone to remind her about that little pot of gold at the end of the year called the LPGA Tour.

A Report from the Rotary District 5520 Convention

Editor's note: The District 5520 Convention was held on May 10th through the 13th in Taos, New Mexico. Below is a first-hand report on the Convention from our own Chava Gonzalez.

Well, like all Rotary events, the District Convention was first class, well organized and always on schedule. Jimmy Melver rented a 15 passenger van, and eight of us from El Paso and Anthony, join him on the trip to the convention. By the way, Jimmy is multitalented with a terrific sense of humor. I joked with Jimmy every chance I had. But above all, he is a gentleman and scholar

We had plenary sessions every day. One of the best was the presentation of the Four Way Test Essay. The young lady that won the first place presented her paper. It was inspiring.

But Saturday was the best. The Youth Exchange Students stole the show during breakfast. We had a complete spectrum of talent. From a young lady from Hobbs, who is going to France, playing the violin to a young man

doing push ups. There were couples dancing merengue, rumba, rock and roll, a juggler that kept dropping the pins, you name it. It was a lot of fun. The young lady from Germany gave her farewell speech. She said she cried when she arrived in New Mexico because she was home sick and is crying now because she is leaving. There was not one dry eye in the place.

The RYLA Speak Off Winners were special. Frank Marquez and Caroline Gorman, both from Coronado HS, presented their paper. Her presentation was special because she based part of it on The Four Way Test.

In the evening we had dinner and a dance and of course the hospitality suite. But for those of us that suffer from an acute case of Las Vegasitis, we went to the casino every night. The casino is approximately 5000 square feet with mostly penny slot ma-

chines, my kind of place.

There were plenty of awards presented. One of which went to our Jimmy Melver for his untiring work as Assistant Governor. He is a dedicated Rotarian, which brings me to my conclusion. I have been a member of a Rotary Club for thirteen years and Margarita and I have missed two District Conventions. One while at Chamizal because our daughter was traveling in Europe and we wanted to stay close to an international airport, just in case. The second was my first year at West El Paso because the Convention was on the same weekend as our golf tournament. I recommend that everyone try to attend the District Conventions because the plenary sessions and the fellowship help us to make the transition from being a member of a Rotary Club to becoming a Rotarian.

GOD BLESS OUR TROOPS

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La Mesa is published by the [Rotary Club of West El Paso, Inc.](#) To subscribe send an e-mail to wes@thehayesgroupintl.com with "Newsletter Subscription" as the subject.

MEETINGS

Monday: Holiday Inn - Sunland Park, **12 PM**

EL PASO MAKEUPS

Tuesday: **East El Paso**, **12 PM**

Airport Hilton

Wednesday: **Sunrise**, **7 AM**

Sunland Park Holiday Inn

Vista Hills, **12 PM**

Vista Hills Country Club

Thursday: **El Paso**, **12 PM**

1st Presbyterian Fellowship Hall

Anthony, **12 PM**

Dos Lagos Golf Club

Franklin Mountains, **5:45 PM**

Sunrise Center Furr's Cafeteria

Friday: **Northeast**, **12 PM**

Sunrise Center Furr's Cafeteria

JUAREZ MAKEUPS

Tuesday: Juarez Sur, **2:30 PM**

Campestre Juarez

Wednesday: Cd. Juarez, **1:30 PM**

Campestre Juarez

Juarez Chamizal, **2:00 PM**

Rest. Barrigas Monumental

Juarez Americas, **3:00 PM**

Campestre Juarez

Juarez Frontera, **7:30 PM**

Rest. Viva Mexico

Thursday: Juarez Paso del Norte, **2:00 PM**

Campestre Juarez

Juarez Empresarial, **2:30 PM**

Rest. Barrigas Mon.

Friday: Juarez Industrial, **2:00 PM**

Campestre Juarez

Juarez Ejecutivo, **2:00 PM**

Mision de Los Lagos

Juarez Norte, **8:30 PM**

Casino Juarez

Juarez Oriente, **9:00 PM**

Hotel Holiday Inn