



DP Dart:

News from the Rotary Club of Des Plaines

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2009

60th Anniversary of the Berlin Airlift

It was sixty years ago that 2-year old Baerbel Simon heard a roaring noise, saw the shadows and then the large white birds flying low near her home in Berlin. Although Russian tanks had surrounded Berlin and prevented the delivery of supplies, the governments of Great Britain, France, and the United States were determined to extend the Marshall Plan to alleviate the deprivation of the people of Berlin by organizing and carrying out a flyover to drop over 100,000 tons of supplies. "Operation Vittles" flew in 13,000 tons of food daily from over 200,000 flights over an 11 month period.

From a child's point of view it was a miracle. Food came from the sky. Gum was a curious object that came without instructions. Chocolate drifted down in small parachutes from the "Candy Bomber," Gail S. Halvorson.

From the new allies' point of view it was a necessity to prevent the Soviet Union from taking over control of all of Berlin, in contradiction of the agreement to share control of post war Germany.

From the historians' point of view it was the first act of aggression in the Cold War.

On Thursday, July 30, Baerbel Simon told the Rotary Club of Des Plaines and invited guests the story of this remarkable period in history from both the child's and the adult's point of view. She shared her appreciation for the sacrifice that so many Air Force Pilots made to keep her and her family alive and well during this bleak time immediately following World War II. She and representatives of the American Citizens of German Descent also brought a plaque they had commissioned to honor the memory of American pilots who died during the airlift.

Ms. Simon is a member of the Berlin Chapter of the Cold War Museum.

Werner Juretzko sent me excellent photos of the events of the July 30th meeting. Try as I might, I could not export them to this blog. I will email them to the DP Rotary list directly.

WELCOME TO OUR WEEKLY MEETINGS

Rotary Club of Des Plaines

Thursday at 12:15 PM
Golf Center of Des Plaines
Club Casa Cafe

353 North River Road
Des Plaines, IL

847-298-5100

2009-2010 Club Officers and Directors

President: John Hecker
Vice President: Jay Davis
Past President: Sharon Lynch
Secretary: David Webster
Treasurer:

Directors:
Dennis Oster, Community Service
Sandra Norlin, Club Service
David Webster, Vocational Service
Werner Juretzko, International Service
Sharon Lynch, Web Editor

DART editor: Sandra Norlin

DISTRICT 6440 PRESIDENT

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60th Anniversary of the Berlin

Posted by Sandra K. Norlin at [3:11 PM](#)

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2009

THE MIRACLE OF BERLIN - JULY 30TH



Guest Speaker Baerbel Simo, Chairman of the Berlin Chapter of the Cold War Museum, will give a special presentation to Des Plaines Rotary commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the end of the Berlin Airlift. Guests are welcome.

Posted by Sandra K. Norlin at [3:47 PM](#)

[0 comments](#) 

RSVP FOR A ROTARY FELLOWSHIP EVENT

STAGE ONE PRODUCTIONS

presents

WITHOUT A PARACHUTE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2009 AT 7:30 pm

ADMISSION FREE FOR YOU AND YOUR GUEST

Please reply to John Hecker at jh@desplainesparks.org

Posted by Sandra K. Norlin at [3:39 PM](#)

[0 comments](#) 

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2009

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2009

CYNTHIA MCKEE,

Veteran Service Officer for the Illinois Department of Veteran Affairs Cynthia McKee retired from the Army Reserve on 2007 with over twenty years of service. In the Army she served as a Human Resource Specialist and is a wartime veteran of both Desert Storm and Operation Enduring Freedom. Serving in the Casualty Assistance Branch at Fort Sheridan, IL, her role was to coordinate notifications to next of kin for soldiers injured and killed in the line of duty and to provide assistance to survivors in applying for state and federal benefits. Her duties now involve assisting those who have served as they apply for their state and federal benefits and entitlements.

Posted by Sandra K. Norlin at [10:17 AM](#)

[0 comments](#) 

[Airlift](#)

- ▶ July (8)
- ▶ June (10)
- ▶ April (4)
- ▶ March (4)
- ▶ February (4)
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Nearby Clubs for Makeups

MONDAY: Mount Prospect/Prospect Heights Club - 12:15 -Mr. Peters Banquets - 1273 Rand Road, Mount Prospect - 847-259-0013

TUESDAY: Arlington Heights Sunrise - 7:15 AM - DoubleTree Hotel - 75 West Algonquin Road

Northbrook Club - 12:15 - Mission Hills Country Club - 1677 Mission Hills Road, Northbrook - 847-498-3200

Glenview Club - 12:15 - Hackney's on Lake Street

Rotary One(Chicago) - 12:10 Union League Club - 65 West Jackson, Chicago - 312-372-3900

WEDNESDAY: Wilmette Club - 12:15 - Zhivago Restaurant - 9923 Gross Point Road, Skokie - 847-439-6610

FRIDAY: Mt. Prospect Sunrise - 7:15 AM - Courtyard by Marriott, 100 West Algonquin Road Wheeling - 12:15 Schaumburg-Hoffman Estates - 12:15

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