



## Waunakee Rotary Club

Feb. 22, 2007  
Vol. 40 No. 32

Lynne Spielman described her trip to Nigeria along with a slide show presentation at the Feb. 15 meeting of the Waunakee Rotary Club.

Lynne traveled to Lagos State and Ogun State in Nigeria as part of a service project with Rotary District 6250 from Nov. 4-13 of this past year.

Nigeria is in the same time zone as London, just below the equator on the African continent. English is the official language of business, but numerous tribal dialects are also prevalent throughout the country.

Lynne and her party flew into Lagos, the capital, and were welcomed by the Gbagada Rotary Club, whose three main charges were literacy and education, health concerns and water management.

She told of visiting the beggars' children's school in Lagos, saying unlike many of the schools, it actually had desks but no books. The children had to purchase all their own school uniforms and supplies even though it was a public school.

The schools were mostly concrete buildings and in pretty rough shape. However, the kids were excited just to have a toilet built for them. Previously they went and dug a hole in the sand before going to the bathroom.

Many of the kids in one area wanted to touch her skin. "I think I was the first white person they'd seen," she said.

Sanitation is a big concern because garbage is just thrown about when people are through with whatever they are using. In addition, Lagos does not treat its sewage which presents additional problems for an already troubled drinking water supply, Lynne said.

Most of the water supply presents potential for Guinea worm, so most people are forced to drink bottled

water.

Lynne said the streets of Nigeria are where most of the commerce took place, saying you could buy anything from "polka-dotted bras to melons" there. Many children spent time hawking things on the street in order to buy food.

The food market consists primarily of a number of stalls with different kinds of grains and legumes, with freshly butchered animals also available for purchase.

Lynne also discussed the micro-lending projects going on through Rotary in Nigeria. The businesses applying must first prove they have a business plan, and it must be made sure they can pay back their loan before they are accepted.

She said it was "absolutely moving when they would tell of the impact the loan had on their life."

Pressure to pay back the loans was felt from a number of different sources. Not only did people feel pressure to pay back their loan so the next person could get one, but they also felt pressure from God. She said the sentiment was there that God would be very angry with you if you did not repay your loan.

Nigerian traffic proved easiest to navigate on a motorcycle, and it was common to see two to three people on the back of one, she said.

The group also traveled to Ogun State where besides seeing numerous well projects, they also visited a sickle cell lab sponsored by a number of Rotary clubs. A main reason for stopping there was to sit down with officials from the World Health Organization, Unicef and others to have a dialogue of cooperation to better coordinate and serve the needs in the area.

Lynne said the cost of the trip was lowered by receiving a volunteer service grant, along with being able

### OFFICERS

DREW LAWRENCE, PRESIDENT • LYNNE SPIELMAN, PRESIDENT-ELECT  
PHIL WILLEMS, CLUB SECRETARY  
BOB PULVERMACHER, RECORDING SECRETARY • KIM LENGFELD, TREASURER

### DIRECTORS

TOM REIS • LORI DERAUF  
BILL ERICKSON

### Calendar of Events:

Feb. 27, Whitetails Unlimited  
March 4, Bowling outing  
March 21, Super Raffle  
April 12-28, Russian visitors  
May 4-6, District Conference  
June 17-20, RI, Salt Lake City  
June 28, Steak Fry

to stay in the houses of fellow Rotarians for eight of the 10 days of the trip. The governor of the state even put them up in a hotel for a night, she said.

She even saw a child riding a horse on the beach wearing a Brett Favre jersey.

Guests: Ken Spielman, guest of Lynne Spielmann; Harriet Statz, guest of Ray Statz; Brent Neevel, guest of Roberta Baumann.

Birthdays: Feb. 24, Danny Paul;  
Feb. 26, Sandy Taylor

Anniversaries: None.

Prayers: Feb. 22, Susan Vergeront;  
March 1, Leonard Allen; March 8,  
Kim Wilde; March 15, Pat Durden;  
March 22, Msgr. Kramer.

Programs: Feb. 22, Little People;  
March 1, Club Assembly; March 8,  
Bill Erickson and Phil Willems on  
their trip to Haiti.

Greeters: Feb. 22, Msgr. James  
Kramer, Ed Kruchten; March 1, Dave  
Kruchten, Neil Kruschek; March 8,  
Margaret Landphier, Craig Larson.