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THE ROTARY CLUB *of* BELLINGHAM
BELLINGHAM'S FIRST ROTARY CLUB

TATTLE



Happy New Year!



*January
4th, 2010*

2009-2010

Sponsors:

Steve Adelstein

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Opening

Prior to the invocation, **Joe Coons** told members that in the past three weeks we've lost two fine Rotarians. First was **Curt Courtelyou**, who died on December 18, and was a member for almost 56 years, a past president, and a past district governor. There will be a service for Curt this coming Sunday at 2:00 p.m. at Westford's.

Curt Courtelyou



On December 23, **Al Marsh** passed away. He was a member of our club for almost 36 years. He directed the Hart Novelty Company for 60 years and served as president of that industry's association. A serious golfer, he also had been a president of the Bellingham Country Club. A vigil service will be held for Al this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at Westford's, with a mass and reception following on Friday, at 1:00 p.m. at Assumption Church. After a moment of silence remembering these two long time members of our club, Joe delivered the invocation.

Al Marsh

Pat Foley

Mills Electric

Barry Hanson

Unity Group

Dave Morse

Blythe Plumbing

John Sitkin

*Chmelik Sitkin
& Davis, P.S.*

Teri Treat

Sage Management

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**THIS WEEK'S
TEAM:**



Editor: Dale Rings

Reporter: Nancy Jordan

Photographer: Austin Huang

Sgt. at Arms: Wayne Langei

Invocation: Joe Coons

Introduction of Visitors:

Chuck Snyder

Greeter(s): Charlie Self

Raffle Tickets: Kris Hamilton

Music: Don Anderson

AV: Brad

We then joined **Don Anderson's** accompaniment in singing the *Star Spangled Banner*.

With the many bowl games involved with our football pool, members of the Sports Pool Committee doled out lots of winnings, spreading them over many members who got some return on their "investment." **Bruce Clawson** won three quarters in a row, however, which he acknowledged was a bit over the top.

Announcements

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:

There will be a regular Board meeting Thursday, January 14th; 4:30 at the Dorothy Hagen Building

There will be a **Classification/Membership Committee** meeting today after the noon meeting, chaired by **Fred Kaiser**.

Gary Goldfogel announced a bowling social event set for Tuesday, Feb. 9th at 6:30 p.m. at Park Bowl. Unlimited bowling, refreshments, and food will be the order of the evening. **Chuck Snyder** said he has a prize for the high score of the night. Could that have something to do with last year's event?

The fundraising for the Pickford project needs to be wrapped up by the end of the month. We are at about 70% participation and approximately \$72,000 of our \$100,000 goal. Please submit any remaining pledges to avoid a reminder phone call.

President Jim reminded everyone that the silent auction for time in the two Cabo condo's, which are being donated by **Jan Marchbanks and D.C. Morse** will be started at the next meeting.

Happy Bucks

Jim Visbeek gave \$16 for 16 days vacation cruising the Mexican Coast, plus \$10 for learning on Christmas Day that he will be a grandfather. **D.C. Morse** remembered being assessed \$400 for first grandbaby. Jim clarified that it isn't born yet.

Stephanie Bowers made a \$20 donation for a very relaxing Australian/New Zealand vacation, which included a visit to her daughter.

Mark Knittle gave \$30 for his 30th anniversary celebrated over the holidays in Vancouver.

Kathy Buckley gave \$10 for being able to return to skiing, as she was not sure if she would be back after surgery: "The Bullet is Back!" (first to the bottom of the slope for non-skiers)

Jim Blackburn contributed \$10 for Seattle Seahawks tickets and taking 6 year old daughter - he has no idea who won the game.

Austin Huang announced that the delegation from China, Vancouver, and Seattle will be celebrating the Chinese New Year in Bellingham on Feb. 27. Please contact him for more details.

The event is sponsored by our local higher education institutions: WWU, WCC, BTC and NW Indian College

Larry Halgren gave \$11 for being employed after 11 months of unemployment. He is now with Varner, Sytsma and Varner. Also, he is \$9 happy that he is not being asked to be an accountant, but sad that he has to wear a tie every day. **President Jim** asked members how they thought he looked in a tie. There was

Burdick

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Treasurer

Margaret Curtis
Immediate Past President

[BOARD of DIRECTORS](#)

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Avenue of Club Service &
Development

Marty Haines
Avenue of Club Service &
Fellowship

Robin Halliday
Avenue of Community
Service

Mike Diehl
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Vocational Service

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applause. He asked the same of **Bob Sytsma** and got a similar response. Is a higher bar being set for our meeting day dress code?

Dennis Curtis pointed out that **Brian Griffin** was named Man of the Year at the recent Bellingham Whatcom Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner. Brian was asked how much he thought that was worth and responded that it must be lot, but he quickly came up with \$20 for this special recognition.

David Blair contributed \$20 for a most successful year of raising scholarship funding for Bellingham Technical College Foundation.

Bob Sytsma gave \$20 to match **Larry Halgren's** \$20, as they are happy to have him on board. He also gave \$29 for his 29th anniversary, which was celebrated over the holidays.

Gregor Hodgson was \$10 happy for 10 great days in Hawaii.

Kris Hamilton gave \$41 for his 41st anniversary, celebrated on Dec.

28th, plus \$30 for the adventure of having their 2-year old grandson stay with them for 15 days over the Christmas Holiday. It was an experience.

Bruce Clawson gave a total of \$120: \$20 for 'never winning' and now suddenly winning three consecutive quarters in the football pool, and \$100 for the Pickford Project.

Scott Renne gave \$40: \$20 for this second time winning the football pool, though he has no DNA to appreciate the sport, plus \$20 for the week spent with his two daughters at Big White, skiing (in fog).

Fines and Recognition

Sergeant-At-Arms, **Wayne Langei**, fined **President Jim** \$1 for asking **Kathy Buckley** earlier who her doctor was, with reference to her previously broken leg. That brought a puzzled look to everyone, including President Jim, considering it may not have been an appropriate question.. However, the fine was for asking "Who is your doctor?" when, for this group, it should

Sandee Lindhout

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Club Website

www.bellinghamrotary.org

District 5050 Website
www.district5050.org

Club meets
Monday - 12:00 Noon
Northwood Hall



be "Who *are* your doctors?"

Bob Boule was fined \$20 for the great article featuring all his work in Blaine and throughout our community. Considering his winnings in the sports pool, Wayne noted, "he's loaded."

Brian Griffin had already paid \$20 (Happy Bucks) for being named Man of the Year, and for all his work in Bellingham and throughout the community. No further fine was levied, even though Wayne couldn't help recognizing his achievement again.

Charlie Self was fined \$20 for the recognition of his wife, Phyllis, for being named Woman of the Year at the Bellingham Whatcom Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet for her Lifetime Achievements. When asked "How proud are you?", Charlie replied that "No dollars can express it." While Charlie had the floor, he also mentioned that Wal-Mart was selected as the "Big Business of the Year" by the Chamber, and as they paid him for a time, he contributed \$20.

Mike Plenkovich's son was recognized for being part of the most memorable team of the decade.

Cleary Cone recognized **Joan Airoidi** (\$10) for the significant honor she received from the Chamber for her work in Literacy.

Program

Nancy Jordan, Executive Director, Northwest Economic Council



Nancy Jordan, is originally from the Hillsboro, OR area. Nancy grew up on a family dairy farm where she had a built in job. She learned farming tasks of herd health, nutrition and genetics. To 'escape' farm life, she got involved in 4-H, church and music. She earned a degree in Animal Science/Business from Oregon State University and went on to work for Farm Credit as a commercial agricultural loan officer and appraiser. Starting her career in Oregon in the early 1980s, Nancy ended up in Lynden in 1983. She had a great opportunity to travel with the Ag Forestry Leadership program, where she was able to travel to St. Petersburg, Russia and the Baltic States in 1993, just after the Soviet Union dissolved. The significant learning from that experience was the strength of the human spirit of resilience and courage to figure out how to navigate through hardships, such as our current economic recession.

Megan Stanfield, Personal Banker with Wells Fargo



Megan Stanfield, Private Banker with Wells Fargo, started out in Westpoint, MD, but moved to California where she gained an interest in Flying. She obtained her pilot's license and became a flight instructor by the time she was 20. She earned her undergraduate degree in communications, and as the economy was tight in the early '80s, she went on to get her MBA from Pepperdine. Her husband is a veterinarian. Through her professional career that began in academia, a key mentor and recruiter, Peggy Zoro, wooed Megan for new and interesting job opportunities over the 19 years Megan has been in the financial services field. Her current position is no exception. As a Private Banker with Wells Fargo, she is intrigued with the truth that "the only constant is change." And, she enjoys being a trusted banker that can be relied upon.

Kris Hamilton, retired Astronautics, and Structural/Civil Engineer



Kris Hamilton grew up in Ephrata, WA on a multi-generational family farm, who built and operated the XXX Root Beer restaurant chain. His family was involved in setting government policy in food and water, working with leaders like Scoop Jackson and Warren Magnuson. Kris received his law degree from Whitman College, though he was always interested in architecture. He went on to Columbia University where he became a Structural and Civil Engineer, then to Stanford where he obtained a Masters Degree in Astronautics. He went on to work on the F-14 where he met David Pettinger, a mentor and business partner. In the late 1970s he and his wife, relocated to Bellingham where he opened his own firm. He went on to work on projects including BC Place Stadium, the Alaska Ferry Terminal Building, Depot Farmers Market and the most famous golfing green, the 14th Green at Lake Coeur d'Alene. Diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, he has now retired. He is now looking for his next activities, such as being introduced to Rotary by fellow Engineer, **Margaret Curtis**.

Visiting Rotarians

Pete Kremen

Whatcom North Rotary Club

Rook Vanhalm

Mt. Baker Rotary Club

Member Birthdays/Club Anniversaries

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Marty Haines, January 8th

Gregor Hodgson, January 10th

PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

Bonnie Hines, January 4th

Johanna Snyder, January 6th

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Mike Bradburn, January 6th 7 Years

Tony Pechthalt, January 6th 7 Years

Upcoming Programs

1/11 Loni Rahm - Bellingham - Whatcom County Tourism

1/18 Holiday - No Meeting

1/25 Jacque Coe, APR, Wa. Lottery - Where the Money Goes

2/1 Alice Clark - Pickford Film Center - Construction
Update

2/8 Paula Hammond - Dept. of Transportation

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