



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

TATTLE



Announcements

President Margaret reminded members that the annual Rotary Cruise will set sail on June 22nd (there will be NO regular meeting), returning once again to **Dick Tucker's** cabin on Eliza Island (presumably a troublingly low elevation for Dick given his mountain climbing hobby). This is the last week to sign-up as a passenger. President Margaret revealed her TVQ as she assured the group they will enjoy *Gilligan's Island* weather. (Perhaps a gift certificate to Village Books is in order.)

The Club board of directors met with members of the RCoB Foundation board at its recent meeting to discuss major projects and RCoB Foundation endowment growth. It was also rumored that President Margaret "bought a round" for the Club board at the end of the meeting in honor of a productive year. It's an unusual way to refer to root beer floats, but colloquialisms are ever changing.

Thanks to an RI grant, District 5050 printed a newsletter promoting the activities of all District clubs. President Margaret hopes it will be an

*June 15,
2009*

TATTLER SPONSORS

*John MacPherson,
Anvil Corporation*

*Jeff Jenkins,
Haskell Corp.*

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insert in the *Bellingham Herald*. We hope she is successful. If not, friends and loved ones can anticipate gifts wrapped in one or more of the 12,000 copies she received from the Assistant District Governor for many years to come.

Contact **Doug Cole** by email to sign-up at douglascole7@comcast.net

Business Notes

Board of Directors Meeting - June 11, 2009

All of the committee's are winding down for the Rotary year and **President-Elect, Jim Visbeek** has completed his committee assignments for the 2009-2010 Rotary year. **Janet and Jim** are leaving for Birmingham, England for the Rotary International Convention, June 16th.

Letters of resignation were accepted with regret from **Dennis Joines** and **Shannon Palmer** because they have moved out of the area and **Susan Zoller** due to extensive business travel. They will be missed!!

President Margaret thanked **Dave Blair** and **John MacPherson** for their service to the Club and the Board because their terms are ending.

Presentations



Service Fund Grants - **President-elect Jim Visbeek** made Service Fund Grant presentations to several community groups with the help of fellow Rotarians. Jim announced a \$500 grant to a Leadership Whatcom team for their 2010 "Seize the Day" calendar promoting all aspects of community health, from physical activity to affordable housing. Jim presented the check to team member Missy Belles. Leadership

THIS WEEK'S TEAM:

Editor:

Dale Rings

Reporter:

Mauri Ingram

Photographer::

Robin Halliday

Sgt. at Arms:

Wayne Langei

Invocation:

Cindy Enger

Introduction of Visitors:

Jim Blackburn

Greeter(s):

Elizabeth Grant

Raffle Tickets:

Earl Settlemyer

Whatcom is a program of the Whatcom Coalition for Healthy Communities. The Opportunity Council serves as the team's project sponsor. **Dale Rings** was the project sponsor.



Jim presented a \$500 check to Alissa Hallet-McSharry, program director for Junior Achievement (JA) of Whatcom County. The grant will provide funding for JA materials for local classrooms. Alissa thanked **Barry Hanson**, award sponsor, and additional board members

Robin Halliday and Tom Eckert.



Ken Dove

was on hand for the presentation of a \$1,000 grant to the Salvation Army Camp scholarships. **Peter Theisen** was the sponsor. Camp coordinator and WWU student Luke Phifer accepted the check, noting the camp hosts as many as 24 kids during each week-long session and makes a tremendous difference in their lives.



RYLA Participants - **Rob Westford**, New Generations & Youth Mentoring co-chair, introduced two of the three RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) participants sponsored by the Club. The program was held in Mission, BC, attracting 70 participants.

Josh Huntley (proposed by **Pat Foley**) works at Mills Electric, the family business. Victoria Gray (proposed by **Chuck Snyder**) is a student at Whatcom Community College. Both were uncertain what to expect from the experience. The dusty, unpaved road and the onslaught of hugging from strangers were overwhelming. Victoria captured the sentiment in an animated fashion. "Space people, this is the bubble!" she exclaimed, gesturing to indicate a personal no-contact perimeter on all sides. However, these unexpected elements were also the start of a transformative experience for which Josh and Victoria expressed immense gratitude to their proposers and the Club. Victoria hopes to return to RYLA next year and start a Rotaract Club!

Fines/Recognitions

Music:

Elizabeth Grant

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**2008-2009
OFFICERS**

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Jim Visbeek
President Elect

Kathy Hughes
Vice President
& Program Chair

Steve Hoekstra
Treasurer

Dave Blair
Immediate Past President

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Avenue of Club Service &
Development

John MacPherson
Avenue of Club Service &
Fellowship

Steve Adelstein
Avenue of Community
Service

Mike Diehl
Avenue of International &
Vocational Service

Fahri Ugurlu (the 'g' is silent) was Sergeant-at-arms **Wayne Langei's** first target. (Like Wayne, Fahri is often witness to the brutal, albeit unintentional butchering of his name. A little emotional baggage goes a long way, Wayne...) Apparently, Fahri purchased advertising in the *Herald* for the 1st and 2nd pages of the latest issue of *Whatcom Magazine*. His ad ran on pages 1 and...29. Fahri was \$20 "happy" for his letter of apology and hoped the mishap would leverage President Margaret's efforts with the District newsletter.

Bruce Clawson, a frequent presenter on the current state of the banking industry in Washington State, was asked about his expert status. Bruce declined the title 'expert' along with the invitation to present to the Club. Bruce said he would happily pay not to speak to the Club! Wayne's prodding did inspire Bruce to re-title for his presentation: "The Corrosive Impact of Credit Unions." \$20 did the trick. [Reporter's note: The two were escorted separately to their cars by formidably sized Rotarians following the meeting and fisticuffs were successfully avoided.]

Mike Diehl was called to task for a recent favorable article about the Ford Fusion. Mike said the article was issued by cars.com and happily threw in \$20!

The Bellingham Festival of Music was featured in a 2-page article in *Whatcom Magazine*. Festival director **Sandy McIntire** took the hit. After plugging the Festival dates (July 3rd - 19th) his \$20 offering was boosted to \$40!

Pat Foley has joined the Mount Baker Theatre board. This is Pat's second stint on the MBT board. After expressing her enthusiasm by way of a jig, she was fined \$5 for dancing. Wayne added \$20 for the honor of board membership. MBT director **Brad Burdick** matched Pat with \$20 and a plea to end the bloodletting.

Wayne was thrilled at the member response to his request for Tattler sponsors for the coming year. **Steve Adelstein, President Margaret, Tim Fisher, Pat Foley, Barry Hanson, Dave Morse, Jon Sitkin** and **Teri Treat** all said, "Yes!" Wayne was encouraged to accept all eight even though only six were needed! Thanks to this generous group for supporting the new Tattler and the Club!

Program

**EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY**

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





Vice President **Kathy Hughes** introduced Peace Corp volunteer and Rotary ambassadorial scholar Brittany Gallagher. Brittany, resplendent in traditional garb, spent two years in southern Niger in the village of Tamtala. She will be traveling to Fiji on behalf of the District for her scholarship focusing on environmental studies and sustainable development.

Following two and half months of training to learn how to help meet the needs of their host country (the Peace Corp's primary mission), Brittany and 36 colleagues were dispatched to as many villages in southern Niger. The country routinely ranks at or near worst in the world relative to infant mortality, life expectancy (girls born today are expected to live to age 45), GDP and other "national report card" measures. Her activities included teaching many of the women in the village to read, hosting a regional radio show to promote malaria prevention and other public health tips, and grant writing to support village goals.

Millet is almost the only thing that reliably grows in Niger. Weight is a measure of wealth in the country: more weight represents more wealth. Brittany's host family was thrilled that she gained 15 pounds during her stay thanks the steady millet diet. Despite the adverse personal effects of millet, Brittany wrote a grant to help the village purchase a millet grinder. The grant proceeds provided 75% of the cost. The village matched the remaining 25%.

Brittany also assisted the village in establishing a Moringa or "miracle tree" plantation. Moringa leaves are vitamin rich. The tree is also drought tolerant and its seeds have water-purifying properties. Tamtala now manages a 622-tree plantation. District 5050 is supporting the Moringa project for replication in other villages. Information is available at TreesForLife.org

Brittany calculated that, had she been born in Niger and experienced the same childhood illnesses she had growing up in the U.S., she would have died on four separate occasions. Fortunately, she is healthy and ready for Fiji. Brittany's projects in Tamtala have all proven to be sustainable over time. She is sure to be effective in Fiji as well.

Guests of Rotarians

Jim Visbeek introduced his Brother, Joseph

Bruce MacCormack brought Bill Floydd from the United Kingdom

Margaret Curtis introduced Kris Hamilton retired from Geiger Engineering

Visiting Rotarians

Sue Sharpe, Foundations

Bellingham Rotary Club

Bill Diehl

Albion, N. Y.

Member Birthdays/Club Anniversaries

Member Birthdays: (2 Weeks)

Peter Theisen, June 15th

Jim Wright, June 16th

J. C. Hickman, June 19th

Jon Sitkin, June 19th

Dominique Zervas, June 19th

Chuck Farrell, June 21st

Bob Miller, June 21st

Bob Trunek, June 21st

Margaret Curtis, June 22nd

Jim Caldwell, June 23rd

Jack Payne, June 24th

Roland Trenouth, June 26th

Warren Bestwick, June 27th

Jeff Haggen, June 27th
Steve Adelstein, June 28th
Dick Tucker, June 28th

Partner Birthdays:

Carrie Self, June 15th
Angela Mischaikov, June 16th
Jack Delay, June 17th
Joan Cunningham, June 23rd
Lois Nicholl, June 25th

Club Anniversaries:

Pat Foley, June 17th 4 Years
Rob Westford, June 17th 4 Years

Upcoming Programs

6/22 Rotary Cruise
6/29 Rotary Awards/Changing of the Guard
7/6 Holiday - 4th of July
7/13 Dr. Robert Keiper, WWU - Laughter: Motivtion and
Medicine

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