



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

TATTLE



Editor's Note: This issue of the Tattler is being presented in reverse order in keeping with President Jim's idea of having this meeting BACKWARDS.

Upcoming Programs

- 11/16 Kathi Hiyane-Brown - Egyptian Students at Whatcom
- 11/23 Cathy Buckley - Jingle Bell Run
- 11/30 Rotation Day
- 12/7 William Rex, President - Washington Aerospace Scholars Foundation

Member Birthdays/Club

*November
9th, 2009*

2009-2010

Sponsors:

Steve Adelstein

Adelstein Sharpe &

Serka

Margaret Curtis

Wilson Engineering

Tim Fisher

Life Insurance

Consultants

Pat Foley

Mills Electric

Anniversaries

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mike Abendhoff, November 9th
John Moles, November 9th
Patricia Decker, November 12th
Gary Goldfogel, November 12th
Peg Larson, November 14th

PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

Glenette Bestwick, November 12th
Jackie Hager, November 12th
Sandra Murphy, November 13th
Debra Dove, November 15th

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Jim Blackburn, November 10 1 Year
Cathy Buckley, November 12 9 Years
Karen Morse, November 15 16 Years

Visiting Rotarians

Susan Lazott, Scott Dudley and Janis Powell
North Whidbey Island - Sunrise

Guests of Rotarians

Bruce Clawson introduced Alice Clark with Pickford Theatre

John Macpherson brought Jim Wakefield with Anvil Corporation

Opening

Barry Hanson

Unity Group

Dave Morse

Blythe Plumbing

John Sitkin

Chmelik Sitkin

& Davis, P.S.

Teri Treat

Sage Management

In This Issue

[Opening](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Visiting Rotarians](#)

[Birthdays & Anniversaries](#)

**THIS WEEK'S
TEAM:**

Editor: Dale Rings

**Reporter: Barry
Hanson**

President Jim started with letting us know that today we would be doing the Rotary meeting backwards. Everything about the meeting would be in reverse order. He then proceeded by picking **Diane Tate** as the winner of the Rotary Raffle.

Program

Guest Speaker : Michael Falter, "The Business of Independent Cinema"



Michael started the program with a trip through the history of film making, beginning with the Lumiere Brothers of France developing film cameras and film projection around 1895. Unfortunately for them, they determined there would be no future in the exhibition of films and did not pursue it any further.

The rise of movie studios occurred in the 1920's, and based on their belief in the future of Bellingham, Fox Studio built the Mount Baker Theatre in 1927. During the 1940's studios had

Photographer: Marty Haines

Sgt. at Arms: Wayne Langei

Invocation: Rod Elin

Introduction of Visitors: Peter Theison

Greeter(s): Patti Leach

Raffle Tickets: Phil Griggs

Music: Don Anderson

AV: Mark Knittel

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to separate their ownership from the exhibitors. It was during this time the Art House was born. Over the years the movie business has faced many challenges, but the industry continues to adapt, as people love movies.

Each year Michael travels to two film festivals, Toronto and Sundance, where he screens an average of 40 films per week. Through his network of screeners and emails received from members/patrons, they always return with 15 -20 movies to be evaluated for the Bellingham market. The goal of the Pickford is to pick quality movies that the Bellingham audience will find entertaining. Many cineplexes play whatever the big studios have coming through the pipeline, regardless of quality, but the Pickford will only book films that are deemed superior.

The typical business model in the industry is a 90/10 split: 90% of the revenue brought in by big blockbusters goes to the studio, and 10% goes to the theatre. For Art Houses like the Pickford that seek out small quality films, the model changes and they pay out an average of 40 - 45% of ticket sales to the distributors. In order for the theatre to serve our community it is essential they make money, so in addition to showing films for small niche audiences they also show films like "Slumdog Millionaire" and "Bowling for Columbine" that can help dramatically increase revenue. With current capacity limited to 88 seats the Pickford is not able to increase the quality or selection of movies for movie patrons in our community. The Pickford is excited about the opportunities their capital campaign will provide for our community by making patrons' theater experiences more enjoyable at the new theater.

In the spirit of doing things backward, **Bruce Clawson** then provided an introduction to the program and background on Michael Falter. After a decade of teaching writing and film courses at various Universities, Michael became Program Director for the Pickford in April of 2002. Michael continues to teach film studies at Whatcom Community College.

Happy Bucks / Fines / Recognition

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Sandee Lindhout
PO Box 1578
Bellingham, WA
98227-1578

Phone:
360.734.5532
Fax: 360.656.5043

Del Vandekerck provided \$20 happy bucks for the birth of twin bouncing baby boy grandchildren.

Diane Tate was very happy about winning the raffle and gave 10% of her winnings back to the club.

Patricia Decker provided several happy bucks in recognition of the wonderful performance put on by the Whatcom Symphony that featured Sarah Chang. We then had a series of club members who attended provide additional happy bucks.

Marty Haines provided \$10 happy bucks for a 6 week trip to Italy. He was called on the fact that \$10 was a bit light for a 6 week vacation. He indicated his wallet was emptied out earlier by our Sergeant at Arms.

Aaron Booker was happy about the communication skills of Whatcom Community College teachers, as evidenced by our program presenter.

Football Pool:

In reverse order **Don Haggen** took the 4th quarter, **Scott Renne** the 3rd, **Paul Grey** the 2nd, and **Earl Settlemyer** the 1st.

Fines and Recognition:

Wayne Langei set his sights first on **Ken Marzocco**, and with a botched pronunciation of "Marzocco"; Wayne agreed to throw in happy bucks. He then asked Ken, as the Chairperson for the United Way fund raising campaign, how happy and proud he was of the effort. Ken indicated if every member contributed \$1,000 to the campaign he would be very happy. Ken was \$20 happy and he threw in another \$20 for his daughter studying in Europe. **Peter Theisen** also provided \$1 for the efforts of the campaign.

Wayne then asked every Rotarian that was proud of our clubs' Hospice House project to stand. He then discussed the recent

Email:
rcob@comcast.net

Club Website
www.bellinghamrotary.org

District 5050 Website
www.district5050.org

Club meets
Monday - 12:00 Noon
Northwood Hall



Herald article outlining the project and asked every member to put \$5 on the table.

Presentations

New Member Induction:



Left to right: **Jim Visbeek, Roger Barnhart, Tom Beaumont, Kris Hamilton, Margaret Curtis**

Roger Barnhart

got a big laugh when he announced that in the spirit of working backwards he was going to start by excusing himself to use the restroom. He then proceeded to share the importance of the club and the great opportunity we all have to serve our community.

Margaret Curtis introduced new member **Kris Hamilton**. Kris is a retired structural engineer and Principal Emeritus of Geiger Gossen Hamilton Campbell Engineers, P.C. in Bellingham. Kris holds Bachelor's Degrees from Whitman College and Columbia University, as well as a Master's Degree from Stanford University. Kris and his wife Jean met at Whitman College. They are parents of a young adult daughter and son. They are lifelong members of the First Presbyterian

Church.

Jim Visbeek then introduced new member **Tom Beaumont**. Tom is the Executive Director and CEO of The Firs. Tom is a graduate of Multnomah Bible College, and Western Seminary of Portland, Oregon. He has been in full time Christian camping ministry since 1981 starting at Trout Creek Bible Camp. Tom and his wife Mary have two daughters and a grown son.

Announcements

ADVENTURES IN LEADERSHIP - District 5050

Anyone who knows a student age 15-17 (10th & 11th grades) are encouraged to register them to attend the leadership program, January 15-17th at Camp Alexandra in S. Surrey, B. C. The deadline for applications is November 16, 2009. Contact **Rob Westford** or **Sandee** for additional information.

BELL RINGING -

Jim Visbeek reminded everyone about Rotary Bell Ringing on December 19th and asked that people fill out the form on the tables. See **Jim Vos** or **Cleary Cone**.

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL EVENT

Barry Hanson encouraged everyone to sign up for Monday Night Football on November 30th, at the Bellingham Country Club. The cost is \$25 for New Orleans-themed food. We need a minimum of 25 members to sign up. We have 17 thus far, so please let Barry know if you will be able to attend.

ROTATION DAY

Marty Haines gave an overview of Rotation Day and asked everyone to complete the form on the tables. The meeting that day, November 30, will be held at various members

businesses/organization. **THERE WILL BE NO MEETING AT NORTHWOOD HALL THAT DAY.**

CELEBRATE ROTARY:

Megan Stanfield shared with the club her role as a private wealth manager with Wells Fargo Bank. She discussed her role as a Private Banker and how she works with clients to access the variety of products and services offered by Wells Fargo.

Mike Plenkovich, classification Medical Service, provided a bit of background on the Medical Service title as he has served our community for many years with the Whatcom Medical Bureau. Mike has been a member of the club since 1986. He is most proud of the year he worked with **Jim Caldwell** hosting the district conference. With his stewardship as finance director they ended the event with a surplus of funds.

CLOSING / VETERAN'S DAY

President Jim read a moving description of veterans and then invited **Rod Elin** to the podium for the invocation. Rod began by saying, "Amen," in the spirit of the reverse order of the meeting.

We then closed the meeting by singing "*America the Beautiful*."

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