



GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

Bob Gibb introduced his wife, Ruth

Arlan Norman introduced Lynne Sherwood Parker with American Museum of Radio & Electricity

Parents of Students of the Month:

Wendy & Chris DeReese, parents of **Keith DeReese** from Squaticum High School

Ingrid Kindle, aunt of **Sarah Kindl** from Bellingham High School

Amy Lamositele, mother of **Lauia Lamositele** from Sehome High School

VISITING ROTARIANS

Pete Kremen
Whatcom North Rotary Club

OPENING REMARKS

4,196...enough said. Past president John Griggs spryly ascended the podium and welcomed attendees. In Don Anderson's absence, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. (Interestingly, the group is never asked to tackle tunes a cappella.)

Jack Payne provided the invocation, sharing the sad news that Hal Arnason, a past president of the Club, recently passed away. No details are available at this time, but will be forthcoming.

BUSINESS NOTES

A Rotary Group Study Exchange to India is being organized for December 2009. Exchanges last four to six weeks, and except for the group leader, Rotarians and their families are not eligible for Group Study Exchanges.

District 5050's "The Conference in the Country" will be held May 28-31, 2009 in Chilliwack, British Columbia.

Written nominations for the Club's major awards will be accepted through April 30th. Awards include: the Will J. Griswold Club Service Award, the David C. Morse Sr. Community Service Award, the Michael K. Mischaikow International Service Award and the Karen W. Morse Vocational Service Award. The selection committee consists of Past President Dave Blair, President Margaret Curtis, President Elect Jim Visbeek and Vice President Kathy Hughes. Awards will be presented at the June 29th changing of the guard. Details about the awards are available on pages 23-24 of the large format Club roster as well as the Club website (www.bellinghamrotary.org under "Members" and "Major Awards Criteria and Recipients"). The awards are not a popularity vote, but to acknowledge long term service of our members. The Club will contribute \$1,000 to the RCOB Foundation in the name of each honoree.

Roster Updates

Please contact Sandee at rcob@comcast.net if you have any changes for the Roster for the next rotary year.

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- April 27: New Member Talks
- May 4: Rotation Day
- May 11: Cary Feldmann — PSE Status of Baker Lake Dam

ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

- Larry Halgren, April 21st
- Tommy Thomson, April 22nd
- Bill Elfo, April 23rd

PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

- Holly Nardi, April 21st
- Stu Buckley, April 22nd

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

- Rex Dudley, April 21st
1 Year
- Austin Huang, April 21st
1 Year
- Dominique Zervas, April 21st
1 Year
- Brandon Hansen, April 23rd
2 Years

THIS ISSUE:

Reporter: Mauri Ingram
Photographer: Jim Wright

This Tattler brought to you by:

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HAPPY BUCKS / FINES & RECOGNITION

Past President John got things started with a \$20 contribution celebrating his good fortune in the basketball pool: he was assigned North Carolina.

Al and Mari Williamson celebrated their 65th anniversary and toasted the occasion not with champagne but with prune juice!

Del Van de Kirk announced that his son and daughter-in-law are expecting twins!

Jack Westford was grateful for Jack Payne's inclusion of housing for those in need in his invocation. As an advocate for Habitat for Humanity, Jack (Westford) was thrilled.

Next Monday, April 27th will be the last week that committee sign-up sheets will be out on the table so don't miss the opportunity to select your preference.

The New Member Breakfast is next Monday at the Harborside Bistro at 7:00 a.m. It is a great opportunity to do a make-up.

PRESENTATIONS: STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Cathy Buckley introduced the Students of the Month program. This month we recognize the Most Inspiring Students from the three Bellingham high schools. Peter Self introduced Bellingham High School student Sara Kindl. Peter noted that for him, inspirational individuals are those who make a difference in their own lives and the lives of others. Sara has faced many personal challenges some of which resulted in her living apart from her parents (she now resides with her aunt). Sara suffers from social anxiety disorder. With the help of her teachers and family, she has successfully grappled with that fear. Sara now speaks to other young people encouraging them in their struggles. Sara has been recognized for her citizenship and is active in several human rights and arts organizations.



Lauia Lamositele, Keith DeReese, Sara Kindl

Ken Jernberg introduced Lauia Lamositele from Sehome High School. Ken's research revealed a number of denotations and connotations for the word 'inspire:' influence, stimulate, compel, enliven, invigorate. Lauia's teachers offered high praise: "Lauia has an amazingly generous and empathetic spirit, always seeing potential good in any situation... she sees into the shadows and reaches out to people in need." "Lauia consistently demonstrates character rare in a person of her age." Lauia has been accepted into an Americorps program and will spend ten months in New Hampshire. After years of hiding in corners to avoid attention, Lauia is now a leader and a role model for other students. She is grateful to her parents for their nurturing support.

Dewey Desler lobbed a gentle jibe at "distant past president John" and then introduced Squilicum High School student Keith DeReese. Keith has neurofibromatosis, a disease that produces tumors and causes learning and vision problems. Keith frequently visits Children's Hospital in Seattle. He has had four major surgeries and anticipates more ahead. At 18, Keith has a 3.6 cumulative grade point average and last semester had a 4.0! Keith has completed his Eagle Scout project as part of his participation in Boys Scouts. He has been the support manager of the varsity football, soccer and basketball teams for the last three years. Keith is an active, committed volunteer, devoting his time to the Interfaith Coalition, Whatcom Humane Society and others, but finds the most satisfaction in speaking with other patients at Children's Hospital who face greater challenges than his. Keith looks forward to pursuing his vocational goal to train dogs that assist children with special needs.

HAPPY BUCKS / FINES & RECOGNITION

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He is pursuing a program at Bellingham Technical College to develop his skills.

As always, the students are impressive and humble us with their fortitude and accomplishments.

PROGRAM NOTES

Kathy Hughes introduced our own preservationist of pearly whites, Dick Tucker to present “Climbing High.” (After Dick’s presentation – filled with one tall, harrowing, steep, crevasse riddled peak after another – some members may wonder whether he is, in fact climbing while high. Of course, we know better but one must occasionally go for the cheap laugh.) Dick has climbed five mountains taller than 18,000 feet with the highest being 22,800. Dick started climbing in his early 40s, perhaps inspired by his grandfather who climbed Mt. Baker in 1920. Years later Dick called his mom from the same spot on Mount Baker on which his grandfather had stood. In true motherly form, she said, “You get down from there right now!”

Dick took us on a mind-boggling journey of his adventures from Africa’s Kilimanjaro to Mt. McKinley (a.k.a. Denali) in Alaska. His comforting tips to the uninitiated included, “You wear a rope while climbing so that if you fall into a crevasse there’s a chance of getting you back out again.” “If you’re tied to another climber who’s blown off a ridge, the only way you can save them is by jumping in the opposite direction.” And, “You’ll be in your tent during a snow storm and when it gets quiet you imagine the storm has passed. In fact, you’re just buried alive under the snow.”

“The seven summits” refer to the tallest mountains on each of the seven continents. Dick has summited six of the seven and came close on the seventh, turning back due to bad weather. Dick’s recommendations: Mount Shuksun, Mount Baker and a trip to Africa, regardless of the elevation you plan to reach. Despite the dangers of landing bush planes on glaciers, avoiding rockslides and avalanches and the need to bury food deep enough to outwit resourceful ravens, Dick finds great joy in climbing. Fortunately for us, he’s good at it.

In the end, Kathy Hughes ended up contributing a few dollars after D.C. Morse asked Dick if he happens to use any of Kathy’s gear. (Dick uses an ice axe manufactured by Seattle Manufacturing Corp.) Kathy gladly obliged.



Dick Tucker

Austin Huang was \$10 happy to announce the Squalicum High School band’s successful trip to China. Austin took a representative from Whatcom Community College along to facilitate a relationship between WCC and a high school in China that has 7,000 students!

Sergeant at Arms
Dominique Zervas held the arrows in her quiver for another day.

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TATTLER

April 20, 2009

2008-2009

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Look for the new "Tattler On Line" at www.bellinghamrotary.org/tattler.htm

The Tattler
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