



GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

Teri Treat introduced Sue Bussinger, General Manager of Market Street Catering

Peter Theisen brought Greg Winter who represents Project Homeless Connect Service Fund

VISITING ROTARIANS

Frank Zurline, Travel Bellingham Bay Rotary Club

Larry Pollett
Assistant District Governor
Whatcom North Rotary Club

OPENING REMARKS

President Margaret opened the 4,199th meeting, noting that those helping will be Mike Bradburn as the reporter, Mike Diehl as the photographer, Mark Knittel assisting with AV, and that Matt Hammatt was your greeter and Pat Foley peddled raffle tickets. Ralph Rinne delivered the invocation, saying that with the number of meetings we've had, we've also had that many invocations, so we must be pretty well connected. Don Anderson then accompanied us as we sang America the Beautiful.

BUSINESS NOTES

There will be no meeting next week, **May 25th** because of **The Memorial Day Holiday**.

The annual **Rotary Cruise** will be June 22nd and we will be going to Eliza Island again at Dick Tucker's beach cabin. Sign-up sheets will be on the table at our next meeting.

Roster Updates

Please contact Sandee at rcob@comcast.net if you have any changes for the Roster for the next rotary year. **THIS WILL BE THE LAST CHANCE FOR UPDATES.**

Board Briefs

The Community Projects and Development Committee Co-Chairman, Larry Ziels and Patricia Decker attended the meeting to present the **2009-2010 Major Project**.

The Service Fund Committee presented a request for the following grants and they were approved by the Board. A grant request has been submitted to the RCOB Foundation.

1. Whatcom County Farm Friends sponsored by Paul Grey – Requested Grant \$500.00
2. Whatcom Youth Service Day sponsored by Tom Grinstad – Requested Grant \$1,000.00
3. Whatcom Law Advocates sponsored by Dominique Zervas – Requested Grant \$1,000.00
4. Leadership Whatcom sponsored by Dale Rings – Requested Grant \$500.00
5. Junior Achievement of Whatcom County sponsored by Barry Hanson – Requested Grant \$500.00
6. Salvation Army Youth Camp Scholarship Fund sponsored by Peter Theisen – Requested Grant \$1,000.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May 25: Holiday – Memorial Day

June 1: Annual Youth Awards Program

June 8: Bruce Shepard, WWU – New Presidents Perspective

June 22: Rotary Cruise

June 29: Rotary Awards / Changing of the Guard

ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

Aaron Booker, May 19th

Marilyn Mastor, May 19th

Megan Stanfield, May 19th

Mary Robinson, May 23rd

Kathi Hiyane-Brown, May 27th

Al Williamson, May 28th

Vince Davis, May 30th

PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

Joyce Jernberg, May 19th

Diane Norman, May 19th

Sue Gaasland, May 23rd

Marc Curtis, May 26th

Leslie Farris, May 29th

Nina Huang, May 29th

Donel Griggs, May 30th

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Arlie Norman, May 19th
1 Year

Rud Browne, May 21st
2 Years

Mark Knittel, May 21st
2 Years

Larry Ziels, May 23rd
4 Years

THIS ISSUE:

Reporter: Michael Bradburn

Photographer: Mike Diehl

This Tattler brought to you by:

Bob Trunek



Design courtesy of



Tattler distribution provided by



HAPPY BUCKS / FINES & RECOGNITION

Tom Eckert was happy that the weather was good for BTC's Welding Rodeo. As the college president, he was nervous about the possibility of rain for the event; lots of potential risk there, so he was relieved.

Pat Foley donated \$5 for a recent vacation. It would have been more, but it wasn't that great a vacation.

Mike Bradburn was \$10 happy for the recent success of the fund raising efforts of the Hospice House project. The money raised by our Club was a great catalyst for the \$2.6 million they've now raised. Thanks to Senator Dale Brandland efforts, Governor Gregoire will sign a bill putting \$700,000 towards the project.

Sergeant at Arms, Tom Grinstad, was looking for Dave Blair to fine him for his new boat, apparently forgetting that he will be on it for the next month. He may be dinged later.

New Business

- a) Resignations were accepted with regret from Allen Pemberton, Bill Elfo and Erick Laine
- b) Charles E. Self requested a Excused Absence status due to longevity in Rotary and age (85 Years total) and it was approved.
- c) The Board selected Jim Visbeek as our delegate for the R. I. Convention

PRESENTATIONS

Larry Ziels spoke on behalf of the Major Projects Committee by announcing this year's winner. While four excellent projects were proposed to the committee, the Pickford Film Center got the nod. There were three other very excellent proposals including;

1. Whatcom Museum Family Interactive Gallery,
2. Boys and Girls Clubs of Whatcom County, on behalf of the Ferndale Club, and
3. Habitat for Humanity for Whatcom County, to build a duplex.

The project will be the **Pickford Film Center Capital Campaign**.

A historic building at 1318 Bay Street was purchased in 2004 to make room for two theatres with approximately 154 seats and 88 seats. In 2005, PFC began renovations and capital campaign fundraising. The capital campaign is well on its way to securing the final funds needed to finish this new, state-of-the-art film center, having raised \$2,311,751 of the \$3 million dollar project goal.

The Pickford serves more than 50,000 people annually, has 2,000 dues paying members, and has made efficient and effective use of materials and labor. This new facility is located in the emerging Arts District and will contribute to that area's critical mass of visual and performing arts and educational programs serving youth as well as students from local high schools, colleges, and the University. The funding and support of our Club will serve to substantially leverage other contributions and grants. Our goal will be \$100,000.00, with the reminder that we may raise more or less depending on the success of our fundraising, and that all funds raised will be disbursed to the project.



Jim Visbeek, Greg Winter

Jim Visbeek presented a \$1,000 check to Greg Winter, representing the Project Homeless Service Fund. A recent event was held to connect area homeless with services donated by area providers, ranging from dental to veterinary care. 450 households, representing 600 people, were and are continuing to be served.

Arle Norman was presented with his permanent badge, as he has completed all requirements for membership.



Larry Ziels

HAPPY BUCKS / FINES & RECOGNITION

PROGRAM NOTES

Gragg Miller introduced Roger Hunt, who proceeded to expound on the illustrious history of what is now the Bellingham Golf & Country Club. Roger reminded us of the fact that in the 1920's, this land on which our Rotary meets was once the site of his great grandfather's chicken farm.

The Bellingham Golf and Country Club went through a few locations and iterations throughout the years. It all started back in the 1890's during President McKinley's term as president and during the Klondike Gold Rush. Since there was no golf course in town, Bellingham's golf enthusiasts had to take a ferry to Tacoma to enjoy the game. The old site of Fort Bellingham was once used, which was then the site where Bellingham High School stands, and was all of 5 very rough holes. Edgemoor was considered to be a potential site until Mr. Larrabee nixed that idea.



Roger Hunt

The club was founded in 1912, by a group of local golf enthusiasts. John Ball designed and built the course for \$3,800, it cost \$5,000 to build the clubhouse, and another \$800 to furnish it. In 1913, the course was completed and held its first tournament in 1914. The club quickly became the social hub of the city as Jack Hutchinson (winner of the British Open), and Jim Barnes – winner of the U.S. open by 9 strokes, were among the big names that played the course in the early days. When the great depression hit and many members could no longer pay their dues, they paid with radios, shingles, and other miscellany. During Prohibition, the captain of the Men's Club would take a boat out into the San Juan's to meet rum runners and then hid their stash in a few secret lockers of the men's locker room. Only a select few knew which of the lockers held the bounty. They were also the keepers of the keys.

In 1936, a caddy would make \$.75 for 18 holes, with some players tipping an extra quarter. The caddies would try to hide when the non-tippers showed up, hoping to bag a "big spender." Slot machines were part of the scenery in the 40's which brought the 2nd highest source of revenue to the club. That of course failed to last!

Some big names played the course over the years and included; Patti Berg, Gene Littler, and Bob Hope. In 1979, (when Hope was 76), he had an evening gig in Bellingham. He showed up at the club in the late afternoon and had time for nine holes. He played through and wound up playing the 13th with Steve Hager and Fred Urquhart. They found out that Hope already had played nine holes at Spokane in the morning, nine in Seattle after he flew there, and then wanted to play nine more in Bellingham! He wound up playing 27 holes that day, and still did his show that night.

BGCC returns nearly \$4,000,000 to the city of Bellingham annually, 4,000 rounds of golf are played, and hosts the WWU tournament and the Washington State Seniors qualifier. You can watch in person the U.S. Open Seniors qualifier on June 29th – the public is invited to come watch the talent of these pros. We found out that Seniors qualify at just 50 years old! The club has survived many economic downturns over the years, losing and regaining members – it is still going strong and continues to be an integral part of our city.

The raffle was won by Rod Elin.

Tom made a donation in honor of his wife, who was one of the volunteers at the above mentioned homeless services event.

Members not wearing pins were fined a buck.

May 17th is Independence Day in Norway, which prompted Tom to ask if anyone had eaten lutefisk – and liked it. Arlie Norman claimed to have, but everyone who didn't believe him had to cough up \$2. It was a real money-maker.

Tom tried to corral both Jeff Jenkins and Fred Ossewarde for being "low profile" and rarely heard from. No money came forward on that effort...

This Tattler brought to you by:

Kathy Hughes

**SEATTLE
MANUFACTURING
CORPORATION**

TATTLER

May 18, 2009

2008-2009

OFFICERS

Margaret Curtis
President

Jim Visbeek
President Elect

Kathy Hughes
Vice President
& Program Chair

Steve Hoekstra
Treasurer

Dave Blair
Immediate Past President

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Paul Grey
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

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Sandee Lindhout
PO Box 1578
Bellingham, WA
98227-1578

Phone: 360.734.5532

Fax: 360.656.5043

Email: rcob@comcast.net

Club Website
www.bellinghamrotary.org

District 5050 Website
www.district5050.org



THE ROTARY CLUB *of* BELLINGHAM

BELLINGHAM'S FIRST ROTARY CLUB

1917-2005

Club meets Mondays - 12:00 Noon @ Northwood Hall

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

The Tattler
Rotary Club of Bellingham
PO Box 1578
Bellingham, WA 98227 - 1578