



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

TATTLE



*Editors note: Welcome to the new Tattler format, which is being delivered to you as an email. This new method saves money and volunteer time, as well as giving us new analytical and survey capability.*

## Opening

**President Margaret** opened the meeting at 12:30 p.m. at Northwood Hall, and **Don Anderson** played America the Beautiful for us. **Dennis Murphy** gave the invocation --- it was short but thoughtful and relevant. **Nancy Jordan** introduced our visitors, and **Bruce Shepard** not only sold raffle tickets, he later gave the program!



**Mary Humphries** of the Bellingham Technical College gave us an update on the Marine Learning project we sponsored as our major project last year. The BTC has won a number of grants, and now have some \$2.3 million toward the project in-hand. **President Curtis**

*June 8, 2009*

*Sponsors:*

*Irwin LeCocq  
 People's Bank*

*Wayne Langei  
 Whatcom Ed.  
 Credit Union*

### In This Issue

[Opening](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Program](#)

[Visiting Rotarians](#)

[Birthdays &  
 Anniversaries](#)

[Upcoming Programs](#)

THIS WEEK'S TEAM

advised that the \$103,000+ we raised will be held in our Rotary Club of Bellingham Foundation accounts until the tech college has accumulated the necessary funds to go forward with construction.

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## Announcements

**Dale Rings** told of the change --- being implemented this week --- in the Tattler's production process. No longer will you get an Adobe PDF file, instead the current edition will open as an email. There will also be links to the various Tattler sections. The changes will save us volunteer time and a great deal of production expense, one result of which will be lowered sponsorship costs. We will also have access to analytical data and online survey tools. He asked that we be patient as this new process is implemented. Dale also reviewed all the folks who work on the Tattler every week. Thanks to them!



**Doug Cole** appeared at the rostrum with a yellow Nor'easter hat and gloves to tell of the Rotary Cruise on June 22, just two weeks away. We're going to **Dick Tucker's** place on the Eliza Island beach, and boats will leave mid-morning and return mid-afternoon. Lunch will be barbequed on site with side dishes catered by Haggen. Remember the great history of Eliza told to us last year by **Brian Griffin?** This year we will have a special "mystery guest" who will share even more stories about the history of Bellingham Bay. Please sign up by June 15. We could also use several more skippers to offer boats. For more information contact Doug Cole. There will be no meeting June 22 at Northwood Hall!

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## Presentations

**Service Fund Grant Presentations: Jim Visbeek**

Editor: Dale Rings

Reporter: Joe Coons

Photographer:  
Robin Halliday

Sgt. At Arms:  
Mauri Ingram

Invocation:  
Dennis Murphy

Music: Don Anderson

Introduction of  
Visitors:

Earl Settlemyer

Greeter: Nancy Jordan

Raffle Tickets:  
Bruce Shepard

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The Law Advocates of Whatcom County got a \$1,000 check for their work particularly for the Domestic Violence Self Help Clinic activity, and the gift was sponsored by **Dominique Zervas** and presented to Mary Swenson, Director. They have worked with over 1,000 clients in the past year with pro bono work by

200 local attorneys.

The Whatcom Family and Community Network got \$1,000 to help with the costs of the Youth Service Day held recently. The sponsor was **Tom Grinstad** and Geof Morgan received the check in his role of director. He commented about the great outpouring of projects that were undertaken by area youths in the program.



Finally, a check for \$500 was presented to Cheryl de Hann, director of the Whatcom Farm Friends. **Paul Grey** sponsored our participation in a project distributing a book about county agriculture, "Food for the Body, Mind and Soul", to over 30 local libraries.

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## Happy Bucks

**Chuck Snyder** gave \$20 celebrating a "wonderful trip to Italy".

**Doug Cole** coughed up a buck in recognition of the fact that Northwest Airlines lost Chuck's luggage on the return trip. Doug quickly followed with the fact that he works for Delta Airlines.

**JC Hickman** gave \$2 to recognize the way the Tattler usually gets its facts right.

**Bob Trunek** gave \$\$\$ for an enjoyable week's vacation in Mexico, which did NOT include drug dealing or assassination attempts. He asserted that Mexico is a great place to visit.

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### 2008-2009 OFFICERS

**Margaret Curtis**  
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President Elect

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Vice President  
& Program Chair

**Steve Hoekstra**  
Treasurer

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Immediate Past President

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Avenue of Club Service & Development

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### EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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District 5050 Website  
[www.district5050.org](http://www.district5050.org)

Club meets  
Monday - 12:00 Noon  
Northwood Hall

## Fines/Recognition



Sergeant-at-Arms **Mauri Ingram** asked **Mary Swenson** to identify any Rotarians with whom she might be acquainted through litigation, in reference to her work with Law Advocates of Whatcom County. She passed on the opportunity.

Inspired by last week's student of the year presentations, **Elizabeth Grant** is reportedly considering joining the Anime Club at one of the Bellingham high schools and is considering a name change to "Lauia Lamositele" in honor of the recipient with the most lyrical name.

Mauri noted that seven of the nine students honored last week were female. Because of Rotary's inclusive philosophy, both male and female members were asked to put \$1 on the table in honor of all nine accomplished young people. Those feeling androgynous were invited to contribute \$2. ...

**Rogan Jones** joined the glamorous ranks of "candidate for elected office." The sergeant-at-arms was beaten to the punch in inquiring how happy he is about the prospect of helping to shape our school district and, more importantly about receiving phone calls at all hours of the day and night from grateful and/or enraged parents in the Bellingham School District...

There was yet another felon apprehended at the Blaine border crossing; as the perpetrator was neither a guest at Smuggler's Inn nor did he drive a vehicle - stolen or otherwise - over the Inn's lawn, **Bob Boule** was not fined...

**Glenn Nardi** was reminded that **Irwin LeCocq** is a regular Happy Bucks contributor, thanks to the sale of his boat, particularly notable given that the sale price of the boat, though not disclosed, was almost certainly slightly less than the \$2.35 million sale price for the Herald Building. (The building sale included 100 parking spaces. The price translates to \$23,500 per parking space which any architect will tell you is a bargain.) Glenn was invited to begin the first of many celebratory contributions. He was \$20 happy (this time). He followed the fine by asking, "Who do you think got the money?".

In researching for sergeant-at-arms duty, the Herald's List of Most Annoying People to Work With was reviewed. However, it was a

list of personality descriptions. No individual names were used.  
"We are all safe for the time being," said Mauri...

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## Program



Our speaker was our Member, **Dr. Bruce Shepard**, and President of WWU, who was introduced by **Stephanie Bowers**. Bruce credited the community with a fine welcome for him and his wife, Cindy. He told us the WWU wants to be "best in its class", and to a great extent that meant being "good stewards of this place". With 2,100 employees and 14,400 students (equal to about 12,500 full-timers since some only attend a few classes) the University contributes around \$330 - \$500 million annually to our economy. Construction underway, or just completed on the Academic Instruction Center and Miller Hall, will total nearly another \$100 million, a considerable bump for the construction industry locally.

The University renders many services to Bellingham, operating clinics, consultancy and advisory services, and studies local programs, projects, and facilities, such as our lakes, streams, and the Bay. From Speech and Hearing to Business Development to the Vehicle Research activities and more, the school is involved. And, of course, there are the musical and dramatic offerings, lectures, etc. Plus athletics...

Bruce commented that one of his slogans is "**Communities support universities that support communities!**" To get all this done within tighter budget constraints requires new efficiencies and belt-tightening, but he is committed to looking ahead. "What will we be doing that others will be copying in the future?" referring to Huxley College's 40 year history and U.W.'s recent claim to opening the first environmental college. In part, that takes some

risk-taking, including bold activities on the Bellingham waterfront, which will allow the school to expand and improve. As a result of State cutbacks, state support will drop from 60% of the costs of education to only 45.5% next year, while tuition will go up \$200/quarter (or about 14%.)

Bruce answered a number of questions from the audience, and his was an information-packed presentation. Thanks to him for giving us so much to think about!

**President Margaret** adjourned us just at 1:33.

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## Visiting Rotarians

**John Sleeth & Mary Humphries**  
Bellingham Bay Rotary Club

**Pete Kremen**  
Whatcom North Rotary Club

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## Member Birthdays/Club Anniversaries

### Member Birthdays

**Austin Huang**, June 10th  
**Dennis Joines**, June 14th  
**Jack Westford**, June 14th

### Partner Birthdays

**Margaret Miller**, June 11th  
**Cindy Wilson**, June 11th

### Club Anniversaries

**Dennis Joines**, June 10th      7 Years  
**Barry Hanson**, June 11th      9 Years

**Ken Marzocco, June 14th 10 Years**

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## Upcoming Programs

- 6/15 Brittany Gallagher - Peace Corp Experience**
- 6/22 Rotary Cruise**
- 6/29 Rotary Awards/Changing of the Guard**
- 7/6 Holiday - 4th of July**

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