



GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

Bob Morse
introduced Calene LeBeau,
Executive Director, Whatcom
Community Foundation

Susie Thomson-Sines
introduced Tony Branch,
Citigroup Smith Barney

Drew Schmidt
introduced Carolyn Casey,
Port of Bellingham

Nancy Bitting
introduced Robin Selditz,
Northwest Administrator for
Group Health Cooperative

Bob Trunek
introduced Tyler Ryan of
Multop Financial

VISITING ROTARIANS

Stephanie Sadler
Bellingham Bay Rotary Club

Michael Brussil
Midtown Rotary Club,
Sacramento, California

THIS ISSUE:

Reporter: Mauri Ingram
Editor: Jan Marchbanks
Photographer: Robin Halliday

This Tattler brought to you by:
John Holtzheimer



OPENING REMARKS

President Tim opened the meeting after a frenzied search for the bell. Our own multi-faceted Don Anderson regaled the club with a summery August rendition of the Star Spangled Banner. Paul Grey provided a thoughtful invocation. Laury Evans introduced visiting Rotarians.

BUSINESS NOTES

President Tim reminded everyone that the District 5050 GolFun tournament will be held Friday, August 11, at the Homestead Farms Golf Resort. Members should contact Susie Thomson-Sines (quickly!) for information.

During the 2005-06 Rotary-year, District 5050 raised over \$565,000 (US). That whopping amount translates to \$190 per Rotarian, and leads Zones 22 and 23 in per capita giving. Of that \$565,000, \$282,000 will be returned to the District for distribution. Potential uses include World Peace Scholarships, Ambassadorial Scholarships, university teachers' grants and up to \$56,000 for District Simplified Grants.

Andrew Moquin was given a few minutes at the podium to share his enthusiasm for the 2006 Bellingham Festival of Music season. Although Andrew is no longer the Executive Director, he channels his passion for the Festival into his service on the board of directors. A crowd of 800 was moved to a standing ovation following the concert Saturday at the Mount Baker Theatre, which featured Cuban pianist, Horacio Gutierrez. Sunday's festival concert included the added bonus of a salmon dinner prepared by Dewey Dessler accompanied by (a little musical reference for those paying close attention) fellow Rotarian and former club member Dave Nichols. Had Andrew still been the festival director, a hefty promotional fine would likely have been levied, proof that attorneys do have hearts!

President Tim encouraged members to assist in developing a prospective member list. Membership is a necessary ingredient to the fellowship and programs as well as the community and international service we all enjoy through Rotary. President Tim, the Board and the Membership Committee are committed to involving everyone in this important identification and recruitment process. Next week, Teri Treat and Fred Kaiser will have potential candidate lists available at the tables. Please come with a bevy of names of highly qualified individuals in mind to add to the lists.

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- August 14th**
Jim Jorgensen, Port Commission President; Jim Darling, Port Executive Director; and Mike Stoner, Port Environmental Director – Update on Bellingham's Waterfront Revitalization
- August 21st**
Karen Ssebanakitta – Whatcom End of Life Council – 5 Wishes Waiting to Hear Back
- August 28th**
TBD
- September 4th**
No Meeting – Labor Day
- September 11th**
Peter Gray & Tim Shepherd – Teen Cultural Exchange with Russia through Biographies
- September 18th**
Club Anniversary – History Committee and Seattle Gilbert and Sullivan Society
- September 25 –**
Dennis Madsen, former CEO of REI, Coop principles in a capitalistic society
- October 2 –**
Matt Rose – Inside Travel in Beijing

ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

- Steve Hoekstra**, August 7th
- Gragg Miller**, August 8th
- Nancy Bitting**, August 11th
- Andrew Evans**, August 5th
- Dave Blair**, August 13th

PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

- Jeanne Crow**, August 7th
- Connie Diehl**, August 12th
- Kiyoko Teraoka**, August 13th

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

- Susan Edgar**, August 9th
7 Years



HAPPY BUCKS RECOGNITION FINES

Cleary Cone kicked off the “fine recognition” with **Peggy Zoro**. **Peggy** was featured in a recent Bellingham Business Journal article about women shattering the glass ceiling. **Cleary** was quick to point out that the article was extremely laudatory of **Peggy** and rightfully so. However, **Cleary** also pointed out that the article failed to include mention of former member **Sam Kelly** introducing **Peggy** to the club as a former dancer at the Flame Tavern. **Peggy** graciously accepted the jest and the compliment. There was no fine as a result. **Cleary** did, however, ask that those who saw **Peggy** dance at the Flame should contribute \$10 and those who did not should contribute \$1. Many one-dollar bills appeared on the tables, but not a ten-spot in the bunch.

Brian Griffin, no stranger to the local business press, was described in a recent article as not one to “mince his words”. The **Griffin** quote in the same article read, “I abhor the north end of Bellingham, I think it’s awful.” **Cleary** pointed out that due to his own economic circumstances and numerous other injustices he chose not to mention, he resides in the north end. **Cleary** heard much discussion about **Brian’s** quote at a recent north-end neighborhood meeting. **Cleary** indicated that he chose wisely to deny knowing **Brian** and recommended a \$500 fine to President Tim; a \$20 fine was levied instead. **Brian** mentioned that he would be making a more formal announcement regarding the south-side’s plan to secede at a future meeting.

Greg Grant took over the microphone and recalled **Andrew Moquin** who failed to mention **Greg’s** fine culinary skills at an earlier Bellingham Festival of Music event. Twenty dollars lighter, **Andrew** took his seat.

Newshound **Greg** also caught a glimpse of **Judge Chuck Snyder’s** mug on the front page. **Chuck** explained that there is a high level of activity in area courtrooms as a result of our proximity to the Canadian border. **Greg** sleuthed into **Chuck’s** past and discovered a stint at Hallmark. **Greg** read several card sayings which were too painful to return to print. **Chuck** was fined \$10 and encouraged to keep his day job.

Fred Ossewarde, also known as Mr. 100% Attendance for 36 Years and Counting, returned from a trip to Alaska and presumably a make-up meeting or two.

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Steve Adelstein, co-chair of the Major Projects Committee, reviewed the club’s recent major project gifts: 2003 - \$125,000 to the Lighthouse Mission; 2004 - a total of \$117,500 to Northwest Youth Services (\$42,500), Mount Baker Council of the Boy Scouts (\$50,000) and Deport Market Square (\$25,000); and 2005 - a commitment of \$100,000 to the Bellingham Food Bank. The committee is still accepting recommendations for major projects (generally in the \$100,000 range) for the current Rotary-year. President Tim has requested a final recommendation from the committee by the end of September. Suggestions should be directed to Steve, Ray Trzynka or other members of the committee.

One of the guests attending the annual President’s Picnic left a souvenir behind for the Farris’ - a jaunty straw hat trimmed with fabric. Perhaps the guest was on the way to a Carnival Cruise excursion, which explains why the hat went unclaimed. The chapeau owner may contact President Tim to arrange to have the hat returned.

Chuck Beard explained that due to a glitch with the Lummi Island Ferry, the football pool “board” was stranded on the island. Take heart, the “board” will be back next week and squares may be purchased for \$40 (checks and cash only, please). The pool begins with the college season and continues through the Super Bowl. (This news bulletin was accompanied by a \$5 donation.)

Administrator extraordinaire, Nancy Bitting, sold out the raffle tickets! President Tim was not only congratulatory, but took the opportunity to create a sporting challenge (albeit non-athletic) among upcoming ticket sellers. Matt Hammatt and Rob Westford rose, with Aaron Booker on the hot seat in spirit, to accept the challenge. The person selling the most tickets in the next few weeks wins the challenge. The person...or perhaps persons...selling the least will each contribute \$10.

BOARD BRIEFS

There will not be a Board meeting this week. The next Board meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2006.

HAPPY BUCKS RECOGNITION FINES

PROGRAM



Speaker Anna Hall-Evans

Mauri Ingram introduced Anna Hall-Evans, community relations director for the Bellingham Bay Foundation to talk about the foundation and the Healthy Bay Initiative. Anna and her husband have lived in Bellingham for ten years. Prior to joining the foundation, Anna was at home with their children (ages 8 and 10) and a self-described “recovering academic”. She holds a Masters in English from the University of California - Berkeley, and an all-but-dissertation in Religion and Literature from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. Anna says her family has made her acutely aware of the nexus of environmental and public policy issues affecting our community today and into the future.

Anna explained that Native Americans use the principle of seven generations: significant decisions are based on the anticipated impact they will have on people seven generations in the future. The mouth of Whatcom Creek has been a center of activity since humans inhabited this place. Native Americans fished, traded and socialized on its banks. The arrival of Europeans brought the first commercial enterprise on Puget Sound.

The message of the Healthy Bay Initiative is, “Cleanup comes first”. It focuses on the total cleanup of mercury and other persistent toxic substances. Why is this approach necessary, and why is the initiative directed at the city? The Department of Ecology (DOE) approves the cleanup plan, but the agency does not have the jurisdiction to determine the standard of cleanup to be met.

The Port of Bellingham, owner of the site, is proposing an industrial standard of cleanup. The industrial standard allows for capping toxic materials in place with restrictions on excavation, public access and land use. The standard also requires ongoing vapor monitoring on the site. The city has the option to require an unrestricted standard of cleanup which would not carry any restrictions.

The Bay Pilot Project studied cleanup alternatives for Whatcom Waterway. There were fourteen groups involved, including the Port, DOE and Georgia-Pacific. Ten cleanup alternatives were identified. The preferred alternative, Alternative J, included dredging the waterway with a vacuum of sorts.

When examining whether to cap or dredge the toxic materials, Anna noted that the natural waterway is subject to creek flows and tidal action. Water movement can shift sediment which is functioning as a cap for the submerged toxics. Such shifting can expose the toxins, releasing them back into the water where they are pose greater risks to animal and plant life. This is of particular concern to initiative supporters because anticipated uses include small boat moorage, kayak launches, fishing and wading. In addition, some aquatic creatures burrow more than three feet below the floor of the estuary and the bay.

With regard to the cleanup, Anna posed the question, “Can we afford it?” In the view of initiative supporters, the answer is, “we can’t afford not to”. The Port anticipates total cleanup costs at approximately \$42.3 million, \$28.7 million to dredge the aeration stabilization basin for conversion to a marina and \$13.6 million for the mill site and the waterway. The foundation suggests an alternative allocation for unrestricted cleanup: \$17 million to dredge the lagoon and \$25.3 million for the mill site. Anna noted that estimates of future property values on the site range from \$750 million to \$1 billion, with a thorough cleanup.

A spirited question and answer period followed Anna’s presentation.

Ron Jepson’s lucky number was 954 and garnered him \$41 from the sold-out raffle.

Fred made it to Fairbanks and Prudhoe Bay. He likened the pipeline to the 8th wonder of the world...comments about structural issues ensued and **Fred** contributed \$20 for a wonderful trip.

Greg inspired **Fahri Ugurlu** to withdraw \$6 from his wallet in celebration of the Harborside Bistro’s six years of successful operation.

Greg noted that **Sheriff Bill Elfo** has requested 23 new deputies. Apparently there have been three car prowls recently in the Northshore area (not to be confused with the north end). **Greg** and several other Rotarians live in the Northshore area...**Greg** then asked **Bill** to “fix the problem”.

John Raasch was called upon to talk about Mindfly’s new office space. Mindfly is now occupying 900 square feet of storefront space downtown. Since there have been no walk-ins yet, **John** was let off the hook for \$9.

Frequent fine subject **Bob Boulé** was targeted again, although not for his wardrobe...this time. **Bob** was \$10 grateful for another wonderful festival in Blaine and a busy Smugglers Inn. The tunnel rooms were apparently closed during this particular festival.

Before moving on to the program, **President Tim** called **Jan Marchbanks** to her feet. **Tim** and his daughter were enjoying a lovely afternoon on the water when they were jarred by the sight of what **President Tim** described as a “live black bear” on the deck of a passing boat. **Jan** was surprised to learn of the standing \$10 fine for “transporting a live black bear on a watercraft”, and even more surprised - once husband **D.C. Morse** was identified as the bear (or bare?) in question - by the \$20 fine for shirtless men over 50! Ultimately, **President Tim** fined **D.C.** \$20 for the post traumatic stress disorder from which he and his daughter will suffer for some time.

This Tattler brought to you by:

Jeff Jenkins



HASKELL
CONSTRUCTORS - SINCE 1890

TATTLER

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2006-2007

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1917-2005

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

The Tattler
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