



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

TATTLE



Don Anderson played our national anthem and Mike Plenkovich provided the invocation. He told the Club the sad news of the passing of Ruth Gibb, wife of Rotarian Bob Gibb.

Celebrate Rotary!

CELEBRATE THE ROTARY CLUB OF BELLINGHAM

Fred Sexton led this week's "Celebrate the RCOB." Fred's classification is "Business Development," and he is also a commercial and residential realtor. Fred was formerly a Rotarian in Honolulu, and has been in our Club for 12 years. Fred appreciates the fact that Rotary provides an opportunity for business people to interface with the community in positive ways. He also stated that he appreciates the camaraderie in our Club, and especially enjoys the social events like "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner."

CELEBRATE ROTARY CLASSIFICATIONS

Rex Dudley talked about his classification: "Community Service - Big Brothers, Big Sisters." Rex is the executive director of the local Big

*September 14,
2009*

2009-2010

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Brothers, Big Sisters chapter. He is a "Big Brother" himself to a 13-year old boy. Rex and the teenager were matched in February of this year, and Rex has enjoyed taking him to swimming lessons, playing tennis with him, hiking and picking berries - all firsts for this young man. The goal of the organization is to provide positive role models for children who may lack those in their everyday lives. There are three programs within Big Brothers, Big Sisters: (1) the traditional "Big" and "Little" matchings, which provide for the two to spend time together doing a variety of activities; (2) "School Buddies," who spend an hour a week with a child during school hours; and (3) matching "Bigs" with children who have immediate family members in the penal system.

Announcements

ROTARY CLUB OF BELLINGHAM BLOOD DRIVE

Monday, October 12th from 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM (closed 12:00-1:00 PM) in the Northwood Hall Parking Lot. To schedule an appointment contact **Joan Airoidi** at jdairoidi@hotmail.com or 393-1054. Your 1 blood donation can benefit up to 3 patients in community hospitals. All donors' names will be put into a drawing for a nice bottle of Dunham Cellars wine, donated by David Blair.

YWCA CELEBRATION

Past President Margaret and the YWCA Board invite you to celebrate a new Rotary Year and see the results of our Club's 2006 Major Project on Friday, September 18th at 5:30 for wine and hors d'oeuvres. Margaret also asked for volunteers to serve on the nominating committee for selecting potential future Club officers.

President Jim announced that **Bob Trunek** would be holding a Rotary International Foundation Committee meeting immediately following the regular meeting.

President Jim also encouraged members to bring guests to the meetings, and warned of possible fines for a failure to do so.

Ben Kuiken announced a Sports Committee meeting immediately following the regular meeting. Ben also announced that 75 of the squares have been sold, with 25 still available. Proceeds are returned to the Club treasury.

Business Notes

Mills Electric

Barry Hanson

Unity Group

Dave Morse

Blythe Plumbing

John Sitkin

Chmelik Sitkin

& Davis, P.S.

Teri Treat

Sage Management

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOTES:

NEW MEMBER: **John Pedlow** is proposed by **Joe Coons** and **Bruce MacCormack** to fill the classification of "Broadcasting Manufacturing". He will be eligible for membership on October 5th unless a letter of objection is received on or before September 27th. Send letters to Sandra Lindhout, Executive Secretary, 2200 Vining St., Bellingham, Wa. 98229

Drew Schmidt was granted a 1 year leave of absence.

Presentations

Bruce Clawson, co-chair of the Fundraising Committee, introduced a short, informational Pickford Cinema movie which, unfortunately was postponed until the next meeting due to technical difficulties. Bruce's excitement about this year's major project is inspirational, and he also let us know that the Pickford is very pleased with the potential of our Club's support. On Saturday, October 17th, the Pickford will give interested Club members a hard-hat tour of the new space into which they will be moving. At our Club's November 9th meeting, the Pickford's Michael Falter, who selects the movies that are shown at the cinema, will give a short presentation to our Club. Bruce stated that our goal is to raise at least \$100,000 for the Pickford. The first meeting of the Fundraising Committee will follow the Club's regular meeting on September 21st.

New Member **Scott Caldwell** was inducted. Scott was proposed by Rex Dudley and Chuck Snyder. Chuck Snyder introduced Scott to the Club with a short biography of our newest member, and Past President Jan Marchbanks provided the charge.

Scott Caldwell, 39, has been in the Bellingham community for seven years. Scott grew up in Bothell after being born in Seattle in 1970. He moved to Bellingham in 1988 to attend Western Washington University, graduating with a teaching degree with an emphasis on History in 1994. He taught High School History at Bothell High School for 5 years, then as Coaching Director for Whatcom Youth Soccer Association for 2 years until he met his wife, who suggested that working evenings and weekends might not work for their long-term goals. He then joined Merrill Lynch as a Financial Advisor in 2004 before settling down at Waddell & Reed in 2006. Scott is happily married to his wife of 3 years, Renee, and has a yellow lab and a golden retriever.

THIS WEEK'S TEAM:

Editor: Stephanie Bowers

Reporter: Matt Hammatt

Photographer: Del Vandekerck

Sgt. at Arms: Tom Grinstead

Invocation: Mike Plenkovich

Introduction of Visitors: Arlan Norman

Greeter(s): Earl Settlemeyer

Raffle Tickets: Austin Huang

He enjoys running, hiking, playing soccer, reading and spending time with his wife. Scott spends much of his time volunteering in the community, serving as the Board President for Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Vice-President for the Whatcom Youth Soccer Association, coaching a Whatcom Developmental Youth Soccer Team, being a School Buddy to a Shuksan Middle School teenager, while also a member of the Washington State Instructional Coaching Staff and recently serving on a panel for the United Way campaign.

Happy Bucks

Teri Treat paid \$20 to thank President Jim for the new "Celebrate the RCOB" and "Celebrate Rotary Classifications" features that now kick off our meetings.

Rod Elin gave \$49 to celebrate his 49th wedding anniversary.

D.C. Morse tried to give \$2 for "two great days of fishing," but was unsuccessful. President Jim challenged D.C., saying that he had heard that D.C. landed two 72-pound fish, and D.C. wasn't going to get off that light. D.C. obfuscated, so President Jim vowed to take care of it at the next Club meeting.

Del VanDekerck gave \$4 for the \$400 that was received from an Ebay purchase of a stove, donated by Brian Griffin. Del took the opportunity to remind all Club members that the Ebay Committee would love Club members to donate their unwanted stuff for them to sell on Ebay.

Pam Kiesner's daughter was married a couple weeks ago at the Hotel Bellwether, and she was \$20 happy about that (or at least that's all she had left to give after paying for the wedding).

Bob Nicholl was \$58 happy about his 58 years of wedded bliss.

Dave Blair gave \$50 in honor of the recent Hospice House ground-breaking ceremony.

Program

Music: Don Anderson

AV: John Raasch

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Kathy Hughes
President Elect

Steve Adelstein
Vice President
& Program Chair

Steve Hoekstra
Treasurer

Margaret Curtis
Immediate Past President

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Paul Grey
Avenue of Club Service &
Development

Marty Haines
Avenue of Club Service &
Fellowship

Robin Halliday
Avenue of Community



Steve Adelstein introduced our program's speaker: Tom Dorr, Director of Western Washington University's Center for Economic Vitality.

Tom Dorr first explained the name change of his center. It used to be called the Small Business Development Center, but because of people's perceptions of what constituted a "small business," he and his staff determined that Center for Economic Vitality was a better descriptor. According to the federal definition, a small business is one with less than 500 employees - much larger than most people assume. Tom reported that 80% of their clients reported doing worse this year than last, but 20% were actually doing better.

Whatcom County has been spared some of the worst national recession because our economy is diverse, with many employees working for the oil industry, the hospital, and educational entities, all of which are more recession-proof than many industries. Whatcom County is also home to many small businesses - Tom reported that 95% of businesses have less than 100 employees. The Center for Economic Vitality's focus has been on creating and saving jobs. The Center has been meeting with banks to best understand new lending policies, and advising businesses on banks' philosophies regarding access to credit.

The Center receives funding from municipal, county, state and federal sources. The Center provides its services to local businesses free of charge. Last year, the Center served nearly 500 clients, spending an average of almost nine hours per client, and generating around \$15 million in revenue from client-businesses. Other activities of the Center have been to try to bring leading-edge information to businesses, including new social media such as Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, etc.

Tom Dorr shared a few local success stories for which the Center has provided advice. MGM Solutions is a company founded by former workers at Rader Farms. It is a web-only company, focused on point-of-sale products; it has grown to over \$35 million per year with 35

Service

Mike Diehl

Avenue of International &
Vocational Service

**EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY**

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**Club meets
Monday - 12:00 Noon
Northwood Hall**



employees, and is enjoying 12% growth per year. The Animal Eye Care Clinic is an animal ophthalmologist office in Bellingham - one of the best in the country. The 7-person clinic is introducing an animal eye-care supplement line that will be sold worldwide. The third success story is Cloud Mountain Farms which started years ago as an apple farm. Since its founding, the business has moved into the nursery business and has also begun providing landscaping services. They are now developing grapes, and are planning to enter the wine business within the next few years.

Guests of Rotarians

Steve Adelstein introduced Debra Lee with WWU. She accompanied our speaker, Tom Dorr

Bruce MacCormack brought John Pedlow

Stephanie Bowers introduced Edward Trueman

Jeff Hagen brought David Hannah with Whidbey Island Bank

Teri Treat introduced Sue Bussinger

Margaret Curtis brought Kris Hamilton

Visiting Rotarians

Arlan Norman announced that there were no visiting Rotarians.

Member Birthdays/Club Anniversaries

Member Birthdays:

Jan Marchbanks, September 14th

Ted Mischaikov, September 17th

Partner Birthdays:

Nancy Parkinson, September 15th

Cindy Abendhoff, September 18th

Club Anniversaries:

Kathy Hughes, September 16th 7 Years

Joan Airoidi, September 20th 5 Years

Irwin LeCocq, September 20th 5 Years

Upcoming Programs

9/21 Dr. Hank Levine: Seasonal Affective Disorder

9/28 Dr. David Sattler, WWU: Earthquakes, Volcanos & Tsunamis - Disaster Preparedness

10/5 Eric Leonhardt, WWU: Creating a Car for a Sustainable Future-Environmentally Friendly Viking Vehicles

10/12 Julia Bozza: Northwest Therapeutic Riding Center

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