



GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

Ben Kuiken introduced
Kristin Hauser with
Blue Skies for Children

Dwayne Rogge brought Jeremy
Casados with The Boy Scouts

VISITING ROTARIANS

Mimi Ferlin
Bellingham Bay Rotary Club

Pete Kremen & Adoline Brown
Whatcom North Rotary Club

Jim Sinclair
Mt. Baker Rotary Club

OPENING REMARKS

President Tim Farris opened the meeting with the unusual request of asking all members who like to sing to raise their hands. The "hand-raisers" were called forward to stand before the Club and were presented as the newly formed "Rotary Club of Bellingham Chorale." President Tim announced that in the absence of our venerable accompanist Don Anderson, the "Chorale" would sing America the Beautiful a cappella. Pat Foley was assigned as conductor. Although the assembled vocalists in the back rows couldn't see her, Pat led the "Chorale" in their premiere performance. [While their performance was capably done, it was clear that members shouldn't give up their day jobs...]

Kevin Allen gave the invocation, remembering former Rotarian Clyde Rice, a Club member for many years; Marilynn Johnson, wife of our member Dick Johnson; and Lyla Lant, a past member of the "Women of Rotary" group, a Paul Harris fellow, and widow of our late past-president Harold Lant. All three of these long-standing community members died in the past week. They will be missed by their families, friends and our community.

Visiting Rotarians were introduced by Craig Parkinson.

BUSINESS NOTES

Board Meeting - This month's Board of Directors meeting will be on October 19 (not October 12) at 4:30 PM at the Dorothy Haggen Building. The meeting is postponed so the Board can consider the recommendation from the Major Projects Committee which is scheduled to be submitted on October 17.

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner - Peg Larson announced the next "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" social is scheduled for Friday, November 10. Sign-up lists will continue to be on the tables for the next few weeks. This event is a great way to get to know fellow Rotarians better!

Membership - Teri Treat reported for the Membership Committee, thanking our Club for the response the "mini membership drive." Proposers will be contacted by committee members to assist with this process. Any members with questions are asked to contact a committee member.

Hands-on Project - Rob Westford announced that we will be involved in Make A Difference Day on Saturday, October 28, when we will gather early for breakfast and then go to work at the Bellingham Boys & Girls Club. For those who've been clamoring for a "hands-on" project, this is your chance. Sign-up sheets will be on the tables starting next week.

continued on page 2

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

October 16
Nick Kaiser, Saturna Capital – Islamic Investing Tenets

October 23
John Janicki – Janicki Industries. Innovations in Composite Manufacturing

October 30
TBD

November 6
Steve Staves – Mayor's Bellingham Budget Advisory Committee Community Outreach

November 13
Holiday – Veteran's Day

ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

Dennis Curtis, October 11th
Paul Grey, October 13th
Mike Diehl, October 14th

PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

Janice Ziels, October 10th
Brenda Hanson, October 12th
Diane Trunek, October 12th
Karen Funston, October 15th

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Jim Vos, October 9th
11 Years
Andrew Evans, October 11th
2 Years

THIS ISSUE:

Reporter: Joe Coons

Editor: Jan Marchbanks

Photographer: Mark Lambert

This Tattler brought to you by:

Pat Foley



Design courtesy of

Tattler distribution provided by



HAPPY BUCKS RECOGNITION FINES

Greg Grant did his best extracting money from Rotarians including:

Jim Cunningham - fined \$5 for being away traveling for five weeks

Tom Mercadante - fined \$100 for advertising (Tom replied, "That'll be an IOU, OK?")

Football pool - Paul Landgren, Fahri Ugurlu, Gragg Miller and Teri Treat were the football pool winners. However, no winnings were distributed since the dollars allegedly were with Chuck Beard who was missing from the meeting. Hmmm!!

PRESENTATIONS

Thank You - Kristin Hauser from Blue Skies for Children Foundation presented a plaque thanking the Club for the gift of \$1,000 to help provide books, school supplies, and clothing to homeless, foster and low-income children. She noted that during August and September alone "Blue Skies" provided materials to over 800 children in Whatcom County. President Tim thanked Kristin for the great service that she and her organization provide to the children in our community.

New Member Induction - Pat Foley introduced Scott Renne, our newest Member, who's been loaned the classification "Manufacturing - Marine Electrical Products." Scott is the founder and CEO of Blue Sea Systems, which is located in the Cordata Industrial Park and employs 75 people. An experienced sailor, Scott is married to Laurie and has three daughters. He's lived here since 1992. Past president Joe Coons gave Scott his "Charge of Membership" in the form of a technical specification sheet. Welcome Scott!

CLUB HISTORY SPECIAL – J.J. DONOVAN

J. C. Hickman made a presentation to the Club about our early Member, J.J. Donovan. Historic and colorful, J.J. Donovan's fingerprints and influence are all over Bellingham, Fairhaven and Whatcom County. Though not a charter member of the RCOB, J.J.'s name shows up in Club minutes a few years later. He was elected president for the 1927-28 Rotary-year. At his death at age 78 in 1937, the Bellingham Herald said in a front page obituary that the city "mourned the death of one of the most distinguished and constructive citizens."

Donovan was born in 1858, in Rumney, N.H., his father and mother had emigrated from Ireland. He was the oldest of seven children. Even so, he finished the Rumney schools and was only 19 when he graduated from the New Hampshire Normal School which qualified him to teach, which he did for three years. Then using his savings together with money earned, J.J. put himself through Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts, graduating in 1882 as valedictorian. With a civil engineering degree, he immediately went to work for Northern Pacific Railroad in Montana. After experience as a track engineer, he became a construction engineer there.

In 1888, he returned to New England and married Clara Isabel Nichols in Melrose, Mass. He had met developer and entrepreneur Nelson Bennett in Montana and was hired to come to Fairhaven as his engineer. Donovan showed up in January 1889. His bride remained in Tacoma until a house could be built for them in Fairhaven. There were fewer than 500 people in Bellingham Bay area at the time.

Dan Harris sold his town site to land promoters for \$70,000. The Fairhaven Land Co. was capitalized at \$25,000 in 1888 and J.J. re-surveyed and platted the Fairhaven land. Each of the founders has a street named for them, including Donovan Avenue.

J.J. was an engineer, but he had a head for business, too. He moved from railroads to coal mining engineer to lumber logging and milling. In 1890, J.J. associated with Julius H. Bloedel, president of Fairhaven National Bank, which survived the panic of 1893. In 1898 they organized the Lake Whatcom Logging Co. In 1913, they optioned an old mill and formed the Bloedel Donovan Lumber Mills Co. They bought other mills and logging properties over the years. By the time Bloedel Donovan dissolved in 1944, nearly 6 billion feet of lumber had been milled by the company.

HAPPY BUCKS RECOGNITION FINES

Club History Special – J.J. Donovan, continued

Beginning in 1906, J.J. devoted his time to logging and the logging roads of the Lake Whatcom Lumber Co. He was a serious student of logging and forest management and became an authority. Later he would write scientific and management papers which he presented to state and national organizations.

Throughout his residency in Whatcom County, J.J. was active not only in the various businesses, but the community and state as well. He served on the Fairhaven City Council, as president of the Bellingham Chamber of Commerce and the Washington State Chamber. He served eight years as a trustee of the Bellingham State Normal School, now WWU. In 1903, he was a strong proponent of the consolidation of the five cities into Bellingham. Later he was one of 15 freeholders that framed the Bellingham City Charter.

J.J.'s Rotary connections were strongest in the few years before 1927. In 1923, he was a board member, along with Charles Beard, Cecil Morse and others. In 1927, he was installed as president of the club. He said he belonged to many clubs, but he had always tried to attend all the meetings of the Rotary Club which he felt "is the most worthwhile organization of which he is a member." He said that in his 40 years of residence he had received no honor he appreciated more. He was 68 years old when he became president.

J.J.'s sense of right and wrong was strong. In 1929, after the Washington Ku Klux Klan held its state convention in Bellingham, he wrote a letter to the editor of the Bellingham Herald calling the Klan the most unpatriotic and un-American organization in America.

The Donovan home for many years was at 1201 Garden Street. It had been built by Bloedel before he moved to Seattle to run operations there. Mrs. Donovan died there on June 27, 1936. It served as a women's dormitory for Western for 25 years after the Donovans' deaths. The house still stands and houses a dentist's office and a few upstairs apartments.

J.J. was a devout Catholic and at his death in 1937, his service at Assumption Church was officiated by the Bishop of Seattle, who was assisted by six other Roman Catholic priests from churches in Seattle, Anacortes, South Bellingham and Everett. There were six active pall bearers and 24 honorary bearers including Mr. Bloedel; Frank Seifert, who ran the Herald; the incumbent Rotary Club president; and at least one past-president.

In 1946, J.H. Bloedel donated a 12 1/2 acre site on Lake Whatcom to the city for a park and beach as well as a substantial sum of money for buildings and development. It was dedicated in 1948 as Bloedel Donovan Park, called such to honor Bloedel's sentimental attachment to the area and to also honor the long association of Mr. Bloedel and Mr. Donovan.

J.J. Donovan was a fine example of a person who put service above self, and who served his community, his church and the Rotary Club of Bellingham.

PROGRAM

Program Chair Margaret Curtis introduced our program with the comment that we were being exposed to some science this year as she attempts to enlighten us in the area in which Americans are supposedly weak. Paul Pittman, an engineer with the Whatcom County Water Resources Division, spoke about the Nooksack River. Paul, working with another interested associate, has developed a detailed paper that has concluded that the Nooksack once flowed north to the Fraser River rather than south to Bellingham Bay! Paul's maps, charts, and data made a convincing argument for the case. He also convinced us that with "river management" such as is practiced today, we have little to worry about in the generations to come. Fascinating stuff!



Speaker Paul Pittman

Kay Sardo - donated \$15 for driving the wrong way on State Street

Kevin Allen - \$6 lighter after a fine for tardiness

Rob Westford - paid \$5 on behalf of dad, Jack, who was seen digging in his Lake Whatcom back yard worrying Greg that cemetery plots were short and Jack might be working on a cemetery expansion.

This Tattler brought to you by:

Tim Fisher

**Life Insurance
Consultants**

TATTLER

October 9, 2006

2006-2007

OFFICERS

Tim Farris
President

Dave Blair
President Elect

Margaret Curtis
Vice President
& Program Chair

Steve Hoekstra
Secretary Treasurer

Jim Cunningham
Immediate Past President

BOARD of DIRECTORS
Chuck Snyder
Avenue of
Club Service Development

Greg Grant
Avenue of
Club Service Fellowship

Rick Wright
Avenue of
Community Service

Brad Burdick
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

FOOTBALL POOL

CALIFORNIA

	6	3	4	1	5	9	2	4	7	8
9	Ben Kuiken	Steve Adelstein	Cooper Treat	Sharon Rohrbacher	Jon Sitkin	Mike Plenkovich	Ken Marzocco	Matt Hammatt	Daver Morse	Paul Hanson
6	Sandee & Dick	Al Williamson	John Aubert	Bob Nicholl	Dan Cheney	Sylvia Haggan	Laury Evans	David Morse Sr.	JC Hickman	Barry Hanson
7	Tim Farris	Joe Coons	Fred "O"	Tim Fisher	Roland Trenouth	Jan Marchbanks	Pat Foley	Irwin LeCocq	Anne Caldwell	Dick Johnson
4	Bob Boulé	Jim Vos	Ron Jepson	Cleary Cone	Jeff Jenkins	Kay Sardo	Pete Kremen	Pete Foti	Glen Nardi	Dana Kuiken
5	Don Haggan	Mary Pat Beard	Wayne Langei	Gary Nelson	Bob Morse	Fred Kaiser	Don Anderson	Ed Lowery	Al & Fred Inc.	Virginia Barry 739-5050
2	Greg Grant	Margaret Curtis	Dick Tucker	Larry Halgren	Fred "O"	Ann Hanson	Paul Landgren	Gregor Hodgson	Gragg Miller	Dean Shintaffer
3	Tony Pechthalt	Rick Wright	Fahri Ugurlu	Jack Mulhern	Dewey Dessler	Drew Schmidt	Kathy Hughes	Bob Gibb	Rick Haggan	Tony Pechthalt
1	Jeff McClure	Bud Peth	Erick Laine	Mary Robinson	Jack Westford	Jim Caldwell	Tom Grinstad	Fred Sexton	Rogan Jones	Chuck Snyder
0	David Blair	Mike Bradburn	Jim Wilson	Susie Thomson-Sines	Al Marsh	Roger Barnhart	Fahri Ugurlu	Larry Ziels	Chuck Beard	Teri Treat
8	Ann Jones	John Holteheimer		Jim Visbeek	Kathy Haggan	Rod Elin	Peggy Zoro	Al Marsh Peggy Zoro	Ralph Rinne	Millard Fund

WSU



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