



GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

Gary Nelson introduced
Earl Settlemyer

Mike Bradburn brought
Mark Knittel with Data Doctors

VISITING ROTARIANS

Pete Kremen
Whatcom North Rotary Club

Shannon Terrell
Bellingham Bay Rotary

Lynda Goodrich
Sunrise Rotary Club

Ron Kelley & Ron Vekved
Mt. Baker Rotary Club

OPENING REMARKS

President Tim opened the meeting by reminding us that with collective life experiences of more than 10,000 years on earth, we come to meetings, sit, have lunch, and discover a lot about each other. Did you know that one of our members was the Montana State High Jump Champion; that another member was shot while fishing in Alaska; that still another rode brahma bulls in a rodeo? With all of our years of experiences there are a myriad of stories and fun and failures and struggles to share with each other. As we discover more about each other we build relationships and understanding. In Tim's words, "...friendships power the work of Rotary".

"America the Beautiful" was accompanied by Don Anderson. Invocation was given by Rev. Kevin Allen. Dennis Murphy introduced visiting Rotarians.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gary Goldfogel reported that The Year of Pig had been celebrated successfully by the group that went to the Chinese New Year Dinner last week. A nine-course feast, starting with jellyfish and ending with pudding provided a great time for all. President Tim commented that the company was wonderful, but his tastes run more to hamburger. He noted that after four and a half hours of eating, the meal was relatively inexpensive on an hourly rate. Let's do it again next year!

President Tim announced that on Sunday, May 6 the Bellingham Bay Rotary is sponsoring a luncheon and auction to support the Clean Water Project in Honduras that we have also supported. Tickets will be \$60/person and more information about time and place will be available in the near future.

Fred Kaiser, on behalf of the Membership Committee, reminded all of us that we are looking to find new, quality members. He suggested that when considering sponsoring a new member, a contact with Paul Grey, the Chair of the Classification Committee, to discuss the possibilities is a good step. Generally classification is not a problem and all are asked to bring guests to engage them in our fellowship. President Tim reinforced that message.

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

April 2
Diane Bruland – Whatcom Hospice

April 9
New Member Talks

ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

Glen Nardi, March 26th

Daver Morse, March 30th

PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

Phyllis Davis, March 27th

Melissa Pemberton, March 27th

Connie Hodgson, March 28th

Inga Desler, March 31st

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Laury Evans
16 Years

Ken Jernberg
38 Years

Larry Johanson
32 Years

Mark Lambert
18 Years

Bruce Litherland
5 Years

Al Marsh
33 Years

Bob Miller
32 Years

Dennis Murphy
22 Years

Jack Payne
45 Years

Susie Thomson-Sines
8 Years

THIS ISSUE:
Reporter: Dale Kinsley
Editor: Yvonne Bianchi
Photographer: Calene LeBeau

This Tattler brought to you by:
Tim Fisher

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Design courtesy of **CCG INC.** Tattler distribution provided by **HARDLINES**

HAPPY BUCKS RECOGNITION FINES

Cleary Cone asked President Tim to reveal the names of those behind the stories he shared at the beginning of the meeting. Tim contributed \$20 but protected his sources.

Brian Griffin had \$1 happy buck to know that the WWU automotive program was working with kitty litter and motor oil. Cleary Cone negotiated with Brian for a higher amount of happiness.

Dwayne Rogge was happy to be out of the rain with his weekend campers and contributed to invite personally all members to the Good Scouter Luncheon where Herb Ershig, Don Haggen, and Larry Olsen will be recognized.

Bruce MacCormack contributed 5 unhappy bucks because the Tattler reporter said that he won last week's drawing. He didn't. As a result some of his compatriots had suggested that he buy breakfast. He asked whomever had won to be recognized. No one stood.

Chuck Beard announced winners in the basketball pool. "March Madness" has resulted in a handful of \$35 and \$65 winners. Four participants are still potential big winners with the Final Four teams.

PROGRAM



Bob Goodwin,
Northwest Discovery Project

Margaret Curtis introduced Bob Goodwin, Executive Director of the Northwest Discovery Project, to talk about the proposed Terraquarium for the Bellingham waterfront. Mr Goodwin has had an illustrious career in film and television and has been a leader in the Campaign for the Arts in downtown Bellingham. He started by recognizing Ken Culver as the new President of the Campaign for the Arts and the many people in the room who have supported the fundraising for that project.

The Northwest Discovery Project is a non-profit organization that runs the "Snow Goose" marine tours of the Puget Sound and the Marine Life Center at the Port of Bellingham. They have been concerned with research and education on restoring and sustaining our coastal lands and environment. They have partnered with Huxley College at WWU. They are now engaged in conducting a pre-design study and analysis of the feasibility and dimensions of building and operating a Terraquarium as part of waterfront development in Bellingham. Bob shared that he has spent much time visiting the Monterey Bay Aquarium in California and hopes to base this project on their experiences there. He has traveled throughout the U. S. to visit similar attractions and has consulted with the leading practitioners in this field. He has assembled a team of experts to help him learn from them. In the case of the Monterey Bay Aquarium they have been able to draw from a large population in the San Francisco area. In addition they have created some "big wows" that continue to bring people to the Aquarium. In Monterey these attractions include a three-story kelp bed and an active sea otter pond. The experts have said that any new Aquarium needs these central attractions.

Bob shared that for the Terraquarium the "big wows" that are envisioned include a collection and viewing of the largest collection anywhere of the Giant Pacific Octopus. Current technology can be used to make viewing these creatures possible. In addition he talked about a stunning exhibit of both fresh water and sea otters, native to this region. Finally, Mr. Goodwin discussed an exhibit that had been envisioned for Tacoma but never built. It would involve a large dome which people would enter and find themselves swimming in the midst of an pod of Orcas. This can be computer created and made to function in a very life-like, interactive way with current film and computer technology. He showed a short clip of a simulated environment with Orcas swimming past the observers, looking at the closely, etc. Conceivably the programming of the interactive experience for visitors to the dome could be changed from time to time to include other environments including experiencing life in the Nooksack River, a volcanic eruption, the Artic Express in the winter, etc. The Terraquarium could be a one-of-a-kind attraction for the 21st century.

HAPPY BUCKS RECOGNITION FINES

Bob also extolled the economic benefits to the local area that could come from such a project. In Monterey, CA it is estimated that the Aquarium brings in \$250 - 300 million a year. This project could be the anchor as a research and education center for the Bellingham waterfront development. The Port of Bellingham, local and State governments, educational institutions, and businesses have all given the project great support up to this point. The project will take about 6 years to accomplish. Phase one is currently underway to complete a feasibility study and develop a sustainable plan. Funding will need to come from both public and private sources. Total cost of the project is not yet known and will depend on the plan developed. It is expected that the Terraquarium will be self-supporting.

President Tim thanked Bob Goodwin for the stimulating presentation.

The drawing was won by Roland Trenouth. Not Bruce MacCormack.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.



YWCA Hall of Famers

Teri Treat gave happy bucks for the upcoming 2 year birthday of her little one.

Mauri Ingram was \$20 happy for the success of the Northwest Women's Hall of Fame event and recognized those who had been inducted.

Dale Kinsley confessed that he was the reporter who mistook Bruce MacCormack as last week's winner of the drawing. He contributed \$5 as atonement.

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TATTLER

March 26, 2007

2006-2007

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The Tattler
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