



GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

Bob Brunkow introduced his son, Brian, Law, Office of Brian Brunkow

Julie Foster brought Jo Collinge, YWCA Board President

Paul Grey introduced Henry Bierlink, Whatcom Ag. Preservation

Ray Trzynka brought Kirby Duncan, Business Bank of Whatcom County

Mauri Ingram introduced Trish Navarra, consultant & lecturer

OPENING REMARKS

President Tim welcomed the membership by saying:

“The YWCA is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, and we have a birthday present to give to this wonderful organization.

This is a day to be joyful for a number of reasons. We celebrate, because with your birthday gift to the YWCA, women who are homeless will be served. We celebrate because the YWCA is 100 years of age - a reflection of the needs it serves and the stewardship that it has had over a century of service to others. We celebrate because this gift from our club, which is over 90 years of age, marks a partnership of two venerable institutions coming together to serve a common need for a community we both love. We celebrate because this gift, which represents a record fund raising effort, says that this club’s generosity and its caring and concern for others are very much alive and well.

You should feel good, and you should feel proud, each and every one of you. For the rest of your lives, whenever you look up on the hill and you see the YWCA sitting up there, unique and grand, you will know that you helped provide service to the women of this community. You will not, no matter how hard you try, be able to ignore that quiet voice that says to you, “I helped the YWCA and I helped women in need in this community.” It is a memory that endures and reminds you that you did something good, something that lasts. And, that is priceless.”

We sang America the Beautiful, accompanied by Don Anderson, newly back from Greece and Turkey. Paul Grey gave the invocation, an Apache Blessing. Bob Brunkow introduced visiting Rotarians.

BUSINESS NOTES

No Meeting on May 28th - There will be no meeting next week, May 28th, because of the Memorial Day Holiday. Our next meeting will be June 4th, a special day as we recognize our Students of the Year.

Sign up for the Rotary Cruise Scheduled for June 11 - Peg Larson asked us to remember to keep June 11 on our calendar for the Rotary Cruise, where club members boat to the islands for a summer picnic. We will visit Ann and Paul Hanson and then enjoy a catered lunch at Larry and Bev Johanson’s home. It is great fun. Sign up soon since there are only two meetings left before the Cruise.

District Conference - The District Conference is May 31 - June 3rd at Harrison Hot Springs. Please see Sandee if you are interested in attending.

Rotary Information and Orientation Meeting - There will be a Rotary Information and Orientation meeting for new members on Tuesday, June 5, at 7:00 p.m. at Chuck Farrell’s home.

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May 21
Alice Clark and Carl Sell
Whatcom Film Association
Pickford Dreamspace

May 28 - No Meeting
Memorial Day Holiday

June 4
Youth Awards

June 11
Rotary Cruise

June 18
Bill Morton
Second Half Strategies

June 25
Rotary Awards/Changing
of the Guard

July 2
No Meeting – 4th of July Holiday

ROTARIAN BIRTHDAYS

Mary Robinson, May 23rd
Al Williamson, May 28th
Vince Davis, May 30th
Larry Ziels, June 1st

SPOUSE BIRTHDAYS

David Selditz, May 21st
Sue Gaasland, May 23rd
Mary Schnoor, May 23rd
Marc Curtis, May 26th
Leslie Farris, May 29th
Donel Griggs, May 30th
Patricia MacCormack, June 1st
Anathea Moles, June 2nd

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Larry Ziels, May 23rd, 2 Years
Warren Bestwick, June 1st, 35 Years
Vince Davis, June 1st, 55 Years
Bob Diehl, June 1st, 42 Years
Bill Elfo, June 1st, 4 Years
Tim Farris, June 1st, 9 Years
Fred Kaiser, June 1st, 20 Years
Mike Plenkovich, June 1st, 21 Years
Bob Sytsma, June 1st, 19 Years
Tommy Thomson, June 1st, Years
Al Williamson, June 1st, 33 Years
Jim Wilson, June 1st, 23 Years

THIS ISSUE:
Reporter: Stephanie Bowers
Editor: Jan Marchbanks
Photographer: Joe Coons

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HAPPY BUCKS/ FINES/RECOGNITION

Sgt-at-Arms Pat Foley fined all Rotarians \$2 who enjoyed the loin-clothed-guy at the Farmer's Market two weeks ago - thanks for the memories!

Scott Renne, who is spending a great deal of money on his website, spent \$5 on his fine.

Fahri still had \$20 to give in spite of being "spiffed up" for Rotary and purchasing the Bellwether Hotel with several of his friends.

Pat called upon the following Rotarians and asked for \$20 to celebrate the recognition of being affiliated with the Top 100 NW Washington Private Companies: Don Haggen, Rick Haggen, Rud Browne, Jeff Jenkins, Dave Blair, Mauri Ingram, Ken Marzocco, Erick Laine, John Macpherson, Bob Diehl, Mike Diehl and Dean Shintaffer.

Bob Diehl was quite happy for being honored as the "Dealer of the Year for the State of Washington" - Wahoo!

Cathy Buckley was \$33 happy for celebrating the wedding of her daughter at the same place that Cathy and her husband were wed 33 years ago. A very special occasion.

Bob Brunkow had a couple of reasons to be happy - his son is moving from San Diego to Bellingham and Bob courageously survived having his hand licked by a friendly grizzly bear!

Paul Hanson had \$2 to celebrate a 30-year reunion with a former exchange student who is now a successful urologist in Brazil.

Dave Blair gave \$20 in honor of the dedication of the David and Joyce Morse Center at BTC. Bob Morse joined the recognition with his own \$20.

Karen Morse was \$20 happy for the nearly 20% increase in Western's operating budget, which included a million dollars each for waterfront planning, the materials science center, and the neuro-psychology program. Go Vikings!

Roster Changes - This is your last chance to change your information in the club roster. Contact Sandee for any changes as soon as possible.

Environment Committee Report - Pete Foti of the Environmental Committee gave a brief report on the work party at Bloedel Donovan last Saturday. He mentioned that the weather worked out fine, despite some members' cancelling with the threat of inclement weather. Pete pointed out that President Tim can dig himself into a hole more voraciously than others. If you missed this opportunity, keep an eye out for the next work party which will be scheduled for an evening in mid-July.

PRESENTATIONS

President Tim presented an enlarged representation of a \$133,000 check to Julie Foster, Executive Director of the YWCA, and Jo Collinge, YWCA Board President, saying:

"As I look out on this membership, I could not be more proud than to be associated with the people in this room. The members of this club are here, united in a belief that service to others and to the community are a value that we believe in.

Prior to this check which I provide you today, it is important to note that the members of this club gave literally tens of thousands of dollars in contributions to the work of the club and to other community projects through the dues system. And it was after this giving, that they came forward with this remarkable major gift to the YWCA - our club's major project.

It is my honor, on behalf of the people in this room - the members of this club - to give you a check in the amount of \$133,000 for the YWCA capital campaign. The actual amount may be slightly more or less depending on the actual receipts, but it represents the most money we have raised for a project in the 90 some years of our club's history.

This historic amount represents three things: It represents the generosity of the people in this room, the belief that giving together through this club to make a large capital gift is important, and the belief in the mission and work of the YWCA.

We thank the YWCA for its wonderful work for women in this community. We thank you for your service to the YWCA. And we hope that this check supports the YWCA well into the next 100 years of the YWCA work."

YWCA Board President Jo Collinge presented President Tim with a banner citing "Partners in Service" with her grateful appreciation.



Jo Collinge & Julie Foster receive Rotary donation.



Jo Collinge thanks Rotarians for their generosity.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTIONS

Rud Browne - Rud was proposed for membership by Fahri Ugurlu and Larry Halgren to fill the classification “Computer Equipment.”

Rud is the Founder and Chairman of The Ryzex Group, which maintains its world headquarters in Bellingham. Ryzex specializes in the full life cycle (supply, repair, refurbishment and recycling) of Barcode, Mobile Wireless computer and RFID equipment. Rud founded Ryzex in 1989 in his apartment with \$30,000 of working capital. Ryzex’s revenue in 2006 was US \$69,000,000. The company currently employs 360 people in five countries, with about 140 employees located in Bellingham.

Rud currently serves on the Whatcom Community Foundation Board of Directors, the Western Washington University (CEME) advisory board, the Whatcom County Ethics Commission, and other community boards. He is a past Chairman of the Pacific Northwest chapter of the Young Presidents Organization and has served on the board of the Brigid Collins child abuse and family support center, on the US Bank of Washington’s Advisory Board, as Vice President for Ethics for the Vancouver chapter of the Young Entrepreneurs Organization, and on other community boards. In 2004 Browne was recognized as the Whatcom County Business person of the year and in 2005 and 2006 as a Finalist for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of The Year Award.

Rud is married to Sheila and they have two sons, ages 11 and 14. His passions are his family, flying and sailing.

Mark Knittel - Mark was proposed for membership by Mike Bradburn and Paul Grey to fill the classification “Computer Services.”

Mark was born in Kansas, grew up in Los Angeles, spent time in Arizona, and then returned to Topeka for his high school years. He attended college in Florida, and graduate school at the University of Chicago. His major was ‘Analytic Philosophy.’

He spent the next 20 years at IBM where he worked in sales/engineering/marketing. During this time he lived around the US, and nearly 5 years in France. After IBM, Mark moved to Minneapolis where he became the group executive in charge of operations for Computer Network Technology, Inc. After 8 years in Minneapolis, Mark found his way to Bellingham last February where he now operates two stores with plans to add more in Skagit and Snohomish counties. These stores - called ‘Data Doctor’- are part of a national franchise headquartered in Phoenix.

Mark’s wife of 27 years, Joanne, works for IBM as a financial analyst. They have a daughter, Julia, who is pursuing a PhD in Anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis, and a son, Jeremy, who is entering his senior year at UCLA, where he is studying aerospace engineering. Mark’s interests include hiking, biking, skiing, and flying gliders. He has a passion for improving math and science education in middle and high schools and is currently on the board of the newly formed Whatcom Community in Schools.

Past President Larry Halgren gave the charge of membership by welcoming Rud and Mark as the newest members of a 1.2 million person organization. He encouraged them to attend meetings, have fun, and improve the community by giving back generously.



Rud Browne & Mark Knittel receive charge of membership from Past president Halgren.

Alice Clark, Executive Director of the Whatcom Film Association, and Carl Sell, member of the Board of Directors, both self-proclaimed “movie geeks,” talked to the Rotary Club about the new Pickford Cinema coming soon to downtown Bellingham using an acronym new to most in the audience - “SYNTOK” which means Stuff You Need To Know. Here are some of the details: The association boasts 1700 dues-paying members, was started in 1998 by people interested in independent cinema, receives no city or state support, has grown 20% each year, and has always run in the black. Since 2002 they have run the Projections Film Festival, where teams of high school students have 65 hours to make and produce a film. Thanks to this organization, our community enjoys the traveling Pickford Show each summer and special screenings for students and seniors.

As the Pickford looks to expand by renovating a building on Bay Street, it will become the only LEED certified existing building in Bellingham, and perhaps the only LEED certified theatre in our country. When it opens in summer of 2008, it will have two theatres (90 and 140 seats), a community “living room” area for concessions and conversation, comfortable seats, and no commercials! It will cost \$2.5 Million to build; \$825,000 is already raised, and a campaign will be launched soon to finance the balance. We’ll all look forward to a night at the movies!

This Tattler brought to you by:

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TATTLER

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2006-2007

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The Tattler
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