



What's Going on in Rotary

Today's Program

World Wide



April is Magazine Month.

Rotary has a unique communications network-The Rotarian, the official English language magazine of Rotary International and 30 Rotary World Magazines that are independently produced in their own countries. They are published in more than 20 languages, distributed in 132 countries and have a combined circulation of 769,000.

The first issue of The National Rotarian, predecessor to The Rotarian, was published in January, 1911. It was edited and published by Chesley R. Perry, the first RI General Secretary, and as stated in the first issue, it was a vehicle for Perry and RI founder Paul Harris to deliver their messages, "Not only to every Rotary Club but to every Rotarian".

The first regional magazine was started in Great Britain and Ireland in 1915.

At the 1977 Council on Legislation in San Francisco, an act was passed that gave each Rotary Club the option to subscribe to the official magazine, The Rotarian, or to one of the Regional Rotary Magazines.

Every three years all regional magazine editors are invited to participate in the Regional Magazine Editor's Seminar. The three-day meeting is a forum for the editors to discuss common problems and concerns as well as the opportunity for RI to give them directions on how best to fulfill their Rotary communications responsibilities.

In the following weeks in April, there will be articles on individual Rotary magazines.

In Our District

April 22 is Earth Day. Do you know where your green children are on that day?

Bellevue Rotary, under the leadership of our past club President BJ Rasmussen, is partnering with the Bellevue Utilities Department's Laurie Devereaux to clean up Valley Creek in Bellevue to encourage salmon spawning. Some 25 Rotarians and friends tackle the blackberries in Valley Creek during work parties two to three times a year and replace the blackberries with native plants like Salmon Berry, Thimble Berry, Vine Maples and Indian Plums. Valley Creek is a tributary flowing into Kelsey Creek which flows into the Bellefield Slough and the salmon use that water network to reach Valley Creek. The last work party was during Service Above Self day in early March. BJ says people might be amazed to know there is a creek hidden below the blackberries up by the Jiffy Lube on 140th in Bellevue -- let alone that it hosts spawning salmon!

As anyone knows who works around blackberries, wear thick gloves and keep your head down! Not a bad idea to wear a hard hat as well.

Clint's Corner

Attendance at Firesides is often interpreted as being solely for new (red badge) members. This is not the case. All members are invited and can learn a great deal of the inner workings of a Rotary club. Firesides also afford an opportunity for longer term members to become more acquainted with new members. The more we know about each other, the greater the effect of working together on the many projects pursued by the club.

Milestones

Birthdays

Apr. 15—Roger Morse and Nancy Lee

Apr. 18—Greg Asimakoupoulos

Upcoming Events

Apr. 12 - Fireside - Paul Smith home – 7525 78th Ave. S.E. 6-8 pm.

Apr. 20- 22 –District Conference at Coeur d'Alene

Apr. 22 – Earth Day

Apr. 25 – Outbound GSE Team leaves for Saitama, Japan

Upcoming Programs

Apr. 24 – From Waste to Energy- Philip Schmidt
May 1 – Klondike Museum – Debbie Conway, Superintendent.

May 8 – Clear Wire

In Our Club

Today's Program

President John Matthews announced a transition team who will work out the logistics for our meetings to move to the Community Center at Mercer View in July. Members besides Matthews are John Frazier, Amin Adatia, Bo Darling, John Scherzo and Pete Mayer.

Islanders of the month were MIHS seniors Jessi Mann and Trevor Fulp, who delighted us with their talents and service. Jessi competes in the dance and song arena, sings in the Midnight Blues Jazz Club, is an advocate for teens with diabetes and has honed down her college choices to three. Trevor, on the varsity tennis and basketball teams, enjoys Improv, DECA competition, is a Bridges leader and volunteers at the Boys and Girls Club, among his many activities. He hopes to attend Cal Berkeley next year.

Send get-well wishes to The Rev – Greg Asimakoupoulos – who has serious pneumonia. Keith Blue announced the birth of his VERY beautiful new granddaughter, Sydney Blue; Melinda Booth expressed appreciation for nine years of success with the Interact Club and for Elizabeth Baska and Vali Somers, its new co-chairs. Bruce Peters ceremoniously gave Steve Litzow \$100 in campaign money as Steve announced he will run again for City Council. Roy Simperman contributed \$71 for the 71 students who have received the pre-med scholarships and have gone on to become physicians. Dave Weed expressed thanks to 8th Dist. Congressman Dave Reichert, who recently expedited his obtaining a passport. Mary Kraft, repeat visitor, has announced her intention to join our club. Paul Smith reminded everyone that the Fireside at his house will be Thursday, April 12, beginning at 6 p.m. with "cheap wine from Costco."

Jennifer Holden, the Northwest representative of Wal-Mart's "rapid response PR team," presented the mega-stores' side of the contentions over non-union wages, health insurance, treatment of workers, use of foreign labor, edging out small business and diminishing Main Streets in small-town USA.

She termed the skirmishes "politics and urban legends," saying the company is the largest private workforce in the country, employs 1.6 million workers— and is the largest welfare-to-work employer. The lowest hourly pay is \$11.60, health care, bonuses and advancement opportunities are provided. Washington State's Wal-Mart workforce numbers more than 17,400; the stores support 71,000 local suppliers; and donate \$3 million a year to Washington charity. She said her own research and surveys indicate that after Wal-Marts move into a community, the economy improves, rather than the reverse. Holden said Wal-Mart actually works with other businesses to show them how to better compete or niche their goods and services against the low-priced merchandiser.



Member Profile

John Frazier (16 years of service)



John was born (literally) in a barn on the High Valley Ranch at the bottom of Robinson Canyon in Ellensburg, Washington. He attended Berney Elementary School in Walla Walla and moved to Mercer Island while in 6th grade. He attended the (all boys) William Ellis Grammar School in London, England and then returned to graduate from MIHS. John attended Washington State University, receiving a BS in Agricultural Economics with minors in Agronomy and Biometry. He earned an MA in Economics with distinction in Applied Statistics and a designation in International Trade. He currently serves as a Senior Vice President at Parker, Smith & Feek, Inc., a regional commercial insurance brokerage firm with 70 years in business. John has been in this type of business since 1987. Andrea and John have 4 sons, Austin, Jake, Phillip and Teague. They also have a golden retriever named Buddy. John's favorite club service is the 4-way test program at Islander Middle School, because it teaches students good decision making tools and serves as an eye opener for Rotarians who participate. Outside service includes being director of the Shelter Committee for the Emergency Management Action Council of MI for the past 8 years. He used to hunt and fish, but now he spends his spare time coaching wrestling,

football and baseball, in which his sons are active. Before his classification talk 17 years ago, he was cautioned not to try selling life insurance via his talk. John's favorite makeup was in Nevada City, Ca. He knew many of the members and they took advantage of that to extract a number of dollars in fines from him.

Story of the Week

The reporter was interviewing the old man on his 100th birthday. "To what do you attribute your longevity", he asked. "Well, now, young fellow," the old man said, "you might call me a health nut. I never drank, I never smoked, and I was always in bed by 10 o'clock. I walked 3 miles every day...rain or shine."

"But," said the reporter, "I had an uncle who followed that exact routine, and he died when he was 62. How do you account for that?" The old man replied, "All I can say is that he didn't keep it up long enough."

Notable Quote

"Men can starve from a lack of self-realization as much as from a lack of bread."... Richard Wright

Have a good week! ...Jim Marich

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