



What's Going on in Rotary

World Wide

Mercer Island Rotarians and Rotary Fellowships **John Matthews, John B. Frazier, Sam Sullivan, Patti and Bo Darling** are Members of the Cascade Fleet of the International Yachting Fellowship of Rotarians (IYFR). Bill Robinson, a Mercer Island resident and member of Seattle 4, is the presiding International Commodore. The organization is very active locally, and always has a robust presence at Rotary International gatherings.

Sam and John Frazier are right now heading up to the San Juan's, on an IYFR trip with the Rotarians from around the world who went to the Rotary International Conference at Salt Lake City, Utah. They'll be taking them from Island to Island, eating and drinking and having a great time.

John Townsend is a member of the Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians and would be happy to talk to anyone interested in participating. President-elect **Bob Olson** is another good source of information as he researched and wrote an essay on Rotary Fellowships as a part of his work to become Rotary Academy Graduate.

Thanks to the many MI Rotarians that responded to our request for their participation in the RI Fellowships. Most were looking for more information and we hope these articles, this month, provided some direction.

Today's Program

Rev. Greg Asimacopoulos introduced Miss Washington, Kristen Eddings, a pert and articulate young lady, who educated us on the responsibilities of the office. She was Miss Poulso, and went up through the ranks to become Miss Washington and represent the state in the Miss America contest. She ended up in the top ten, and personally, I can't believe she didn't win. She was very articulate, spoke without notes and represented what we all hope is the future of the U.S. Her emphasis was on education of youth, particularly on geography, culture and language, which she believes is the key to world understanding. (Crash Williams stated that geography is important. "Sonya does not even know where Australia is.") Kristen was a Rotary exchange student to Japan, and has done much international travel and absorption of cultures. She put the Miss America pageant in perspective by pointing out that it provides more than \$45 million in scholarships. Kristen received \$3000 to help her through college. We should be proud of the American face this young lady has presented to the world in her travels.



In Our District

District 5030 GSE Team Returns from a Superb Trip to Japan

The District's Group Study Exchange team recently returned from a month in Japan hosted by Rotary District 2770 of Saitama, Japan. It was an enormously successful trip for the team and MIRC, will have the pleasure of hearing from them first hand at our 16 October meeting. But, for now a highlight of their trip---

At the 2770 District Conference, our team's presentation, all in Japanese, was made to a standing room only crowd. It was a smashing success and at a later date, during a visit to the Toda West Rotary Club, the attendees included Japan's First Lady, Akie Abe. She was very much interested in the all female GSE team from Seattle and their message about social responsibility, as she believed that building a peaceful relationship between two nations requires more than a dialogue between the heads of states (Isn't that what Rotary is all about?).

Next year the team from 5030 will go to Peru. Anyone interested in being the leader or have knowledge of a non-Rotarian that might wish to go? If so, contact Bob Kaercher.

Fables, Foibles & Fun

Gary Smith bragged about the Oregon State baseball team winning its second straight NCAA Championship.

Bob Lewis, noting that **Sam Sullivan** lamented not having a Rotary Cap...presented him with a cap bearing the Run Day logo.

Patti Darling bragged that a grandson had graduated from boot camp.

Harold Hill advised that he heard the winner of the shortest poem contest. The poem? "Fleas, Adam had 'em."

Dick Chappelle reported that **Dave Ford**, 1969-1970 President of MI Rotary wanted his best wishes passed on to the club. Dave now lives in Minneapolis.

Cyndy Simms sighed that the 5 schools of MI had their last day for the year on Monday.

Dave Watkins, fearing by-pass surgery, suffered only a stent insertion and looked and felt great.

Gay Brook, afraid no-one else would mention it, called attention to the upcoming marriage of **Brent Fowler**.

Trina Westerlund bragged of the birth of her 6th grandchild...but first boy.

Dave Weed sadly announced that his first born has graduated from high school and will be entering college.

Milestones

Birthdays

July 3 - Jim Hunt
July 4 - Jim Trombold
July 6 - Brian Jennison

In Our Club

Guests: Andrea Scholl, Scott Sinclair, (Linda Farnsworth, Joyce Hedlund's daughter) Petra Walker, Howard (Dong)? and Tom Callahan's son.

Pres John reported on his sense of the convention. He related a story of a young lady born without arms and recounted her accomplishments despite her handicap. **Pres John** also advised that **John Nelson** has been invited to join an International Chorus, which will perform at the next RI Convention in 2008.

Pres John reminded us that from now on, our meetings will be held at the Community Center.

Pres John read two letters of thanks from a) the Burn Center and b) MI Youth and Family Services for our financial support.

Gus Raaum announced that a meeting of the Sgt. at Arms committee would be held after today's regular meeting.

Dave Bobanick advised that Rotary 1st Harvest was celebrating its 25th anniversary.

John Scherzo said the Pancake Breakfast tickets were available. You are asked to take 10 tickets and return the funds to the committee. No ticket returns will be accepted. Just money. The event is scheduled for the Summer Celebration of MI.

Sam Sullivan asked for volunteers to help staff the Swedish Hospital Run event. They are our principal sponsors for Run Day, so we need to be responsive. The event is scheduled for early morning, July 22.

Steve Webert asked that the newsletter committee members attend a meeting following the regular meeting to discuss the future production of the Dawn.

Resignation: We are sorry to report that **Roger Morse** has had to resign membership in our club because of a move to Issaquah.

Tony Vedrich advised that the 07-08 directory is available on-line at our web site. The hard copy is at the printers and will be available soon.

Joyce Hedlund made a Paul Harris Fellowship available to her daughter, **Linda Farnsworth**.

Don Walker made a PHF award available to his wife **Petra**.

Upcoming Programs

July 3 - Celebration of Uncle Sam's Birthday
July 10 - Pike Place Market Foundation - Jackson Schmidt
July 17 - Ethiopia Update
July 24 - Music Program - Floyd McCracken

Upcoming Events

June 28 - Changeover Dinner beginning at 5:30 PM
Aug. 11 - The Great MI Rotary Salmon BBQ.

Member Profile

Claude Layman (12 years of service)



Claude was born at home in the small town of Newcastle, Virginia. His mother was an excellent homemaker and his father was an entrepreneur. He owned a general store, farm, lumber mill, and a flour mill. He also was a contractor and owner of a truck. Claude's family had no electricity or city water and took baths in a wash tub. He attended a couple of schools in Newcastle. There were 16 in his high school graduating class and of 4 that attended college, only two graduated. Claude attended Roanoke College, then, after doing a few odd jobs, enlisted in the army, serving in the European theatre in WWII. After returning from the war, he went to N.C. State and studied textiles. Claude then joined Celanese Corporation rising to Marketing Manager. He met Gail while working in San Francisco. They married in 1963 and honeymooned in Washington, D.C., Roanoke (family) and Puerto Rico. Work took them from San Francisco to Seattle and New York. In 1972, he bought a small company named Jen-cel-lite and grew it from 10 people to 142. Claude retired in 1994. Gail and Claude have two daughters. Debi is a court reporter in the Marines and lives in Quantico with her husband. Sharon lives in Jackson, Wyoming with high school teacher husband. They have 4 children. Both Debi and Sharon have masters degrees. Claude belongs to several clubs, but considers Rotary and the Shriners the best, because the aim of both is to help people in need. He especially enjoyed the wheelchair project. His hobbies include reading, traveling, woodworking and taking care of family and two homes (MI and Sun River, Ore. Some day he would like to enlighten Rotary on the subject of textiles because the subject is rich in history and heritage.

Story of the Week

Still groggy from his operation, the patient was in an agitated state. "Nurse," he moaned, "I heard the surgeon say a four-letter word and it caused me great distress."

"What did the surgeon say?" asked the nurse.

"Oops!" said the patient.

Notable Quote

"A simple way to take the measure of a country is to look at how many want in...and how many want out." ...(Tony Blair)

(Editor's note: This issue is my "Swan Song". I have loved writing the Dawn for lo these many years, but it is time for a new vision. Thanks to all of you who have put up with the foibles, errors and omissions over the years. I wish my successors well. I will enjoy sitting back and enjoying their efforts.... JCM)

Have a good week! ...Jim Marich

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