

DAWN



ROTARY CLUB
of
MERCER ISLAND
Serving our community since 1963



July 17, 2007

President Darling opened the meeting.

President Darling led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Captain Blue led us in song.

David Bobanick introduced visiting Rotarians:

Dave Spicer, University District

Ezra Teshome, University District

Morris & Jocelyn Ellison, Tucson, AZ

Michel Benveniste, Annemarie Generon's, France

Carol Nygren, Seattle #4

Guests of Rotarian's were:

Mary Ellen Mathews, by Immediate Past President, **John Mathews**

Carmen Bullard, by President Darling

The Business of Rotary (without cell phone interruption)

Pancake Feed - The Club thanked **Craig Clampitt**, **Eric Wikstrom**, **John Gillespie** and **Jim Aitken** for their outstanding efforts on the Summer Celebration Rotary Pancake Feed.

MIRC Directory - President Darling thanked **Tony Vedrich** for his efforts in, again, creating a marvelous MIRC Directory, AKA our 'Manual of Information'.

Council on Legislation - PDG **John Nelson** announced a motion, (at the RI level) to double the number of members on the RI Nominating Committee, from 17 to 34, carried. This change involves exorbitant costs. There is a movement underfoot to overturn this motion. **PDG Nelson** answered questions, and our club voted in favor of overturning the motion.

GSE - Past President **Kaercher** discussed the 2006/07 GSE journey to Japan. We will hear a presentation on such at our October 16, 2007 meeting. This year's Team is headed for Peru, and he is seeking candidates to lead the team.

Family of Rotary - **Bruce Peters** reported **Claude Layman** has returned to the Island, after suffering a broken hip in Bend, OR. **Claude** is home, doing well, and taking visitors.

Dues - Dues are overdue, and we are not a bank. Please get your dues in as soon as possible.

Rotary First Harvest - **Dr. McAuley** thanked the 14 volunteers who worked last Saturday.

Fables, Foibles & Fines:

Dr. Trombold announced his Mother-in-Law will reach the age of 100 years July 17, 2007. She is still quite active, playing poker and bridge.

Tom Watson announced 58 years of marriage.

Bruce Peters recognized **John Miller's** presence, and paid to ask him to sign **Representative Jarrett's** directory.

Rand Ginn announced 40 years of marriage.

Dave Spicer contributed a financial incentive to induce Immediate **Past President Mathews** to re-engage with the Ethiopian Water Project.

Cmdr. Naye reported **Juliane's** send-off party was a great success. **Juliane** has returned to Germany, and is re-learning the language there.

Tom Callahan announced the Harry Potter Party, July 20, 2007, from 9:00 PM to 12:01 AM, at the CCMV.

Past President Bob & Pat Kaercher were treated to a tour of the NJ Prosecutors Office, by Bob's Nephew, the Chief Prosecutor. Bob noticed a picture of Frank Sinatra on the wall, who was jailed there in 1938 for having relations with a married lady.

Brian Comstock announced the passing of his Norwegian Mother-in-Law, at nearly 102 years of age.

Dr. Weed paid to recognize **Pete Mayer** for his efforts in his capacity as the AA#1 City of MI employee during our Summer Celebration.

Dave Bobanick and his son took their first fishing trip together. Dave paid \$1 for each of the 5 minutes of fishing, before the trip turned in to a swimming trip.

Program

Immediate **Past President Mathews** introduced **Ezra Teshome** and **Dave Spicer**, from the *Ethiopian Water Projects*. Ezra thanked **John**, **Mary Ellen** and **Ray Brook** for their efforts with the projects.

Worldwide, 1.1 trillion people per year die from diseases related to lack of clean water, and 2.4 billion die from lack of proper sanitation.

Q: Why Ethiopia?

A: Ethiopia is located in E. Africa, and has no natural source of clean water. 2/3 of the population does not have access to clean water, and over 500,000 children per year die, most prior to reaching the age of 5. Life expectancy, in a country where the average annual income is \$712, is to age 44. Diseases from unclean water are the leading cause of death. The primary job of women in Ethiopia is transporting potable water - manually. The women, (most of whom weigh less than 100 pounds) rise early. They spend 1/2 the day walking to the water, and the second 1/2 of the day walking back. The water containers weigh between 40 and 50 pounds when full, and the temperature is around 100 degrees.

Rotary is involved in 3 water project in Ethiopia.

Project # 1, focused on drilling wells for villages near Addis Abba, is complete. We raised \$125,000, and built wells in 23 villages, providing clean water to 50,000 humans. 27 clubs in our district contributed to the project.

Project # 2 is nearly complete, providing clean water to another 50,000 humans, at an expense of \$175,000.

Project # 3 will require \$500,000, and provide water to 150,000 humans in 50 villages.

Coming Up

August 11, 2007 - Annual MIRC Salmon Bake, at Dr. Wischman's. Happy hour begins no later than 4:00 PM, and dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. The cost is \$10/ear, or \$20/person, with no charge for children under the age of 18. Please bring a side dish or dessert.

For more information, please contact Mark Wischman at (206) 909-5559 or wischmanmgt@msn.com.

Member Profile - Tom Ulie



Tom was born in Chicago and grew up in that city as well as in its suburbs of Waukegan and Highland Park. He graduated from Loyola Academy and then studied econ/math at the U of Illinois for the BA and econ at the U of Miami for the MA. Post-grad work included econ forecasting at the U of Chicago, accounting at NYU and the five year Charter Financial Analyst program. Tom thanks his maternal grandfather, an International Harvester mechanic and later US Postal employee who lost his wife's small inheritance in the 1929 crash, for providing him with an early interest in the stock market. Like grandpa, Tom wiped himself out, though during college in Tom's case, and now credits the experience as a huge learning tool. After grad school work progressed from trust administration at Oak Park Trust & Savings near Chicago to New York City and securities analysis for Fiduciary Counsel and Lehman Brothers to money management for Bear Stearns and Oppenheimer.

Tom reflects fondly on the role of volunteer activities, especially those during 21 years in Manhattan:

- Teaching high school equivalency English and math at St Cecelias Church in Spanish Harlem
- Escorting needy groups to theatre, music and dance events as a Hospital Audiences Inc. (HAI) host
- Serving as an arbitrator for the New York Stock Exchange Hearing Board
- Serving on the interviewing committee of St Bartholomews Community Club (where he met his wife Cheryl) and engaging in Community Service Committee endeavors like escorting honored Soviet workers and their KGB "advisors" throughout NYC, consulting for minority businesses and tutoring English to foreign nationals.

Tom and his wife Cheryl left New York with their three young children for the Seattle area in 1993 and settled on Mercer Island in 1994.

Alex will be a sophomore at Columbia University in the Fall, Alison a Senior at MIHS and Daniel a Freshman at MIHS. Cheryl has been an active school volunteer and also substitute teaches for MISD. Tom founded First Island Capital, Inc. in 1994, which serves a small group of long time clients. He also serves on the boards of Amarillo Biosciences Inc., Cardiomedics Inc. and GrayStar Inc. He has been a member of the Mercer Island Rotary Club for some 12 years and currently serves as director.

Birthdays

Pat Turner----- 7/16

BobOlson----- 7/18

Rotary Anniversaries

Duane Matthews----- 41 year(s)

Don Walker----- 16

Cyndy Simms----- 21

Bob Williams----- 29

Upcoming Programs

July 24 – Music Program – Floyd McCracken

Thought for the Day: A Quote from Bo - "Never, never, never, ever allow your computer to know you are in a hurry."

Any accidents, errors, omissions or misspellings herein are created solely for the entertainment of the reader.

Scribe: John B. Frazier