

DAWN



ROTARY CLUB
of
MERCER ISLAND

Serving our community since 1963



Magazine Month
[World Magazine Overview](#)

Rotary Anniversaries



Dirk van der Burch, 1-Apr..... 5 yr
 Guy Townsend, 3-Apr..... 7 yr
 Ray Saarela, 12-Apr..... 39 yr
 Merle Dowd, 13-Apr..... 37 yr
 George Chambers, 15-Apr... 5 yr
 Bill Bain, 18-Apr..... 30 yr
 Donna Buckingham, 20-Apr. 4 yr
 Dan Madigan, 21-Apr..... 16 yr
 Bruce McAuley, 26-Apr..... 3 yr
 Charlie Buck, 30-Apr..... 53 yr
 Dennis Shelton, 30-Apr..... 17 yr
 Jim Stumbles, 30-Apr..... 25 yr

Birthdays



Mike Cero..... 5 Apr
 Nancy Lee..... 15 Apr
 Dick Pringle..... 17 Apr
 Greg Asimakoupoulos..... 18 Apr
 Sylvia Bailey..... 19 Apr
 Tom Ulie..... 20 Apr
 Paul Booth..... 22 Apr
 Bob Herr..... 22 Apr
 John Matthews..... 22 Apr
 Tom Callahan..... 24 Apr
 Melinda Booth..... 27 Apr

April 8, 2008

Scribe: Nancy Hilliard

John Frasier presiding in Bo's absence. Scribe Nancy Hilliard

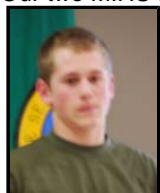
George Chambers set a mood of gratitude, after having had an operation a week ago: "It's the anesthesiologist saying, 'Mr. Chambers, I'm going to give you a little something to help you relax.' The next thing I knew I was in the ICU after having my worn out Mitral valve replaced!" The whole process reminded him to be thankful every day – for home, hearth, health, family, fellowship and life – and to do kindnesses to others now, rather than defer them. "Tomorrow, I'll write a letter to Dr. Rittenhouse and thank him for his skill -- and my life."

We're glad for your well-being too, George.

Guests and visitors: Visiting Rotarians Ron Bailey, Cathy Gibson, Jerry Burtenshaw, Ed Wilder; family members of those who went to Akola, India – Dave Wagar; Yogi Agrawal; Joy Thomson; Joyce Hedlund's daughter Linda Farnsworth (and granddaughter Angela who didn't go); Dawn Lucas; Catherine Rodriguez, exchange student; Ms. Gonzales, from Venezuela; Amin Adatia's daughter Sheliza, from Forest Ridge Interact Club; MIHS teacher Payvand Seyedali, Rotary Students-of-the-Month Alexander Faith and Tess Eberts.

Special recognition to **Ray Saarela** and **Ralph Coffey** for attendance efforts.

Our two MIHS students-of-the-month wowed us with their composure and contributions. **Tess Eberts**, daughter of Patti and Lindsay Eberts, has a winsome personality focused on helping others. She was chosen Homecoming Queen, is an honors student, just returned from the Vietnam trip to help five orphanages there, was part of the multi-racial exchange program with Franklin High School, and is a Bridges leader to bring students together. She plans to attend University of British Columbia next year.



Alex Faith, son of Lynne and John Faith, has a 3.9 GPA, is a wrestling captain and champ and plays Islander baseball. He was chosen as an inspirational teammate by both teams. He also volunteers for Boys Programs as part of MIYFS, Habitat for Humanity, and his favorite is Ski for All, assisting persons with handicaps on the ski slopes and riding bikes around Marymoor. He plans to attend UW next year and ultimately study medicine.

Elizabeth Baska described the use of a district grant to complete and install an electronic gate at Luther Burbank for MIYFS employees, emergency vehicles and others needing special access. Its symbolic clean-up and ground-breaking at the park will be Friday, April 18. Please contact her to volunteer.

Announcements, Fables, Foibles:

Gaye Brooks – Fireside at her and Ray's home Thursday, April 10, 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, April 12, First Harvest – meet at 8:15 a.m. at the Lutheran Church to carpool, contact is **Bruce McAuley**.



Sheliza Adiata's thanks for our support of the Uganda project in conjunction with Forest Ridge Interact Club.

May 16-18 District Conference in Tri-Cities; and June 16-18 International Conference in Los Angeles.

Next week's program: The Gates Foundation

April 22 – Earth Day presentation by Damon Taam, from the Spokane waste-to-energy program. Invite all your friends and neighbors!

Kudos – and fines – to **Trina Westerlund** for her appearance on cable in behalf of CHILD; Tom Castor's article in the MI Reporter; **John Frazier's** son winning a wrestling title; Bob Lewis for Seahawks support of home improvements for the needy; **Mack Abulhosn's** tribute to his father, who would have been 74 if alive today; Dirk and Molly Van der Burch's 35th anniversary April 15; Dick Ellis, in behalf of Planet Earth committee reminding us all to take our cast-offs to the April 12 city recycling event at the MI Boat Launch site. Everyone who didn't bring a guest was fined \$1.

"Water is life . . education changes lives . . wheelchairs lift them up."

John Matthews and **Eva Agrawal** presented the program today on the three-week mission trip to Akola, India late January and early February. They went to observe building of check dams to extend the Monsoon rain water for crops; to see the Agrawals' Vishal Himalaya

Rotary Foundation April 15 Newsletter



[click here for your copy](#)

Upcoming Programs

April 15

Charitable Activities in the Pacific Northwest
Gates Foundation
David Bley

April 22

*Earth Day
Waste-to-Energy*
Damon Taam

April 29

*Mt. Rainier National Park
Damage & Repair*
Lee Taylor

May 6

Seattle' Music Scene
Music Critic, Melinda Barreen

Event Calendar

April 10 - Fireside 6-8 p.m.

Gay Brook's Home
2929 81st SE Pl, G1
[click for directions](#)

April 12 - Partners for Work Project

"The Dignity of Work" Project
Showcase Kick-off
10:00 a.m. - Noon, Starbucks
Corporate Headquarters
[click for information](#)

April 19 - District Team Training,

7:30 a.m. - Noon
River Rock at Maplewood Golf Course
[click for information](#)

May 16-18

District Conference
Kennewick, WA



[click for information](#)

June 15-18

International Convention
Los Angeles, CA
Pre-Registration



[click for information](#)

Foundation support of three schools; and to deliver 110 wheelchairs to citizens crippled by polio, birth defects, mines or disease.

"What really happened is that we built relationships – not only with our Indian friends, but with each other as well," said Matthews of the group of 23 who went. They were **Eva and Yogi Agrawal, Gay and Ray Brook; Brian and Karen Comstock, Linda Farnsworth; Martha and Mike Galvin; Joyce Hedlund; Bob Kaercher; Mary Kraft; Dave Lindstrom; Dawn Lucas; John, Mary Ellen, Dave and Maggie Matthews; John Naye; Joy and Neil Thomson; Dave and Joyce Wagar.**

Matthews described the amazing leveraging and matches from just \$12,000 of MI Rotary funds, \$8,000 from other clubs, \$20,000 from the district and \$30,000 from RI to build 21 check dams, assist schools and eventually to bring 1,100 wheelchairs to the needy.

What had begun as a passing thought one year ago amongst some MI Rotarians became a reality in which disparate people—the wealthy from the first world, and the poorest and most challenged of the third world-- came face to face with one another, and were moved by each other's humanity. The life-changing opportunity will be offered again, said Dave Lindstrom, both in India and Central America. Stay tuned.

Thought for the day:

"Opportunities are not lost. Someone else will snap up those you missed."

In case you missed the Community Forum by Bo in last week's Reporter:

No Rest for Rotarians after the Run

After throwing an Island gathering March 9 for 4,000 to run their soles off for charity, you'll find about a dozen Rotarians at Secret Park last Saturday morning dismantling the igloo that's outlived its intended purpose and become a nuisance.

Some workers then went over to Forest Ridge School for lunch to help raise funds for projects in Uganda. Meanwhile in other corners of our community, Scott Bowen seeks applicants for vocational scholarships; some of our members will Walk for Water, put on by another club in West Seattle; and our Planet Earth committee gears up for a presentation on Earth Day (April 22) to raise awareness about waste-to-energy – to recycle and incinerate garbage when the Cedar Hill landfill eventually closes.

You might think us fleas on a hot rock. But I prefer the metaphor Paul Harris used about Rotary – "the sum total of contributions of thousands of little brooks and rivulets, which come tumbling down the hillsides and mountains, singing as they go, eager to cast themselves into the channel of the great river."

It all came together March 29 – *Rotary World Day of Service* when more than a million Rotarians put their humanitarian convictions into action.

Here at home, MI Rotary Club is active with First Harvest to distribute food to the hungry; supports literacy projects at home and abroad; sponsors a teen Interact Club and its projects, a Student of the Month recognition program and student international exchanges. More than a dozen of us bring our 4-way test to 8th graders on the island, giving them the framework to make ethical decisions as they prepare for high school.

We plant trees in Rotary Park, deliver meals to house-bound families, provide drivers and activities for seniors, ring bells with the Salvation Army, help the Lions sell Christmas trees and put on a pancake breakfast at Summer Celebration – and more.

We send bicycles and wheelchairs and computers and concerned contingents to Third World countries to help with health, clean water, polio eradication and education projects.

No, I'm not going to ask you for money. But we invite you to submit your requests (president@mirotary.com) for needed support from us for next year! Because when our 140-some members, a cross-section of business and organization leaders, put their minds and hearts to work collectively, we are an awesome task force to meet the world – and our own community – head on.

Member Profile

Roy Simperman (23 years of Service)



Born in Butte, Montana, schooled locally, he attended Carroll College at Helena, Montana with intent to study physics. After four years, Carroll granted him a bachelor in mathematics, cum laude, minor in physics with sufficient hours for minors in philosophy, English and history. Graduate school of choice was the University of Nebraska where he received M.S. in physics, May of 1965. In year of entry, approximately 95% of the physicists that ever lived where yet alive!

Returning to Butte, he married Diane Corette in July of 1965. While in graduate school, he was recruited by the Boeing Company, so the couple left Butte for Seattle. Over the next five years, he worked on interplanetary navigation, guidance and control and trajectories. As a member of the Lunar Orbiter team, the team was provided copies of the first photo taken of the earth from the moon. Leaving the LO program he worked on empirical testing of safe, arm and fuse devices for nuclear warheads. This effort required the borrowing of an M60 tank from the Army and having the 105mm gun barrel smooth bored.

In 1966, Roy enrolled at the U of W, where he completed an MBA, emphasis economics and finance. Roy then worked briefly for a consulting firm and then on to Weyerhaeuser. He joined a group known as Investment Evaluation Department. This was a select group of about a dozen MBA's whose responsibility was to analyze returns on all company investments of over \$5 million. He was also tapped to build a simulation of the Weyerhaeuser forestry program. Took 10 months to write code of some 15,000 lines of FORTRAN IV. Independent research indicated that the conclusions would save Weyerhaeuser some \$100 million over an eight year period. Unfortunately, the study produced some unintended consequences. Excess capacity resulted. Roy was told that he created the problem and he should fix it. So at the age of 36, he became the manager the company's greenhouses, nurseries, seed plants, seed orchards and the genetics program; 29 facilities, 7 states. At the time, it was the largest division of its kind in the world. Within three years, the division became the largest supplier of Christmas tree stock in the nation.

Roy then purchased AudioControl, a US designer and manufacturer of audiophile equalizers, spectrum analyzers and signal processors. (He took some time to become chair of the Municipal Facilities committee charged by city council of siting city hall on MI.)

He is currently Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Semaphore Corporation, which designs, and operates data, video and voice networks. Prior to the creation of Semaphore, he was involved with a project that placed 10,000 digital photographs on the Internet for sale. That was the first time that the WWW had been so utilized.

About the same time, the Simperman Corette Foundation was created to provide annual funding for domestic shelters, educational financial assistance programs as well as funds for medical care.

One of his favorite books is Genius the biography of the brilliant physicist Richard Feynman reportedly the most brilliant of the brilliant on the Manhattan project. The Harry Potter books were also fun.

Clint's Corner

April is Magazine Month, a time to celebrate the global network of Rotary's official magazines, which provide valuable information to 1.2 million Rotarians.

The Rotary World Magazine Press consists of 32 magazines from Africa, the Americas, Asia, Australia, and Europe that inform, inspire, and entertain in 23 languages. In addition to The Rotarian, Rotary's English-language flagship publication, it offers magazines such as Vida Rotaria (Argentina), Rotary in Bulgaria, and The Rotary-no-Tomo (Japan).

The RI Bylaws require all club members to subscribe to The Rotarian or a Rotary regional magazine. Rotary leaders, district governors, and club presidents are encouraged to support magazine editors in their country or region by submitting story ideas, promoting readership, encouraging timely subscription payments, and assisting with other communication efforts.

Look for a new international supplement edition in the pages of The Rotarian early in the 2008-09 Rotary year. The eight-page supplement, to be produced for all official Rotary magazines, will highlight Rotary's work on the global stage. Ahmet Tükel, editor of Rotary Dergisi, the Turkish magazine, says the special edition represents a step forward. "The supplement will help promote a unified and global image of the organization," he notes, "and show how collaboration of editors from different parts of the world can help put together a tool for communicating the strength and appeal of Rotary International."

Publishing items in the Dawn

If you have information, articles, photos, etc., for publication in the Dawn, please send them to DawnEditor@MIRotary.org.