

WENATCHEE NORTH ROTARY February 1, 2012

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FOUNDED APRIL 1, 1969 Food for thought



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Featured on today's menu...

Delivering meals to those who need them



A drove of WNRotarians and guests were in attendance as Prez 'Alice' Ellis presented a few "tidbits" about Rotary history. Prior to that, Gordi Northrup gave the shortest pre-meeting prayer in Wenatchee North history primarily so he could tell a story about a politician making the choice between heaven and hell. After choosing what

seemed to be the 'fun zone valhalla' of Hades, and discovering it wasn't what it was portrayed to be, Satan put it in terms the politician could understand, "Yesterday we were campaigning, today you voted." Treasurer Martin Barron stated that about half have paid dues so far and that "dues are due." Randy Zielinski made another pitch for Rotary Park tiles (lets get 'em purchased so Z-man doesn't feel so compelled).

Sandy Briggs of Mobile Meals presented the program. Mobile Meals began 40 years ago and were originally prepared by the chef at the old St. Anthony's Hospital with two dedicated volunteers delivering. Now, there are 180 volunteer drivers delivering to people of all ages. Each deliverer usually participates once a month. Approximately 75% of the program's income comes from meal recipients, but many are delivered free of charge. Most are short term recipients while recovering from hospitalization, treatment or surgery. Some, however, are long-term as a means of maintaining independent living. Last year, about 18,000 meals were served with the expectation of 19,000 in 2012. The meals are served hot at, or about, noon. Delivery is five days a week except Thanksgiving and Christmas. In some cases, the Mobile Meals delivery person is one of the few contacts that a recipient may have with the outside world.



• An interesting item in *The Rotarian* magazine...Rotarians have played an integral role in the "LN-4 Project", supported by the Ellen Meadows Prosthetic Hand Foundation, based in Ashland, OR. The foundation was launched by Ernie and Marj Meadows in memory of their daughter, Ellen, who died in an auto accident. Meadows, an industrial designer, developed a low-cost, light, durable, functional prosthesis to benefit people who have suffered hand amputation. The project's mission statement specifies that no one can profit from the production or distribution of the devices and that recipients can't be charged for them. Estimates are that at least 250,000 people worldwide are in need of

a prosthetic hand. Rotarians and others have distributed more than 8,200 in 57 countries since 2006. Rotarians, like Jim Yoder, travel on behalf of the project, at their own expense, to connect with local Rotarians and Rotaractors in third-world countries to enlist their help with distribution. Yoder described the experience of working with the LN-4 Project, "Each time we fit a hand, it makes my heart grow."

• Guests included Abel Noah (Dave Parsons), Steve DeCamp (Steve Ellis), Barbara Bainard (John White), Ann Gaspers (Joe Gaspers) and Daryl Ferguson (Rob Tidd). Gary Mullen, WNR newest member was also present, accompanied by proposer Greg Brown.

• In case you didn't recognize them, that was Dave Parsons in attendance - glib as ever, and Jim Haglund, back from Bonaire for three days before leaving tomorrow for three weeks in Hawaii.

• Greeters for the February 8th meeting are Dave Parsons and Gordi Northrup.

Who Dat?

Here's a WNR member profile that's sure to be a cinch to identify. A note of warning, if you don't fill in a tidbit for the final question on the form, a surprise may be awaiting. So, you might want to add something to your profile if you neglected to do so before submitting it.

This week's "Unknown Rotarian" was a product of the "dark continent" and called a family farm in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe home, sweet home. He graduated from Peterhouse (High) School in Marondera, Zimbabwe before matriculating at Imperial College in London, England. Armed with a degree in chemical engineering, he put it to absolutely no use by entering the School of Oriental and African Studies in London to earn a masters of science (I think) degree in "Economics of Poor Countries." He eventually put that abundant cache of acquired knowledge to use in the fruit industry for Dole. In addition to Zimbabwe and London, this WNRotarian has also resided in Papua (New Guinea); Honduras; Ecuador; South Africa; Boca Raton, FL; Chappaqua, NY; San Francisco; and, of course, "God's country." He and wife Tina have four children: Luke (34), Sarah (29), Clare (26) and Sophie (24) as well as a first grandchild on the way. Nowadays, he earns an honest living as Director of Finance for Pipkin, Inc. Imbued with an adventurous African spirit, he notes that his favorite pastime is "exploring," perhaps in search of Dr. Livingstone, I presume. Vacationing is at its best for him in Northern Italy. This WNRotarian holds a unique distinction within the club for being the only member to have been given credit for Rotary service for each beer he consumed after RINO Olympics competition. *Who dat?* Hint: **NOTED NITISM**

WNRotarians have served in major Sports Awards capacities for multiple years



A fistful of current WNRotarians have stepped up to the plate to play major roles in organizing and boosting the NCW Sports Awards across the finish line for multiple years by chairing committees. A list of those stalwarts includes - *General chairman:* Tim Cetto-3 years, Jim Haglund, Chris Baker, Rich Adams and Jeff Mertes-2 years each; *Selection chairman:* Jeff Mertes-29 years, Jim Haglund-5 years; *Program chairman:* Jeff Mertes-26 years, Rich Adams-2 years; *Ad chairman:* Jeff Mertes-15 years, Tim Cetto-3 years, Bryan Campbell-2 years; *Ticket chairman:* Sandy Ross-7 years, Jim Haglund, Ron Kemp and Joe Gaspers-2 years; and *Scholar-Athlete chairman:* Greg Brown-5 years, Martin Barron-4 years and Jeff Mertes-3 years. In addition, many others have actively served for multiple years on committees and/or sold program advertising.

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