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Rotary's influence in forming the United Nations

Regarding the respect that Rotary has earned throughout the world, Thomas A. Warren, R.I. president in 1945-46, said, "There is significance in the fact that seven chairmen of national delegations at the San Francisco Conference [to charter the United Nations] and a score [20] more members of the delegations were Rotarians. Such fact and such figures are but an outward and visible sign that the world is hungry for our simple mission. Rotary's growth and its practices go far beyond any numerical assessment." The idea for the United Nations was in part an outgrowth of a Rotary conference in 1942 in London which assembled ministers of education and observers of 21 governments - many of whom were then in exile - to consider the organization of a worldwide educational and cultural exchange after the conclusion of the war. Later in the year, that same group began laying plans for UNESCO.

At the organization conference of the United Nations in San Francisco in 1945, the United States delegation invited Rotary International to appoint consultants. Eleven prominent Rotarians subsequently served as consultants which especially influenced the humane aspects of the Charter.

Rotary International was granted consultative status in Article 71 with prominent Rotarians serving as observers over the years at various important meetings. To date, however, Rotary International's right to make specific proposals has yet to be exercised.

On local and regional levels, Rotary developed programs known as Mock United Nations sessions for high school aged students as an educational tool.



Thomas A. Warren,
R.I. president
1945-46.



Take off the paper bag coverage and what you see is what you get.

This Unknown Rotarian 'ran off', but not far, to join the Youth Circus and became its first tightrope walker at age 12. He also sold newspapers on downtown sidewalks when about nine years-old with the chant, "Paper... paper... Wenatchee Daily World!" after buying wholesale at two for a nickel and pedalling each paper for five cents. No doubt, at that rate, it would have cost a forest worth of trees to save up enough to buy the farm. Born in Wideman, Arkansas, he graduated from Wenatchee High School and attended Wenatchee Valley College. Service to the country came as a sergeant in the National Guard. Along with wife Joan, who passed away in 2005 of "Lou Gehrig's Disease", they raised two sons, Jeff and Jay, and count six grandchildren. Although he claims "Just working" as his favorite pastime, we know he's more 'well rounded' than that. Favorite vacation spots are at a rustic Orcas Island resort in a log cabin sans tv or phone service that he's visited for the last 40 years or so, and on the ocean at Pebble Beach. At times bearing a resemblance to Colonel Sanders, he's made it a policy to represent State Farm.

Who dat? *Jeff Mertes*

Featured on today's menu...

Here's the scoop according to Law



- by cub reporter Bruce Law

Prez 'Alice' opened the chow line with a review of the current issue of The Rotarian magazine particularly pointing out interesting articles about the only Rotarian survivor of the Titanic and famous polio survivors. He also reminded everyone that the District Conference will be held in Penticton on May 31. At present, Rob Tidd, Ivan Christensen and he plan to attend. The District Conference is always a great time with lots to do including a golf tourney, tours, home visitations certainly to feature a lot of fermented fruit of Canadian vines, exceptional speakers, pagentry and more. There's still time to sign-up.

Bruce Law announced that a highway cleanup is set for Saturday, April 28 at 8:30 a.m. Meet at the Easy Street Park & Ride.

Incoming president Rob Tidd commented on the importance of WNR members contributing to the RI Foundation, especially since the club's goal hasn't been met.

A paid announcement was made by Fred Van Sickle in support of Proposition 1 to impose a 1/10 percent sales tax to help get us out of the Town Toyota Center fix. He said based on personal experience, the litigation costs will be enormous if it fails.

Jim Haglund introduced three exceptional Wenatchee High track athletes - Jed Lewis, who plans to attend WSU, Nicholas Boersma, headed for a scholarship to Eastern Washington, and Jacob Smith, who will be a scholarship distance runner at U. of Portland.



- Jim and Kitty Goodwin recently returned from a visit to Thailand where their son Abe is corporate counsel at Amadeus IT Group in Bangkok.



- Also out and about, two "good wives" dined next to one another at a Washington D.C. eatery. Kathy

Mertes, celebrating anniversary number 40 along with Jeff and daughter Kelsey, sat at a table beside Julianna Margulies, star of "The Good Wife," and real hubby attorney Keith Lieberthal at Cashion's in Adams Morgan a few blocks from Kelsey's apartment. No doubt they were as 'thrilled' as the Wenatcheeites about the juxtaposition - keeping Kathy in check was a *monumental* challenge, though, while Jeff calmly ate skate.

- The two joltin' Joes - Gaspers and Gamboni - are up to bat as greeters at the April 18th meeting.

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