

Wenatchee North
Rotary Website
www.fantasygas.com
and click on the link
in the Sports
Awards column



Wenatchee North
Rotary Website
www.fantasygas.com
and click on the link
in the Sports
Awards column

TIDDBITS

- Roy Miller announced the birth of what is believed to be the first great-grandchild in Wenatchee North history - a 9 lb. 10 oz. bouncing baby boy. Roy, the lone remaining charter member, forgot to say his name.
- Earl Tilly mentioned the passing of Gail Hayes. Although Gail was a member of the Downtown club, he made up so

often at Wenatchee North, and was the last arrival at meetings so consistently, his name was engraved on our shaft award.

- Yes, indeed, that was none other than our former Commander-in-Chief, Steve Ellis, back seated with us plebeians.
- Greeters for the July 18 meeting are Chris Baker and Greg Brown.



Which of these first four Rotarians became the organization's initial president?

Most Rotarians with any amount of seasoning are aware of Rotary's founding on February 23, 1905 in Chicago, Illinois and that the organization evolved into the world's first 'service club' by donating funds so a public latrine could be built. That first get together, in the office of mining engineer Gustavus Loehr, was organized by lawyer Paul Harris, primarily as a way for business associates to develop camaraderie and, perhaps, swizzle some Scotch and puff cigars (that last part is purely speculation, by the way). Initially, meetings 'rotated' to each member's office. The club grew rapidly and by the end of 1905 had 30-35 members. To accommodate the expanding roster, 'rotary' meetings were switched to various hotels with restaurants and meeting rooms. Weekend outings were common. So, which one of the so-called "Gang of Four" was chosen to be the club's first president during its infancy?

- 1. Gustavus Loehr** - Gus was a mining engineer who provided the first meeting place in room 711 of the Unity Building on Dearborn Street. He was born in 1864 in Illinois which made him about 40 at the time of the first Rotary meeting. Described as typically speaking very rapidly and forcefully in classical English utilizing an extensive vocabulary, he was considered to be a man of action and a natural promoter.
- 2. Silvestre Schiele** - Sylvester was a coal dealer. He was born in 1870 in Indiana which made him about 34 at the time of the first Rotary meeting. Credited with the idea of 'fining' members for non-attendance - initially 50 cents (the equivalent of \$12 in today's dollars) as well as 10 cent fines for other transgressions, he also came up with the idea of monthly "Ladies Nights" which proved to be quite popular.
- 3. Hiram Shorey** - Hi was a merchant tailor. He was born in Maine in 1862 which made him about 42 at the time of the first Rotary meeting and was the only married member initially. An outdoorsman at heart, he often returned to his native state to enjoy the great outdoors.
- 4. Paul Harris** - Paul was a lawyer. He was born in Wisconsin in 1868 which made him about 36 at the time of the first Rotary meeting. The concept of Rotary as a way for 'ethical' businessmen to meet on a social basis in the big city environment of Chicago was his brainchild. Well educated at Princeton, with a law degree from the University of Iowa, he had traveled the world for several years before settling in Chicago four years prior to the first meeting and built a successful law practice.

Of the four originals, two went on to hold prominent positions in Rotary as the organization grew, one attended just three meetings and another was a Rotarian for only a relatively short period of time.

Run your ad for just \$10 per week...
- 5 week staggered run minimum • See Jeff Mertes

All the news that isn't fit to print...and then some



Right out of the chute, 'Mahatma' Tidd had stand-in Chris Baker do the pouring while he was otherwise occupied in California. A commentary ensued regarding coverage, or lack thereof, of the 42nd Sports Awards. Tina Tidd read an editorial by *Omak Chronicle* publisher Roger Harnack regarding the Sports Awards and speaker Mac Bledsoe who had been his football coach at Kiona-Benton High School. It was a superb description of Mac and his inspirational talk at the banquet. *The Chronicle* also featured a large article with photos covering the Sports Awards (Sports editor Al Camp has been a strong supporter of our banquet). John White also brought up *The World's* editorial decision to feature an extensive article about an "Outlaw" road skateboarding event, complete with several large photos, that began on the front page. He questioned the judgement of *The World* to give that kind of exposure to an illegal activity and also showed a large article that appeared in *The Chelan Mirror* about the Sports Awards that he said was, "Five times bigger than the one in *The World*." Chris Baker mentioned that his daughter's haircut got more coverage by *The World* than the Sports Awards. Jeff Mertes again expressed frustration regarding our local newspaper's editorial decisions and suggested that perhaps more radical steps should be taken by WNRotary.

The program featured Superior Court Judge candidate Alicia Nakata, currently serving on the District Court bench, who expressed that the race basically boiled down to the fact that she's the only contender who has been a judge. Although subject to a pay cut, she said she wants the challenge of ruling on more complex issues that are heard in Superior Court.

Who Dat?



Hard to mistake the identity of this Unknown, even wearing a paper sack.

For years his radio message was heard identified as being uttered by 'The Toiler'. And as such, his name became recognized far and wide which made pulling his lever a rather natural act. Consequently he became Wenatchee's mayor, and then a state representative and is "now a recovering politician," but still obviously "toiling." Prior to becoming a WNRotarian, this guy was a member of the Downtown club. Born in Astoria, Oregon, the person peering through the peep holes graduated from Dryden High School. He also lived in Ketchikan, Alaska as a boy. Post prep years, this Unknown attended Pacific Lutheran and Wenatchee Valley College before ultimately graduating from the University of Washington with a degree in business administration. Married to Barbara, the couple raised two daughters and a son who have made them grandparents to five. Among pastimes are bridge, tennis, skiing, hiking, biking, travel, volunteering, reading and music...whew, sounds exhausting, doesn't it? When he does 'kick back' a bit, he likes to do it in Palm Desert and at Lake Chelan.

Who Dat? **EARL TILLY**

Take the
headache
out of
buying awards

HaglundsTrophies.com
- 24 hours a day -
**HAGLUND'S
TROPHIES**

Custom Quality since 1977