



The Backwash



The Rotary Club of Edmonds

Monday, November 05, 2007

Editor: Kirk Greiner
If you have any comments or questions, email the editor.

Waterfront Festival Gears Up

by Kirk Greiner

Planning for the Waterfront Festival has started. The Port Commission approved the requested date - May 30 through June 1. Kirk Greiner met with the Deputy Port Director at the request of Larry Thronsdon on November 2nd. Items of interest discussed included that construction of a Jacobsen Marine building in the parking lot we have been able to use in the past. It is highly doubtful that any of the lot will be available for our use. The port is also planning on building two small buildings near where the family stage has been located starting after the 2008 festival. They will be for toilets, changing, and laundry.

In the future the Yacht Club is planning a new club house on the west side of Admiral Way across from the parking lot we used for the festival.

Also, Sound Transit is looking at the port area for siting of a terminal. This may impact on the festival area if or when it happens.

Notices of meeting of the Festival Committee will be posted in the events section of the web page so that interested members can attend.

Carol's Wanderings in Africa

by Carol Kinney



Ed. *In the September issue of our newsletter, we started Carol's diary of her visit to Africa. Parts I and II were in that issue. In the October issue, she gave us an article on Rabour Village. In this issue, we continue with her trip, part III. There will be a part IV in the next issue. To the left is a photo of Carol with the Masai village chief.*

Nairobi -a visit to a US Embassy

Here is an account of my first ever visit to a US Embassy. Our driver took us to the Embassy which is now located (since the 1989 bombing which killed 147 people) quite a distance out of the city, near some UNESCO building complex. Upon arriving at the front gate, I explained that I needed to see the consulate representative regarding a VISA for Amos Otieno who is Loyce's brother and who is scheduled to be the featured speaker at Rabour Village Auction, the main fund raising event for the organization. His current appointment for the VISA application is set for Oct 22, 3 weeks after the Auction. I was told to come back at 1:00 as the consulate operated between 1 and 3 (morning session already over).

So meanwhile Brigetta was feeling ill with heart palpitations, dizziness and headache. So we went right next door to a medical clinic where she was seen by an MD who said it was a combination of jet lag, and reaction to the Malarone and fatigue. So she was comforted we then went to lunch at a Chinese restaurant and were back at the gate at 1:00 pm. First security was the wand sweep after showing our Passports. Then on down the path to another building for X ray of all our stuff, some of which they kept for retrieval after our visit. We then to up the ramp to the building where there are at least 100 black Kenyans waiting to see someone, probably about obtaining VISAs. We go into a back room where we join a line of about 8 waiting for our turn.

Here we talk to others waiting, Brigitta talks to Somalia refugees and I talk to a black priest from Seattle!! Anyway we go in when it is our turn and while there decide to register. However to reschedule Amos' appointment we have to go to another window, so back out into the waiting room for another 1/2 hour before my name is called. I present the nice letter that David wrote in my name about Amos and his role in RVP and she says, if he has been denied before he won't get it and she disappeared. But she came back in about 5 minutes with a new appointment for Aug 23 at 7:00 am!! Success! Hopefully he will get the VISA in time to get some sort of

Future Speakers

Nov 6 2007

Carol Kinney
"Rabour Village, Kenya"

Nov 13 2007

Kathy Dahlstrom
"How the Rotary Foundation Works"

Nov 13 2007

Chair, election committee
"1st reading of the slate for the 2008-2009 club officers"

Nov 20 2007

Special Guest Speaker
"Joint Meeting with Morning Club"

Nov 20 2007

Chair, Election Committee
"2nd reading of the slate for 2008-2009 officers"

Nov 27 2007

Lamin Manneh
"Gambia Project"

Nov 27 2007

Chair, elections committee
"3rd reading of the slate of 2008-2009 club officers"

Dec 4 2007

Club Assembly
"Annual election of Club Officers"

Dec 4 2007

Annual meeting of the Foundation
"Report by the President"

Dec 11 2007

Dave Bobanick
"Rotary First Harvest"

Dec 18 2007

Edmonds School District students
"Holiday Music"

Dec 25 2007

No meeting

Jan 1 2008

No meeting

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting

Nov 7 2007

Breakfast and Shopping with Needy Children at Penn

Dec 1 2007

Board Meeting

Dec 5 2007

News

[Edmonds Waterfront Festival](#)

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reasonable air fare . I am so pleased with our success and look forward to all of you meeting Amos, this incredible brother of Loyce and for him to connect again to all RVP people who know him.

Amboselli National Park (Near Mt Kilimanjaro Kenya)

We spent 2 days in Amboselli park Kenya seeing incredible animals including mother elephants nursing their babies, 5 cheetahs walking, a lion with 3 cubs feeding on a wildebeest, hippos mating and playing with great big mouths wide open. The lodge there is incredibly beautiful and our bungalow looked out over the plains with grazing zebras and wildebeests. One morning leaving the lodge our way out was blocked by a huge bull elephant calmly eating from an acacia tree. He was not about to budge and after about 10 minutes, all 10 land rovers turned around and went out on another road! He was much bigger than we were!! When we left there our driver took us to the Tanzanian border where we met a tourist bus for the ride to Arusha. The border crossing was interesting, with an exit visit from Kenya and then entrance stamp for Tanzania. Really not too bad but just took time since one group's leader couldn't get into Tanzania so had to go back to Nairobi and leave here 13 charges on their own! Getting into Arusha was fine, our bus driver said he could take us where ever we wanted after he dropped everyone else off at the hotel. So we took him out to lunch, he took us by an ATM and a Tanzanian Cultural Center and then on to Momma Wilson's lodge where we were to meet our OAT group. It all went amazingly smoothly!

Masai Villages, One in Kenya one in Tanzania

I want to describe our two visits to Masai Villages, because they were so different. The first was in Amboselli Kenya and we were met by men and women dancing. The men were definitely in charge and were healthy and happy. The women didn't look particularly healthy or happy. The son of the chief took us to sit in the shade of a tree where he made fire with acacia wood and cedar along with dried elephant dung -took him less than 30 seconds! and then the medicine man described and showed us several herbs that are used in the village, one for Viagra like, another to reduce labor pains, and one for malaria. Then we went into a home. This mud hut, you had to stoop to enter, a security device so anyone entering has to stoop and only one at a time so you can hit him over the head. There were a place for two beds and their mattress is a cow hide. There is no where for the smoke to leave the room. After that we went to past a series of 12 cloths spread with the beadwork and carvings of the women. We were to take what we wanted and at the end the bargaining begins. He counted 23 items and set a price by marking the number in the same with a stick. I then counter with my offer with marking my counter offer in the sand. This continued for more than 45 minutes. We finally struck a deal. Meanwhile I told him about Rotary and offered to sponsor some scholarships for 4 students for 3 years. He has a cell phone and is going to phone me when I get back in Sept to solidify the deal!! He tells me that because I am offering these scholarships he gave me a really good deal!!

Now 3 days later we went to a Masai village near Tarangire National Park in Tanzania.. This time it was the women who sang and danced and laughed and had a wonderful time. They looked much healthier and happier. Each woman took one of us, (there are 15 in the group) and led us in the singing and dancing and jumping. My gal was Anna 14 years old and already married (and circumcised) I ended up giving her my Rotary pin that has the children surrounding the globe and my guide explained it to her. We also helped thatch a roof., witnessed the bloodletting and drinking of the blood and the plastering the mud/dung combination on the house. We then practiced beading for 15 minutes. And then went shopping. This time Number one wife was in charge--the Chief has 4 wives, but she was taking the money. Very interesting.

Tarangire National Park Tanzania

This national park is near Arusha in Tanzania. We stayed in a permanent tented camp on the shores of Lake Manyara. Here we see thousands of white pelicans and the wonderful flamingos. We take a day trip into Tarangire National Park where the prime site for me is the magnificent baobab tree and the beautifully graceful yellow barked acacias. Today is my sister's birthday and in celebration to honor her keep I keep a list of all the birds I see today. She gave me the book that made it possible to identify them. I see an astounding 40 species including the magnificent male ostridge with its bright pink legs and neck in mating color. He mates with the female with great fanfare and flamboyant flapping of feathers complete with rocking from side to side! . What a sight! One of my favorite birds is the red and yellow barbet whose white spots literally jump out at you along with his brilliant red rump and yellow belly. We sighted two of these birds on a termite mound and on a similar mound a few minutes later we watched a family of dwarf mongooses peeking in and out the holes. What an sight! The animal sightings that were the most memorable were the many sightings of Masai Giraffes.

Ngorongoro Crater , Tanzania

The caldera of Ngorongoro marks the ancient walls of a collapsed volcano which was probably once the size of Mt Kilimanjaro. The crater is 12 miles across with steep walls of over 2,000 feet. As you descend into the caldera the beautiful LakeMagadi is visible and here there are flocks of greater flamingos with their deep pink wings and a flash of black. Most of the animals remain here year-round. Our sightings are many including a clan of about 50 baboons all sizes and ages, that we watch drinking, feeding and carrying their babies along. A beautiful symphony of motion. The 4 golden jackals and 10 hippos out of water were some of the highlights. I particularly liked the yellow beaked oxpecker eating the insects off the zebra's back. What a fabulous day!

Olduvai Gorge ,region Tanzania

Although we only spend an hour looking out over this gorge, it was impressive as the place where Mary and Loius Leaky did much of their research. One of the first big finds was an ape like skull found in 1959. 1975 near here footprints representing humanoid forms present in this area 3.75 million years ago!! Two species of humanoid bones from 1.5 million years ago were also found. I must do some more reading and research on this fascinating history that was made in Tanzania.

An Opportunity to Share

by Pam LeMay

At our October 9th meeting, our club agreed to support "Working Wardrobe. Working Wardrobe, a program of the YWCA of Seattle-King and Snohomish Counties, provides free, business appropriate attire and accessories to homeless or low-income men and women in need of clothing for interviews or new jobs.

Working Wardrobe has just entered into a new partnership with Clothes for Kids in Lynnwood. Qualifying parents who bring their children into Clothes for Kids for school apparel can now get professional clothing for themselves in the same stop.

So how can you help? Bring your gently used business clothing and accessories to the **first Rotary meeting of each month**. Pam LeMay has agreed to bring donations to the YWCA Working Wardrobe Program office and let them know the donations are from our club.

Scholarships

by Warren Bradbury

Warren Bradbury has announced that the 2008 scholarship applications are now available. There is an article on the home page of our web site and the applications are linked to the home page - see Club Links in the left frame - so that interested students may download them. Note that the Club has increased the amount of scholarship dollars available next year.

Auction Date

by Kirk Greiner

The Auction Committee has been discussing holding the Auction in November rather than March. In part, this was to avoid having the Auction and the Waterfront Festival so close to each other. Although no recommendation has yet been made to the Club, the Club's Board learned of the committee's considerations at their last meeting and was very concerned. The Board's minutes are posted in the Annex of the web site.

Each member has been polled on their thoughts on the alternate date. About half the members have responded. If you have not expressed your opinion, please do.

It is expected that the Auction Committee will make their recommendations at the next Club Board meeting so there isn't much time left to respond to the poll. Libby and Rod will co-chair the committee if the Auction is held in November, but are unavailable in March (Libby does taxes). If the Board wants to continue to hold the Auction in March, new chairpersons will be needed.

If held in November, the only funds in the Foundation's funds earmarked for the 2008 scholarships are those left over from last March's Auction - about \$10,800. Thus the Club will have to use their reserve funds to make up the balance. Since the Club has increased the amount of scholarships by \$5000, this would be about \$11,000 in September 2008. This would be a one time occurrence since funds from the November Auction 2008 Auction would be available for 2009 scholarships.

Club News - Web Site Annex

by Kirk Greiner

If you are interested in what your directors are doing, our finances, what the Foundation is doing or its finances, or more, go to the Club's web site, log on and you will find yourself in the Admin tab (the tabs are on the top bar). In the upper left of the screen is a yellow box. Click on "View Club Documents" at the bottom of the yellow frame. In the next screen, then click of "Click Here to View Documents." You are now in the Annex section which contains lots of Club and Foundation information - Board Minute, Treasurer's Reports, back issues of the Backwash, Club History and more.

Having trouble with the web site. Call Kirk - 425-640-3048.