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 Public Relations Committee



Rotary Club of Sandpoint

President Jon Saylor (208)-265-9160

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We Were Honored...

...by the presentation of Greg Taylor last week as he spoke to members of Sandpoint Rotary about the current state of affairs in the automotive industry. Greg is owner of Taylor-Parker Motors which he bought from fellow Rotarian Jack Parker, after several years of partnering with him. (Lucky for Jack!) Taylor's been active in both the Idaho Auto Dealer's Association (IADA) and the NADA throughout of his automotive career and spends a lot of time in Washington D.C. Analyzing industry woes through Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate of Sales (SAARS) figures, he told us the most alarming thing is that the 45% current reduction in manufacturing means the rate of "scrappage" (autos being junked) is surpassing the rate of production. That translates to fewer cars available under increasing demand; hence used car prices have increased dramatically. This concern is coupled with Congressional misunderstanding of the importance of the "middleman"—the auto dealers in the industry. "Dealers are the customer of the manufacturers. The public is the customer of the dealers." A dealer owns a vehicle when it is ordered from the manufacturer and carries the burden of risk until it is sold. If you take out the dealers, you destroy the infrastructure of an American industry, he said. Idaho has lost 5 dealerships since the first of the year, with another in the lurch.

Not only are dealerships in jeopardy, planned retirements of many dealer principals are on hold as the industry remains in flux waiting for decisions of the national level concerning manufacturers' future viabilities. All this adds up to some major disparity in the allocation of Federal Bail-out Funds, he said.

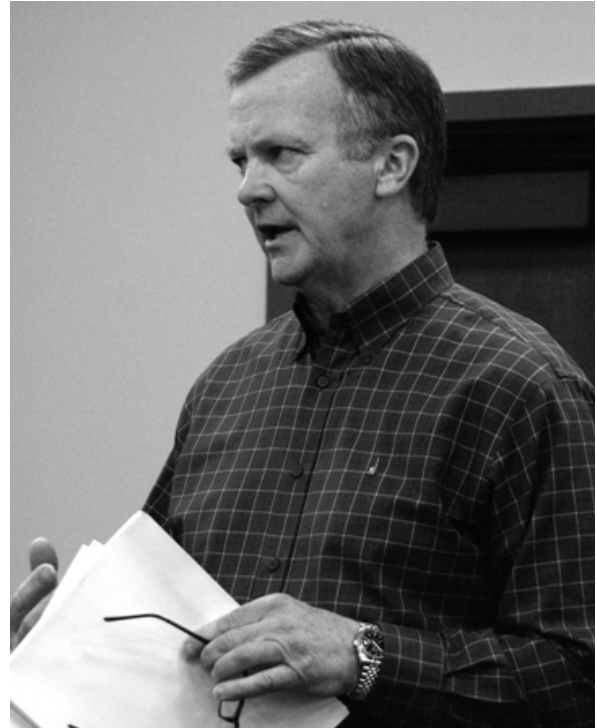
The issues brought forth by Greg Taylor are very complex. My brief hardly gives it justice; but we are blessed to have this caliber of leadership in Sandpoint.

~ Dwayne K Parsons

Travis Kaul, Member Spotlight

Travis Kaul was born in Great Falls, Montana, graduated from high school in Beaverton, Oregon. He attended college at the University of Oregon and University of Minnesota receiving a degree in business with an emphasis on banking and marketing. He moved to Sandpoint in 1995 to take a job with West One Bank, but later moved over to Panhandle State Bank where he is now a Senior Vice President. Travis and his wife Kim have two children, Katherine 9 and Andrew 7. He enjoys hunting in his leisure time, has been in Rotary for 4 years and is currently reading Do I Matter?

~ Tim Cochran



~ Dann Hall photo

Greg Taylor spoke about the challenges and hopes of auto dealers, showing clearly the vital importance of preserving this part of an American industry. Greg is a board member on the National Automobile Dealer's Association (NADA), and as such flies regularly to Washington D.C. to work on issues of concern.

This Week

Kim Woodroof, Director of Parks & Recreation for the City of Sandpoint on the current state of our park system.

April 1st (No Fooling)

Jim Payne, author/adventurer will speak about his book One Inch Above Water, a grueling account of kayaking America's rivers including the Saint Lawrence the Mississippi, the Erie Canal and Lake Champlain, as well as kayaking the Atlantic Ocean along the Florida Keys.

~Toby McLaughlin

Duty Roster

	<u>GREETER</u>	<u>RAFFLE</u>	<u>PRAYER</u>
March 25	Dar Cogswell	Dale Coffelt	Sue Poppino
April 1	Kris Contor	Dar Cogswell	Dwayne Parsons
April 8	Mike Craven	Kris Contor	Tim Cochran
April 15	Dick Creed	Mike Craven	Dale Coffelt
April 22	Dick Cvitanich	Dick Creed	Mike Craven



Steve Verby

If You Travel...

We want to hear about it...or read about it, either way. If you travel, let me know. I'll pick enough out of talking with you to write a short account of your experience for your fellow Rotarians to enjoy.

~ Dwayne K Parsons
290-2300



Steve Wilson

Photos by Dann Hall

Events Calendar

If you become aware of upcoming events, be sure to let Jerri know. Her cell phone is 597-1969.

Club

Apr 3	Paul Harris Society dinner
Apr 3	Rotary Leadership Institute Facilitator Training
Apr 3-4	Spring District Assembly '09
Apr 25	Rotarians at Work Day
July 31-Aug 1	Rotary Garage Sale

Community

Mar 25- Mar 30	POAC Student Art Exhibit
Mar 27	A Day for Heather
Apr 5	Spring Annual Food Bank Drive
Apr 18-19	Home & Garden Show
Apr 20	Earth Day
Apr 24	Festival@Sdpt Wine Tasting, Dinner & Auction

~ Jerri Anderson

The charm of fishing is the pursuit of that which is elusive but attainable, a perpetual series of occasions for hope.

~ Mike Robertson

<http://www.bowriverblog.com/>

Bunco Blast

Thursday night saw an outstanding Bunco party for Rotarians and their spouses. Put on by (if I may say) an outstanding group of Newbie Neophyte Rotarians (NNR), the party was a complete success.

New Rotarian Julie Myers was kind of enough to host it at the infamous Pend d'Oreille Winery and several of us were more infamous to attend it. Participating members of the NNR committee were Julie Meyers, Kim Queen, Sean Fitzpatrick, Dwayne Parsons, Toby McLaughlin and Lynda Metz.

Accolades go out heartily to Karen Applegate, especially, who took time away from work to step in and see to it that we played fairly and by the rules. The reason, expressed through begging team tears and cries for help, was that not one of the NNR committee members had ever played Bunco in their entire lives. Now, thanks to an avid crowd of attendees, we're all fully accredited professionals.

The great thing about Bunco is the fact that you get to meet and visit personally with everyone who plays.

The NNR committee provided potluck food in abundance as a backdrop to the no-host wine bar. The atmosphere was great. "Ya should'a been there."

Bunco is an ice-breaker that allows Rotarians to relax and get to know each other's spouses. Our president's wisdom in having the NNR members put it on was a great way to get us involved. But none of us is sure how Jon Sayler rolled 4 Bunco's, though Royal Shields beat him out to take home the Roaming Bunco Prize!