

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

North Notes

Spokane-North Rotary Club

January 6, 2024

- **Jan. 13:** Noon luncheon at the Bark. Speaker: Spokesman-Review Executive Editor Ron Curley.
- **Jan. 20:** No meeting. MLK Holiday.

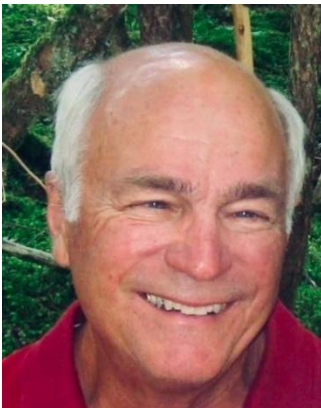
Announcements:

- Thanks, Steve! Club Rotary Foundation chair John Mailliard said Steve Boharski has earned his “red stone” – his sixth Paul Harris award for Rotary International contributions.
- John also said the club will resurrect its Rotarian of the Year award. Details will follow in spring and the award will be made at the June end-of-year celebration.

Happy Bucks:

- **John Mailliard** shared his hopes that his son can recover from a stroke and other serious medical issues.
- **Steve Boharski** was happy for Zags recent wins and hoped his Montana State Bobcats could defeat North Dakota State in the football championship – but later that day MSU lost 35-32.
- **Steve Bergman** was happy for his family’s new Doberman puppy, and hoping the dog damage would be minimal.
- **Sandy Fink** and **Nancy Hanson** contributed to the memory of Bud Belles.
- **Laura Zahn** was happy for good travels.
- **Lenore Romney** was happy for holiday time with wife Bob’s sisters.

In memoriam: Bert “Bud” Belles



At the Jan. 6 luncheon, the club noted the death Dec. 22 of longtime former member Bert “Bud” Belles.

Bud died peacefully at home with his wife, Marcia, by his side. Bud, who was 84, visited the club last fall at a luncheon.

Bud joined the club in 1976 in the classification of “computer consulting.” He worked at IBM for 25 years before starting his own consulting practice.

He served as club president in 1983-84 and won the annual club service award in 1979, 1993 and 2004. Bud achieved perfect attendance for 24 years. At that time he was tied for third for that longevity when membership was 70 to 80 Rotarians.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Rotary District 5080 Charitable Fund.

A celebration of Bud's life is scheduled Jan. 25 at 2 p.m. at The Hangar Events Center, 6095 E. Rutter Ave.

Help shape the rest of the Rotary year

Rather than a scheduled speaker, Steve Bergman moderated an "interactive conversation" at the Jan. 6 club luncheon.

Bergman, club president for the third quarter of this Rotary year, focused on speaker topics and formats. Many in the 20 members attending offered their opinions in the lively discussion.

Members agreed that the quality of speakers has been a strong part of weekly luncheons under the direction of board said they like monthly themed topics for speakers.

Suggested topics included local entrepreneurs, uses of artificial intelligence ("AI"), community college activities, general school and education, international issues including World Relief, the Ukraine and the local Thrive programs, and more about the Kasama Central Club in Zambia and Annastazia Kaira, including perhaps a shared Rotary grant project.

Volunteer programs were suggested and possibly some "road trips," including the Mobius Discovery Center.

In short, the list of ideas could cover the next few years of Rotary-North luncheons.

Bergman also said the Bark's crowded conference room may not be large enough for club luncheons, especially if we reach the goal of 30 members.

Bulletin editors: Chuck Rehberg and Scott McKorkle. Photo by Scott McKorkle. Photo of Bud Belles courtesy of the Belles family via the Spokesman-Review.

