



Service Above Self

Rotary Club of Portland Maine

The Windjammer

Tuesday, September 21, 2010



Editor: John Marr
If you have any comments or questions, email the editor.

Future Speakers

Oct 1 2010
Andrew Taranko
"Living Innovations of Saco"

Oct 8 2010
Les Otten

Nov 5 2010
Harry McMann
"Systems Engineering"

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This Week: MAINE SPORTS LEGEND CINDY

by Russell Burleigh

A native of Clinton, Maine, Blodgett led Lawrence High School to four straight Class A State Championships (1991-1994). She is Maine's all-time leading scorer in high school basketball with 2,596 career points. She was named Maine Gatorade Player of the Year in 1992, 1993 and 1994, and was Miss Basketball in Maine in 1994. Blodgett was also the Portland Press Herald Athlete of the Year in 1994, and the recipient of the Bangor Daily News Owen Osborne Award.

Recruited by then-UMO Coach Joanne McCallie Palombo (now coach at Duke), Cindy played four years at Maine and received two America East Player-of-the-Year awards; four WBCA District I All-America honors; three time ECAC Division I All-Star; four NCAA Tournament appearances; four America East Tournament MVP awards; four time America East First-Team selection. A four-time All-American, Blodgett was just the second woman in NCAA Division I history to lead the nation in scoring for two consecutive seasons, averaging over 27 points per game in her sophomore and junior seasons at Maine. She finished her career with the Black Bears with 3,005 points, breaking a total of 20 school records. Blodgett ranks sixth all-time in NCAA history in scoring. She led Maine to its first four appearances in the NCAA Tournament in the program's history. In both 1996 and 1998, she was the America East Player of the Year.

No slouch in the classroom either, Cindy earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Maine in 1998, graduating cum laude. She earned Academic All-America honors in 1998.

After her storied career at the University of Maine, Blodgett went on to play in the WNBA from 1998-2002. Drafted sixth overall in 1998, she played for the Cleveland Rockers for one season, before going on to play with the Sacramento Monarchs for three seasons. She has also played internationally in Korea, two years in France and for the National Women's Basketball League.

She was named Coach of the Black Bears in May of 2007.

LAST WEEK: AN ELECTED MAYOR FOR PORTLAND?

by John Marr

Leave it to Mark Carpentier to tee it up for you if you want to keep expectations low! Mark had to be kidding when he worried that any political item in Portland could be sleep inducing. We all know that this is a city that would fight over sainthood for Mother Theresa, so when you mention and elected mayor for the Peoples Republic of Portland you are



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sure resurrect the dead. Mark introduced, John Spritz, a member of the Portland Charter Commission representing District 4, the Broad Cove area of Portland by suggesting that some might find it boring. Given the questions that followed John's presentation, nobody fell asleep!

John began by reminding us that the purview of the Commission was more than recommending for or against having a full time, somewhat powerful, elected mayor in Portland. As a matter of fact, they started off with about 25 to 30 ideas of how to create the perfect People Democratic Republic and whittled it down to 3: a) an elected mayor with some powers, b) a structured process for the School Committee, and 3) clean up the guiding documents of the City. Spritz is quick to remind us that the notion of a de jure mayor versus a titular mayor is nothing new but came to a head because of the upheavals involving the failed Maine State Pier and the painful closing of the Clifford School. The 12 member panel, 9 elected and 3 appointed, covered the extremes in position and definitely included people who came in with the decision made in their mind before the facts had been gathered (gee is that something new in politics?). At the end of it all some allowed their minds to be open and a couple remained convinced that they knew it all to begin with and needed not to be polluted with facts or alternatives; yet they voted unanimously to let the matter go to the voters.

Mr Spritz clarified some of the elements of the elected mayor position. The mayor would not usurp the powers of the City Manager nor would they be just a tie breaker. They would have veto power over that small slice of the budget that is not pre ordained and that could be the fulcrum they use to move things along. Furthermore, they would be the face and force of Portland up in Augusta. The salary of the full time mayor would be \$67,000 which is less than the Superintendent of Schools, and many other city professionals, make but 50% more than the average household income of a Portland family. The election of the mayor will be in the off year so as not to get caught up and set aside by major elections.

One thing is for sure, nobody fell asleep listening to John Spritz and he is an excellent spokesperson for the proposition. Now, make sure you get out and vote!

BITS AND PIECES

by John Marr

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MIGHTY JON YOUNG!

Sometimes in life you really hit a high spot and you wonder if it can get any better.~^~^ That might be the way **Jon Young** is feeling these days.~^~^ Jon has a son who is a chef



in the Big Apple and has been invited to appear on a Bravo Channel cooking competition which will air this Wednesday at 11 PM.~^~ On top of that, Jon and Susan's daughter is expecting twins next month!~^~ Congratulations

HOME ON THE RANGE FOR BABY BOOMERS :

Michelle Mitchell led the chorus with that wistful favorite, "Home on the Range". The crowd easily modulated for the song's rising and fallings pitch and cadence, possibly a little too well. In the spirit of many a good pundit, **Jim Willey** noted those who didn't reach for the songbook are likely well qualified for Social Security, which fast includes the Baby Boom generation, whose first member turns 65 this coming January.

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THE ELECTION SEASON IS UPON US

As **Paul Gore** noted over a plate of the **Italian Heritage Center's** fine victuals, numerous celebrity politicians have come to support Maine's candidates for higher office. As the ensuing conversation established, the election season before us will provide ample opportunity to discuss how Maine and the country arrived in its current circumstance, as well as the best ways forward. At moments such as these, we are reminded how delicate the job of timing our visiting speakers can be. Good luck, **Kris Rosado** .

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UPCOMING ROTARY EVENTS

First, a reminder about the **Freeport Rotary Golf Tournament** on Friday, September 17th at **Toddy Brook** , starting at 3 PM. Secondly, **Mike Fortunato** discussed our upcoming **Spaghetti Dinner** on Saturday, October 2nd on the **USM** campus as a carbohydrate-loading warm-up to the **Maine Marathon** . This annual event sees the **Club** lead the pack organizing one of the keystone portions of the Marathon, which is now into its

19th running.

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LUCK OF THE DRAW WRIT LARGE

No sooner had **Mike Fortunato** left the meeting after the Spaghetti Dinner announcement, than his ticket was drawn for the raffle to claim \$567. Should we draw another ticket? Must the winner be present to win at the draw of the cards for the **Queen of Hearts?** Since there's no known **Roberts Rules of Order** on the topic of raffles and card draws, someone was nominated to pull a card on Mike's behalf, and someone pulled a dud. Seems odd to say, but better luck next time.

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WITH THE WIND AT THEIR BACKS WE BID A FAREWELL FOR NOW

A scant two Thursdays ago, a sizeable crowd of **Portland Rotarians** gathered to bid **Rob Chatfield** a heartfelt farewell (or at least to be certain he really was leaving - hard to say). For reasons beyond his control, Rob was delayed, allowing the gathering to discuss all manner of topics, be it how we'll sorely miss Rob's sense of timing or a way of having the farewell series turned into sanctioned make-up events (thank you , **Roxane Cole**) . Rest assured we'll have it sorted out by May when Rob returns.

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Also departing the neighborhood is **Cindy Blodgett** , who departs for **U Maine Orono** to be the head coach of the **Black Bears Women's Basketball Team** , with a photo autographed by the our club. Go get some wins and we don't wish you "good luck" because winning at that level isn't about luck - it's about working hard.

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTEREST TO ROTARIANS

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Sept. 28, 2010Ã,Â - **Maine Symposium on Higher Education - "Maine's Economic Imperative: To Dramatically Increase the Education and Skill Level of Its Current and Future Workers"** - is being held on Tuesday, September 28, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at Unum's Corporate Offices in Portland. \$25 fee.Ã,Â This is a great forum on the future of the workforce in Maine -Ã,Â Register at Ã,Â http://www.collegeforme.com/news_event.html See **Laura Young** for further details

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WHO's DOING WHAT THIS WEEK:

by Elise Hodgkin

Editor	Kathleen Grammer
Bits & Pieces	Eric Lusk
Registration	Michael Reed
Meal Ticket Sales	Loretta Rowe
Greeter	Matthew Tassej
Raffle	David Smith
Invocateur	Bruce Jones
Music	Peggy Wescott (<i>Meredith Small</i>)
Sgt at Arms - Early	Mitchell Vance
Sgt at Arms - Late	Scott Blakeslee