



### Rattler report for Jan. 12, 2018. Your scribe — Paul Guiton

**Guests:** Larry McGuinness (a potential new member) and our invited speaker, **Sebastian van Wollen** of Aldergrove's Blue Planet Recycling.

Blue Planet provides recycling and reprocessing services to industrial customers (it does not handle consumer recycling). Each month, it handles 20,000 pounds of damaged milk crates, grinding them into plastic flakes that are sold to a plastics-injection company, which then manufactures new milk crates! Overall, revenue comes from the sale of reprocessed materials and from waste-disposal services for industry. Sebastian outlined a number of innovations by the company over the past 15 years, including recycling vinyl windows for use in electrical conduits; reprocessing plastic car bumpers for use in underground utility pipe; crushing waste glass, which is used in insulation and road paint; reclaiming fracking-pond liners, stripping them and sending them to China to be made into polyethylene pipe, and converting waste produce into animal-feed ingredients. Research and development is central to Blue Planet's success. The company operates on a partnership model, especially with



**Brian Thomasson stood in for president Wes at the breakfast and presented Sebastian van Wollen with one of our coveted Rotary mugs.**

downstream end users who contribute substantially to R&D. The only government support for these services is through tax credits. Canada tends to lag behind other countries in this respect.

#### **Rotary business:**

**Brian** confessed to a mistake in last week's Paul Harris pin presentation to **Glenn Fulton**. Glenn's contribution to the foundation has actually been \$5,000. Thank you, Glenn!

**Charlie** reported on our successful application to send a high school student, aged 16-19, to Rotary's Adventures in Citizenship in Ottawa. We were one of only 200 clubs accepted. Now we have to select a student.

**Rick** gave an update on Ribfest. He reported that a title sponsor, prime sponsors and several smaller sponsorships had been obtained, exceeding the minimum to give the event a green light. There are still plenty of sponsorship opportunities available at every

level. In the meantime, the planning committee will transition to a focus on operations. Rick asked that members try to keep August 17-19 free, since we will need many volunteers.



Happy  
and sad



**Glenn** was generally not happy, since he doesn't like driving in the dark, in the rain, along the Fraser Highway. He was, however, relieved that he didn't have to give back his pin, despite last week's error.

**Janet** felt trapped in the vortex of Murphy's Law, especially as applied to ice storms and telecommunications services.

**Pauline** was generally happy. **Charlie** rambled. **Jack N.** was pleased that the family was all well and that construction on the new liquor store was starting.

**Garth** was looking for speaker suggestions for March and April, when he and his wife will be

taking 12 students to a small village north of Tzaneen, South Africa, called Modjadiskloof.

**Brian** had to take his chainsaw to clean up his yard after the storms.

**Troy** had a great time taking his daughter to Whistler and is also delighted with progress on the new liquor store. **Rick** had a great visit from his brother, including a trip to Whistler.

**Gord** has returned from sunny Arizona. **George** was pleased to see Gord back.

**Paul** was proud that his grandson's band had been chosen for a North American anthology of Ska Punk music. The ska rhythms are great, the punk language cringeworthy.

**Scott** described being in the hospital ER with a lively two-year-old after an accident in the shower. After a 4.5-hour wait, Scott gave up. It turned out his son was none the worse for wear.

**Angie** was heading to Mexico for some needed sunshine.

**Russ** recommended that meetings be held in the new liquor store as soon as it was finished.

**Bruce** had got through his first week of work after a long Christmas break, although he did discover that his uniform had shrunk.

**Bev** was taking her 89-year-old mother to Maui.

**Doug** hoped his fine contribution would buy him indulgence from an earlier comment.

#### **For your listening pleasure**

**Jan. 19:** Scott Hyde's ID talk. The executive meets **Jan. 23** and there'll be a report to the **Jan.26** breakfast.

**Feb. 2:** Gord Carnes on Rotary International, with a slideshow. **Feb. 9:** Rotary at Work: Garth Blois.

**Feb. 23:** David Truman from the Sunshine Rotary Club will talk about the interpretive building at the Derek Doubleday Arboretum.