

## CLASSIFICATION TALK

I AM VERY PROUD OF MY DANISH ROOTS – MY FATHER CAME TO THE UNITED STATES AT THE AGE OF 16, GOING TO WILBUR, WHERE HIS OLDER BROTHER HAD ALREADY GONE. DAD SERVED IN THE U S NAVY IN WORLD WAR I, AT WHICH TIME HE RECEIVED HIS CITIZENSHIP. MY MOTHER WAS BORN IN S DAKOTA, THE FAMILY CAME ACROSS THE COUNTRY IN AN OVERLAND TO SAN DIEGO WHERE MY MOTHER WENT TO NORMAL SCHOOL TO BECOME A TEACHER. SHE WENT TO SPOKANE TO VISIT MY AUNT AND UNCLE AND FROM THERE ACCEPTED A TEACHING JOB IN WILBUR, WHICH IS WHERE SHE AND DAD MET AND LITTLE CAROL WAS BORN.

DAD WAS WITH THE SEATTLE GRAIN COMPANY AND WAS SENT TO ALMIRA TO MANAGE THE GRAIN ELEVATOR THERE. AS A RESULT, I GREW UP IN ALMIRA AND GRADUATED FROM ALMIRE HIGH SCHOOL AND THEN ON TO W.S.U. HAD A WONDERFUL COLLEGE CAREER. I WAS A MEMBER OF KAPPA ALPHA THETA, STILL A THETA. I WAS CHOSEN TO BE A SPUR, A SOPHMORE WOMEN'S HONORARY, REPRESENTING MY DORM, DUNCAN DUNN, WHICH I LIVED IN AT THAT TIME. I DID NOT PLEDGE UNTIL WAS A JUNIOR AS I HAD A DORM SCHOLARHIP HAVING BEEN VALEDICTORIAN OF MY CLASS. I WAS TREASURER OR ASSOCIATED WOMEN'S STUDENTS, SECRETARY OF THE STUDENT BODY, SPONSOR FOR R O T C, AND MAY QUEEN. I WORKED PART-TIME FOR DR. VANDECAVEY IN THE SOILS OFFICE.

I GRADUATED IN 1944 (my 60<sup>th</sup> COLLEGE GRADUATION WILL BE COMING UP THIS SPRING. AFTER GRADUATING I WENT BRIEFLY TO WATERVILLE, AS MY FATHER WAS TRANSFERRED BY CENTENNIAL FLOURING MILLS TO MANAGE THE WATERVILLE, MANSFIELD, WITHROW WAREHOUSES.

I WORKED BRIEFLY IN THE AUDITOR'S OFFICE WHICH IS WHERE I MET MY HUSBAND'S MOTHER, WHO WAS DOUGLAS COUNTY CLERK. IN THOSE DAYS, WORLD WAR 11 TIME, WE

**WROTE TO SERVICE MEN, AS MANY HAVE DONE RECENTLY. I DID NOT KNOW ALPHA NORTON'S SON WHO WAS IN THE MILITARY IN AFRICA, ITALY, FRANCE AND THEN GERMANY, BUT I WROTE TO HIM. SO, THAT IS HOW I MET MY HUSBAND.**

**I LATER CAME TO WENATCHEE TO WORK FOR CHRIS BERG AT VALLEY TITLE COMPANY. WHEN MY HUSBAND RETURNED FROM THE SERVICE, WE MET AND EVENTUALLY WERE MARRIED IN 1946.**

**WE HAD A SON AND TWO DAUGHTERS – CURT AND JULIE BOTH GRADUATED FROM WSU AND MARDI ATTENDED WENATCHEE VALLEY COLLEGE WHILE WAITING FOR HER FELLOW TO RETURN FROM VIET NAM.**

**MY HUSBAND'S UNTIMELY DEATH IN 1982 WAS PERHAPS DUE IN PART FROM STRESS AS A RESULT OF OUR SON CURT'S ACCIDENT BODY SURFING IN HAWAII, SUFFERING A BROKEN NECK AND LEAVING HIM QUADRIPLAGIC – HE IS STILL HAPPILY MARRIED WITH A LOVING AND CARING WIFE AND TWO SONS. IN 1997 MY DAUGHTER, MARDI, DIED OF BREAST CANCER. HER HUSBAND AND TWO CHILDREN ARE STILL IN WENATCHEE. DAUGHTER JULIE AND DON BABST AND THEIR TWO BOYS ARE MY OUT-OF-TOWN KIDS – THEY LIVE IN EAST WENATCHEE. I TELL YOU THIS BECAUSE WENATCHEE ROTARY HAS CARRIED ME THROUGH SOME DIFFICULT TIMES WITH LOVE AND SUPPORT.**

**I AM A LIFE-LONG MEMBER OF THE METHODIST CHURCH, NOW FIRST UNITED METHODIST, AND HAVE SUNG IN THE CHOIR SINCE A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT – 50 PLUS YEARS IN WENATCHEE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (HOWEVER I QUALIFY THAT NOW BY SAYING THAT I AM A MEMBER IN A CHOIR ROBE) AS MY ALTO VOICE IS PRETTY POOR ANY MORE BUT THE CHOIR LOFT IS THE PLACE I LIKE TO SIT IN CHURCH.**

**I SERVED ON CENTRAL WASHINGTON HOSPITAL BOARD FOR 20 YEARS.**

**NOW TO MY TIME IN ROTARY. I WAS A STAY-AT-HOME MOM ALL OF THE YEARS MY CHILDREN WERE GROWING UP. AS YOU KNOW, OR HAVE BEEN TOLD, IN 1967 AL STOJOWSKI, PRESIDENT AND JOE WELTY, PRESIDENT-ELECT WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIRING ME TO THE POSITION OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. LARRY HANDY, THE YMCA DIRECTOR, HAD SERVED AS SECRETARY TO THE CLUB FOR MANY YEARS. PHIL ISAMINGER WAS WENATCHEE ROTARY PRESIDENT IN 1969-70 AT WHICH TIME HE ASKED ME TO GO TO WORK AT WENOKA SALES, WHERE I WORKED FOR 20 YEARS. THIS WORKED WELL BECAUSE OUR SON CURT WAS STARTING COLLEGE AT WSU AND WITH PHIL'S ASSOCIATION WITH ROTARY, I WAS ABLE TO DO ROTARY WORK AT THE OFFICE, WHEN TIME PERMITTED.**

**ED CADMAN WAS D G IN 1970 AND ED NICHOLS WAS HIS CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN. I MENTION THIS BECAUSE ED NICHOLS WAS PLANT MANAGER OF THE NEW DOW CHEMICAL PLANT, NOW RICH PETERS PLANT DOLCO. BECAUSE OF ED NICHOLS BEING CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN, I DID SOME WORK FOR THE CONFERENCE DURING ED CADMAN'S YEAR AS D. G. ED CADMAN DID NOT PARTICULARLY CARE FOR ME IN MY POSITION BECAUSE WOMEN WERE NOT A PART OF ROTARY BUT HE EVENTUALLY CAME AROUND, AS DID ROTARY INTERNATIONAL.**

**SOME ROTARY EXPERIENCES; BILL BUMPS WAS PROGRAM CHAIRMAN AND ONE OF THE PROGRAMS FEATURED EDO VANNI, A FORMER SEATTLE BASEBALL COACH, ALSO KNOWN FOR HIS COLORFUL SPEECH. AT THAT TIME ROTARY MET AT THE CASCADIAN HOTEL. BILL ASKED ME TO LEAVE DURING THE SPEAKER'S PROGRAM (AS YOU KNOW I HAVE ALWAYS SAT AT THE HEAD TABLE) BECAUSE HE DIDN'T WANT ME TO BE EMBARRASSED, NOR SOME OF THE MEMBERS TO BE EMBARRASSED BY SOME OF EDO'S COMMENTS BECAUSE I WAS SITTING THERE - MY, HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED.**

**WHEN DON KAY WAS PRESIDENT – WE WERE MEETING AT THE COLUMBIA HOTEL AT THAT TIME – THE BOARD SENT ME TO EVANSTON (ROTARY HEADQUARTERS) FOR AN EXECUTIVE SECRETARY’S CONFERENCE. I WAS AMAZED THAT A 70-YEAR OLD WAS THERE, STILL AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, SO WHEN I RETURNED I SUGGESTED TO THE BOARD THEY MIGHT WISH TO PUT A RETIREMENT DATE IN THE JOB DESCRIPTION – THANK GOODNESS THEY DIDN’T.**

**WENATCHEE ROTARY MOVED FROM THE COLUMBIA HOTEL DURING CHARLES FOX ADMINISTRATION AS PRESIDENT. CHARLES CHOSE TO MOVE THE CABINET (WHICH WE STILL USE FOR THE BADGES) IN HIS PICK UP TO THE RED LION. ON THE WAY, THE CABINET TIPPED OVER AND SPILLED CONTENTS – FORTUNATELY EVERYTHING WAS RETRIEVED.**

**I HAVE BEEN INDEED FORTUNATE TO HAVE 35 OUTSTANDING AND WONDERFUL BOSSES (THE JURY IS STILL OUT ON THE 36<sup>th</sup>) – HOW MANY OF YOU HAVE HAD 36 BOSSES? SOME OF MY DUTIES INCLUDE CARING FOR THE FINANCES BY RECEIVING AND DEPOSITING ALL MONEYS THAT COME IN TO THE CLUB FROM DUES, MEMBER RECOGNITIONS, APPLESEED AND ROSTER ADS, POT OF GOLD, BIRTHDAY AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS AND THEN IN TURN WRITING THE CHECKS TO ROTARY INTERNATIONAL AND THE DISTRICT FOR DUES, ALL COMMITTEE REQUESTS AND OTHER INCIDENTALS. ALL OF THIS IS REVIEWED AND AUDITED BY OUR TREASURER, BRIAN FAIR, SOON TO BE UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF DAREL THOMSEN AS BRIAN IS MOVING OVER TO TAKE CARE OF THE AUCTION FUNDS.**

**ADDITIONALLY, ATTENDANCE IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF MEMBERSHIP IN ROTARY AND I REPORT TO THE DISTRICT EACH MONTH ON OUR ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS AND MAKE UPS. THAT IS ONE OF THE MANY FACTORS THAT MADE US THE NUMBER ONE CLUB IN THE DISTRICT LAST YEAR. THUS, IT IS IMPORTANT FOR MEMBERS TO ATTEND MEETINGS OR MAKE UP – BE SURE YOUR MAKE UPS ARE TURNED IN. WENATCHEE SUNRISE AND NORTH ARE BOTH GOOD ABOUT NOTIFYING ME OF MEMBERS WHO MAKE UP**

**AT THEIR CLUB, BUT BE SURE TO PICK UP MAKE UP CARDS  
IF YOU ATTEND OTHER CLUBS AND BE SURE YOUR CHAIR-  
MAN NOTIFIES OF OFF-SITE COMMITTEE MEETINGS OR  
FELLOWSHIP FUNCTIONS.**

**I SHALL CLOSE, FINALLY THANKING YOU, WENATCHEE  
ROTARY, FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR ME. YOU GIVE ME A  
PURPOSE FOR EACH DAY, AS THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING  
CONNECTED TO ROTARY THAT I CAN CONCENTRATE ON,  
PLUS YOU FORCE ME TO KEEP UP SOME OF MY SKILLS,  
WHICH COULD EASILY HAVE GONE ASTRAY WITH LACK OF  
USE, ADDITIONALLY, I MOST LIKELY WOULD NOT HAVE  
HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO KNOW MANY OF YOU AND THAT  
IS CERTAINLY MY PLEASURE. I AM INDEED FORTUNATE AND  
BLESSED.**