



The Windjammer

Today's speaker

A serious time for our schools

Superintendent Glenn Gelbrich joined the Juneau School District on July 1, 2009. He came to Juneau from the Salem-Keizer School District in Oregon where he had served in a number of positions including deputy superintendent.

Gelbrich has broad experience in the field of education. During his time at the Salem-Keizer School District, he also served as assistant superintendent for

academic achievement and director of employee relations. Prior positions include assistant superintendent for operations and director of student achievement in Portland, Ore. as well as principal in West Linn, Ore.

Gelbrich earned his administrative license from the University of Oregon and master's degree in education from Oregon State University.



A little library that does a lot of good

[Editor's note: the following is an excerpt from an email sent by Chris Bradshaw, founder of the African Library Project, to Susan Hickey, one of the co-owners of Juneau's Hearthside Books. Hearthside and the Rotary Club of Juneau are partners in aiding the African Literacy Project]

I've been looking forward to writing this email to you. You've been such an awesome supporter over the years, I was really pleased when I found we were going to one of your libraries during our recent African Partners Summit and I



Delegates of the African Library Project visit a community library in Malawi

would be able to send you direct feedback and photos from it. I so wish you could have been there...

So, here goes...

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Calendar

January:

Rotary Awareness Month

• **Jan. 28:** Club meeting. Speaker: Glenn Gelbrich.

February:

World Understanding Month

• **Feb. 4:** Brown bag lunch at DIPAC.

• **Feb. 11:** Club assembly.

• **Feb. 18:** Club meeting. Rotary Literature Day.

• **Feb. 25:** Club meeting. Speaker: Laverne Beier

Greeters

• **Today:** David Wetzel and Ann Metcalfe.

• **Next week:** Ruth Kostik and Heather Mitchell.

Submit news to juneauwindjammer@gmail.com.

Thanks to AK Litho/CopyWorks, for printing The Windjammer!

Next week's the Wine Auction

The 13th Annual Rotary Wine Tasting & Auction is coming up fast. Tickets will be available today from Bob Rehfield, Keni Campbell, or Peter Jurasz. Or you can call Campbell at 796-6569 to purchase a ticket over the phone. If you would like a book of tickets to sell, please

see Campbell, so she can check some out to you.

The festivities run from 6 until 8:30 p.m. on February 7 at the Juneau Arts and Culture Center, 350 Whittier St. Tickets cost \$45 each (which includes a souvenir wine glass). Attendees must be 21 or older.

Bring the books that brought you up on Feb. 18

On Feb. 18, members of the Rotary Club of Juneau are asked to bring their favorite books and to have an excerpt ready to share.

To help inspire some top selections, here's a bit from one of Bob Rehfield's favorites. See if you can figure out the title.

"I wanted you to see what real courage is, instead of getting the



idea that courage is a man with a gun in his hand. It's

when you know you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what."

Toe tappin' times with Tomi



Our inbound, Tomi Katona, shows off his good side. To see all of Tomi's facets, make sure to plan some awesome events for your time with him.

• **Week of Feb. 3:** Ruth Hamilton Heese and Fred Koken.

Library

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We spent two days visiting libraries in Malawi with our entire international delegation of 38 people. I know all of the Americans were taken with just how poor Malawi is. Most of the schools have no desks, the kids just sit on concrete floors. One hundred fifty students to 1 teacher is the average class (ratio). One of the teachers told me he has 400 kids in his class of 6-year-olds.

As you might imagine, these schools and their communities are incredibly excited to get a library. It's a very big deal to them.

Everyone turns out when we visit — the kids, the teachers, the parents, the village headman or woman, and the chiefs. They prepare speeches, poems, songs, skits about the library and a tour. We ask questions, sing and dance with the kids and talk to the kids, teachers, librarian and everybody else in an effort to get a sense of how the books are impacting their lives.

Hidaya is a rural village of Muslims. For most of our delegates, it was the highlight of our six library, two day tour of

libraries. The library has been open for a little while, but they decided to have a grand opening to celebrate our visit. The entire village showed up. There are no roads in the village itself, so the women came out to welcome us singing and dancing in that call and response African way. I learned later they were singing "How shall we greet our visitors?" We ended up doing a lot of hugging and singing and dancing our way back into the village where everyone was waiting for us in preparation for the big event.