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BREAKING NEWS:

Club members donated \$3100 for the Salvation Army during our holiday wine-tasting party!!! Since contributions to the Army's kettles are down significantly, this will really have an impact on needy families. Thanks for your generosity.

Zoom meeting of 12/21/20

President **Doug Berger** welcomed us to the last official Rotary meeting of the year. We are not going to meet Monday, Dec. 28.

REFLECTION

Chuck Capps reflected on what 2020 has been and what we've still been able to accomplish as a Rotary club. We teamed up with the high school to get basic necessities for homeless families, we've given out Rotary scholarships, and the AVID program is functioning. He thanked us all for our individual contributions.

GUESTS

Malea Martin, outbound exchange student to Germany 2006-07, currently working for the State Department in Frankfurt, Germany, but soon to return to Washington, D.C.

Matthias Moeferd, inbound exchange student from Germany 2002-03, speaker

Nick Mayer, Dave Anderson's eldest grandson. He's a WSU student working from home and Dave is very proud of him!

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Unable to come up with a song, **Larry Eyer**, on behalf of the Music Committee, told some really lame Christmas jokes: What do you call Santa's helpers? Subordinate clauses. How do Christmas angels greet each other? Halo. et cetera

SERGEANT & HAPPY BUCKS

Kevin Clancey was the sergeant again, and he started by fining Larry for his bad puns and Chuck for using the word "badass" in his reflection. Then he solicited happy

bucks . . .



As stated above, **Dave Anderson** is very proud of his eldest grandson **Nick Mayer**. He is one of the very few Eagle Scouts on record who has earned every merit badge in the book. Only some 450 Scouts have accomplished this since 1910.

Dennis Treger reminisced about the Cougars' collapse in the 2nd half against Utah. He warned Nick to be prepared for a lifetime of frustration and disappointment as a Coug fan.

Peter Braun said that his alma mater, the ASU Sun Devils, scored 114 points in the last two games, holding opponents to under 50 points. He said he is also a proud Husky dad.

John Stockwell is glad that his four half-bottles of wine finally arrived, too late for the wine tasting. Instead, he used four different kinds of Scotch.

Walt Draper told a story about his son Steven, a proud BHS and Naval Academy grad who recently retired from the Navy. He was in Mogadishu, Somalia, with the private intelligence gathering company he is working with, and decided to take photos of Somalians dismantling an IED. This got him hauled into the police station and yelled at. His company called in a fixer who got him off the hook.

Larry Eyer says his daughter **Kelsley** is a nursing manager at Virginia Mason Hospital, and was one of the first to get the COVID vaccine. **Peter Braun** said his sister runs COVID testing for Franciscan and got the shot last Thursday.

Julia Dyess says her husband **Craig** got the COVID vaccine last week and suffered no side effects other than Bill Gates controlling his mind (an actual rumor pushed by the conspiracy theorists).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We had the first reading of the candidates for Rotary officers and Board members:

President: **Brad Miller**

Secretary: **Geoff Pentz**

Treasurer: **Kyle Kincaid**

President-Elect: **Denise Ledingham**

Board nominees (pick 2): **Julia Dyess, Dave Anderson, Daryl Matheny and Laura McKerrow**

PROGRAM



Matthias now, and with Steve Landau at a Mariners game

Matthias Moeferd, former inbound exchange student in 2002-03 from Germany, gave us an update on the 17 years since he left Bremerton. Matthias is an accomplished musician who played viola with the Bremerton Symphony

when he was here, and also played sax in the BHS Jazz Band. Matthias remembered fondly a number of outings that Rotarians took him on, especially **Tom Long**. He enjoyed getting to know the other exchange students from the district, which included some 50 students from 25 different countries. He still talks frequently to many of them, and has exchanged visits with some of them. In 2013, 13 people showed up in the Czech Republic for a 10-year reunion of exchange students.

Matthias did his undergraduate work from 2006-12 in Karlsruhe, Germany, and obtained a PhD in physics in Berlin from 2012-17. He is now a patent attorney. Huh??? Matthias explained that patent attorneys in Germany aren't Bar members but instead need a diploma or masters degree in science or engineering. He finished the training this year and will be sworn in during 2021. He said the patent attorneys have to be able to describe what patent applicants are trying to express with technical drawings. He is going to be taking written exams for representation in the EU.

Matthias retains his passion for music and played the sax part in a Gershwin program recently, and is a member of the fusion jazz group Chinaski in Space that in 2016 took a trip to China.

If you missed Matthias's talk and would like to watch a video of it click on this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/IuQmHhliZZ4h32but51Q9etgMXPmeoKQ85fQpj-MYwRzBI4AF938wpxxfRDmttC.upanSrLcqWOEYPEX>. You will need a passcode: HYdn&50=

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Dec. 28: no meeting

Jan. 4: District 5020 Governor **Greg Horn**

Jan. 11: **Alice Collingwood**, Summit Assistance Dogs