

The Spirit of U'Hills

29 May 2009



PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

- June 4U'Hills Golf Tournament..... Inverness
- June 5Dark due to golf tournament
- June 12 ..Arjun SenSubject: Raising a Father
- June 19 ..Mandy Hughes and Chris Romer Sub-
ject: The KIPP Charter School
- June 26 ..Dark due to 6/28 Appreciation Dinner
- June 28 ..Appreciation Dinner ... Changing of the
Guard,
- July 3Glenmoor dark for July 4 holiday

GREETERS



Michael Haviland and
Mel Capehart

Mel Capehart greets Michael Haviland. Just from the people who have already signed in, this will be a banner meeting. So, Mel advised Michael that he'd better get on into the dining room and find a seat. It's going to be SRO in a very few minutes. And, it was. We had to increase the number of chairs at a couple of tables and then set up two new tables, eight each, for the remaining members and visitors.

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE AND PLEDGE



Staci Giovino

Staci Giovino, our bearer of inspirational thoughts today, began with: "I thought that since our speaker's subject today is baseball, we should have a baseball theme inspiration." And this is how it went:

"On a hot, sunny afternoon, a small boy stepped up to bat. The crowd watched like hawks for his move, waiting for the sought-after home run that most likely wasn't

to be. After all, these kids were five and six years old, much too little to stroke a ball past the pitcher, if at all.

"The little guy's determination showed in his stance: gritted teeth, slightly bulging eyes, hat clad head bobbing slightly, feet apart, hands with a death grip on the bat. In front of him was a small softball, sitting perched like a parrot on a lone tee, awaiting the six swings that the batter was allowed.

Strike one.

Strike two.

"Go for it, Son!" the proud father yelled encouragingly.

Strike three.

"Go, go, go . . ." the crowd joined in.

Strike four.

"YOU CAN DO IT!" And suddenly, bat hit ball, amazing the crowd and the little boy, who stood rock still, watching it roll slowly past the pitcher on its way to second base.

"Run!"

The stands rumbled with stomping feet.

"Run, run!"

The little boy's head jerked ever so slightly and he took off toward third base.

With a slight cast of his head toward the bleachers, the boy turned back toward home.

"NO!" My son, the umpire, waved him toward first base.

The kids on both teams pointed the way. The crowd continued to cheer him on. Confused, he ran back to third. Then following the third baseman's frantic directions, he finally ran toward first base but stopped triumphantly on the pitcher's mound. The pitcher moved back, not sure what to do next. The crowd stood, shaking the bleachers with the momentum. All arms waved toward first base. And with no thought for his position, the first baseman dropped the ball and ran toward the pitcher.

"Come on," he yelled, grabbing the hand of the errant batter, and tugged him toward first base while the crowd screamed its approval. The ball lay forgotten as a triumphant twosome hugged each other on the piece of square plastic that marked the spot where lives are forever shaped.

"Two little boys, running hand in hand, toward a goal that only one should have reached. Both came out winners. In fact, there wasn't a loser in the stands or on the field that summer day, and that's a lesson none of us should ever forget. Winning is more than being number one. Winning is helping another when the chips are down. It's remembering to love one another, despite the flaws that sometimes appear in the fabric of daily life.

"No one will ever remember the score of that summer afternoon encounter. Competition, usually fettered by jeering demands, lost to sportsmanship, an innate formula for winning.



"When you get to first base with opposing teammates, families, friends and grandstanders behind you, a home run is never that far down the road."

"Please join me in the Pledge:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag, of the United States of America..."

INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our President, **Mike Hitchcock**, gavelled the meeting to order, thanked our Greeters today: **Dan Astle** and **Mel Capehart** (thunderous applause).

"**Tom Murphy** will introduce our guests and visiting Rotarians, and we have a lot of guests. Tom wisely observed that since we have a lot of guests [two lines more than a full U'Hills Guest and Visiting Rotarian sign in sheet!!] what we will do is introduce the non-West Middle School guests first and then we can come back to the school guests.

Jerry Regan was first up with **Ken Weber**, "A neighbor and friend for a lot of years. Some of you might remember the Team Barbershop, down on Capital Hill. Ken was a barber there for a lot of years and then finished his career with the Cherry Creek School System."

Dave Wood introduced his guest, **Amor Daly**. "Amor has applied for membership with the club and was approved by the Board last night."

Jeff Stotler introduced his honored guest, **Ellen Stotler**. [sustained applause]

Bill Curnow, reflecting on the best friends in life, introduced **Paul Berteau**, "An insurance professional and a great eight ball partner for a lot of years."

Alan Coldwell also had a guest, **Andrew Weinkle**. "Andrew comes from a beautiful area of the east coast and his father was a very active Rotarian for many years."

Tom Benson had a guest. Actually, he had two guests. First was **John Case**, a partner, and **Jim Evans** who does estate planning work.

Staci Giovino introduced her guest today, her Dad, **Dan Beck**.

Next was a visiting Rotarian, **Dale Flowers**, classification: graphic artist, Littleton Rotary Club, President this year.

Bill Rector introduced one of our scholarship winners, **Christina Kapatayes**. She's a math major and told us that next year she will be a resident school adviser for the University.

President Mike reclaimed the mike—temporarily—and asked **Lowell Palmquist** to "Come on up here. We had a Board meeting last night and all agreed that **Lowell** is our Rotarian of the Month since he's done such a wonderful job on our Four Way Test project with West Middle School. Congratulations, **Lowell**."

Lowell then gave us a summary of our Four Way Test project with West Middle School. "It's been somewhat of a long journey, but a very fruitful one. So, it's my pleasure to introduce, not only the people from U'Hills, but also some of your fellow Rotarians. We had 12 of our U'Hills folks go up to Boulder for a training session and then 14 of our members participated as Facilitators. Please stand up. The ones who

did all four sessions, every Monday from 27 April to 18 May: **Doug Dixon**, **Sam Hill**, and **Dave McKinley**.

Those who participated in three were **Andrew Dodson**, **Wendell Osorno**, **Jerry Regan**, and **Dorotha Cicchinelli**. The others who participated were **Don Goe**, **Helen Hempel**, **Tom Murphy**, **Barry Dawson**, **Rich Sattizahn**, and **Ruth Wilson** observed. Let's have a nice hand." [and that's what he obtained].

"Our Rotarians discussed issues with about 170 total sixth grade students. We did an evaluation at the last meeting and the Facilitators, the Rotarians, were very, very impressed with West's students and the way they participated. And, all 14 said they wanted to do it again next year. Sheila will tell us a bit about that.

"At this time, I'd like to present **Sheila Graham**, the Principal at West Middle School. Sheila has been promoted and will be the director of all middle schools in the Cherry Creek School District. The District certainly made a great choice in that selection.

"**Steve Whisenhunt** and **Barry Dawson** told me a couple of weeks ago that this Four Way Test program will not succeed if it doesn't have a principal who really supports the program. We were so fortunate to have **Sheila Graham** as the principal and **Joy Nelson** and **Tamara Hoffman** as her assistants."

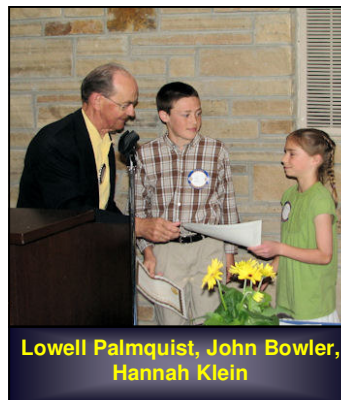
Sheila Graham told us she was pleased to be here today and that "You, Lowell, and your people made such a difference for so many kids at West even though it was a short time you were able to be there. The papers they wrote and the comments I've received from them indicate that you have an open door to come back next year and work with them in 7th grade. You have such a great sense of humor and I don't know if you were more scared or the kids were more anxious when you walked into the room. But, in a matter of a couple of minutes it was like you'd been there for weeks and weeks.

"We wanted a couple of kiddos to come and talk and tell you a little bit about what they took away from the program.

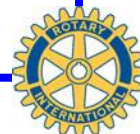
Hannah Klein and **John Bowler** are our two kiddos who are going to talk about our Four Way Test. They've brought their families, M/M Klein and M/M Bowler and some sisters as well. We have certificates that Mr. Palmquist will present to the kiddos."

Lowell: "John, you represent a very outstanding class of seventh graders. And, Hannah, this is for you and the same to you and your sixth graders. What Sheila has said, and I hope we can do, is use some of these kids who have participated this year as assistant facilitators with the Rotarians next year."

Then, John and Hannah gave short talks about the Four Way Test Experience. John first: "Well, when the Rotarians came in to our school, I thought 'Who are these peo-



Lowell Palmquist, John Bowler, Hannah Klein



ple?’ (laughter) But, then, when I got to know them, they turned out to be some of the nicest people I’ve ever known. And, they helped us through the situations where it’s sometimes hard to make the right choice. For example, **Jerry** over there was my counselor. He’s very wise, and we had a good time talking about what goes on, every day, in middle school. It was a great experience for all the kids. You just have to be honest and share your thoughts with people who are wiser than you. (more laughter and cries of “Noooo. Noooo”) I hope to do it again next year.”

Then, Hannah: “I thought the Four Way Test was helpful in many ways because they were really wise and helped us with the problems. They also had experience in real life things.”

President Mike then asked Jerry “How much did you to pay them to say that about you? He continued, “There’s the future of our country right there.”

WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Tom Murphy returned to the lectern and asked **Lauren Buckley** to join him...and she did. Tom told us about the way he and his other helpers go to West Middle School and interview four of their kids—this time in the 8th grade—to see who wins our monthly Achievement Award. This month, **Lauren Buckley** is the winner. Lauren’s parents and sister were also here today to see how Lauren held together. She did just fine. **Tom** volunteered the information that “Megan, Lauren’s sister, is also here today and it may be that she’s just as bright as this one (Lauren) so look out. We interviewed four wonderful people in the 8th grade. It was very interesting. The intelligence here, when you think you’ve met intelligent people John and Hannah, you should just talk to your 8th graders. They beat us by quite a bit.



Lauren Buckley and Tom Murphy, pointing out Lauren’s parents and sister Megan.

“Lauren came out as our winner, but we told her that although she’s a winner, actually, all of them are winners. She’s representing the 8th grade for the Spring semester.” He then gave her the “Plaque that hangs on the Admissions wall, it has your name on it. One of the things that impressed us about Lauren, in addition to her congeniality and her personality...when I went into the school, they gave us a list and said that Lauren had missed today because she out on a ‘Buddy Day’ doing something else, watching another class. So we were only going to have three. Then all of a sudden they ran back in and said ‘Lauren made it all the way back.’ So, we were very glad to talk with her. She was very positive. She and her Mom do a lot at different charities. They work with other families (to Lauren: what is it? Lauren’s answer, loud and clear, was Mother-Daughter Charity Group), basically, the girls handle this, about three or four families and they’re working with Project C.U.R.E providing medical supplies to Africa, and Habitat for Humanity. So you can see she’s not only a very good student but she’s involved in a lot of other things too.” Laura then

had a few words about her activities: “I would like to thank the University Hills Rotary Club for this honor. I like being involved in charity work because it’s not about me, it’s about everybody else who don’t have what I have because I have a good life. It’s nice to help people and know that I’m making their life a little better. And your website is right. This is the best Rotary Club in the world. Thank you.” Quite a performance. Quite a young lady.

President Mike retook the lectern and gave Lauren an envelope (it had a gift card inside, to take her family out to dinner...and it wasn’t from McDonald’s).

Mike then turned to **Jerry**, addressing him as “Oh wise one? Do you have a special presentation? Ernie’s here.” Before getting into the new member business, Jerry had some

NEW MEMBER

blue badges to hand out...blue to replace the temporary red badges. And the lucky members were **Jay Shoemaker, Andrew Dodgen, Mel Grusing, and Phil Beaver**. (Extended applause and expressions of welcome and good cheer)



Jerry Regan, Mary and Ernie Carwile

Then, the Carwiles came forward, with Steven Whisenhunt, the sponsor. Jerry reminded us that Ernie spoke to us a short while [‘Twas on 3 April 2009]. He knows a lot about Rotary. “So, you kids from West Middle School, look for a series of books by Ernie Carwile, published by Maxwell, Winston, Stone. Look for it in bookstores.

“We are glad to welcome Ernie as the 13th member of the class of RY 2009. Here’s your badge, your pin, and I’ll get a badge made up for you.” Jerry then gave the potted plant to Mary. It’s symbolic. If you nurture and take care of that plant it will grow just as the plants here will help all of us grow with the goal of service above self.” **Jerry** then asked those in the class of 2009 to stand up, then all the rest of us to stand up, to welcome **Ernie Carwile** as a member of the U’Hills Rotary Club.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Steve Whisenhunt stayed at the lectern to give us the last update before the event itself, 4 June 2009. He recognized some of our latest sponsors: “**Bill Curnow, Dixie Davis, Todd Laurie** who not only was a hole sponsor but donated some super silent auction items, but he also did a custom ditty bag for all the golfers (holding it up for all to see). Then, **David Henninger, John Lawton, Art Mason, Les Pedicord, Mike Brewer, Paul Egan, and Artem Guralev**. I have to say this about **Artem** and First Bank. We hear about all these banks that took TARP money and can’t afford a cup of coffee for anyone. But, First Bank wrote a pretty nice check to us and want to be a part of the tournament. **Jay Shoemaker,**



Vick Vickery. I saw Vick Vickery in the parking lot and he said, 'I've got a bottle of wine for you.' Well, what he had was 16 nice bottles of wine in an old wine crate. Vick only goes big.

"We'll check in at 12:00 noon, get set up for the tournament, have lunch at 12:30, tee off at 1:30. For non-golfers, cocktails begin at 5:30. Remember to bring some cash for muligans and raffle tickets. Checks and credit cards will work for silent auction items.

President Mike then introduced **Dale Flowers** for a few words about one of his club's functions, the Queen City Jazz Band. Dale confessed that he's from the other best Rotary Club in the World, the Littleton Club. He is the club president this year. They're sponsoring the QC Jazz Band to help them raise their contribution to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation of \$100 million. "There will be a fun Sunday evening of Dixie-land Jazz at Littleton Town Hall Art Center, Sunday, June 7, a week from next Sunday. There are flyers on the table."

TRACY RINGOLSBY MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL AND THE ROCKIES

Bill Rector introduced our speaker today: **Tracy Ringolsby.** "We're fortunate to have the most esteemed baseball writer in America with us today; a member of the Hall of Fame; Dr. Ringolsby. I say doctor because he was awarded, by the University of Wyoming, this Spring, in addition to politicians and world leaders, an Honorary Doctorate. He writes a bi-weekly column for Fox Sports and has a website, along with some other writers, called

www.insidetherockies.com

and it's particularly fortuitous today because of the big news breaking about Hurdle. So, please welcome Dr. Tracy Ringolsby.

Tracy didn't have a prepared speech today because he thought he'd be just as likely to talk about something we might not be interested in. "What kind of questions do you have?" as the other way around.

Tracy observed that "They're going to announce at 2:30 that Clint Hurdle is just about like I am...out of a job. Probably didn't deserve it any more than I did. Jim Tracy will be the interim manager and he'll be there till the end of the year. Then they're going to reevaluate what happens in the organization. You don't want to hear about the newspaper business and I don't want to talk about it (laughter). But, you probably want to know about the Rockies and talk about the Rockies and what's happening there. I'd probably address areas of your interest better by answering your questions today"

Question (Benson): "Clint Hurdle is out of a job and you say he did not deserve it. Why?"

Answer: "I think the easy thing to do is to fire the manager when things don't go right because they don't want to take a hard line with the players. Sometimes it gets a little expensive to take actions with players to prove a point. Clint's type of management was to be very supportive, to stand behind his players, when guys are struggling and other people might want

to give up on them, he was a guy who believed in constant positive reinforcement.

"After the 2007 season, the team began to forget that it was a team and if you watched them down the stretch in 2007, a lot of different guys played a lot of different parts. When I was driving down from Cheyenne today, there's always time to think when you're driving down from Cheyenne, it hit me that hindsight is always 20/20, and you can look back at things. Probably the first sign that something was going wrong, and I think Clint sensed it, but he kept trying to bring guys back together as opposed to screaming and yelling and grabbing people by the throat. Someone else may do that, but in Spring, a year ago, after contracts had been signed by Hawpe and Francis, the Rockies offered a similar deal to Garrett Atkins. In trying to justify why he turned it down, (which was his right, nobody said he had to sign it) but if you wanted security they wanted to give it to him, but he said 'I'm not going to sell myself short like Francis and Hawpe did.'

"At that point I said that just proves how selfish he is. Not that he turned the contract down, but why would you want to belittle what your teammates did because they thought that was best for them. Why should he belittle teammates who may want to stay and would be willing to sacrifice some money for some long term security? Then, we watched during the summer with Atkins and Holliday as they started to distance themselves from their teammates. The team aspect started to disappear. I give Clint credit for trying to do what he could do to try and get it back together but it doesn't appear that it happened.

"I go back to Holliday. First, his agent said that he wouldn't sign here because the Rockies wouldn't pay enough. Then it became an issue that he didn't want to stay here because he wanted stability for his family. Well, his family had only known here, nowhere else. If he had signed a four year extension, he would have had at least five more years here. So, that would have been stability for the families. That didn't sit well. Then he decided that he didn't want to stay because they didn't offer him a no-trade clause. So, the question was asked, 'Well, did you ever tell them that you would stay if they gave you a no-trade clause?' 'Well, no.' OK.

How important was it to stay and how important was it to get a no-trade clause, if you're not willing to get up and say 'Hey, I'll stay if you'll give me a no-trade clause.'

"Then it became a 'Well, I want to go with a team that has a chance to win,' which is probably as big of a slap in the face as you can utter. A put down, not of your organization but of your teammates. You may not like the general manager. You may not like the manager, but to say something like that, you're telling Todd Helton, and Troy Tulowitzki and Chris Iannetta and Aaron Cook and Jimenez that 'you're not good enough to win. I'm better than you are and I don't belong with you.' Once again, that shows that you've gotten away from what it took as a team to be successful.

"I'm not trying to disparage anyone but people say, 'They should have given Holliday what he wanted.' OK.



Tracy Ringolsby



But what did he want?"

Then someone in the back of the room asked if application of Rotary's four way test would have helped. Tracy laughed and replied, "You guys should have come in to participate in the discussions."

Question: "What areas of the Rockies play is most in need of improvement?"

Answer: "Really, if you look around, it's an area that...it's not a high profile area...last week it was Tampa Bay that blew an 11 run lead. Philadelphia had a seven run lead get away. The reason I say that is a lot of teams are looking for relievers. What caught the Rockies off guard was when Taylor Buchholz was hurt. He was the guy who pitched the eighth inning. There were a lot of things that hurt this team, but if you want to look at one area in this, it's been the 8th inning. Corpas needed to be more consistent. Until you settle who's going to pitch in the 8th inning, you can't go to the bull pen backup. It's been a problem area and they're looking all the time, but I don't think the guys who are pitching effectively, they're usually at a price that teams don't want to give them. So, you usually have to try to address the issue from within.

Several comments in a row questioned how good managers are made, not born, and how decisions should be made based on that premise. Tracy stepped back a little bit, cleared his throat and said, "When I was about 23, I didn't believe this. But, at 58, I've come to the conclusion that you really do learn from previous experiences." (supportive laughter) Tracy then gave a number of examples of how players and coaches have improved over the years: "If Clint Hurdle coaches again, there are certain things he will do differently." Other examples were Joe Torre, Whitey Hertzog, Bobby Valentine, Tony La Russa.

In response to a question on the impact of agents on players' careers, Tracy said they have a lot of impact. "They make more money when the player they're representing makes more money. So, the only thing that a lot of them care about is the player's salary...not what's best for the player or the club ownership. Occasionally, you'll find an agent who goes into negotiations seeking a contract that's best for the player as well as management. Occasionally, but not often."

Question (Regan): "Goose Gossage. Is he still involved in baseball?"

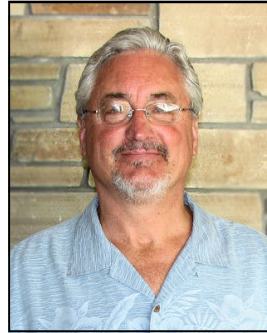
Answer: "He was asked to come back but, particularly since he got in the Hall of Fame, he makes so much money signing cards on weekend shows that he couldn't commit the time."

Question (Goe): "Do you think the hiring of Tracy earlier in the year foretold the elimination of Hurdle?"

Answer: "No. I think that if the team had played well, I don't think that Tracy was hired to replace Hurdle. I don't even think that he was the one that everyone would have wanted to put in right now. But, I think ownership may have said, 'We're going to just reevaluate our whole organization when the season's over. So, instead of hiring another manager and giving him another two years (which they'd have to do), we'll make Jim Tracy the guy and at the end of the season, we'll reevaluate what we need to do.'"

And, that brought Tracy's 2009 visit with the U'Hills Rotary Club to a close. Thanks for the visit Tracy.

NEW MEMBERS



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 Sponsor: Steve Whisenhunt



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 ing

MIKE'S THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

Mike had some very sage advice for us today, borrowed from George Carlin:

1. Throw out nonessential numbers. This includes age, weight, and height. Let the doctors worry about them. That's why we pay them.
2. Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle. "An idle mind is the devil's workshop." And the devil's name is Alzheimer's.
3. Enjoy the simple things. Enjoy the Spring, the Fall, the sunrise, children.
4. Laugh often, long, and loud. Learn to laugh at yourself and your follies.
5. Surround yourself with love, for whatever it is—your



family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, people, and things that give you joy.

6. Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall or even to the next county but don't waste precious time on guilt.
7. Tell the people you love that you love them at every opportunity.

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER:

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

—Modified from George Carlin