

What are YOU Thankful For?

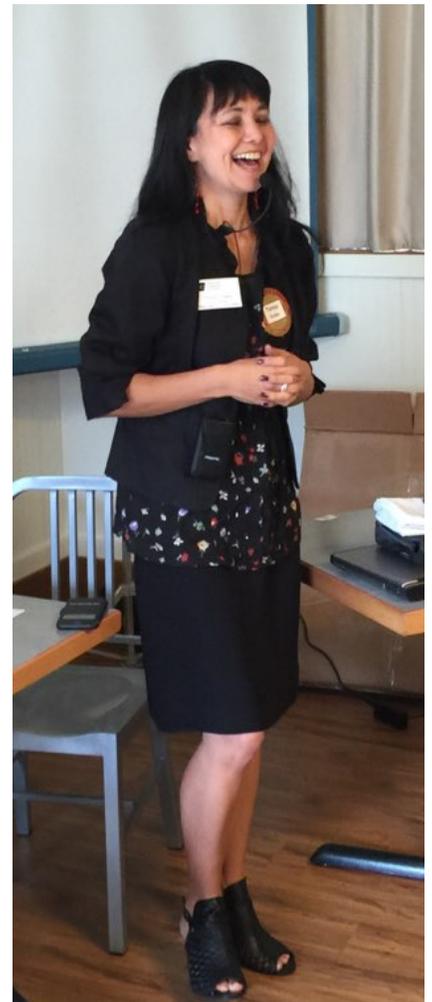


Recap

Club member Tonya Drake recently discussed her experience of giving a talk at a forum in South Africa, where she shared some fresh ideas on the topic of “Deconstructing Race”.

We finished out October with our first official evening meeting at Salt & Iron. It was well attended, the room was packed. An attempt to better connect with members who have difficulty making a lunchtime meeting, it was also a little less formal, more social, allowing members to “mix & mingle”. We are scheduled for another one on November 24.

The Waterfront Committee has begun planning for next year’s Festival already. If you are interested in serving on the committee, contact Valerie Claypool, our paid consultant. According to minutes of the last meeting, she has completed an Income/ Expense Analysis now that the bills are all in, so the job now is how best to move forward. If you have an idea about how we might try to improve or save costs for next year, the committee would welcome your input. The last meeting in 2015 will be Monday, November 30, 5:30pm, at First Security Bank.



The Eye of the Beholder...

Again this year, those attending the *Photomathon Exhibit* picked a *Best of Show* that was not the category winner. This year's winner was Gretchen Shepherd, whose photo interpretation of "Flow", shown at right, actually received 2nd Place honors from our judge. That's how it often is in art though, isn't it? The category winner can be seen on the next page. What do you think?

Mark the Date:

*Club Holiday Party
December 17
at the home of Karen Wiggins
2nd & Dayton
Edmonds*



Our new meeting location, Salt & Iron Restaurant, can be quite cozy if members turn out in force. Comments about the food have been high praise. Our Sergeant at Arms, Brent Hagen, has no problem getting around the room to collect a few Happy Bucks too.

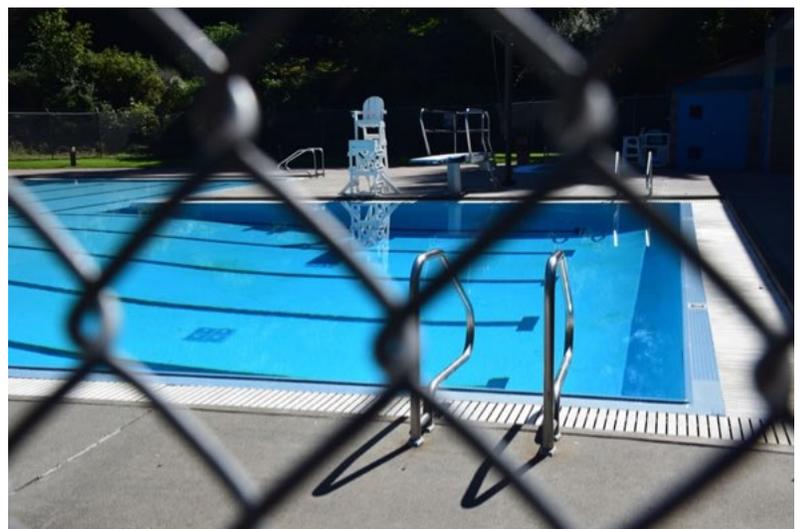
Grace Wilson of Meadowdale High School was Student of the Month. She was introduced by Meadowdale Student Coordinator Heather Newman, right. Grace has distinguished herself at Meadowdale both in classes and extra curriculum activities, being involved in basketball, physics and Environmental Club



Photomarathon Winners



*There were six topics again this year. Winners are shown here, clockwise, starting top right: **Structure**, by Bob Brubacher; **Upside Down**, by Hannah Ota; **Expectations**, by Leigh Ota; **Pieces Parts**, by Doug Subcleff; **Flow**, by Rick Good; and **You've Got My Number** (photo had to represent the participant's entry number), by Rick Good (#136). This year's judge was Ray Pfortner, who is an Instructor at Edmonds Community College, in Photography. Almost 200 photos submitted, making the selection of winners a tough job.*



From the Editor...

Recently while catching up on my reading, I came across an article in the Edmonds Beacon, written last summer by our own member, Scott James, who is also City Finance Director. In his "Thank You to Edmonds", he applauded the community for all it has to offer folks here, noting the important role our tax dollars play in contributing to the quality of life here. It was a good article, worth reading. It sparked some thoughts in my own mind, if I may elaborate.

There's been a lot of talk lately. Political talk. Promises to cut taxes, cut spending. Okay, I can use a little spare change. But I also believe there is a cost to the good life we enjoy here in America. There is good reason after all, why so many immigrants want to come here. Little things even. I'm thankful that I live in a country where I can turn on the tap and get clean water (even though some folks still insist on buying it in a bottle). I'm thankful I can trust the food I buy at the grocery store to meet certain health standards. And yes, I'm grateful that we not only have some of the best medical care in the world, but that millions more now have access to it than did a few years ago. I'm thankful that for \$.49 I can send a letter clear across the country, that I don't have to pay \$15 to send it by UPS, unless I choose to. Our educational system is part of what has made us the greatest nation leader in the world (even though, again, some may choose to not use it). I'm thankful that when my friend Michael Kealy had a heart attack and called 911 a few weeks ago it took "less than 5 minutes" for the Aid Car to arrive. And while I don't relish the notion of a speeding ticket, I'm thankful that the local police make my neighborhood safer. And I'm thankful for all the members of the armed services that put their lives on the line for all of us every day; volunteers all. You get the idea.

There may be waste, but I reject the notion that we should have a government so small we can "hardly see it". In spite of all the whining about it in fact, voter turnout in the recent election was the lowest ever in Washington for an off-year election: less than 38% of registered voters! Ronald Reagan once said "Government is not the solution; government is the problem." Really? Maybe the problem is a little closer to home.

Finally, I'm thankful that we are free to speak our displeasure as well as our pleasure with our country, with our government, national, state, or local. Even as we strive to make it better, each in her own way.

Happy Thanksgiving.

*Pat Thorpe, Editor
c'est finis*

Post Script...

The tragic news about Paris came as I was putting the final touches on this edition of The Wave. Our hearts go out to France in this terrible sadness. And like 911 here, those affected were not only French, but from many different nations, including the US. It is especially sad that these terrorists who are waging this war don't even have some tangible goal in mind to validate their success. But rather, their message of hopelessness and the tactics of suicide bombers make them self-destructive to the nth degree. Surely such insanity will not prevail. pt

