EARLY BIRD WEEKLY

March 10, 2022

NewbergRotaryEarlybirds.org





Max Kavanagh, finally outbound after missing 2020 and 2021 to COVID, is raising money for his year in Turkey.

This week he brought a set of handmade coffee mugs commissioned by Peggy and Mike Taylor. For you Max can make mugs, bowls, vases and statues.

We presented a \$6,500 check last week to Dave Case, Lead Pastor, Northwest Christian Church, to help with some audio/video/lighting upgrades for the space we meet in.

With a little help from our <u>friendly</u> <u>local audio video</u> <u>guy ;)</u> ... it is Dave's vision to make a safe space for assemblies and community meetings. [photo 2016]



Scott Parker became Executive Director of our Chehalem Valley Chamber of Commerce last August, <u>leaving his prior position as Yampa Valley Arts Director</u> in Steamboat Springs, CO.

Scott had also been a member of Colorado's Ski Town Rotary Club, another 7:00 am morning club, before us. They have dubbed themselves "Ski Town" because they've been home to a hundred Olympic athletes, four of which were medalists.

He led off with what he labeled as thought provoking humor.

"To be sure of hitting the target, shoot first, then call whatever you hit the target."

"You don't need a parachute to skydive. You need a parachute to skydive twice."

[badabum]

Scott hails from Buffalo, NY, graduating Buffalo State College with an education degree followed by a masters from Grand Canyon University ... which really meant he

could move to Colorado and become a ski bum.

Working in theatre for many years he has performed around the world. One of those returns from Europe five days before 9/11.

In Steamboat Springs he was Executive Director of Friends of the Chief Foundation out of the historic Chief Theater for eight years. He also had a side gig, "We're Not Clowns," a juggling, singing, dancing act.

His eldest is seventeen, following her dad's footsteps and studying ballet at Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan. They found out last week she's been accepted to American Ballet Theater's summer program in NYC.

Scott's first exposure to the Pacific Northwest was retracing the Lewis and Clark Trail by bicycle. He loved it and imagined himself living here.

COVID shut down the theater so he and his wife decided a change in scenery would be in order. He saw CVCC was hiring so he applied and, "they fell for it, and here I am."

They have two more children. Finn is 14 and Veronica is 9. All three were home-schooled.

Chamber Stuff! They were just awarded ARPA Grants through the City.

The Chamber has a cool little app they'll be launching called <u>Point & Save</u>. The YouTube video he tried to share.

Other Programs and News:

Leadership Chehalem Valley, Chamber Greeters, Female United Network, and Chamber After Hours.

Lots of Chambers host leadership programs. Scott is a graduate of Leadership Steamboat. He was so impressed with the training and development back in Colorado that, when he met the team here, he decided this was something to throw resources at.

They're changing things up a little and turning Leadership Chehalem Valley into a two year program. They will be encouraging the current year graduating class to return and mentor the next year's class.

Our own Alex (Bechtold) Brydon is "the motor behind the Females United Network ... FUN." The group meets monthly at different female-owned businesses.

That was the end of Scott's pitch but he got a curtain call from the audience for another joke.

"This is one for all of you business leaders to use on their employees. "I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.""

That drew a single, "wow." from the room.

"Hey Scott," shouted Frank from the back of the room.

"Yeah."

Frank continued, "I can work with you later on your jokes."



Greeters is hosted by different businesses every week with free coffee and baked goods and it's a great way to network and get to know your hosts' businesses.

With the mask mandate being lifted we can anticipate a return to Chamber After Hours.

How to get involved? Host or attend Greeters. Come and bring guests to events like FUN and Art Walk.

Or just join the Chamber!

