

Saturday Sept. 15th, 2007

Great to see everyone today, and many new faces!

NEW FACES

- Gary and Dorrit Ruen
- Carolyn Hindman
- John Brace ("JB")
- Linda and father Bob Giffin

It was great to meet you all and hear your stories. We applaud your courage and strength, and I hope we can see you again.

ART SHOW

Many people brought their artwork and discussed their creative activities. We had painting, pottery, gardening, music, sewing, needlepoint, photography, and more represented. This is a creative group! Thanks to all for sharing your work.

OUTDOORS FOR ALL HAS A NEW HOME

I forgot to mention this at the meeting, but Outdoors For All, that great organization devoted to outdoor activities for the disabled, has found a new home at Magnuson Park on Sand Point. All their new contact information is on their website at www.outdoorsforall.org. This is wonderful news – they were having trouble finding a new home for a while.

SPEECH-TO-SPEECH RELAY

There is a service for aphasics wishing to place telephone calls, called "speech to speech relay". The aphasic should call 877-833-6341, and a trained operator will take a message for you and relay your call to the party you want to contact. This avoids the difficulties of trying to communicate directly – the only person you talk to is someone who is used to talking with aphasics and is trained for that. This should be very helpful for aphasics needing to make phone calls.

ADAPTIVE COMPUTING AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

A group called the Star Center can provide adaptive equipment for computers and communications for the disabled. Contact them at 206-325-4284 or <http://starofseattle.org/>.

TRAVEL MAGAZINE FOR THE DISABLED

Robert Pacht recommended "Emerging Horizons", a travel magazine for the disabled. From their website: "Emerging Horizons is a consumer oriented magazine about accessible travel. Emerging Horizons' primary focus is travel for people with mobility disabilities; everybody from wheelchair-users to slow walkers. Lots of access information, resources, news and travel tips. All with no advertising! Available in print and online." Check them out at <http://emerginghorizons.com/>.

Next month Vicki Johnson, a nurse practitioner from Harborview, will speak with us. The Leitheisers can also tell us about their England trip, and I can talk about Quebec! I am taking a 2-week vacation there starting this Monday. In fact, I have to go pack!! Au revoir!

Gerrit