

The Roundtable

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If the Shoe Fits, It May Be a 3-D

**Cobbler, cobbler, mend my shoe.
Get it done by half past two.
Half past two is much too late!
Get it done by half past eight.**

This nursery rhyme may sound familiar, but it emerged long before what Andrew Katon is developing and what he presented at this morning's meeting.

Mr. Katon focuses on 3-D printing, using specialized printers that layer materials in such a way that they are, in his case, wearable shoes.

"The biggest issue," said Mr. Katon- a graduate of the University of Maine with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering – "are the materials. He invested much research and trial-and-error ("I made many mistakes early on") before arriving at the present incarnation of footwear that is less expensive to produce than using traditional shoe-building technology.

His printers operate on the same principles as our ink-jet or laser printers. They layer materials into 3-D objects. He passed around a sole insert and a completed athletic shoe that were created through 3-D printing. For the complete technology description, here is what Mr. Katon wrote in his news release last year:

Cobbler Technologies has been working on a very different approach to 3D printing. Atomized Particle Deposition (3DAPD™) is able to liquify material already utilized in the production process and then use it to print the desired object.

Mr. Katon founded Cobbler Technologies located on Johnson Street in Bangor. He has five board members, but they serve as staff assistance in marketing and the legal load a start-up company faces.



“We are trying to change the ways shoes are made. In five to ten years, we’ll be able to print the design you want. We will be providing high tech jobs.”

Walking through the first part of the meeting

President Kristy Kimball announced that the City Forest cleanup project, a joint effort by the Bangor Rotary Club is rescheduled for this Saturday, May 20, 9-11 am.

Ken Huhn reminded us of the Breakfast Rotary booth at the Business Expo on May 24 and noted the hours – 4:30 – 7:30 pm at the Cross Insurance Center. The club will provide prizes to those whose business cards are drawn. Ken seeks gifts/prizes for the event from members. A scavenger hunt is included in the festivities.

Ken reminded us also that the month of June is Alzheimer’s Month. He is selling calendars @\$10 to support the work of caregivers.

David Zelz and **Ken Nagle** paid dearly for The Birthday Duet (**Myers** and **Wahlstrom**) to sing the birthday tune to them. Actually, we got everyone to sing to David. Ken seemed happy with just the duet.

You know that **Joe Pratt** is attending a meeting when colorful charts and graphs appear on the tables. His news this morning was “good,” he said, as he led us through statistics showing existing and new home sales for the past 25 years (both graph lines are rising) and the rising number of new residential sales. If your curiosity is piqued, Joe’s information reported that in March 2017, 621,000 new homes were sold, 268,000 are for sale, and the median sales price was \$315,100. (Or two for \$630,200.)

Ivan McPike gave five sad dollars for deaths and illness in his wife’s family and for a fire in his Hermon building that was caught in time before much damage occurred.

One of **Lisa Wahlstrom’s** sons graduated from Montana State University last week. Another long distance traveler, **Paul Miragliuolo**, said the temperature was 106 degrees when he landed in Sanford, Florida. It cooled to 104 the next day.

Personages: we welcomed guest and former member **Shaun Lewin**, who is a member of the Boothbay Rotary Club. The Breakfast Rotary Board accepted the resignations of **Sandy Ervin** and **Jay Muth**.

Les Myers- May 11, 2017



Printers’ ink



John Wardwell, Shaun Lewin, Ken Huhn