



Seldovia Gazette

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Thursday, June 11, 2009

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Saying "Good-bye" to the Glovers! *by Jenny Chissus*

How do you do it? How do you say good-bye to people who have been a part of so much of your world? I am sure this is a sentiment that is shared by many in Seldovia who this past week had to give their "farewells" to Tom and Mary Glover. For the past 13 years, Tom and Mary have been giving to Seldovia. They have given their time, energy, commitment, passion, money, intellect and heart.

The photos below of Tom & Mary over the years were graciously offered by Darlene Crawford of Seldovia Photography. Click on photo to view full size image..









Last week, we were able to pull a "fast one" and we secretly invited the community to the Chamber meeting to honor Tom and Mary. The humble servants that they have been to Seldovia, we knew they wouldn't want much fan fare. There had been two events already that week to thank them for their service and friendship - one with the Fire and EMS departments and the other with the Seldovia Bible Chapel. We enjoyed asking them to come to their final chamber meeting for a little "something" from the Chamber. Well, it was a party! Over 45 people came to the Chamber of Commerce meeting this month to pay tribute to the team who has done so much for this town and her people. Carole and Corky Myers offered the Alaska TreeTops Lodge as the meeting place and provided burgers and drinks - and the rest of us brought salads and desserts - and there was a feast!

Many folks took the opportunity to thank them publicly with kind words, tears and many hugs and smiles. Gifts were presented, and among them were: An award from the City Manager for Tom holding the record for the 5 quickest council meetings, Keith Gain, the City Mayor awarded them the Key to the City in a beautiful wooden box. A photo was signed by everyone at the event and was presented to the Glovers at the end of the meeting as a going away gift.

We are all sad to see them go, but are happy for the two of them, as they will be close to family in Anchorage - and just a flight away from their business in Colorado that often requires their attention. The one saving grace for all of us is knowing that they will be back and we will see them again. The Glovers have left many reminders of their time here in Seldovia, and have made a huge impact on this community in a positive and powerful way. Thank you Tom and Mary for all you have done! We love you and we will miss you!

The photos below of Tom and Mary's going away party were taken by Jenny Chissus. Click on each one to view full size.





Tom and Mary have volunteered in just about every arena here in Seldovia.

- Created and designed Seldovia.com and the Seldovia Gazette Online newspaper - which opened the world's eyes to Seldovia
- Designed and created the Summer Visitor Free Newspaper all about Seldovia and the businesses in town
- Chamber of Commerce - Served as President, Ran the 4th of July event for numerous years, Chainsaw Carving Committee
- City Council
- Ambulance Driver
- EMT
- Computer services - Tom helped folks with all kinds of computer issues, built and fixed issues, and was a general "guru" in town
- Church media technician
- Played Violin at church every Sunday
- Taught Sunday School to the youth of Seldovia
- Taught Violin lessons and promoted opportunities for the young musicians to play in public
- Brought TONS (literally) of potatoes into town and gave them away to the community each year
- Photographed and shared those photos of community, school and other events through Seldovia.com and the Gazette newspaper
- I'm positive that there is much more to add to this list!

Thank You Tom and Mary! We will miss you terribly!

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