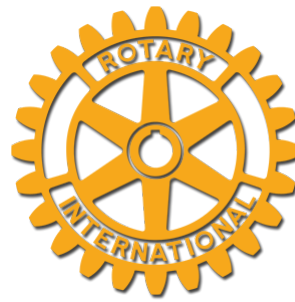


# Rotary

## Club of Olympia



### Gala Centennial Dinner, save the date and buy dinner/event tickets

By Neil K. DeBoer on Thursday, May 20, 2021



Olympia Rotary Centennial Celebration Gala Dinner at The Hotel RL on September 10th. 5:30 to 7 PM. Buy your tickets now. [HERE](#) Don't miss your once in a lifetime chance to celebrate Olympia Rotary's 100 year celebration at our Gala Dinner. Tickets are \$100 each. All ticket income over and above expenses will be sent to The Olympia Rotary Foundation to be used for grants that support local nonprofits. Go

to the link on our home page to buy your tickets now. Or just click [HERE](#) . I hope to see you at the Gala Dinner on Sept 10th.

### Jill Barnes tells us about happenings at the Washington Center theater

By Peter Brennan on Tuesday, August 10, 2021

**Today's Program: Jill Barnes, Washington Center for the Performing Arts**

**Rotary Club of Olympia  
The Wheel**

**Date:** 08/09/21

**Today's Program: Jill Barnes, Washington Center for the Performing Arts**

**Meeting Called to order:** Past President Sean Padget @ 12:27\_\_\_ pm

**Invocation by:** Jim Larson

**Pledge of Allegiance led by:** Peter Brennan

**Four Way Test led by: Geoff Crooks**

**Visiting Rotarians:**

**Van Van Jepmond, Lacey Rotary**

**Amanda Vey, Gateway Rotary**

**Guest of Rotarians:**

**Steve Bean introduced Corey Gauny, candidate for Olympia City Council**

**Happy Bucks:**

**Amanda Vey announced the return of Brats, Brews and Bands which will be held at the Hub in Lacey on 9/11/21. Tickets are \$25 and include live music, beer tasting and this year a wine garden and food trucks have been added to the event. More at [www.bratsbrewsandbands.com](http://www.bratsbrewsandbands.com)**

**John Sabo is happy to report he had successful cataract surgery x2.**

**Bob Wubben is celebrating a successful water project in Mexico where he and his son led a group to install a filtration and solar pumping system to a community of 1,700 people.**

**Collen Giles is happy that her hand is healing well, albeit without much feeling, from a fight with hedge trimmers.**

**Al Cohen shared that he lost his shade umbrella and table to a gust of wind on Friday afternoon and searched for a replacement over the weekend, to no avail. Unfortunately, at the last stop, a truck backed into his wife's car and so he is still down an umbrella and now has a crunched car.**

**Announcements:**

**Past President Sean reported a great Pub Night last Thursday on the patio at The Oyster House and looks forward to the next one.**

**Judy Henderson reminded members that the Centennial dinner will be at The Olympia Hotel (formerly Hotel RL) on 9/10/21 and shared the many highlights planned for the evening. Tickets are \$100 per person and must be purchased before August 31. You can purchase tickets online at [www.olyrotary.org](http://www.olyrotary.org)**

**Also on the day of the Centennial Celebration, at 3 pm, the new art at the Port will be unveiled. Members are encouraged to attend both events and invitations are in the mail now.**

**Steve Bean auctioned off two excellent seats to the Seahawks vs. Broncos game that were donated by Bob Wubben. He also asked for nominations for the Carl Reder Service Above Self Award. He just needs names of those who have served above and beyond. There is no application to complete. Contact Steve.**

**Al Cohen announced the Rotary shirt sales continue. See the table to order yours. We don't have a date yet for when they will be available as the order will be made at a later date.**

**Program: Jill Barnes, Washington Center for the Performing Arts**

**Sean Padget introduced Jill and shared that he was on their board for the executive search when they found Jill and hired her to fill the role. He was on the board for nine years and it was one of the first things he did. He is proud of that work as Jill has proven to be the best thing that has happened to the Center.**

**Jill reported that before the pandemic the Center welcomed 304 events, 109,500 visitors and 30,000 students annually. During COVID shutdowns, they experienced an 85% staff reduction and complicated capacity considerations.**

**Now, the Center is actively hiring staff and just announced its 2021-22 season on Friday. She shared it is almost**

impossible to plan for touring shows, but sales for the performances confirmed for the coming season will be on sale this week, with a pre-sale for donors followed by public sales. Unfortunately, resources will not allow subscriptions to be offered this year.

For the current status of coming performances and schedules, visit: [www.washingtoncenter.org](http://www.washingtoncenter.org)

The Center is in the midst of a large capital campaign unlike any in its history. The goal is \$8.9M and 89% of that has been raised to date. The first phase of improvements have been taking place already and include Rigging: Safety and Technology and an all new Sound Experience. This investment will not only improve the guest experience, but also save significantly on rental expense for performers. Lighting improvements will reduce energy use and labor resources, and also allow local performers to dream big when planning.

Phase two will be improvements to the front of the house (interior upgrades) and include new concessions space, 1,000 new seats, restrooms, carpet, paint, wall coverings and other improvements.

Because of matching programs, donor contributions will be matched between 20-35%, so a gift to the campaign will leverage additional funding for The Center. Alex and Tammy Bunn are co-chairing the campaign.

#### Q & A

Jill was asked the future of the Andy Crow Wurlitzer Organ and she said that it will always be part of the facility and be used for the upcoming silent film series.

She shared that COVID safety protocols for now include masking in the building and regular cleaning of high touch surfaces, but social distancing is not required.

Sean Padget had Jill pull the Mr. Snappy ticket and Tom McLean won a \$25 gift certificate to Sofie's Scoops donated by Mary Sue Wilson.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 1:25pm by Sean Padget