

# Rotary



# Club of Eugene

## President's Message

Thank you to all of you who wrote to encourage me about my book project. You probably won't feel the same way when you read the book, lol. I appreciate your thoughts and words of wisdom, nonetheless.

This week I had the pleasure of speaking to a former Rotarian, John Tokatly. Many of you must remember him. He is doing well, still running his Glass business. I of course encouraged him to come back to Rotary and hope that he will. Speaking with him made me think about the situation in Lebanon, which many of you may be aware, is not good.

You may remember that they suffered a horrible explosion at their port in 2020. That cost about \$15 billion in damage and killed around 200 people. This coupled with the corona virus started a downward spiral that has thrust about 25% of the population into poverty. Then there was a terrible scandal involving their Central Bank in which it was discovered the bank was involved in a Ponzi-like scheme where they were borrowing money to pay down other debt.

I will always hold Lebanon dear to my heart because many years ago, I was vacationing with my parents at a very elite resort in the South of France. My parents were nothing if not fond of French food, and this particular resort had a very famous chef while at the same time billed itself as a place to lose weight. If that makes any sense. I was surrounded by many very overweight people who all love to dine on fancy French food. A big group (both large and numerous) of Lebanese people were part of this crowd. It turned out that they were Maronite Christians and part of a political party. One of them, whom they claimed would surely be the next prime minister, took a liking to me. I heard he was murdered soon after he returned to Lebanon though, which I hope is not true. He talked to me about Lebanon and what a wonderful place it was. He was kind and interesting, but to me he was just an overweight old man (he was around 40). At some point, one of his aides approach my father for information about my marital status and I think he asked about my virginity (he would have been sorely disappointed had father answered him, but he pretended not to understand the question-though he was certainly willing to laugh about it to his friends afterwards). He then cornered me in the exercise room to discuss my suitability for the position of career wife. Oblivious as usual, I excitedly described my future plans to travel the world and obtain a doctorate in Third World Development. Needless to say, I did not pass the test; there was no proposal to be had for this adventurous rebel. We said our goodbyes, and that was the end of my Lebanese experience. But it was fun while it lasted, and I still hold the Lebanese dear to my heart because of it!

Have a great week everyone and see you, once again, on Zoom!

Warmly,

Raquel

## Club Meeting

Eugene  
Meets at Graduate Eugene  
(541) 342-2000  
6th and Pearl 66 East 6th  
Street  
Eugene, OR 97401  
Time: Tuesday at 12:15 PM

## Events

No Events found

## Club Leaders



[Raquel E. Hecht](#)  
President



[Elizabeth A. Ness](#)  
President - Elect



[Ronald Terry Gietter](#)  
Secretary



[Erik Peter Gribkov](#)  
Club Admin Chair  
Club Executive Secretary



[Todd Anderson](#)  
Treasurer



[Lynne Grilley](#)  
Club Director  
Membership Chair



[David A. Frosaker](#)  
Rotary Foundation Chair



[Ravitej Singh Khalsa](#)  
Public Image/Relations Chair



[Robert Scott Impeccoven](#)  
Attendance Secretary

[Philip Holt Barnhart](#)



## October 12th Meeting Program: Looking Glass!

### Looking Glass Community Services with Craig Opperman, Director and Eugene Rotary member!

Looking Glass has been serving our community since 1970. It began with a small group of student volunteers helping youth on the streets. It has grown into one of the largest behavioral health agencies in the state. While many of the needs and issues are the same, a lot has changed.

This program will provide a history and current status of the agency, along with information on the social/behavioral health needs of our community and state. Challenges and opportunities for the future will be discussed with time for questions and audience discussion.

#### Craig Opperman

Craig is President/Chief Executive Officer of Looking Glass. He spent the first part of his career as a therapist providing direct care and clinical supervision. The last 25 years have been focused on policy, program development and system improvements. Before coming to Eugene, he developed and launched several innovative programs in the Portland/Tri-County area. These included the Multnomah County Children's Receiving Center, a program that improved child protective service systems. Craig served as Executive Director of the MCCRC for 5 years. He also taught classes on adolescent behavioral health at Portland State University and Lewis and Clark College.

Craig is in his 18th year of service to Looking Glass.



**New Zoom Meeting Link!!**



Club Director



Robert L. Hart  
Club Director-  
Communications



Peter M Knight-Sheen  
Club Director



Richard K Olson  
CCO-Club  
Communications  
Offcr



Craig A. Smith  
Club Director



Monica Wilton  
Club Director



Tom Gilmour  
iPast President



Erik Peter Gribskov  
Assistant  
Governor

#### Birthdays

Geoffrey B. Koerner  
October 11th  
Gregory C. Richterich  
October 12th  
Robert E Nickel  
October 12th  
Jennifer Geller  
October 12th  
Jim Mender  
October 19th  
Jeffrey John Ogburn  
October 19th  
James E. Barta  
October 24th  
Morgan H Simmons  
October 24th  
Michael Syman-Degler  
October 28th  
Peter M Knight-Sheen  
October 30th  
Darryl Lynn Larson  
November 1st  
Mark G. McGinley

## Zoom Meeting One Click Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83908618864?pwd=Ly85Skc3NXhoVTZGOTZjeGpCWGI2dz09>

Meeting ID: 839 0861 8864  
Passcode: 695590



---

## Upcoming October Programs

### Two more great presentations in October!

**October 19** -PakTech - Focus on Sustainability with Brandon Rogers

**October 26** -Lane County Historical Museum Report from Director and Eugene Rotarian Bob Hart



---

## Covid Clinic Update

With the increase in Lane County residents seeking the Covid vaccine a second mass vaccination clinic is opening at the Riverbend Annex at 123 International Way in Springfield. This is in addition to the clinic at Lane Event Center and the pop up clinics happening around town. These will be indoor clinics and all safety and sanitation requirements are being followed. At this time there are no plans for drive through clinics although that can change if the need arises. Please volunteer when you can, and encourage your family and friends to become vetted as well.

Liz Ness President-elect beans [1259@aol.com](mailto:1259@aol.com)  
Pete Gribkov Assistant Governor [petelauriegribkov@comcast.net](mailto:petelauriegribkov@comcast.net)



November 3rd  
Richard Scott Forrest  
November 8th

## Years of Service

Michael Grudzien  
10-31-1996  
25 Years  
Leonard H. White  
11-05-1996  
25 Years  
Michael Syman-Degler  
10-24-1999  
22 Years  
Craig Opperman  
10-26-2004  
17 Years  
Susan Soonkeum Cox  
10-13-2009  
12 Years  
Michelle Price  
10-28-2014  
7 Years  
Ken Vendley  
10-27-2015  
6 Years  
Peter M Knight-Sheen  
11-01-2016  
5 Years  
Ralph Parshall  
10-12-2018  
3 Years  
Maxine Proskurowski  
11-05-2019  
2 Years



## Environmental Committee

### Buford Park Environmental Restoration Project Saturday Morning October 16.

**Take the opportunity** to join in this Environmental Restoration Project at Buford Park this coming Saturday. Help with work in this **wonderful and beautiful Nursery for Native Plants**. October 16 from 9 ♦ 1:00. The Native Plant Nursery is tucked into the Park ♦s North Trailhead. Convenient parking right at the gardens.

Members of two other Rotary Clubs will be happily joining us working in the Nursery. **Looks like a lot of (Rotary) fun!** And if apples are ripe for picking, an apple harvest will be added. Sponsored by The Friends of Buford Park & Mt. Pisgah

You can sign up in the chat this Tuesday at the regular club meeting. Information will be sent to you. Or give Jean Schore a call. You can also volunteer at [Bufordpark.org](http://Bufordpark.org). All volunteers and staff who work there will be vaccinated and masked.

Ed note: Went out to check the location. Very nice place to spend a Saturday morning. Nice new road and a beautiful little spot with well organized gardens. Might be last time for awhile to meet in the open air with a beautiful location and many other Rotarians.



## Food For Lane County Service

### Food for Lane County!

Wednesday, Oct. 20, 6-8:30 pm. FFLC is only taking small groups of volunteers at this time. I can go that evening, and I'll be looking for 5 people to go with me.

Jennifer

Food for Lane County is open again for small groups of volunteers to help with food repackaging for people in our community. Our first night back as a club is Wednesday, October 20th, 6-8:30 pm, and we have a reservation for 6 volunteers. If you would like to join this group, email Jennifer Geller, [jennifergeller65@gmail.com](mailto:jennifergeller65@gmail.com), or sign up on this google sheet:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1S\\_o5IKluHBXGCeomEEaywonUDooqIL94Luyh1KyggVI/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1S_o5IKluHBXGCeomEEaywonUDooqIL94Luyh1KyggVI/edit?usp=sharing)



---

## New Member

**Tiffany Palaniuk is scheduled for induction to the club this Tuesday. Welcome Tiffany!**

Tiffany works in academic programming and grant writing in the College of Education at Oregon State University. Is passionate about education, especially education for children from low-income or underrepresented families. Another passion of mine is equity, inclusion, and diversity. Secondly, Bilingual and am committed to helping families and individuals reach their goals through education and access. Third, I has experience managing international exchange programs. Has served as an educational fellow in various Central American countries and has also led trips with the U.S. Department of State. Travel and intercultural exchange are important facets that pair well with her passion for education.

Master of Art, Urban and Multicultural Education Master of Science, Applied Linguistics

---

## Eugene Rotary through the years

Eugene Rotary has a long history of robust service at Skinner Butte Park. Many familiar faces in these photos. Some still here and some passed on.



---

## Looking Glass Video

Looking Glass Community Services provides a broad spectrum of services aimed at assisting youth and families in living happier, healthier lives. Since 1970, they have provided Lane County at-risk youth and their families with counseling, drug & alcohol treatment, behavioral health.

<https://youtu.be/7XW6dKpo3Lw>



## Rotary Club of Eugene

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

Rotary club membership represents a cross-section of the community's business and professional men and women. The world's Rotary clubs meet weekly and are nonpolitical, nonreligious, and open to all cultures, races, and creeds.

Rotary membership provides the opportunity to: Become connected to your community. Work with others in addressing community needs. Interact with other professionals in your community; assist with RI's international humanitarian service efforts. Establish contacts with an international network of professionals. Develop leadership skills. Involve family in promoting service efforts.

### Eugene Rotary Celebrating 100 Years March 2023!



## Zoom -New Link

Automatic link: Click to link. If using the link, no password is required.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83908618864?pwd=Ly85Skc3NXhoVTZGOTZjeGpCWGI2dz09>

Meeting ID: 839 0861 8864

Passcode: 695590

One tap mobile

[+16699009128](tel:+16699009128), [83908618864#](tel:+183908618864), ..., [\\*695590#](tel:+1695590) US (San Jose)

[+12532158782](tel:+12532158782), [83908618864#](tel:+183908618864), ..., [\\*695590#](tel:+1695590) US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

[+1 669 900 9128](tel:+16699009128) US (San Jose)

[+1 253 215 8782](tel:+12532158782) US (Tacoma)

[+1 346 248 7799](tel:+13462487799) US (Houston)

[+1 646 558 8656](tel:+16465588656) US (New York)

[+1 301 715 8592](tel:+13017158592) US (Washington DC)

[+1 312 626 6799](tel:+13126266799) US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 839 0861 8864

Passcode: 695590

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83908618864>

---

