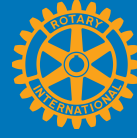


4-WAY FLYER

Rotary



Club of
Redmond

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

DECEMBER 1, 2021 - Volume #39

FOR MEMBERS - BY MEMBERS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I love this time of year! From Halloween through New Year's, I get the warm and fuzzies. Why do I like it so? Almost everyone is in a great mood and excited about upcoming events, food, and family get-togethers.

I remember when I was in high school and in the choir. We put on a Christmas show every year where we sang all the

old favorites and some new numbers. It was a great way to start Christmas vacation.

I know not everyone enjoys this time of year for lots of reasons. And there are lots of ways we can help our fellow person. It could be something as simple as a Christmas card, inviting them to your holiday celebration, or donating your time to serving dinner at a shelter.

So, keep your fellow person in your hearts this time of year. Not everyone is as fortunate as we are.

Enjoy the Holidays! ~ President Tyler

Will You Be the Next PHF?

Be sure to attend Thursday's weekly gathering, where our Foundation Chair Rocky Johnson will reveal the winner of our Foundation game board. The Oregon-Oregon State football game last Saturday was pretty exciting at times, but whoever bought the square that matches closest to the game score will receive \$500 in cash and 500 points to earn an instant Paul Harris award. Now THAT'S exciting!!!

Be there for your square. It may be a winner!



WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE

December 2, 2021 Weekly HYBRID Meeting
Speaker: Curt Davis (D5110 Assistant Governor)
Environmental Sustainability

December 9, 2021 Weekly HYBRID Meeting
Monthly Business Meeting

December 16, 2021 Weekly HYBRID Meeting
Speaker: Monty Gregg, US Forest Service

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE (No Meetings):

December 23, 2021 CHRISTMAS EVE-EVE

December 30, 2021 NEW YEAR'S EVE-EVE

ARE YOU IN?



Hopefully, everyone enjoyed this past Thanksgiving holiday, perhaps in a more typical fashion than last year's muted celebrations. While COVID still drives much of the season's planning for gatherings large and small (as we keep an eye on what the omicron variant may bring), normalcy feels like it's just over the horizon.

Our Christmas party planning stage is almost done, ready to serve as a welcome opportunity to catch up with each other and get acquainted with members some of you haven't yet met. Kari and the Social Committee have done a great job preparing for our December 18th event at The Falls Community Hall at Eagle Crest. Be sure to respond to the RSVP by December 10th that went out by email earlier this week. Then come to the party ready for some tasty salmon and brisket, and to mix and mingle to a jinglin' beat, as the song goes.

Don't forget the white elephant gift exchange. You know why it's called a white elephant exchange....right? OK, if you really don't know, here it is, according to www.Bustle.com:

Way back in the day in Southeast Asia, white elephants were considered sacred beings. (see next page)



ARE YOU IN? continued

White elephants became gifts of significant honor among people of importance—but like all good things, they came with a price. As a result of their sanctity, white elephants were forbidden from performing any kind of manual labor.

So, basically, any time you got a white elephant, you got this really pretty, difficult-to-maintain, ginormous animal that couldn't do anything for you in return.

However, it wasn't until the US gained interest in trading with Siam in the mid-1850s that white elephants were ever considered a "burden". In Southeast Asian culture, the burden of a white elephant was worth the legitimacy it brought to someone's honor or rank, but when



we (the US) started trading with them, we not only thought of the elephants as cumbersome but felt that the idea of it was misleading because most white elephants are actually more flesh-colored, and not white.

Travel writings from traders who journeyed back and forth between Siam established the term "white elephant" as a lavish but burdensome gift. In the early 1900s, people started having "white elephant sales" in stores, or exchanges between people in markets, and eventually it manifested into the white elephant parties we know and love today.

See you there....just don't bring a real white elephant. There's not that much room.

GSE/GCE/RFE...Whaaat?

For many Rotarians, service in the local community is what attracts them to becoming a club member. After all, visibility is high and it's easy to gauge the value of projects and programs when they are part of our everyday world.

Others become interested in membership through Rotary's international programs, considered some of the highest quality exchange opportunities on the planet. Few members of the Redmond club have as much experience participating in the exchange programs as Paul Spain (*see profile article next page*). His involvement in International Youth (IYE), Group Study (GSE or GCE (Group Cultural Exchange)) and Rotary Friendship Exchanges (RFE) with his former club, as well as serving on the District RFE committee, fuel his ongoing interests in networking with Rotarians and non-Rotarians to do good works while learning other cultures and building friendships.

While the coronavirus effects created initial chaos and still presents challenges for travel and in-person gatherings,

Rotary's commitment to restore active engagement among Rotarians worldwide remains. The D5110 website contains this description of the Friendship Exchange Committee's purpose:

Encourages and arranges district-to-district friendship exchanges between district Rotarians and Rotarians from other parts of the world. This is a team exchange involving sharing culture, experiences and some service with a team from another District. Teams visiting here visit about 3-4 areas of the district and are hosted by local Rotarians. Traveling teams consist of 8-10 people (can be individuals or couples) - requiring no more than 6 beds). Participants in these exchanges pay their own air fare and expenses such as entrance fees, restaurant meals, etc, other than housing and some meals and events hosted by the host district.



The page includes a list of exchanges that had been planned for 2020-21, no timelines or status information are available yet except for the South Africa GCE. It has been delayed until next year, and will be dependent on the COVID status, like all else. Similarly, the Youth Exchange program experienced a major pause in operations and is still suspended, with a target date of June 2022 for restart.

While virtual connections during the pandemic have allowed us to keep connected, the absence of exchanges at this time demonstrate the limitations of sharing cultures and establishing new friendships from afar. You can be sure there will be plenty of pent-up demand once it's deemed safe to engage in group travel and gatherings throughout the world of Rotary.

Committee members and their contact information is listed on the page, with an invitation to contact any of them if you are interested in being involved in an exchange when conditions permit.

Save these Dates

December 18, 2021 Club Christmas Party

February 10, 2022 State of the City Speaker Panel

February 19, 2022 Daddy Daughter Dance

April 28-29-30, 2022 D5110 Celebration

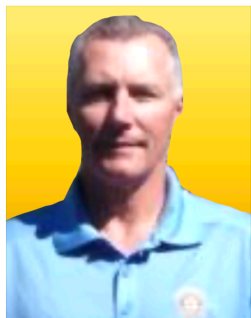
May 12, 2022 Sips for Soles Virtual Wine-tasting Event

June 4-6, 2022 RI Convention (Houston, TX)

Featured Member Profile

Paul Spain

If you want to talk to someone who has learned how to plug into the power of Rotary at the local, district and international levels, talk to Paul “Berry Man” Spain. During his high school days in San Jose, California, a local Rotary club sponsored his scout



troop. That was his first awareness of Rotary at the local level. Paul eventually achieved Eagle Scout honors before graduating from prep school in San Jose. Born in New Jersey, he spent much of his youth in California before heading north. Paul graduated from the U of O with a degree in Finance, and has remained in Oregon ever since.

Paul was invited in 2000 to join Rotary by a fellow insurance agent he knew in Springfield, and it didn't take him long to become heavily involved at the club, district and international levels. He served as club president of the Springfield Twin Rivers club a few years later, and quickly got involved in international exchange programs.

While living in Springfield and then Eugene, Paul participated on GSE/RFE teams (see separate article for descriptions), including as team leader to Brazil and Australia (Perth), then the Philippines after moving to Bend in 2016. In all, Paul has hosted or led participants from at least a dozen countries around the world through these exchanges.

But wait, there's more! Paul and his wife Tamara, now married for almost 35 years, have hosted youth exchange kids from Brazil, France, Thailand and Chile. Paul has no immediate family in Oregon (two brothers, one back east and one in Reno, Nevada), but he and Tamara have built a global family through Rotary. They have built lifelong friendships near and far as a result of their involvement in these programs.

Meanwhile, Paul spent his professional career in the insurance industry, initially working for major companies as agent, district manager and other roles, then owning his own independent agency. Paul is certified as an Insurance Counselor as well as a Life Underwriter Trainer. Now semi-retired (if holding two jobs qualifies as “semi”), Paul works as a Ramp Agent for Envoy/American Airlines here in Redmond, as well as an independent inspector for Quicktrak verification services.

While gathering plenty of experience with various Exchange programs, Paul, in turn, has given back through his roles in past clubs, serving as Rotaract Chair, District Trainer, PETS Trainer and Nominating Committee member. He is a Major Donor to the Rotary Foundation, and was awarded Rotarian of the Year by the Springfield club in 2008. He is a Leadership Academy graduate and continues to build his Rotary network as an active club member.

Paul earned the nickname “The Berry Man” within the Redmond club, thanks to his leadership in the club's annual Berry Sales fundraiser the past three years. This year, the club raised \$3,500 for the designated beneficiary organization, Mountain Star Relief Nursery, to help its efforts with their Redmond services to infants and toddlers in at-risk circumstances.

What Paul enjoys about our club is its size (not too small, not too big), its members, and the club's involvement locally. That said, Paul would like to see the club become more involved with international projects. Given his track record of success, the club will be well served in helping fulfill his goal for broadening our international activity footprint.

Bumper Crop for 2021

Met any new club members lately? That's not hard, considering we've inducted **17** members over the course of this year. We have so many, in fact, that we haven't been able to dedicate enough time during weekly gatherings or space as featured members in this newsletter to help us all get to know each other.



So we're wrapping up the calendar year with our 40th issue dedicated to our newest club members, including those who transferred in and most recently inducted Ashley Bessey, Shelby Bishop, Matt Couch and Joe Rygg.

Get ready to read all about them later this month as we prepare for the holiday season. Be sure to extend your own personal warm welcome to one and all as we gather in committees and social occasions. Our club has lots of projects in the New Year. It will be wonderful to draw on our latest roster of professional folks dedicated to Service Above Self while we organize, plan and execute the many aspects of being Rotarians in Action. In 2022, when we call for “all hands on deck”, we may need a bigger deck!!

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