

Summer greetings to members of the Rotary Club of Edmonds. As a long time Club member, I am pleased to be your President for the 2025/2026 Rotary year. It is hard for me to comprehend that I was Club President 25 years ago! My life has certainly changed in that time and I know yours has too! My Rotary membership has enriched my life and my community involvement.

I am looking forward to the year ahead and working together to explore and enhance our community efforts and passions to continue a year of Rotary action! If you attended the Retreat a few weeks ago, you know that my passion and commitment is helping reduce food insecurity through the Food Bank and other related programs. I invite you to participate in our Club's involvement and also to bring to me and our Club issues that are important to you. That is why we are here and have joined Rptary – to accomplish good for our community and throughout the World. AND TO HAVE FUN!!!

I want to recognize our outgoing President, Suzanne James. Suzanne has worked hard to bring commitment, projects, and involvement to our Club and accomplished so much behind the scenes work, it is amazing. Thanks so much, Suzanne, and saving the best news for last: Suzanne has agreed to serve as Service committee Chairperson for the next year, and has a significant list of projects that the Club will be working on in 2025/2026.

Thanks Suzanne!

I am looking forward to leading our Club in 2025/2026, and accomplishing great things for ourselves and our community!

Thank You.
Pat Shields

## June SPELIKERS



Deborah Brandi - Exec Director Foundation for Edmonds School District



We love Anna!



Lamin explains Rotary Foundation



Armand Micheline - President of the Board at Shoreline Historical Museum



## our members

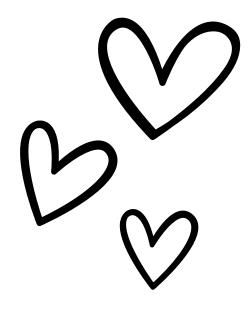


Lynn Jones get her blue badge - with mentor Nancy Hertl



Lars Matthiesen receives his Red Badge - with mentor Rob Linder





Virginia McKenzie, who is a charter member of the Rotary Club of the Pacific Northwest to End Sex Trafficking received her honorary guest Badge.

June 17, 2025

What a great day for our club! Doug and Stephanie Bowers got their Blue Badges, as did Allison Jack-Hannan. We officially welcomed Kay Miller with her Red Badge.

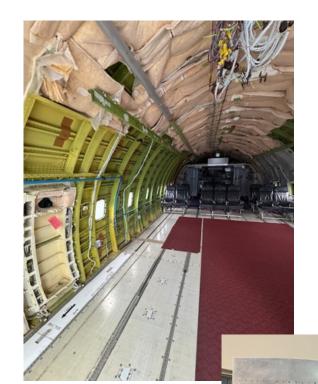








Another fun Social, this time at Anthony's Beach Cafe. How lucky are we to be in a club with fun people who really enjoy hanging out together?



Several members enjoyed a trip to the Washington Aerospace Training Research Center (WATR)



Led by Matt Poischbeg, joined by Albert Madakson



watrcenter.edmonds.edu

WASHINGTON AEROSPACE Training & Research Center

AMSC



### A very successful Grotto

I know many of you worked the grotto, but the only photo I have is the one I took. Thanks to all who came out and made this fund-raiser such a success. Special thanks to Libby Freese for herding all the cats and making sure everything ran smoothly - and to Kathy Silke Prewitt for making sure the credit card machines worked so smoothly. (And a special shout-out to my husband, Rock Peterson, for working on Father's Day) - Maggie





#### Suzanne taking in the House of Friendship



Enjoyed exploring the city of Calgary by light rail and the International Convention.

Connected with a group of Rotarians who volunteer in support of people affected by disasters by cleaning up debris and mucking out flooded homes.

Hope to connect the group with FEMA.

John and I were fortunate to be hosted by a local Rotarian family in their home for dinner on Monday night. Extended family all helped with preparations and transporting the 7 Rotarian guests. Two guests were from the West Seattle Club and three were from France. My Plus 1 (John) hit it off with the father who is a published Canadian Author and former college professor.

We made the 12 hour trip in 2 days, taking the time to enjoy the very scenic Canadian Rocky Mountains as well as the river valleys and farmlands.

Sally Hyde



Virginia McKenzie and Past District Governor Kathy Gibson braved the weather and took a scooter tour of the city.

The contingency from Nigeria was incredible. They showed up in huge numbers and even wore matching outfits.





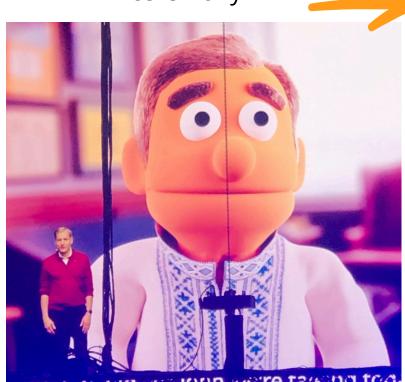
At the Big West Breakfast, we got a surprise visit from our incoming International President, Francesco Arezzo from the Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy. With just two weeks notice, Mr. Arezzo stepped into the role after his predecessor had to step down. Now that's the Rotary spirit!



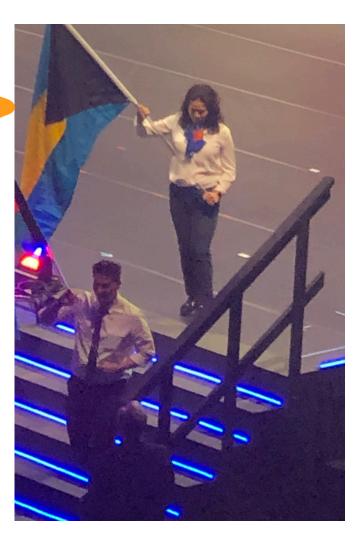
DG Rachele Bouchand carries flags in for the opening ceremony

The Keynote speaker was actor Geena Davis. Ms.
Davis created the Geena
Davis Research Institute 20
years ago to explore and expand roles for underrepresented actors, including LGBTQIA+, older women, ethnicity, body types and disability.

For more information on her work, visit geenadavisinstitute.org



The message was serious, but there was a lot of lighthearded fun.





I wanna say, horses?

Yep, there was even a lot of entertainment.
Calgary leans into their cowboy culture for sure.

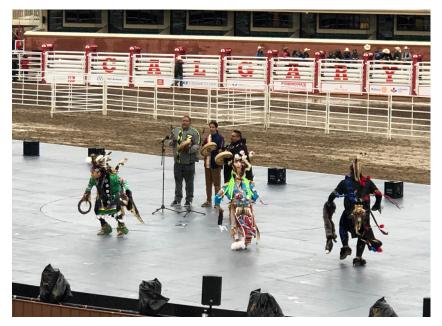




Those are indeed slot machines behind us. We found that the best place for lunch was the casino. As far as I know, nobody came home with empty pockets. But what happens in Calgary stays in Calgary.

Maggie was the only one to brave the unexpected cold, but she enjoyed the great "Stampede" rodeo and show.





The people of Calgary honor their land's indiginous tribes at every opportunity



A sea of white hats.







One of the highlights of the Rotary International Convention was the Host Hospitality Evening, a tradition where local Rotarians host convention attendees for dinner, offering a unique opportunity for cultural exchange and fellowship in a more intimate setting, which can include private homes or restaurants.

I was fortunate enough to attend the event that was hosted by the Rotary Club of Cochrane. Cochrane is about a 45 minutes' drive from Calgary. It was held at the horse ranch of one of their members.

It started to rain but we were seated in the covered horse-riding barn, and the warmth of the Cochrane Rotarians in welcoming us made us forget the cold and rain. There was a lot of food, a live band, and

we met Rotarians from Australia, Finland, Sweden, England, Singapore, Canada, Florida, Illinois, and many other countries and states. It was an unforgettable evening!



Eng Braun

The 2026
International
Convention will be
held in Taipei, Taiwan
June 13-17

## Changing of the Guard Party June 29, 2025





Haifa, owner of Cafe Louvre, setting up the delicious appetizers.

The weather could not have been more perfect!



Adrienne and Maggie



Allison, Lynn and Lynn's husband, Peter



People



Suzanne and Phil enjoy a chat





In what has become a cherished tradition, Alison serenades the outgoing President.

Just a whole bunch of amazing people enjoying a beautiful day.



Thanks Suzanne for organizing a wonderful party!



#### Your 2025-26 Board of Directors

President - Pat Shields
Vice President - Rob Linder
President Elect - Adrienne Miller
Treasurer - Shelly Rogers
Secretary - Dom Farmer
Membership - Maggie Peterson
International Service - Lamin Manneh and Eng Braun
Service - Suzanne James
Administration - Brad Vercoutere
Vocational - Amie Armstrong
Sgt. at Arms - Robert Ha

Not pictured: Richard Okimoto (Youth Services) and Ken Grant (Public Image)



# March in 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade - call Rob Linder to sign up

July 15 - Club Meeting - Donnie Griffin - Lift Every Voice Legacy

Donnie will speak on the inspirational work of LEVL, the cultural significance of Juneteenth and the upcoming annual Juneteenth celebration sponsored by LEVL.

Next Board of Directors Meeting:

July 7 - 5:00 - 6:30

Maggie Peterson's Home

All members are welcome to attend