



# Rotary Club of Coeur d'Alene



## BULLETIN 03-29-2024

**NEXT MEETING April 5, 2024**  
**Phil McGane** *Idaho Secretary of State*

Presided **HEIDI ROGERS**  
 Invocation **DON DUFFY**  
 Greeter **KRISTI SCHOTT**  
 Sergeant at Arms **STEVE ROBERGE**

As past President **HEIDI ROGERS** led the meeting, she forgot the 4-way test. Surprisingly, no fines were issued for this egregious lapse.

### GUESTS

- CHRIS CHEELEY**, *guest* of **HEIDI ROGERS**, thanked the many Rotarians who made donations to the foundation in honor of **DOUG RUPIPER**'s mom.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- BOB SMEE** announced that today was National Vietnam Veterans Day and reminded us all to thank a vet today. Bob attended a celebration at the Vet's Home that we support, which is at 45 out of 65 occupancy with 3 of the 4 wings open. Bob cited the difficulty of getting nursing staff, which limits the number of vets they can house, with nursing salaries not being competitive.
- STEVE ROBERGE** showed a video of a (fictitious) 100+ year old Rotarian reflecting on his life, with his only regret being that he didn't attend the 2024 District Conference in CdA. Past district governor Bob Quaid won the raffle for the Hagadone Suite, with Steve graciously offering to be Bob's pool boy. The conference's online auction goes live on April 20 and features all kinds of good stuff to bid on.

### HAPPY DOLLARS

- PATTIE STRUB** celebrated her college senior son having his second interview with last week's speaker on artificial intelligence.
- MICHAEL CHRISTIANSEN** donated in honor of his father who passed away last week and who is no longer struggling.

### BIRTHDAYS

- March 29 **SHON HOCKER**

### PROGRAM

State Superintendent of Education, Debbie Critchfield, flew from Boise for the day to address our club. She has been in her position for only 14-months and feels positive for the good momentum in her job.

She started by mentioning the alleged event with the Utah basketball players and how unfortunate actions can obscure the good things that are being done in our community. She, along with 3 other representatives, made a joint resolution encouraging the Dept of Education to make sure that we have standards whereby students are exposed to Holocaust education, which is diminishing nationwide.

Ms. Critchfield's presentation focused on HB 267, the Idaho Career Ready Students Program that Gov Little signed in March 2023 that appropriated a one-time funding of \$45M for FY24. This program is meant to match student interests with community employment needs.

She started her presentation by saying how classrooms are different now from when we attended school in COVID. Expectations have changed. The focus is shifting to ensure that students

### Speakers

#### Club Leaders



Doug Rupiper  
President



Ashley Lenz  
President-Elect



Michael Nail  
Treasurer



Julie Amador  
Club Director



Kim Jane Edmondson  
Club Director



Rebecca Eyman  
Secretary  
Club Director  
Membership Chair



Emily Moses  
Club Director  
Community Service Chair



Mark Olson  
Club Director



Larry Riley  
Public Relations Chair  
Club Director



Steven Roberge  
Club Director  
Assistant Governor

school and pre-COVID. Expectations have changed. The focus is shifting to ensure that students have an opportunity to develop their interests, abilities, and God-given gifts. She cited a study that showed students' self-perception of their own creativity declines steadily from K-6. The challenge is to modify the one-size-fits-all curriculum to be one that fosters students' innate creativity and interests, while meeting local industry needs.

Interestingly, 72,000 students in Idaho are involved in career technical education, which includes not only mechanics and welding but also subjects such as graphic design and culinary arts.

She mentioned a visit to a Twin Falls high school, where the most popular elective is welding. The program is currently at capacity with 80-students, but it could accommodate up to 100 more with proper funding. So, Ms. Critchfield went to Ciobani (whose global HQ is in Twin Falls) and asked the CEO if he needed more welders. He said that he did, so she was able to connect the dots between the school and industry needs.

When the Career Ready Student program launched, they received \$138M in grant requests, which far exceeded the \$45M budget. Only \$1.8M remains of that budget.

Some of the programs funded include:

- Mullan High School welding program's ventilation needs. This cost only \$61,000, yet is far more than can be raised from the local community.
- Wallace School District's Welding and woodshop
- St Maries CTE to prepare students for work in lumber mills, which is now hi-tech.
- Nez Perce's funding for a greenhouse
- Potlatch and West Bonner's funding for National Resources and Forestry

An accountability matrix has been developed that shows the ROI on these investments is significant.

Questions:

What is being done to support teachers? Answer: Side-by-side coaching, regional math centers, classroom management skills, and education on dealing with crises are some of the support offered teachers.

What is being done to instill financial literacy in students? Answer: A financial literacy class is now required for all students to graduate high school, as of 2023. Ms. Critchfield encourages the community to reach out to teachers and help with this new course and offer their expertise.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

4/12 U of I research results on wake effect on shorelines - Professor Frank Wilhelm  
4/19 Special Olympics Idaho - Jake Kerr Olympian / Devin Riley Dir of Development  
4/26 KTEC/NICWF Training - Colby Mattila and Bill White

In Service,  
**PATTIE STRUB**



[Ann Thomas](#)  
Club Director  
Membership Chair



[Britt Towery](#)  
Bulletin Editor  
Club Director



[Chris L. Cheeley](#)  
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Hank Martin](#)  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair



[Claudia Jean Brennan](#)  
Special Projects Chair



[Larry Gill](#)  
Community Service  
Chair



[Maren Maier](#)  
Club Programs Chair



[Wanda Chillingworth  
Quinn](#)  
Club Programs Chair



[Robert William Smeed  
II](#)  
Veterans Committee  
Chair



[Ian Hicks](#)  
International Service  
Chair



[Alex Stanton](#)  
International Service  
Chair



[Candace Louise  
Godwin](#)  
Past President