

# Rotary



# Club of Eugene

## January 27th Meeting - Mobility International gets WILD!



This week we welcome Susan Dunn from Mobility International USA (MIUSA). The focus of Susan's talk will be on MIUSA's Women's Institute on Leadership and Disability (WILD) program. On behalf of MIUSA, Susan wishes to express appreciation to the Eugene Rotary Club for their generous support of WILD. Susan will speak about the impact of the WILD program on the 20 disabled women leaders from 18 countries who came to Eugene for WILD training. She will highlight a few WILD trainings the participants are now leading in their home communities and share updates on WILD-related activities planned for 2026.

### About Susan:

Susan is a Senior Program Manager at Mobility International (MIUSA). Her expertise is in gender, disability and international development. She has conducted international training and technical assistance in Africa, Latin America and the Middle East and has authored several articles on topics such as

women with disabilities and leadership, inclusive international development, and inclusive emergency response. Susan manages MIUSA's signature international Women's Institute on Leadership and Disability (WILD) programs, which bring together grassroots women leaders with disabilities from around the world. She also administers the WILD small grants programs, which have promoted partnerships between disability and development organizations in more than 40 countries. Ms. Dunn also regularly teaches the University of Oregon course, *Global Perspectives on Disability*. She holds an M.A. in International Studies from the University of Oregon, with a focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

## January 27th - At The Graduate

The **January 27th meeting will be at The Graduate Eugene**. The Graduate is located at 66 East 6th Avenue in Eugene. The meeting begins at noon and a buffet lunch is available for purchase.

## Food for Lane County - Thank you team!

Our first Food for Lane County (FFLC) service day of 2026 was on Wednesday, January 21. We had a great time and nearly tripled our impact by teaming up with the UO Rotaract Club. We are still learning about each other so I don't have all their names down yet but: **(pictured below, L to R)** Jacob, Winnie, Rebecca, Alice, Jerry, Aly, Bob Nickel, Great Rotaract member 1, Victoria Whitman Harris, Great Rotaract member 2, and Scott Impecoven. Thanks to everyone for starting the New Year off on the right foot.

**Come join us to help feed our community this year!**

## Club Meeting

Eugene  
Meets at Graduate Eugene (541)  
342-2000  
66 East 6th Street  
Eugene, OR 97401  
Time: Tuesday at 12:00 PM

## Events

- January 27th  
[Rotary Club of Eugene Weekly Lunch Meeting](#)
- February 3rd  
[Rotary Club of Eugene Weekly Lunch Meeting](#)
- February 10th  
[Rotary Club of Eugene Weekly Lunch Meeting](#)
- February 17th  
[Rotary Club of Eugene Weekly Lunch Meeting](#)

## Club Leaders



[Philip Holt Barnhart](#)  
President



[Robert Scott Impecoven](#)  
President -Elect



[Ronald Terry Gietter](#)  
Secretary



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



[Todd Anderson](#)  
Treasurer



[R. Scott Palmer](#)  
Membership Chair

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



Our FFLC volunteer night is **always** on the third Wednesday of the month from 6:00pm until we are done or 8:30pm latest: The next one will be on February 18th, so put it on your calendar and we'll see you there. Please contact **Victoria Whitman** at [vwhitman@hearthstonere.com](mailto:vwhitman@hearthstonere.com) or 541-954-7171 if you would like to participate. The FFLC facility is located at 770 Bailey Hill Rd., Eugene.

## Community Service Committee - Call for Volunteers for Bags of Love Work Party

By Karen Gaffney



Our first Rotary Community Service opportunity for 2026--Wednesday, **February 18 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm**. We are celebrating the month of love with service, helping Bags of Love assemble comforting custom bags that will be distributed to children and youth in our community when they need them the most.

The bags are provided to children of all ages experiencing abuse, neglect, poverty, homelessness or disaster. We will spend two hours working in the warehouse assembling bags--roles for volunteers who need to be seated can be provided (it would be great to know needed accommodations ahead of time if possible). This is open to Eugene Rotary members, friends and family (over age 15), and **we'd love to have you at this event**. If you have questions, please call Karen Gaffney at 541-729-5348. We're using SignUp to organize our community service activities, and have had positive feedback from earlier events. There are different links for the different projects—you just need to click on the link, enter your email address (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp), and then sign-up for your spot(s). You will get an automated confirmation and reminders. Easy! Note: SignUp does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.

To sign up for the February 18 event at Bags of Love, here is the link:  
<https://signup.com/go/ZWNyirj>

If you have any questions or ideas for future service projects, please don't hesitate to reach out.

**Karen Gaffney**  
 Community Service Committee  
[karengaffney@comcast.net](mailto:karengaffney@comcast.net)



Jesse Quinn  
 Club Director  
 Community Service Co-Chair



Richard A. Barnhart  
 Club Director-Membership



Susan Heisey  
 Club Director-Vocational Service



Robert E. Nickel  
 Club Director-Communications



Richard K. Olson  
 CCO-Club Communications Officer



Craig Opperman  
 Club Director- Youth Services



Chris Stephenson  
 Club Director-Club Service



Nathan Phillips  
 iPast President

### Birthdays

- Chris Stephenson  
January 25th
- George Rogers  
January 27th
- Michael Grudzien  
February 2nd
- David A. Frosaker  
February 7th
- Mark Hewitt  
February 7th
- Noreen Dunnells  
February 8th
- Dan Montgomery  
February 17th
- Kerrie L. Johnson  
February 20th

### Years of Service

- R. Scott Palmer  
02-01-1983  
43 Years
- Dan Montgomery

## Rotary Club of Eugene's Lualaba Fundraiser!

Rotary Club of Eugene Fundraiser and Auction

When: **Thursday, March 5th, 2026**  
Where: **Ford Alumni Center on the UO Campus**

Rotarians, we hope you have your calendars marked for Thursday, March 5th! We would love to have the whole club attend our *Laulima Luau* Fundraiser at the University of Oregon's Ford Alumni Center. It promises to be a night of fun for all while we raise money to support the club's ongoing programs that benefit our community. Come prepared to enjoy and to bid! The evening will include entertainment, many silent auction items, a wine wall, and some live auction packages. The live auction packages include:

**Maui Bound** – One week stay at Kahana Falls Resort for 2, Lahaina.  
December 11- 18, 2026. Includes \$1,000 airfare allowance, dining and more!

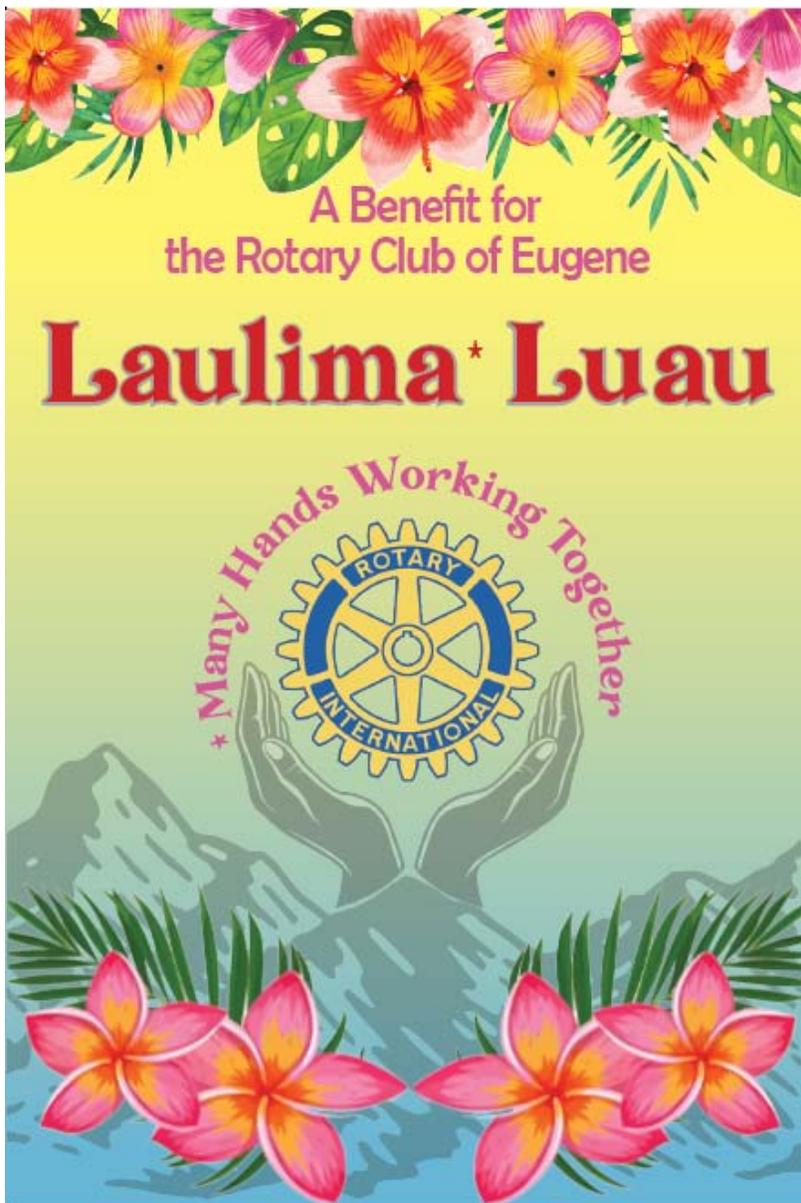
**Over the Mountain to Bend** – 3-night stay at 7th Mountain Resort in a 1-bed, 2-bath condo.  
Sleeps six, includes day rafting, dining & more.

**Enchantment at Antiquum Farms Winery** – Wine-tasting followed by a 4-course, top shelf meal for 10 in the garden at the winery. Includes limo ride.

**Swingin' Around** – Round of golf for 3 at Shadow Hills Country Club with Rotarian Scott Palmer.  
Includes 19th hole food and beverage.

See you on the 5th of March!!!

This year's fundraiser theme is **Laulima Luau** so grab your Hawaiian shirts, bring your friends, sip on a Mai Tai and join the fun for a good cause.



- 02-01-1983  
43 Years
- Phil Barnhart  
02-22-1983  
43 Years
- Erik Peter Gribkov  
02-21-1984  
42 Years
- Karen Elizabeth Scheeland  
02-14-1989  
37 Years
- Albert Poston  
01-26-1999  
27 Years
- Richard Shugar  
01-26-2009  
17 Years
- Andy Vobora  
02-19-2013  
13 Years
- Josh Neckels  
01-24-2017  
9 Years
- Peggy Whalen  
01-23-2025  
1 Year

**Partner** for our Club's Laulima Luau Fundraising Event. **Summit Bank's** support is a tremendous start toward reaching our goals for the event.



## Evening Meeting of the Rotary Club of Eugene!

Last Thursday, January 15, we kicked off a new meeting format for our club! President Phil sends a special thank you to everyone who came to the Laurelwood Pub for our inaugural evening meeting. We learned a little about Food for Lane County and how our club serves the local community. For those who couldn't make it we'll be doing it again next month. Come to the Pub, throw out a few happy dollars and grab a beer with your fellow Rotarians. The tentative date for the next evening meeting is Thursday, February 12th (pending confirmation of space availability).



## UO Rotaract Club Trivia is back!

The **University of Oregon's Rotaract Club** presents **Winter Trivia Nights** for the first time ever! If you are looking for a fun activity during these cold Eugene months, stop by **Rabbit Hole Tea Bar** at 240 W. 17th Ave. on January 27th, February 10th, or February 24th. Each event will start at 6:30 and run for approximately one hour. Our trivia themes are as follows: Decades, Valentine's Day, and World Traveler.

Whether you're looking for a fun date night or sweet time with friends, Rotaract's Trivia Nights are for you. Cash donations will be collected for a local charity. Our January 13<sup>th</sup> Trivia Night proceeds supported Food for Lane County. Still not sure? We have a prize for the winning team/person! The competition is sure to be **fierce!**

Rotaract is looking forward to seeing some friendly familiar faces at the Rabbit Hole in the coming weeks. See you soon!

## Upcoming Meeting Programs

The Eugene Rotary Club is known locally for our outstanding speakers and programs. Here's what members can look forward to during the next month:

February 3rd - SMART Reading Program with Elissa Korbrin. Introduction - Andy Vobora.

February 10th - Building Leadership through Debate/Mock Trial with Trond Jacobson. Introduction -

Mary Jeanne Jacobson.

February 17th - Bushnell's Health Program Expansion with Corynn Gilbert and Dr. Reed Mueller.  
Introduction - Bob Hart.

February 24th - Healthcare in Eugene Springfield with Ashli Blow of Lookout Eugene. Introduction - John Wolf.

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## Next Committee Meetings

**Community Service:** Wednesday, February 4th, 2026!! at 4:00 pm at Susan Heisey's office, 747 E. 32nd Ave, Suite A1, Eugene (**first Wednesday**).

**Environmental Committee:** Monday, February 2nd, 2026!! at 4:00 pm at Susan Heisey's office, 747 E. 32nd Ave, Suite A1, Eugene (**first Monday**). Via Zoom. [Click here for Zoom link to Env. Committee Meetings](#)

**Program Committee:** Wednesday, February 4th, 2026!! at 8:00 am at Stifel office, 497 Oakway Rd #280, Eugene, OR 97401. (**first Wednesday**). **Zoom will be available - request link from Chris Stephenson if you are not a committee member.**

**International Service Committee:** Tuesday, February 16th at 8:30 am, via ZOOM (**third Tuesday**) [Click here for Zoom link to Int. Service Committee Meetings](#)

**Club Board Meeting:** Tuesday, February 16th at 4:00 pm at Lane Workforce Partnership, 1401 Willamette St. No. 2, Eugene, Oregon. (**third Tuesday**).

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## News you can use (and other snippets of useless information)

**January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.** National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month is intended to increase awareness about the exploitation of people through force, fraud, or coercion. This includes both labor and sex trafficking.

Victims often come from vulnerable backgrounds, but anyone can be targeted. Traffickers use manipulation and threats to control their victims. Raising awareness helps communities recognize and combat these crimes. Understanding the signs of enslavement and trafficking can lead to prevention and support for those affected. This month encourages collective efforts to end human trafficking.

Recognizing the signs of trafficking is crucial because many victims stay silent out of fear. That's why raising awareness is so important. If more people know what to look for, more lives can be saved.. Indicators may include individuals who appear fearful, lack freedom of movement, or show signs of abuse. Unusual work conditions or living arrangements can also be red flags. If you suspect someone is a victim, it's important to report it to the authorities. Resources like the **National Human Trafficking Hotline (1-888-373-7888)** are available to help. By staying informed and vigilant, we can protect our communities. **We are Rotary**, together we can work towards a future free from human trafficking.

**January 27th is Holocaust Remembrance Day**, also known as the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust. Each year on January 27th, the world remembers one of the most horrific events in modern history. This tragic event is known to Jews as the Holocaust. The holocaust occurred during WWII when Adolph Hitler's National Socialist German Workers Party (Nazis; this term is a phonetic shortening of the word **Nationalsozialist** [National Socialist]) killed an estimated six million Jews. Most were killed in concentration camps, making the Holocaust a genocide for the Jews. Hitler's persecution was not limited to the Jews: millions of other minorities were killed in the four years from 1941 to 1945. These minorities included 1.8 million Polish civilians; 312,000 Serb civilians; approximately 250,000 people with disabilities; approximately 250,000 Roma; an estimated 1,900 Jehovah Witnesses; and thousands of homosexuals. In addition, the Nazis indiscriminately killed approximately three million Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) prisoners of war (POWs) and seven million USSR citizens. Beginning in 1933 when Hitler assumed power, these other groups of people were segregated and persecuted. By the beginning of World War II in Europe (September 1939), these people were forced to live in ghettos where they died of sickness or starvation. During WW II, others were rounded up, shot, and buried in mass graves; were killed in concentration camps; or were killed in POW camps.

**Remembering the Holocaust and these other mass murders is important: If the holocaust is forgotten or denied, it will be easier for history to repeat itself.**

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Rotary is an organization of 1.4 million business and professional leaders united worldwide in 30,000 Clubs to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

**The Rotary Club of Eugene has served the Eugene and Springfield Area for 102 years. We are taking our second century of Service deeper into our community and farther across the world than ever before.**

We meet at The Graduate Eugene, 66 E. 6th Street, Eugene Oregon. Meetings are held weekly on Tuesdays at Noon. We can be contacted at PO Box 1184, Eugene, Oregon 97440. Our phone number is 541 654-0921. Our email address is EugeneRotary@gmail.com.

Join us to make an impact in our community and around the world! To find out more about membership and fill out an application please visit:  
[Rotary Club of Eugene Membership](#)

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## Club meetings can be attended on Zoom - link below



Meetings will be on Zoom assuming internet availability  
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

[+16699009128.83908618864#...\\*695590#](tel:+1669900912883908618864695590) US (San Jose)

[+12532158782.83908618864#...\\*695590#](tel:+1253215878283908618864695590) US (Tacoma)