

# Rotary



## Club of Eugene

### Presidents' Message



Happy fall! After a brief but glorious explosion of fall colors I'm watching the wind methodically strip the trees of their adornment this Saturday morning. The scene from my window makes me think (as LeFou says: "a dangerous thing"). I hope you were affected by Dr. Clay's story last week. The idea that our District's and Club's investment of time (especially Dr. Jacobson's as a host dad) and scholarship money 38 years ago changed a young woman's life is such a validation of what Rotary does on a daily, monthly, yearly and decadelly (sic) basis. Add in the fact that this young woman discovered a sequence of genes nearly 30 years ago that are just now being developed to treat cancer and we have an amazing and uplifting story. I'll be putting together an article on Fiona's presentation and life path for our District

newsletter – soon I hope! I trust you came away with an 'optimism vaccination' from her presentation. I'm also thankful for Lauren, Dave and Jay's presentation on The Rotary Foundation (TRF). I want to thank you all for your support of the work that TRF funds. Many of you show your support through generous annual donations to TRF. Many show your support through your service on our projects at home and abroad. And, many are able to do both. I appreciate all of your support, regardless of the form it takes – because we rarely know when, where or how our money and service will effect the world.

Jerry

### November 14th Meeting: Coach Kelly Graves!

Coach Graves will speak to us about this year's team members and how they have progressed since the start of practice. As always we can anticipate a great presentation to kick off the season

In nine seasons as Oregon's head coach, Kelly Graves has established a winning culture and cemented the Ducks as one of the premiere women's college basketball programs in the nation.

Graves – who will enter his 10th season with the Ducks in 2023-24 – was named

### Club Meeting

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

### Events

No Events found

### Club Leaders



Gerald William Whitman Harris  
President



Nathan Philips  
President-Elect



Ronald Terry Gietter  
Secretary



Erik Peter Gribskov  
Club Admin Chair  
Club Executive Secretary



Todd Anderson  
Treasurer



Ken Brown  
Club Director  
Membership Chair



Lauren Regnani  
Rotary Foundation  
Committee Member



Jay Silverman  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair



Ravitej Singh Khalsa  
Public Image/Relations  
Chair

Robert E Nickel  
International Service  
Chair



the seventh head coach in program history on April 7, 2014. On March 20, 2019, Graves agreed to a contract extension that will keep him in Eugene through at least the 2025-26 season.

The John R. Wooden Pac-12 Coach of the Year in 2019 and 2020, Graves will begin the 2023-24 campaign with a record of 210-90 through nine seasons at Oregon and a 637-292 overall mark in 29 seasons as a head coach, which includes three years at Big Bend

Community College (1989-92). He is 592-252 all-time in 26 seasons as an NCAA Division I head coach, with successful stops at Saint Mary's (1997-00) and Gonzaga (2000-14) before coming to Oregon.

## November 15th: Food for Lane County Service



**Food for Lane County, 770 Bailey Hill Road, Eugene, OR 97402**

**Wednesday November 15th  
6-8:30 pm**

Eugene Rotarians have been helping out at Food for Lane County for over 20 years! Please, join us in continuing this meaningful tradition. Our Rotary Club comes in for approximately two hours per month to help sort, package and get food ready for distribution. It's a simple way to give back to our community and humbling to realize how easy it is to help others. Get to know your fellow Rotarians, help others and have fun - all at the same time. Friends, family, children 10+ years old and older (supervised by an adult), all welcome!!

Contact Victoria at [vwhitman@hearthstonere.com](mailto:vwhitman@hearthstonere.com) or 541-954-7171 if you would like to participate so she can let FFLC know how many volunteers they can count on.



Karen Gaffney  
Community Service  
Chair



Jesse Quinn  
Community Service Co-  
Chair



Bonnie J Bailey  
Club Director  
Youth Services Chair



Maxine Proskurowski  
Interact Rotary Adviser



Raquel E. Hecht  
Youth Exchange  
Past President



Tom Gilmour  
Rotaract Rotary Advisor



Noreen Dunnells  
Club Director  
Club Programs Chair



Victoria Whitman Harris  
Club Service FFLC Lead



Doug James  
Club Director  
Vocational Service  
Chair



Gregg A. Fuller  
Club Director



Robert Scott  
Impeccoven  
Club Director



## November 15th Community service

The Community Service Committee is the Club's vetting and management arm for all official, club-sponsored local service projects. Service projects are defined as projects within the community that 1) provide member opportunities for Service Above Self, 2) meet the 4-Way Test, 3) meet any additional criteria assigned by the committee, and 4) involve projects that predominantly require sweat equity from club members (i.e., committee funds may be granted to a project as long as the funds do not constitute the bulk of the club's support for the project. We do not select projects that require only funding). The committee receives annual funding from the club that has ranged from \$2,500 to \$10,000 per annum, and is responsible for selecting our District Grant proposals. **The committee now meets the 4th Wednesday of each month from 4:00-5:00 pm at the Boy Scouts office, 2525 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd, Eugene.** The committee roster is open to all club members in good standing. Contact the committee chair(s).

**November meeting has been moved for Thanksgiving to the 3rd Wednesday November 15th just this month.**

## Thank you Dr. Clay



*Photographs from Dr. Clay's presentation last week. What a treat to have our scholarship recipient return after 38 years!.*



## What are you doing, Karen?

### Pickleball and Building Community!

*by Karen Gaffney*

I love how a life-long passion can surface in new and surprising ways as we age and change. For me, community-building has always driven my personal and professional work,



Community Service



Richard K. Olson  
CCO-Club  
Communications. Past  
District Governor



Elizabeth A. Ness  
iPast President

## Birthdays

Marshall L Wilde  
November 16th  
Andy Vobora  
November 18th  
Piotrek Buciariski  
November 22nd  
Philip Holt Barnhart  
November 26th  
Karianne Westlund  
December 5th  
Susan Heisey  
December 6th  
Lynne Grilley  
December 11th

## Years of Service

Heinz J. Selig  
12-08-1987  
36 Years  
Raquel E. Hecht  
11-27-2000  
23 Years  
Jane Eyre McDonald  
12-11-2001  
22 Years  
Philip W. Speers  
12-03-2002  
21 Years  
Mark D. Forrest  
12-02-2003  
20 Years  
Ginevra Ralph  
11-30-2004  
19 Years  
Robert McOmie  
11-12-2007  
16 Years  
Todd Anderson  
12-10-2013  
10 Years  
Richard Ralston  
12-08-2015  
8 Years  
Marshall L Wilde  
11-21-2017  
6 Years  
Chris Stephenson  
12-01-2022  
1 Year  
Bill G Heisey  
12-05-2022



delighting in the power of true connection and engagement. As I was preparing to retire about 2 years ago, my good friend Alicia Hays encouraged me to learn to play pickleball (fastest growing sport in the US) as a fun activity for my new-found time. She took me on the court and taught me the game, and I kid you not it has changed my life!

Pickleball is popular for a reason: easy to learn, low-barrier for people of different abilities, inexpensive, very fun and social, intergenerational, has mental health benefits (lower depression, isolation, and anxiety), and has physical health benefits (cardiorespiratory,

blood pressure, good cholesterol). I had never played sports before, but I learned this game—and have made some great friends along the way.

The big surprise, though, was the opportunity to be part of a larger community-building effort. In 2022 I became a founding Board member of the new Emerald Valley Pickleball Foundation, a 501(c)3 formed to create more places for people to play pickleball in our community. Our first project is huge—build a regional pickleball complex that will be the largest such facility in the Pacific Northwest. And, we want to do it as a true community-wide effort—a public/private partnership to build these public courts for our community that will also be able to host national and regional tournaments. Early supporters include Lane Community College that has agreed to provide the land and parking at their main campus (GREAT location) and Lane County that has pledged support from the recent parks levy. We are launching a capital campaign to raise private dollars, and working with our government leaders from other jurisdictions to join the effort. This is a fantastic effort for so many different parts of our community to come together and create a place for health and connection—more information and conceptual design pictures are at [evpickleballfoundation.com](http://evpickleballfoundation.com).

If you haven't tried pickleball yet, please do! There are lots of introductory classes in the community, or reach out to me and I'd be happy to take you out and teach you the game. And, if you're interested in being part of the community building efforts for the new pickleball complex, we would love the help! Please let me know and I'd love to share more information and talk about how you can help make the vision a reality.

## Summer Camp Project in Ukraine

I'm writing with a very brief update on the summer camp project for children in Ukraine. I will provide more information about this project as well as other projects supported by our International committee at a club meeting in December. For a number of logistical reasons the summer camp became an October camp. I'm sharing the story of one of the children our club members helped to attend. The children who were prioritized for the camp are children who had experienced a significant loss or other trauma related to Russia's war on Ukraine. Here is one story.

1 Year



Danylo, 9 years old. Kyiv

Relatives did not hide the death of his father from him, did not invent mysterious stories about the bright star in the dark sky... Danylo accepted the sad news as an adult.

Each child experiences loss as he or she feels. You just need to be nearby. Danylo felt that he had become the "main man" in the family.

The boy has daily support from his mother. She sincerely shares her son's achievements: Danylo goes to do sports on his own, begins to buy the

necessary products in the store himself, and starts to complete tasks without help.

"My child is independent," says Alina. Danylo's older brother Dmytro notices this and does not hide his joy.

The camp supported by Rotary is Danylo's third experience. Mom notices that her son becomes more responsible, serious, and especially independent after the camps. The boy is not verbose, but he still told his grandmother about the trip to the mountains and the beautiful company.

Robert Nickel  
Chair, International committee

## Host families needed for Rotary Youth Exchange Program



Rotary 5110 leaders for the International Youth Exchange Program are asking us to sponsor an international student for the academic year September 2024-June 2025. Currently there are 26 area students who have applied to study abroad next year, and Rotary 5110 has found homes for 21 international students. As this exchange requires that the same number of

Eugene students who go abroad, be matched with international students, this area needs to find homes for 5 additional students.

If you, or any of your friends-- who do not need to be Rotarians,-- are interested in participating in the Rotary International Youth Exchange Program for the year 2024-25, where an international high school student attends a local high school and lives ideally, with 3 different families who share hosting responsibilities, for the academic school calendar year—September 2024-June 2025, you can contact Maxine Proskurowski, at 541-554-8090, email [max.proskurowski@gmail.com](mailto:max.proskurowski@gmail.com), or Raquel Hecht at 541-953-0776, email [raquel@immigrationoregon.com](mailto:raquel@immigrationoregon.com), to discuss



possibilities and details. Dennis Biggerstaff and Jerry Harris are also available at meetings to talk in person about the program and the positive rewards of hosting international youth exchange students.

The committee members are readily available to discuss and provide guidance and support during the entire homestay year.

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## 2024 Rotary Trip to Africa

Bob Nickel announced that fellow Rotarian Larry Rhodes is leading a Rotary trip to Africa to bring volunteers to work at medical clinics in the Tororo District where our joint Rotary Global Grant projects have been and are located. If anyone is interested in going on this Rotary 'mission', here is Larry's email address...  
[larryrhodes@gmail.com](mailto:larryrhodes@gmail.com)

The trip is as follows "We'll be arriving on Feb 2 and back to Kampala for return home by Feb 18." Anyone interested in going should contact him as soon as possible to get further details. The group will be primarily traveling/working in the Tororo District which is where all our grant activities are located. They do not need to be a medical person. There is lots to do both during the clinics as well as during leisure time. I do not know the cost but Larry can provide those estimates.

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## Upcoming Meeting Programs

Program Committee has put together the following meeting programs. For 100 years, the meeting programs of the club have been interesting, engaging and the best in town.



### Nov 21- Adaptive Training Restores Hope

-Presented by David Vobora,  
-Intro by Andy Vobora

Nov 28- EWB Update, Sonya Carlson.

Intro- Gregg Fuller

Dec 5- Sex Trafficking, Jacob McPhie, FBI;

Intro- Liz Ness

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## Next Committee Meetings

**Community Service:** Wednesday November 15th at 4pm, at Boy Scouts Center, MLK Blvd.

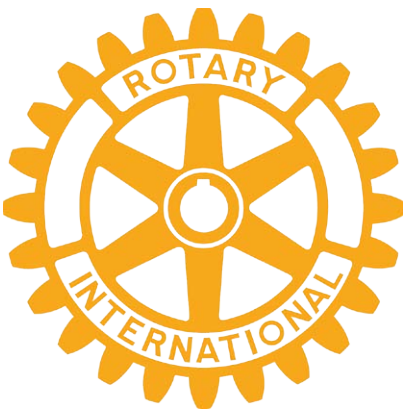
**Environmental Committee:** Thursday December 7th at Noon, via the club zoom account.

**Program Committee:** Wednesday December 13th at 8am, on ZOOM

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## 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.

**Eugene Rotary Celebrating 100 Years**

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**Regular in-person meeting at The Graduate Hotel this week  
or on Zoom - link below**



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#...\*695590# US (San Jose)

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