

4-WAY FLYER

Rotary



Club of
Redmond

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

FEBRUARY 2, 2022 - Volume #42

FOR MEMBERS - BY MEMBERS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



So there I was, minding my own business working as the night manager of a local grocery store. I was 20 or 21 years old and all that was on my mind was, "where is the next party?"

A customer came through my check out line. He was a very nicely dressed gentleman about 30 years old. He proceeded to tell me

that I reminded him of himself when he was my age. A guy just getting by in a typical low paying dead-end job with little future. He said to me, in so many words, "This is not where it's at. You don't want to be here." He went on to say that he was just like me when he was my age, doing the same kind of job. He realized there was something more to pursue. My job, ringing groceries at 9 PM, was NOT it.

His message, whether he meant it or not, stuck with me through all these 30+ years. As a matter of fact, his comments spurred me to pursue my vocation as a firefighter paramedic.

As a club and global organization, we have impressive programs and projects that target making a difference in the lives of others through several focus areas. They are typically seen as successful in part by the size of the group positively impacted. Let's not forget, however, as we go through our daily lives as Rotarians that we can make a difference one individual at a time. A well-timed encouraging word or outreach can have an amazing effect on a person.

I have no idea who this guy was who chose to offer me food for thought. But I bet he would be pleased to know his word stuck with me through all these years and shaped my path toward serving others. ~ *President Tyler*

WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE

February 3rd Weekly Gathering by ZOOM
Monthly Business Meeting

February 10th Weekly Gathering by ZOOM
Speakers – State of the City Panel

February 17th Weekly Gathering by ZOOM
Speaker – Glenn Deveney, Serenity Lane

February 24th Weekly Gathering by ZOOM
Speaker - TBD

Be There!!

This year's **State of the City** panel presentation at our February 10th meeting will be by ZOOM. For those members who prefer in-person presentations and may be tempted to skip the meeting, this program is hard to beat in any venue. Scheduled to appear in ZOOM land are Mayor George Endicott, Economic Development/Urban Renewal Manager Chuck Arnold, and Airport Director Zachary Bass. Between the three of them, there isn't much about what's going on in Redmond they don't know about.



With so much focus in the news right now in how businesses and individuals alike may be impacted by challenges from the pandemic, inflation, regulations and social conditions, this is a not-to-be-missed program for what's happening locally. "See" you in the gallery!

Save these Dates

February 10, 2022 - State of the City Speaker Panel

April 1, 2022 - Wild Ride Social

April 28 - 30, 2022 - D5110 Celebration in Corvallis

May 12, 2022 - Sip for Soles Virtual Wine-Tasting Event

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



**BE AWESOME
TODAY**

Richard Phelps - Featured Profile

To hear Rick tell it, he modestly describes his life in quiet terms, giving credit to being in the right place at the right time. His sense of humor pokes through when sharing anecdotes of times that didn't go as planned. Part of his life story is what didn't happen at all, or rather, took a decidedly different path in his efforts to be involved in the community around him, wherever he lived.



Born in Indiana, Rick moved to St. Louis, Missouri at age 10. After a brief stint at Northwestern in Chicago, he transferred to an Honors program in economics at the University of Texas in Austin.

He returned to St. Louis, joined the Air National Guard and ended up being a "weekend warrior" for eight years, after

receiving a direct commission as a Second Lieutenant. All in, he served less than two years active duty and points out he is a Veteran with a little "v" despite advancing to the rank of Captain. Right time. Right place.

Working with his brother, who had an investment firm, Rick found an interest in financial analysis that eventually sparked his interest in attending Harvard Business School. But it was his interest in community involvement that led him to run for office in St. Louis. While he was not elected as a city alderman, his experience during the election gained him contacts and opportunities that made the choice between politics and returning to school very difficult. Rick took the Harvard path, which turned out to place him near his future wife Vicky, who he met while going to school. Right time. Right place.

After graduation, his first job was in financial analysis for Castle and Cooke (Dole) in Costa Rica and he was rapidly promoted to division controller (CFO-like). Twenty million forty-pound boxes of bananas annually! Right time. Right place.

Three years later, after a stint at headquarters in San Francisco, they moved to Pasadena, California where he spent much of his career in the energy field. While there, at the request of the mayor, he led a community effort to celebrate the city through an initiative called "Pasadena Toward 2000." Yep....right time and place yet again.

Rick and Vicky eventually moved up to Mammoth Lakes in the Sierra Nevada to help start an energy nonprofit. A friend urged him to join the local club, and Rick discovered it was a great avenue for hands-on community service, often with Vicky beside him. He served a year as president in 2012.

They moved to Eagle Crest in 2017, and he joined the Redmond club shortly upon arrival. Rick likes the level of community involvement his membership in the club brings, especially the level of participation by all members.

Rick has four adult children: daughter Casey and sons Dwight, Andrew and Patrick. All are highly accomplished, two with military service in special operations, including seven "all expense-paid trips" to Central Asia (Andrew is still active), and one who followed Dad into the energy field. In addition to his Rotary involvement, Rick currently serves on the Eagle Crest homeowners association board. He is a community theater buff, although parts are now few and far between for an "old guy."

It just seems that this Rotarian continually finds the right time and place to help others in need, with hands-on service and through generous donations to the Rotary Foundation. *See next related story about his wife Vicky.*

PHF Vicky Phelps

The last edition of the Four-Way Flyer noted two Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) awards in December. There were actually

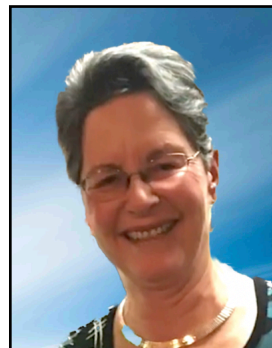
three. For those of you who may have missed the Christmas party or the glimpse in the video that was later distributed, Vicky Phelps was presented with the award as part of the festivities that evening.

Vicky was born in Seattle but attended school in France from the 6th grade through high school. Vicky first met her husband Rick in 1977 at a party in Vermont when

they were both living in Cambridge, Massachusetts. They married a couple of years later.

As Rick described in his explanation of naming his wife as recipient this time around, Vicky has been part of his Rotary volunteer experience since first joining the Mammoth Lakes club several years ago. He realized it was fitting to recognize her role and show his gratitude for her support by honoring her with the designation.

Thanks to Vicky for her Rotary service, and congratulations on receiving the PHF award!



Speakers Share Local Needs

January's weekly gatherings featuring program speakers that offered a full spectrum glimpse of Redmond's needs as the population grows.

First up was Redmond Fire Chief Ken Kehmna, who joined the virtual meeting to describe the status and challenges of the Redmond Fire and Rescue. Statistics revealed increases across the board for ambulance and fire response calls of all types. He described his efforts since joining the department in 2018 that focused on bringing the equipment and facilities up to standard, bringing efficiencies learned in his 40-yr career, knowing they need additional fire trucks and trained staff to keep up with the growth.

At the January 20th meeting, Executive Director Katie Hammer spoke about the community services managed by the Redmond Area Parks and Recreation District (RAPRD), a large area that encompasses the city limits and beyond. Partnerships with the Redmond School District and the City of Redmond help with opportunities to share facilities, but the board is currently developing a proposed ballot measure requesting funds for a new recreation swim center to meet the needs of a growing population. Tentatively scheduled for the November ballot, the district is soliciting community participation and comment in helping determine what to include in the request.

Last week, club members were asked to consider participating in the REACH Safe Parking program that provides safe places for people with housing issues to park and sleep in day and night. Executive Director Stacey Witte and Mountain View Church Pastor Rick Russell shared both the vision and some direct examples of how the program can be one part of the bigger solution for solving the housing crises locally. The program does not operate in residential areas, but was approved by the City of Redmond last fall to allow designated spaces in business and church parking lots where someone can park, knowing they will be safe and can get help with basic needs while REACH (Relationship Empowerment, Action, Compassion and Heart) representatives assess and coordinate case management with other service providers. It's a stop-gap measure, according to Witte, but one that can provide crucial assistance by meeting the individuals "where they are", literally.



RYLA Spots Secured

Club coordinator Dave Brenneman reported at last week's meeting that we have two spots reserved for the annual Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) camp. While COVID interrupted the traditional in-person stays the past two years, the 2022 event is scheduled to take place at Grove Christian Camp in Dorena, Oregon once again June 18 - 22. The camp is focused on helping young people develop leadership skills through interactive sessions, guest speakers and building relationships with like-minded peers.

The selection process is in progress, currently in the solicitation phase for identifying candidates for consideration. The camp is open to students in their sophomore or junior year.

If you know of a local high school student who would benefit from the experience, contact Dave at 503.944.9498. Deadline for submitting camper applications is April 4, 2022.



Ground Hog Déjà vu

February 2nd has endless jokes about what the groundhog saw or didn't see, with endless prognostications about the meanings of said sightings or lack thereof. But how much do we know about the "real" groundhog? Fun facts:



- The average groundhog is 20 inches long and normally weighs from 12 to 15 pounds.
- Groundhogs have short ears, a short tail, short legs, and are surprisingly quick with strong jaws.
- A groundhog can whistle when it is alarmed. Groundhogs also whistle in the spring when courting.
- Groundhogs are one of the few animals that really hibernate. It's actually a deep coma, where the body temperature drops, the heart barely beats, the blood scarcely flows, and breathing nearly stops.
- A baby groundhog is called a kit or a cub.
- A groundhog's life span is normally 6 to 8 years.

Another factoid? The Rotary Club of Youngstown, Ohio started a Groundhog BeerFest fundraiser a few years ago. As with clubs around the world, they had to modify their fundraiser last year, and held it in July! Past years' proceeds went to PolioPlus, and some local causes that included the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.

Now that's worth hoisting a pint or two!

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