

## THE MONTH OF MAY SIGNALS SUMMER IS NEXT

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Joe Kosanovic

I've always enjoyed creating videos for my family, friends, and producing the entertaining video documentaries of our service projects and events. *(all viewable on our website....with buttered popcorn)* Some Rotarians in our District took notice.

The ADG with the Medford Club contacted me to produce a twelve minute video for their 100 year Anniversary celebration dinner on May 16<sup>th</sup>, which I will be attending. I'm proud of the production and will share it with you after its premiere in Medford. Last week, I was asked to produce a five-minute video for the Friendship Exchange presentation at the upcoming District Conference in Eugene. But a couple months ago, I received a request from Dan Smith, a District 5110 Rotarian currently in Ukraine. He wants to me to assist with producing video documentaries of his experience working with Rotarians living in war-torn Ukraine. This type of video documentary won't be entertaining to produce. I believe war is insanity. Full of suffering and despair, with lingering heartache.

As a non-combat Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, I was looking forward to attending the Saturday afternoon viewing of a locally filmed documentary called "Cover Me". Filmed at the Central Oregon Veterans Ranch, it features the emotional stories of veterans on the ranch and the experiences they faced when making the journey back home after military service. One of the veterans telling his heartfelt story is Marv Kaplan. The video is a very compelling narrative of the lingering effects of war and healing. When Marv and the others share their emotional stories of recovery and the beneficial characteristics of the ranch, it's a rewarding example of humanity at work, right here in Central Oregon. It's available on Prime Video and I highly recommend it.

If you know a service veteran that can benefit from the camaraderie of other like-minded service veterans, please introduce them to the Central Oregon Veterans Ranch. Or put them in touch with Marv Kaplan. *(See story on page 2)*

### MEETING SCHEDULE

**May 4, 2023 - Business Meeting**

**May 11, 2023 - Weekly Club Meeting**

Blair Garland, OSU Cascades Marketing & Engagement

**May 18, 2023 - Weekly Club Meeting**

Captains Maria and Miguel Ibarra - Salvation Army

**May 25, 2023 - Weekly Club Meeting**

Thomas Shelving - Mission 22

### OTHER DATES

**May 2, 2023 - Club Board Meeting**

**May 5-6 District Conference - Eugene**

**May 31, 2023 - Sips for Soles**

Zoom and In-Person Wine Tasting Fundraiser

### WANT AN INSTANT BAR ?

The Instant Bar Raffle, a new fundraiser for Redmond Rotary, will be held June 1, 2023. Paul Spain is collecting your donation of alcohol to raise funds for the Neighborhood Impact program in Deschutes

County. Our club is collaborating with clubs from Bend to raise \$100k, which will support construction of a new building in Redmond.

Rotarians can contribute their favorite alcohol bottle or cash toward the purchase of one. Bring your bottle contribution to a meeting or contact Paul Spain. Raffle entries are \$25 each with only 100 entries sold (cash only) The bottles will be divided into 3 prize levels.

We need additional bottle donations to reach our goal of 40 bottles! There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes: First place wins 50 percent of the top shelf bottles, second place receives 30 percent, and third place receives 20 percent. Thanks to all the club members who are pitching in to make this happen! *Please help sell the entries.*



## Thank you Rotarians from SHP!

From Lori Whitaker

It wasn't a typical April Fool's Day in Redmond, Oregon. That day more than 135 people, including many Rotarians, met at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds to build beds for kids for **Sleep in Heavenly Peace**. The goal was to build 100 beds and we exceeded our goal! The motto -- *NO CHILD SLEEPS ON A FLOOR IN MY TOWN* -- rang true in Redmond, Oregon on that day!



Three percent of children in the United States do not have a bed to sleep in, says organizers for Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Luke Mickelson of Idaho started the organization in his garage in 2012 after witnessing a child who had no bed and slept only on a pile of clothes. Today, there are more than 200 chapters, including the Deschutes County Chapter started by Bend Rotarian Joe Meyers in 2020. To date, more than 100,000 beds have been built.

"The Deschutes County chapter was blessed on April 1 with volunteers from Rotary, a \$200,000 donation from Home Depot, and children in the area who have received beds, and," said Lori Whitaker. "Service above Self" rings true on behalf of Sleep in Heavenly Peace, she added.

"In the future, my husband and I will be back to help, sand wood pieces, get dirty, meet new friends, and experience the camaraderie that we felt that day. It was a very fun day and such a good cause.

### Local Screening Features Rotarian

Courtesy Bend Bulletin

"Cover Me: The Path to Purpose," was filmed locally at the Central Oregon Veterans Ranch. It premiered last weekend in Bend.

Documentary Short of the Year winner at the 2022 Indie Eye Film Awards, Directed by Dale Fabrigar, the story centers around several generations of veterans learning to cope with trauma through attending ranch programs. Veterans in the film tell their intense stories of struggling to cope with loss and finding themselves. The film is also available on Prime Video.

Navy veteran Marvin Kaplan, a member of the Ranch Board, is in the film and was in Vietnam during one of the bloodiest battles, the Tet Offensive. More than 10,000 U.S. and South Vietnamese military casualties were reported during this battle, as well as more than 30,000 civilians. Reluctant to talk about Vietnam for decades after, Kaplan, like most vets, even kept silent about the war to his family.



"Most Vietnam vets never said anything. They wouldn't tell their wives or their family anything that happened. They just kept everything inside. I was no different," said Kaplan.

Only recently has Kaplan spoken openly about his war experiences, finally finding solace at the ranch, talking among other veterans.

"Early 2016, I started coming out to the ranch, and then every once in a while, you start talking to another from Vietnam; for me, I talked to a couple of Corpsman that experienced the same things I did. So, you start to open up because you feel safe and trusted; it's more like a sanctuary coming out here," Kaplan said. Now, more than ever, he believes talking is essential among veterans to address the spike in suicide rates in generations after Vietnam.



"There's more suicide in the last conflicts than I ever saw from Vietnam. It's a different fight. We are all combat vets, or we've all experienced loss or trauma in the field or other ways," Kaplan said.

According to the 2022 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report, the average number of veteran suicides per day rose from 16.4 in 2001 to 16.8 in 2020. It was highest in 2018 (18.6 per day).

The film also includes Marine veteran Adrian De La Rosa, site director. "Since leaving the military in 2017, I've lost six service members from my unit to suicide. It'll light a fire under your ass, that's for sure. It's happened almost every year since I've been out. But now, that's why I'm here, doing the work of prevention, and it's definitely motivating, really, the work that we're doing out here," De La Rosa said.

Marine veteran Lauren Grigsby, director of development, is not in the film but has seen the documentary. "The interviews all struck me" said Grigsby. "The bravery to tell their stories and be filmed like that, it's just an honor to see." She discussed the need to reach out to more women veterans and families at the ranch.

"The women veterans want to give back to the community," said Grigsby. "We must let them know the ranch is here for them too. It's also important to realize veterans and their spouses are part of the healing journey."

Sitting outside near the ranch's fire pit, a group of veterans talked about how they had been hesitant to come to the ranch. They were worried about it being too institutional or receiving forced, unwanted treatment. However, when finally visiting the ranch, they found it to be a sanctuary giving them the freedom often lacking in many other veteran care services.

To the veterans still hesitating, they say, "Just show up, and you'll see why you belong here."

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

By Linda Levinson

**Kristina Roofener** - was born and raised on a farm in Madras. She was active in 4H raising, breeding, and showing sheep, while her family was very active with the local food bank. Kristina enjoys sports and has worn many hats in her career. Currently, she is employed as director of Commercial Restoration Solutions at Rainbow Restoration. The joy of her life is her two boys -- the oldest will graduate from Ridgeview High School this year and is number one varsity doubles in tennis, while the youngest is in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and loves soccer. He helps his mom with her volunteering as well. Said Kristina: "I am very excited to become a Rotarian and have a positive impact within the community I live in." Welcome Kristina!



**Sharon Calhoun** - Sharon grew up in Southern California where she met and married her childhood sweetheart. Now after 41 years, they have one son, Noah. Sharon and her family moved to Bend in 2005 from Maui where they lived for 15 years. She had a career in banking for more than 33 years and has been a Rotarian for 24 years combined in 5 different clubs. Sharon attended the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary in Chicago, which is quite an honor. She enjoys being outdoors walking the dog, golfing, hiking, and especially Ubering her son and his friends. Said Sharon: "Thank you for allowing me to join the Rotary Club of Redmond!"



**Rachel Caldwell** - Rachel grew up in rural Oregon and in Klamath Falls. She attended college in Tacoma, WA and spent 20 years at an after school glassblowing program. Children from very different backgrounds were able to learn teamwork, persistence, communication, and responsibility. As a result of her involvement in this program Rachel continued working with youth through Friends of the Children Central Oregon in 2021 where she is Executive Director. We're building systems of support and positivity and cheering them on which many would not have experienced. This has opened many opportunities for them. Said Rachel: "I'm honestly thrilled to be joining Redmond Rotary!"



**Steven A. Wilson** - Steven was born in Northern California where his family resided for generations. In 1980 his grandparents relocated to Reedsport OR. He and his family were active in service clubs and city leadership

where he learned one person can make a difference. Steven attended Umpqua Community College, followed by earning his BSCE from Oregon Institute of Technology. In 1996 he joined an engineering design firm in Redmond; then pursued a graduate degree at Portland State and MS in Administration from Villanova University. Steven was president of Redmond Habitat for Humanity. Currently, he is managing design and construction for the City of Redmond's infrastructure. Steven and his wife Erin have been married 27 years and have two daughters. He enjoys stamp collecting and collecting fossils minerals, as well as constantly remodeling homes. He also is an antique clock tinkerer. Said Steven: "Thank you for considering me to become a member of the Redmond Rotary and look forward to serving our community through this organization."



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## PHF Members Recognized

by Leland "Rocky" Johnson

Redmond Rotary recognized new Paul Harris Fellows (PHF) Kristin Heydei and John Nielsen making our club total of 39 PHF. PHF pins and recognition are given when a member reaches \$1000 in dollars or point awards. Rotary International also recognizes members who during their lifetime have given in excess of \$1000 up to \$10,000. (Rocky Johnson received his PHF+6) Contributions to Rotary International in excess of \$10,000 are considered Major Gifts, currently Redmond Rotary has 6 members that have reached this level.



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## Redmond Run is June 17

By Tim Trainor



The Redmond Run is set to race back into town on June 17 and Rotary members are asked to help volunteer to staff an aid station. Redmond Rotary is the main beneficiary of money raised at the event. As part of the beneficiary agreement, our club will need to recruit volunteers for the water/aid stations. There is a 5k, 10 and half marathon distance run. The half marathon starts at 9 a.m., 10K at 9:15 a.m. and 5K at 9:30 a.m. The run starts in downtown Redmond (exact location TBD) and will finish at Centennial Park. The likely commitment for Rotary members is from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, June 17. Folks who volunteer will hand out water, restock electrolytes, cheer, encourage and have fun. The water/aid stations are fully stocked by the marathon itself, as are tables and chairs. The only thing we need are volunteers. "Rotarian At Work" t-shirts are encouraged for this event!

## The Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY)

By Judy Corwin

The Every Rotarian Every Year initiative asks every Rotarian to support The Rotary Foundation every year. Our **Rotary**



**International Foundation** has a four star rating from Charity Navigator for the 14th consecutive year, **Charity Navigator** is an independent evaluator of charities in the U.S. The Rotary Foundation earned recognition for adhering to sector best practices and executing its mission in a financially efficient way, demonstrating both strong financial health

and commitment to accountability and transparency. Only 1% of organizations Charity Navigator evaluates have received 14 consecutive 4-star evaluations.

“We are honored to have been recognized and to be among the top 1% of charities evaluated,” said Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair John Germ. “Our donors can feel proud knowing that their gifts will allow them to make an impact in their communities and the world for years to come.” The rating reflects Charity Navigator's assessment of how the Foundation uses donations, sustains its programs and services, and practices good governance and openness.

This rating is based on 85% Accountability & Finance, 10% Leadership & Adaptability, 5% Culture & Community. [Learn more about Charity Navigator's criteria and methodology.](#) Your contributions to the Foundation fund the grants and programs that Rotary is involved with around the world as well as in our local community.

## EREY Matching Challenge

An added incentive to donate to the Rotary Foundation is BECKY LU'S MATCHING CHALLENGE. Club Treasurer, Becky Lu Hummer would like to see our club's EREY percentage increase from 43% to 100%. To inspire us, Becky Lu will match 1 to 1 any \$25 contribution to TRF by any member who has not yet contributed this Rotary year (from July 1, 2022). Members are free to donate more, but her match is just for the first \$25. Your donation will be reported under your name, which will get you halfway to \$100 if you want to get to the Paul Harris Sustaining member level. If you aren't sure whether you have already contributed, Spike Biggers can help you find out. *Members have until the end of May 2023 to get Becky Lu their \$25, either through an IOU, check, or cash.*



## Community Recipients Selected

By Judy Corwin

Redmond Rotarians voted to support the **Redmond Senior Center** with the donations received from the annual Wild Ride MX13 Jump Show on August 24, 2023. Friends of Children Central Oregon was proposed as the recipient of the Annual Berry Sale. Voting was extremely close and supported by Club members.

## APRIL GUEST SPEAKERS

**April 20th - High Desert Farm and Food Alliance - Abigail Gustke - Community Food Access manager**

The mission of the High Desert Farm and Food Alliance is to support a healthy and thriving food and farm network in Central Oregon through education, collaboration, and inclusion.

- The state of having reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food
- 12% of Central Oregonians experience food insecurity
- 19,993 people who are food insecure are not receiving federal assistance
- On average, 44% of school-aged kids rely on free or reduced meals at schools

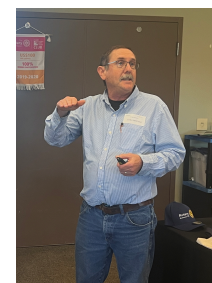
Good food is affordable, nutritious and culturally preferred food that is easily accessible and sustainably produced in Central Oregon. We recognize that not everyone has the same access, and are committed to improving equitable access through all our programs.



**April 27 - Deschutes Count Solid Waste Chad Centola - Director**

The Department of Solid Waste oversees the management of solid waste in Deschutes County. They take pride in providing a safe place for residents to dispose of or recycle unwanted materials.

Knott Landfill Recycling and Transfer Facility is the only landfill in Deschutes County and is estimated to remain open until 2029. For waste disposal in outlying areas of Deschutes County, we operate four transfer stations. These include the Negus Transfer Station located in Redmond, the Northwest Transfer Station near Sisters, the Southwest Transfer Station between Sunriver and La Pine, and the Alfalfa Transfer Station located off Walker Road near Alfalfa.



## 4 WAY NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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