

Rotary



Club of Eugene

Presidents' Message



Welcome to Rotary Club of Eugene version 2024! Iâ€™m looking forward with enthusiasm to another year of fellowship, friendships, and of course, service. I trust you are too.

Upcoming events to fill your heart and stimulate your brain are:

The Community Service Committee is heading into the New Year without breaking stride with the Clubâ€™s District Grant project assisting with our local Boyâ€™s and Girls Club renovations on Jan 11 and 12. Committee co-chair Karen Gaffney is still looking for a couple more volunteers to fill out her roster. If youâ€™ve been feeling down about all the sad news lately, join us on Jan 11 or 12â€”or both to get revitalized and uplifted! Check your inbox for Karenâ€™s invitation.

Iâ€™m looking forward to the speakers we have lined up in the next few months thanks to co-chairs Bob Hart and Noreen Dunnells and the hard-working Program Committee. Our Club continues to be able to offer quality programs as a result of their efforts.

We will also soon get an update in a couple weeks from the International Service Committee Chair Bob Nickel and co-chair Dennis Biggerstaff. They will update us on the committeeâ€™s projects in Ukraine and Uganda.

Our Charitable Fund Board will open our meeting this Tuesday with reports on the outcomes of recent Fund grants.

The TRF committee will update us on the results of their matching points drive to end 2023 soon. I hear rumors that their report will make us proud.

Of course we will have our Skinner Butte work party coming up in April, our Scholarship Foundation will begin their work in April and award scholarships to local high school seniors in early May.

Our Fund-raising Committee is set to announce plans for a Club fund-raising event in the community. It will be a fun one so stay tuned.

I could go on but the message is: your Club is healthy, vibrant and engaged. Volunteer, join a committee, bring in a potential new member, come to the meetings (and buy lunch! or pay for coffee and a cookie!) to keep it that way.

Our speaker this week is District Governor Jim Polk. Please join us in welcoming Jim if you can.

See you Tuesday.

Jerry

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 Gribkov
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



Karen Gaffney
Community Service
Chair



Jesse Quinn
Community Service Co-Chair



Bonnie J Bailey
Club Director
Youth Services Chair

January 9th Meeting: Visit with District 5110 Governor Jim Polk



Meet and experience District 5110 Governor Jim Polk

Jim is a double retiree enjoying life. Service to the people of the United States and the citizens of the local community is the motivating factor in his life and Rotary allows that to continue and expand into service to the world.

Jim's career in the U.S. Air Force started in 1971 and led to him being an Aircrew member serving as a Far East Cryptologic Linguist (Chinese Mandarin). Upon retirement from the military, Jim accepted the challenge of serving the City of Cave Junction as the City

Recorder/Treasurer. Jim's Rotary experience began as a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Illinois Valley in 2007 when fellow public officials pressured him to become involved with the formation of the new club. Belonging to the club was anticipated to be a short experience and the intent was to help with the numbers for chartering and then to step away. The shared experiences and the friendships made provided a renewed desire in a different avenue of service and to become more involved. Jim was elected to the position of Director in 2011 and advanced in the leadership roles to serve as Club President (2015-16).

Since that time, he continues to serve the Club as the Treasurer, performs the duties of Club Administration. He served as the Club's Foundation Chair for one year and assists as a member of the Membership Committee, and supports efforts for having a successful association with RYLA, Student of the Month and Scholarships. He completed the Rotary Leadership Academy and is a graduate of the District Leadership Academy. He served as the Foundation, Part 1, facilitator for the Academy and stepped out of his comfort zone to stand in as a presenter for the Secretary training at the District Training Assembly. After serving one year as an Assistant Governor, he accepted the opportunity to expand his service to the District as the District Treasurer. And finally, to crown an illustrious Rotary career, he was elected to be the District Governor 2023-24.

Jim is a multiple recipient of his Club's Rotarian of the Year, is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow, a member of the Paul Harris Society and a member of the District Polio Plus Society. His initiative led to the implementation of a community service project to conduct a quarterly litter patrol along the state highway that was expanded into a quarterly community-wide cleanup project. He is a vocal and involved participant in the Rotary Duck Derby fundraising effort for local community projects.

Jim is a native Oregonian (Hillsboro) and other than the first six months of his life and his time in the military, has been a resident in Josephine County. He is a member of the 1970 graduating class of Grants Pass High School and was a math major when he attended Southern Oregon College. He received an Associate of Applied Sciences Degree (Interpreting and Translating) from the Community College of the Air Force in 1983. Jim and his better half, best friend, soul mate and wife, Katie, started their shared life in 1973 and raised a son, Chris. They have two granddaughters (one Rotarian and both Paul Harris Fellows) and three step grandchildren. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time reading, trying to avoid extremely high scores on the golf course and attempting to get quality photographs of the wildlife that ventures into the path of a camera.



Maxine Proskurowski
Interact Rotary Adviser



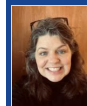
Raquel E. Hecht
Youth Exchange
Past President



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
Community Service



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



Elizabeth A. Ness
Past President

Birthdays

Kelly Sutherland
January 12th
Bonnie J Bailey
January 13th
Richard K Olson
January 16th
Timothy P Marcotte
January 19th
Mary Jeanne Jacobsen
January 21st
Philip W. Speers
January 22nd
Solomon Harris
January 22nd
Chris Stephenson
January 25th
George Rogers
January 27th
Bill G Heisey
January 28th
Michael Grudzien
February 2nd

Years of Service

F. Doug Harclerod
01-16-1979
45 Years
Michael W. Gerot
01-19-1982
42 Years

Community Service Boys and Girls Club January 11th and 12th



We just need a couple more volunteers!

This is a great opportunity to lean into our Rotary commitment to put service over self as we start the new year. This opportunity is part of our ongoing work with the Boys and Girls Club of Eugene—supporting the Rotary focus area of supporting education and youth. Over the next few months we are working with them in a variety of ways to support some much-needed facilities improvements timed to coincide with the City of Eugene's replacement of their HVAC system. We are launching those efforts with moving their program out of the current space into temporary space offered by the Eugene Faith Center. Please join us to help get them moved out of the current

site and set-up in their temporary space.

We will provide a team to help with the move-out on Thursday, January 11 from 10:30 am to 1:30 pm; and a team to help them unpack and set-up on Friday January 12 between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. Please feel free to invite along family and friends!

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 close to the event. 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 helping the Boys and Girls Club on 1/11/24 or 1/12/24, here is the link: <https://signup.com/go/zTocUn>

Questions? Contact Karen Gaffney at 541-729-5348 or karengaffney@comcast.net

Thanks for all you do to serve our community!

Karen Gaffney & Jesse Quinn, Community Service Committee Co-chairs

R. Scott Palmer
02-01-1983
41 Years

Dan Montgomery
02-01-1983
41 Years

Albert Poston
01-26-1999
25 Years

Richard Shugar
01-26-2009
15 Years

Kerrie L. Johnson
01-11-2011
13 Years

Solomon Harris
01-08-2013
11 Years

Josh Neckels
01-24-2017
7 Years

Elizabeth A. Ness
01-09-2018
6 Years

John Barnum
01-10-2022
2 Years

January 17th: Food for Lane County Service



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

**Wednesday January 17th
from 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!!

We've had great turnouts the past two months. Let's keep it going this year! Please join us on Jan. 17 if you can.

Contact Victoria at 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.



New Members!

The board has approved the applications of:

Meagan Thibodeaux- Sponsors Michael Syman-Degler and Josh neckels
Lourdes Sanchez- sponsors Raquel Hecht & Tina Stupasky

Upcoming Meeting Programs

The Eugene Rotary Club has been known locally for one hundred years as the club with the best programs. Our return to in person meetings aspires to maintain that high bar. Here's what members can look forward to during the month of January:

Jan 16- Knight Campus Update, Callie Johnston. Intro- Bob Hart

Jan 23- Eugene Update, City Manager Sarah Medary. Intro- Noreen Dunnells

Jan 30- Teacher Shortage, Dean of Education Susan Gardner, OSU. Intro- Chris Stephenson

Feb 6- Ballet Fantastique, speaker TBA. Intro- Gregg Fuller

Next Committee Meetings

Program Committee: Wednesday January 10th at 8am, on ZOOM

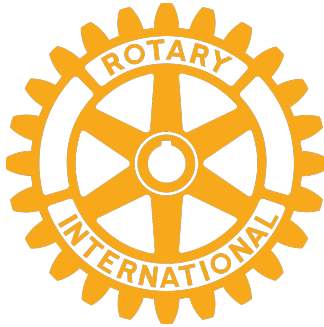
Community Service: Wednesday January 17th at 4pm, at Boy Scouts Center, MLK Blvd.

Environmental Committee: Thursday February 1st at Noon, via the club zoom account.

Host families for Rotary Youth Exchange Update

One family who lives in the North area has agreed to be one of the host families for a youth if we succeed in finding two other families. The student would attend North Eugene High School, and the Eugene School District requires that all host families need to reside in the same area as the school site. If you, or or someone you know -- who does not need to be a Rotarian-- lives in the North area, and are willing to help host a student please contact one of the committee membersâ€™ Maxine Proskurowski, Dennis Biggerstaff and/or Raquel Hetch.

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

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=Ly85Skc3NXhoVTZGQTZjeGpCWGI2dz09>

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)
