



## CREATE HOPE in the WORLD



Rotary  
Susitna Alaska

### Club Meeting

Susitna  
Meets at Everett's Restaurant  
at the Mat-Su Resort  
1850 East Bogard Road  
Wasilla, AK 99654  
Time: Wednesday at 06:00  
PM

### Speakers

#### January 24, 2024

Aaron Coman, President  
Elect followed by a board  
meeting

"Planning the next year"

#### January 31, 2024

Amanda Boger & Spencer  
Madden

Burning Man Project

#### February 07, 2024

Mike Vasser

2024 Iron Dog Race

#### February 21, 2024

James Grogan

Museum of Alaska  
Transportation & Industry

#### February 28, 2024

Club Assembly followed by a  
board meeting

#### March 03, 2024

Iditarod Restart Party  
Bring your friends and family  
to cheer on the mushers as  
they start their race to Nome  
and raise money to help End  
Polio at the same time!

**March 06, 2024**

### Jan 24th: Aaron Coman, Planning for 2024-25

Join us this week to help President-elect Aaron Coman identify his priorities and projects for Susitna Rotary in 2024-25. Aaron is looking for input from all members!

**Wednesday, January 24th, 2024 6pm**  
Meet in Person at  
[Everett's at The Mat-Su Resort](#)

Via Zoom at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5415605940?pwd=ZFJWK1IZbnJSTHpaOGY1KzErbTIVdz09>



### Jan 31st, 2:00pm - 3:15pm: Grants Workshop Series



If you haven't already... please Save the Dates and REGISTER NOW:

## DeeDee Jonrowe

Insider's view of the current Iditarod Sled Dog Race

### **March 10, 2024**

Mat-Su Arctic Winter Games

Members are encouraged to volunteer as individuals or a club service project for this premier event being held in the Mat-Su Valley March 10 - 16, 2024.

### **March 13, 2024**

Alaska Volcano Observatory

Volcano Monitoring

### **March 20, 2024**

Club Assembly followed by a board meeting

### **March 27, 2024**

Tryg Erickson

March 27, 1964 Great Alaskan Earthquake

### **April 03, 2024**

MEA Update and Candidate Forum

Matanuska Electric Association has two board seats open that represent our area. Meet the candidates prior to the election and hear updates about your cooperative.

### **April 10, 2024**

Kelsey Anderson

Mat-Su Borough Comprehensive Plan Community Survey report

### **April 24, 2024**

Club Assembly followed by a board meeting

### **May 29, 2024**

Club Assembly followed by a board meeting

### **June 12, 2024**

Jules Tileston Icelandic Snippets

### **June 26, 2024**

Annual Passing of the Gavel meeting followed by a board meeting

## **Events**

March 3rd

**Iditarod Restart Party and End Polio Now fundraiser**

**Speaker:** Iditarod Restart Party

**Subject:** Bring your friends and family to cheer on the mushers as they start their race to Nome and raise money to help End Polio at the same time!

March 10th

**Mar 10 - 16, 2024 Mat-Su**

## **Zone 28 & 32™s Grants Workshop Series**

We have had numerous requests to host another series of grant workshops. With this in mind, we have been working with Zone 32™s Grant Officer Steve Sundstrom on a series of Global Grant and District Grant workshops to review and revisit grants. The workshops are designed for District Grant Chairs, District Rotary Foundation Chairs, Vocational Training Team Chairs, the District Governor Track and anyone in your District who is involved in grants or wants to learn more about them.

**When: Jan 31, 2024 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**[Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes]**

**Topic:** Overview of Rotary Grants & District Grant Panel and Discussion

**Description:** An overview of Global Grant and District Grant for those relatively new to the topic, in addition to a basic description of Programs of Scale and Disaster Response grants (30 min).

The second half will be short presentations by selected districts in the Zones, followed by a discussion (30 minutes), with time (15 min) for additional Q&A.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://rotary-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwqcuytqDsvGdGVR7hoNRmwP7uVNOIJvCic>

**When: Feb 1, 2024 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**[Duration: 1 hour]**

**Topic:** DDF Rollover and Spending Plans & Global Grant Calculator Tutorial

**Description:** Explanation of the five-year DDF rollover ruling by the Trustees, and importance of making a DDF spending plan. Followed by a tutorial on using the Global Grant Calculator to plan funding for a grant. It will be useful for participants to have basic spreadsheet skills.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://rotary-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAoc-6orD8qHdeJTVZe2KTIWgMViEMY7eDI>

**When: Feb 5, 2024 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**[Duration: 1 hour]**

**Topic:** Rotary Grants and the Areas of Focus

**Description:** A closer look at the seven areas of focus, and what to plan for when you're part of the international sponsor working with a host sponsor

Register in advance for this meeting:

[https://rotary-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMkf-CsqDsH9K\\_y32VdpZr2v2I5L\\_fvg-k](https://rotary-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMkf-CsqDsH9K_y32VdpZr2v2I5L_fvg-k)

**If you have any questions, please contact RRFC Eileen Rau at [eileen.rau@rotaryzones28-32.org](mailto:eileen.rau@rotaryzones28-32.org) or RRFC Ingrid Neitsch at [ingrid.neitsch@rotaryzones28-32.org](mailto:ingrid.neitsch@rotaryzones28-32.org) .**

Please make sure to register now  
save the date on your calendar!

Yours in Rotary Service,

Eileen Rau  
Zone 32 Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator



## Arctic Winter Games

**Speaker:** Mat-Su Arctic Winter Games

**Subject:** Members are encouraged to volunteer as individuals or a club service project for this premier event being held in the Mat-Su Valley March 10 - 16, 2024.

March 19th

## Susitna Rotary's Learn How To Save Lives 2024!

## In This Issue

Jan 24th: Aaron Coman, Planning for 2024-25

Jan 31st, 2:00pm - 3:15pm: Grants Workshop Series

Jan 31st: Amanda Boger and Spencer Madden, Burning Man

February 2- 4th - Willow Winter Carnival

Feb 3rd, 9:00am - 11:30am: Rotary District Team Training Workshop

Feb 10th: 2024 TRF Fundraiser planning meeting

Feb 17th: Hearts for Hunger

YE Corner: Alex visits a glacier

Valentine's Day K-Hitz Giveaway

Mar 3rd: Iditarod Restart Party

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Little Su Rotary Park Sign Sponsorship

Susitna Rotary Charter Members

Reading to Children

## Club Leaders



Robert Allan Grogan  
President



Aaron Coman  
President-Elect

## Jan 31st: Amanda Boger and Spencer Madden, Burning Man

### Jan 31st: Amanda Boger & Spencer Madden

#### Burning Man Project

Amanda Boger and Spencer Madden are multi-year participants of the Burning Man project. They will be talking about the event, its purpose and some of the many activities that take place during this annual week-long gathering in the Nevada desert.

Burning Man attracts tens of thousands of attendees, including artists, musicians, and activists. The event is guided by self-sufficiency; most attendees must bring their own food, water, and supplies in an event similar to wilderness camping with performances. Burning Man features an open, non-hierarchical structure, and is known as "The Gated Camp".

Attendees, known as "Burners", create a community known as Black Rock City comprising villages, a medical center, an airport. To enter Burning Man, participants must either use the airport or a section of Nevada State Route 447.



## February 2- 4th - Willow Winter Carnival

Thank you to Eric and Cindy Wellman, Rog and Catherine Cheadle, and Brenda Hewitt for volunteering to help with parking on Sunday. The other slots have been filled by volunteers from the Willow community.



#### Welcome to the 62nd Annual

### WILLOW STATE WINTER CARNIVAL "Year of the Magpie"

Pre-Event: January 27 & Carnival: February 2-4, 2024

Willow Community Center  
MP 69.5, Parks Highway  
Willow, Alaska 99688  
(907) 358-1453

\* Events marked with \* require registration.

\$ Events marked with \$ have a fee.

Saturday, February 3rd	Location	Sunday, February 4th	Location
8-11 PTA Pancake Breakfast \$	Willow Elem.	8-11 PTA Pancake Breakfast \$	Willow Elem.
10:30 Sven Erickson 25K Tour Bike, Ski, Run \$	Lakes & Trails	9-4 Kiddie Snocross \$5	Front Swamp
11:00 White Duet	On Stage	10-4 Borealis Dancers	On Stage
11:00 Billy Taylor 5K Run \$	Lake	10-12 Polar Run \$	Lake & Trails
11-3 Dog Sledding Adventure	Backyard	10-12 Willow Winter Carnival Softball Game	Backyard
11:30 Kid's Sled Dog Races 1,2,3 Dog \$5	Lake	11:00 Alaska Polka Chips	On Stage
12:00 Rock on Cloggers	On Stage	11-3 Vintage Sled Show & Shine	Backyard & Trails
12:00 1000 Miles of Snowmobile Chain Saw, Crocusuit Saw, Wood Chop \$	On Stage	12:00 Homestead Games Ax Throw, Swede Saw \$	On Stage
1:00 Paws and Taws Square Dance	On Stage	12:00 Snowshoe Scavenger Hunt	Backyard
1:00 Kids Mushing Game	Lake	1:00 Log Cabin Games	Pavilion
1:00 Kid's Art Contest \$5	Backyard	1-4 Kids Games	On Stage
1-4 Kid's Games	On Stage	1-2 Radar Run Sled Machine Race \$	Lake
2:00 Craig Wolf	Lakes & Trails	12-12 Kid's Radar Run Sled Machine Race \$	Auditorium
2:00 Snowshoe Races \$5	Lake	1:00 Cribbage Tournament \$5	Front Swamp
2:30 Stampede Race \$5	On Stage	1:00 Guthouse Race \$5	Backyard
3:00 Photo Contest Winners Announced	On Stage	1:00 Kid's Photo Contest	On Stage
3:00 Dog Sledding Competition	Backyard	2:00 Pie & Desert Scholarship Auction \$5	WACO Booth
3:30 Ice Cream Eating Contest	Lake	2:00 Last Sales (In Person) for Major Raffle \$5	On Stage
4:00 Ladies Sm/Zipog Twilight Sled Dog Race \$	On Stage	3:00 Kid's Photo Contest	On Stage
6-9 PM Fire & Ice Family Dance \$5	Auditorium	3:30 Major Raffle Drawing \$5	On Stage
		4:00 Wild Alaska Pike Derby Winners Announced	On Stage

#### EVENING EVENTS

Saturday, January 27th	Friday, February 2nd
Brings & Pull Tabs	5:00 PM Quick Draw Artists Begin
10-11 PM Doors Open	5:00 PM Silent Art Auction \$
6:00 PM Kitchen open by Willow PTA \$5	6:00 PM Kid's Crafters \$5
7:00 PM Games begin \$5	6:30 PM Kid's Craft Queen
Saturday, February 3rd	7:15 PM Fireworks Display
6-9:30 PM Fire & Ice Family Dance	* (after dinner) Sponsored by Gorilla
Sponsored by Willow/Caswell Fire Dept.	Fireworks, MWCU & Houston Lions
	Prizes

Want the chance to win a new 2023 Sportsman 570 ATV? Then see Kim Erickson at the club meetings to get your Willow Winter Carnival Raffle tickets! The carnival lasts all weekend with the raffle drawing at 3:30pm on Sunday, February 4th.





**Samantha Shannon**  
France  
Secretary



**Erin Cruz**  
Treasurer



**Samantha Jo Aarthun**  
Public Relations Chair



**Kimberly W. Erickson**  
Bulletin Editor  
Webmaster



**Cathy Kochendorfer**  
Bulletin Editor  
Webmaster



**Kathleen M. Timm**  
Attendance Secretary



**Josh Waisanen**  
Public Relations Chair



**Cindy Wellman**  
Bulletin Editor



**Richard A. Cavens**  
Sergeant-at-Arms



**Lanissa Grogan**  
Membership Chair



**Matthew Pogirski**  
Service Projects Chair



**Adam Rein**  
Sergeant-at-Arms



**Jack W. Timm**  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair



**Rylee B. Loraene**  
Rudd  
Club Programs Chair



**Brenda L. Hewitt**  
Vocational Service  
Chair  
Youth Services Chair



**Lynn Mitchell**  
Youth Services Chair



**Marty T. Metiva**  
Immediate Past  
President

## Birthdays

Darcie Lee Morgan  
January 27th  
Elizabeth Standley



## Feb 3rd, 9:00am - 11:30am Rotary District Team Training Workshop

What's going on in District 5010? Join us for a Zoom on **Saturday, February 3rd at 9:00 am** and find out. District Committee Chairs will update us on what they are up to and the plans they have going forward. Grab a coffee and join us!

I will send the agenda and a reminder email next week.

In Rotary and Friendship,

Brenda Shelden  
D5010 District Governor-Elect  
(907)841-8942  
[brendaptatc@yahoo.com](mailto:brendaptatc@yahoo.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Date:** Saturday, February 3rd

**Time:** 9:00 am to 11:30 am

**Zoom link:**

Topic: District 5010 Team Training

Time: Feb 3, 2024 09:00 AM Alaska

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4069269120?omn=81667111702>

Meeting ID: 406 926 9120

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**Feb 10th: 2024 TRF Fundraiser planning meeting**

January 28th  
Richard Standley  
February 8th  
Kimberly W. Erickson  
February 8th  
Cody Russell  
February 24th

## Wedding Anniversaries

Rylee B. Loraene Rudd  
February 20th

The first meeting in preparation for the 2024 joint Valley Club Rotary Foundation fundraiser is scheduled for **Saturday, February 10, 2024 9am** at KHITZ/Collins Construction located at 570 S. Knik St, Wasilla.

Josh Waisanen has agreed to be the chair of the event and will share his "Vision" then.

Anyone wishing to work on the committee is encouraged to attend.

The  
**Rotary**  
Foundation



Doing Good In The World



**Feb 17th: Hearts for Hunger**



## ANNUAL Dinner & Auction

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH  
EVANGELOS RESTAURANT  
(LOWER LEVEL BANQUET ROOM)

COCKTAILS AT 5:30PM &  
DINNER AT 6:30PM

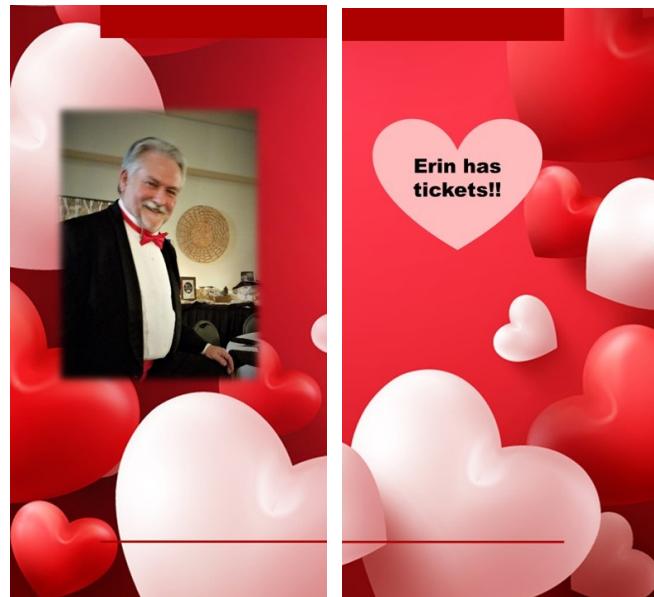
SILENT AND LIVE AUCTION  
DESSERT, GUN, AND BOOZE AUCTION

### TICKETS

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: \$60 PER PERSON  
TABLE OF EIGHT: \$500 PER TABLE

FOR TICKET PURCHASES CALL  
GAYLE AT: 357-3769

All proceeds go to benefit the Matsu Food Bank



## YE Corner: Alex visits a glacier

It looks like Alex Vintr gets to check off another cool experience on his Alaskan Adventures bucketlist!



## Valentine's Day K-Hitz Giveaway

Bring a camp size propane bottle to [Meta & Rose](#) for [Wasilla Homeless-Committee Community Outreach](#) to be entered to win! Dinner, hotel, facial, massage, gift card and roses!! THANK YOU [Mat-Su Resort](#), [The Clock Tower Salon & Spa](#), [Alaska Chicks](#) and [AK Flower Lady KHITZ 107.1](#) "Your Valley, Your Music, Your Station."



## Mar 3rd: Iditarod Restart Party

**Iditarod Re-start Party**

*Hosted by Tryg & Kim Erickson*

**Sunday, March 3rd, 2024** to watch the **Iditarod Sled Dog Race**. We're located on the race trail at Long Lake, about 2 ½ miles from the restart. Traffic is heavy and parking in Willow is tight that day so plan to arrive early to enjoy lunch and begin the fun – we suggest getting here about **noon**. The race begins at 2:00pm then mushers come by every two minutes.



*Invite  
your  
friends  
and  
family!*



**WANT TO BRING SOMETHING?**

Consider a donation to help end polio. This will be the 13<sup>th</sup> year supporting **Rotary's End Polio Now** campaign with our Iditarod Party... each year brings us closer to a polio free world.



**Physical Address** *(no mail)*

11832 N. Maxwell Dr., Willow  
Home: 907-495-6679

Tryg: [ericksontj@muni.org](mailto:ericksontj@muni.org) cell: 907-242-5590

Kim: [kim.erickson@greatlandlaser.com](mailto:kim.erickson@greatlandlaser.com) cell: 907-223-8385

*(Drop off at the house then park along Maxwell or Sides)*

Tryg & Kim Erickson

[ericksontj@muni.org](mailto:ericksontj@muni.org)  
[kim.erickson@greatlandlaser.com](mailto:kim.erickson@greatlandlaser.com)

Tryg's cell: 907-242-5590

**We Provide:**

*Chili, chowder,  
hot dogs, snacks,  
and desserts  
inside.*

*Coffee, apple  
cider and hot  
chocolate will  
keep you warm  
as you cheer the  
teams outside.*

*BYOB for  
anything  
stronger....*

**Mar 19th: Learn How To Save Lives Event**

**Learn How To Save Lives 2024!**  
**Tuesday March 19th from 6:00pm -**

TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH FROM 5:00PM...

**8:00pm**

Evangelo's Restaurant

Please share on your page, friends, businesses and other clubs. We are hoping to expand this message to all and not limit it to schools. Rob is on a mission to get lots of volunteers on board for this year's water safety programs.

**Sign up for Learn How to Save Lives 2024**

Susitna Rotary welcomes you to our Water Safety Campaign 2024!! This year we will begin our journey starting with our "Josh The Baby Otter" kindergarten classroom presentations. These presentations employ our Josh the Otter mascot and a lively bunch of volunteers who teach young children to be safe around water. We will need the help of our entire community to provide this education to the nearly 2000 kindergartners that are excited about learning our message. This year, and in upcoming years, Susitna Rotary is exploring partnerships with other communities and organizations with a goal of someday being able to provide this vital message to children across the State of Alaska. Join us on March 19th at Evangelo's Restaurant in Wasilla and learn how you can help us Save Lives in your community.



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**Little Su Rotary Park Sign Sponsorship**



**LITTLE SUSITNA  
ROTARY PARK**





ROTARY PARK  
HOUSTON, AK



## CHILDREN'S STORYBOOK TRAIL SIGN SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY



DATE:  
FEBRUARY 1ST, 2024 THROUGH JULY 1ST, 2024

Rob Grogan 907-355-4394

SEND YOUR DONATION:

QR Code Here



[www.susitnarotary.org](http://www.susitnarotary.org) Ⓛ Po box 298068 Wasilla, AK 99629

Pledge for water safety education:

Your business name and logo, personal name  
or dedication on a trail sign.

**\$500 for a permanent sponsorship.**

"Josh the Baby Otter" is a local and  
international water safety community service  
project. 1400 books are distributed annually in  
the Mat-Su to elementary schools.

### Susitna Rotary Charter Members

Last week, Jack Timm, gave a very fun and interesting history of the Susitna Rotary Club from it's founding in 2006 and official charter on January 7, 2007, to the present day. He highlighted each of the club's presidents and some of the key projects from each year.

Jack was officially the President-Elect on the date the club was chartered, but quickly

became club president when Scott Norman moved away. The three remaining charter members that are still active in the club are Robert Hall, Jack Timm and Kathy Timm.

Susitna Rotary is only 17 years old and look how much we have already accomplished!

***Charter Members:***

Scott Norman- ***President***

Dale Adams

Ruth Blanchard

Suzi Bock

Rosemary Burnett

Ralph Buzard

Joe Cassidy

Gladys Chambers

Thom Dowell

Steve Frost

Robert Hall- ***Foundation***

Carla Hendrix

Nora Hull

Jimmy Hull

Mitch Hull

Nola Kurber

Keith Kurber â€“ ***Vice***

***President***

Cherie LeBlanc-Shu-

***Membership***

Sherry Mulhaney

Rolf Numme

Roger Purcell

Angela Rojas

John Root

John Shue

Chuck Tanner

Jack Timm- ***President-***

***Elect***

Kathy Timm-

***Secretary/Treasurer***

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## Reading to Children



Reading to children,  
even before they  
can understand,  
teaches them to

