



Club Meeting

**Bremerton
Meets at Olympic
College, Building 10
1600 Chester Ave.
Bremerton, WA 98337
Time: Monday at 11:45
AM**

Speakers

October 14, 2024

NO MEETING

**Indigenous People's
Day/Columbus Day**

October 21, 2024

Katie Pratt

Northwest Vernacular

October 21, 2024

District Governor Bill

**McGregor Whiskey
Gulch, Port Orchard,
5:30 pm**

October 28, 2024

TBD

November 04, 2024

Tom Zwolfer

USS Bremerton

Events

No Events found

Birthdays

Deborah Jackson

October 17th

ELIZABETH A. Shea

October 24th

Years of Service

Steven M. Rice

06-01-1990

35 Years

Karen McKay Bevers

06-01-2012

13 Years

Caroline Rivers

06-04-2015

10 Years

Daryl Wayne Matheny

06-22-2017

8 Years

Laura McKerrow

05-31-2020

5 Years



NO MEETING OCTOBER 14

OLYMPIC COLLEGE FOUNDATION LUNCHEON

11 a.m.-1 p.m. OC Bremerton Student Center

By Steve Landau

From the meeting of Oct. 7, 2024

REFLECTION



Alexander Parker gave the Reflection, focusing on the importance of just being available to people. He said his family members in Ashville, N.C., were hit badly by the recent storm, losing power, water and cellphone coverage. They could only text for a brief period each night and Alexander managed to get through to them.

He gave them the message that they should evacuate to his grandparentsâ€™ house. This made him feel very useful!

VISITORS & GUESTS

Patty Lent, first host mom of **Iita Yli-Kuha**

Mary Lou Long

Amanda Owenâ€™s son **Rex**, who hopes to join Rotary some day (according to his mom)

Lupé and Jessica Martinez, parents of this yearâ€™s outbound exchange student to South Korea, **Keaton Martinez**, and future host parents for **Iita Yli-Kuha**

Chris Swanson, BHS College and Career Counselor

RYLA students: Atley Carter, Manuel Escalante, Braden Grimm, Elijah Ussin, and Jalyynn Wilson

MUSIC COMMITTEE



The Music Committee had done some research on Finland, in anticipation of **Iita**â€™s presentation Monday. They learned that Finland hosts the Wife-Carrying World Championships, Boot-Throwing World Championships, Football World Championships in Mud, World Air Guitar Championships and the Naked 10km run. They composed a song in **Iita**â€™s honor, to the tune of â€œJava Jive.â€ Here are some excerpts:

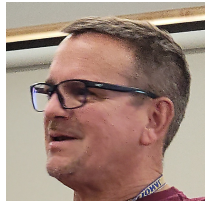
*Finns love coffee and lonkero
And men carrying women and a good boot throw
Lonkero and coffee to go*

A Finn a Finn a Finn a Finn we know (Iita)

*Finns love sports played in the mud
And naked 10k™s then a long drink mug
Jumping in the sauna they really love
With Kahvi Kahvi Kahvi Kahvi fun*

*Lake floorball can be quite rowdy
Finns call the sport Salibandy
They need to be quick with their very short stick
At least they don't play it in the NUDE*

SERGEANT & HAPPY BUCKS



Peter Braun was the sergeant and called for "happy bucks." He started by giving some of his own because he was so thrilled to see his old friend **Dave Gitch** walk in looking well, and also to see **Dale Holdren**. Peter was doing some Zags foundation work at Gonzaga, when he was invited to speak at Lunch and Leadership, and later in a professor's entrepreneurship class.

Scott Willard said he had taken six weeks off to make sure his cancer treatment was working, and things went so well they were actually able to reduce his chemotherapy load. He was grateful to his staff at Kitsap Homes of Compassion who filled in for him.

Dale Holdren said that as of last month he is officially retired from his ophthalmology practice; he has been diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). He can no longer drive, but **Dave Anderson** and **Gordon Cromwell** have volunteered to bring him to Rotary. Dale and family traveled to the Nashville Film Festival, where the film they have been involved with won top honors. On this trip, he also attended his 45-year high school reunion.

Tom Long was happy for the second batch of RYLA students who were attending the meeting and reporting on their experiences.

Dave Anderson had happy bucks for the Huskies' great win. He and **Sharon** also went to Lake Quinault, where Dave went to high school and his sister still lives. And it rained a lot!

Dave Gitch has a nephew in Grand Rapids, Michigan and he had a bet with him on both the Huskies and Seahawks games. He won a six-pack of Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer on the Huskies but lost it on the Seahawks.

Wayne Lindberg had 26 happy bucks because he'll be migrating south soon to his home in Peoria, Arizona, and presumably spend 26 happy weeks there without having to sing at Rotary.

Geoff Pentz got to see his grandson **Zach** play football for Klahowya Secondary School against East Jefferson High in Port Townsend. They dominated 54-13, and his grandson had one rushing touchdown and one interception touchdown.

Carrie Rivers celebrated her 18th wedding anniversary recently, although her husband **Nick** is currently stationed in Pennsylvania. She is looking forward to having him home before he ships out to a three-year assignment in Italy.

New Rotarian **Reama Schuld** enjoyed attending the Shelton Rotary Club's Oystefest over the weekend with her husband and son. She said the weather was perfect and it reminded her why she wanted to move to the Olympic Peninsula. She is having a cleanup event Saturday at 10 a.m. at her store in Charleston for those who would like to participate.

Patty Lent, the first host mom for **Iita Yli-Kuha**, was happy to attend the meeting to see her presentation and learn what life is like in Finland.



Iita Yli-Kuha was glad she got to attend the Shelton Rotary Club's Oysterfest over the weekend.

Turning to fines, **Sergeant Peter** is normally a big fan of the Music Committee and their performances, but said Monday's song was just "æbad."

Peter asked how many had attended a fundraiser, either for Coffee Oasis or the Boys and Girls Club. He praised their community spirit, fined others.

Peter encouraged people to sign up for next week's annual Olympic College Foundation Luncheon. He has paid for a table for Rotarians, but will not be able to attend the event. Email foundation@olympic.edu for more information.

Finally, he fined Seahawks fans for their team's "æembarrassing" performance. He congratulated Coug fans for their team being in second place in the Pac 12. That's last place in case you're wondering. He asked tables who were the universities who will join the Pac 12 in 2026.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rotary 5020 District Governor **Bill McGregor** will be visiting Kitsap County Rotary clubs on Oct. 21 at the Whiskey Gulch in Port Orchard. There will be a happy hour, dinner and presentation, starting at 5:30 pm.



Tim Quigley said he won't be attending Rotary for a few weeks while he works in the elections department of the Kitsap County Auditor's Office. Ballots should be received by the end of the week. Tim said the mail-in ballots must be postmarked by 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 5. Those using a drop-off box or postal box should keep in mind that each location has its own deadline for the last mail pickup of the day, which is well before 8 p.m. If it doesn't get picked up that day, the vote won't count.

Geoff Pentz started soliciting auction items for the Rotary Wild Game Dinner March 29, 2025. He said it is now five months away and we should be thinking of how to come up with auction items. Geoff recently fulfilled an auction item from last year by flying a party to the San Juan Islands. At last year's auctions, two of these trips raised \$1,600 for the club.

RYLA STUDENT PRESENTATION



BHS RYLA students: Braden Grimm, Jaylyn Wilson, Manny Escalante, Elija Ussin and Atley Carter

A second group of RYLA students from Bremerton High School told us about their experiences at the conference that took place last spring. When they arrived, they were put in groups with kids who weren't from their own high school. This led to them make new acquaintances and possibly friends. They also learned various leadership skills they could take back to their schools.

PROGRAM



Iita Yli-Kuha, our inbound exchange student, gave us a presentation called "My Life in Finland." We learned that Finland has been named the happiest country in the world for several years. They have two national languages, Finnish and Swedish, the latter because Finland was part of Sweden some 200 years ago, and before that a part of Russia. They celebrated their

independence on Dec. 6, 1917. Iita said her hometown of Kuortane is located "in the middle of nowhere," but has gained fame for its Olympic Training Center. Of her high school of 300 students, about 250 are athletes from all over Finland.

Iita has two brothers, one a year older, the other two years younger, her mom and dad, and four cats. She said the Finnish school system is "more flexible" "they don't have security or require hall passes. Vouching for many of the things Iita said was our own **Carrie Rivers**, who was an exchange student to Finland in 2000-2001. She especially enjoyed Wanhat, a formal dance event similar to our high school prom, but "way cooler," according to Carrie.

DRAWING

The winning raffle ticket was held by one of the RYLA students, **Elijah Ussin**. He didn't pick the winning card, but received the \$5 consolation prize.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Oct. 14: Indigenous People's Day, no meeting

Oct. 21: **Katie Pratt**, Northwest Vernacular

Oct. 28: TBD

Nov. 4: **Tom Zwolfer**, USS Bremerton

Photos and proofreading by Tom Long