



### Club Meeting

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

### Speakers

**March 11, 2024  
Hillary Franz  
Commissioner of Public Lands**

**March 18, 2024  
Julius Blackwell**

**March 25, 2024  
CAPT Crinklaw  
PSNS Commanding Officer**

### Events

**No Events found**

### Birthdays

**Chuck Capps  
March 21st**

**Katie Walters  
March 21st**

**Julius Blackwell  
April 5th**

### Years of Service

**Steven M. RICE  
06-01-1990  
34 Years**

**Karen McKay Bevers  
06-01-2012  
12 Years**

**Caroline RIVERS  
06-04-2015  
9 Years**

**Daryl Wayne Matheny  
06-22-2017  
7 Years**

**Laura McKerrow  
05-31-2020  
4 Years**



*From the meeting of Monday, March 4, 2024*

**By Steve Landau**

### REFLECTION

**Jean Mitchell** quoted a lady who saw more of the world than anyone else, Queen Elizabeth II, who said: "It is the small changes and not the biggest leaps that make the most progress."

### VISITORS & GUESTS

**Reama Schultz**, Charleston Business Association

**Dani Grey**, Secretary, Downtown Bremerton Association

**Mary Lou Long**

**Sunny Saunders**, Blackberry Festival Manager

Students:

**Helene Rode**, BHS ASB Vice President

**Ricky Camacho**, BHS ASB Public Relations

**Emme Powell**, BHS ASB Student Rep

### SERGEANT & HAPPY BUCKS



**Gordon Cromwell** was the Sergeant; he asked for happy bucks.

**Tim Quigley** said he had missed the last few meetings working in the Kitsap County Elections Department. He said they have a tight, secure and excellent staff.

**Dave Anderson** had a family reunion the past weekend for all those who had March birthdays. He also had watched Gonzaga, WSU and UW all win their baseball games and was quite pleased.

**John Stockwell** was looking forward to attending the North American Youth Exchange Conference in Vancouver, B.C., with 500 attendees from Canada, the United States and Mexico.

BHS Principal **Ryan Nickels** gave his first happy bucks ever. Why was he so happy? Because his school went to the State Cheer Championships, the Boys Basketball Team missed qualifying for the championships by 1 point, and the Robotics Team won too.

**Laura McKerrow** was happy to see longtime Rotarian and bulletin editor **Steve Landau** back after knee surgery.

**Steve Landau** had 10 happy bucks for his return to club meetings in-person. He had been out six weeks recovering from knee replacement surgery and is doing very well. He thanked those who assisted to do the bulletin during his absence: **Karen McKay Bevers, Denise Ledingham, Doug Berger, Walt Draper and Tom Long.**

**Dale Holdren** will be attending the South by Southwest Film Festival in Austin, Texas.

**Carrie Rivers** was happy because she's four months out from her jaw surgery and also because her littlest one **Liam** turned 6 on Saturday.

**Karen Sawyer-Meehan** was happy because her daughter **Lili** turns 8 on Saturday.

**Mary Lou Long** said her twin granddaughters recently turned 12.



Blackberry Festival Manager **Sunny Saunders** was happy because she had just signed a lease for new office space on the Bremerton Boardwalk. She said she already has received 85 applications from existing vendors.

**Gordon Cromwell** said one of his grandsons in Montana is going to the state finals for basketball.

Then Gordon got to work, asking a bunch of table questions, such as:

What major event was happening Tuesday? (Super Tuesday)

What is the average general election turnout in Washington State? (63.8%)

What state has the highest voter turnout in a general election? (Minnesota, 78%)

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#### BHS ASB STUDENT REPORT



*Emme Powell, Ricky Camacho and Helene Rode*

Three ASB officers from the high school were on hand to give us an update on high school activities. They are **Helene Rode**, ASB Vice President; **Emme Powell**, Student Representative; and **Ricky Camacho**, ASB Public Relations Manager. They said they had a successful Sweetheart Swirl, the first winter dance in quite a while. They also held a Black History Assembly, in collaboration with the Admiral Theatre and Bremerton Mayor **Greg Wheeler**. They are looking forward to a Spring Pep Assembly and ASB elections.

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Jim Cline**, who is associated with the Charleston Business District, received his permanent blue badge.

**President Geoff** said he and his wife **Betsy** will attend Port Orchard Rotary's Crab Feed Saturday at 5:30 at the Kitsap Conference Center. Several others from our club are going, and we will have a table at the event. The Port Orchard Rotarians are thrilled we are supporting them; they had showed up

for our Wild Game Dinner.

Geoff and Betsy will also be heading to Mexico in three weeks to bring medical supplies to a small town near Mazatlan. Donations are welcome; \$25 will buy a blood pressure cuff monitor.

Geoff indicated that the Community Service Committee had made three grants recently: \$2,500 to Bremerton Foodline, \$2,500 to St. Vincent de Paul, and \$2,000 to the BHS Boys and Girls Swim Team for a new scoreboard. **Karen McKay-Bevers** said this will be much appreciated because Bremerton is the only school in its league not to have an

electronic timing system.

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#### PROGRAM



Bremerton Police Chief **Tom Wolfe** was our featured speaker. He told us that we have an amazing Police Department that has delivered a couple of decades of amazing work. He said the core group BPD is hiring now are working hard; they're in the profession for all the right reasons. BPD has had some difficulty hiring new people, especially since some of the larger police departments in the area can offer higher salaries. They are

currently down four positions, but have 10 persons who just got out of the Police Academy and are in field training process.

He said city is lacking a strong mental health component. There aren't enough beds for mental health and drug abuse patients. He has dealt with influxes of various kinds of illegal drugs over the years, but the current crisis with fentanyl is the worst he has ever seen. In the last two weeks, police officers brought back half a dozen people who were experiencing overdoses using Narcan.

Chief Wolfe said he completely disagrees with moves to make possession of drugs a misdemeanor in this state. He said we have to have an accountability piece along with compassion.

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#### DRAWING

**Mary Lou Long** had the winning ticket but did not pull the Ace of Spades in spite of **Geoff's** efforts to help (hinder?) her.

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#### UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 11: **Hillary Franz**, State Commissioner of Public Lands

March 18: **Julius "Doc" Blackwell**

March 25: **CAPT Crinklaw**, PSNS Commanding Officer

*Proofreading by Tom Long*