



Club Meeting

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

Speakers

May 13, 2024
Military Appreciation
Luncheon
@ Kitsap Conference
Center
May 20, 2024
Bremerton High School
ASB/NJROTC
May 27, 2024
MEMORIAL DAY
HOLIDAY (no meeting)

Events

No Events found

Birthdays

Alexander Lee Parker
May 15th
AARON LEAVELL
May 22nd
James DW Cline
May 24th
Scott Willard
May 25th
Reama Schuldt
May 29th

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 May 6, 2024

BY STEVE LANDAU

REFLECTION

Karen McKay-Bevers, whose "broken wing" is recovering nicely, reflected on the friendships she has made in the club. **Gramma Jean (Mitchell)** is almost a member of her family, and **Carrie Rivers** and her kids are too. She is proud of her daughter, **Evvie**, who will be going to Italy for six weeks this summer as part of a Rotary exchange. People have been asking her whether she is worried about sending her teenage daughter to a foreign country. Karen realized that she is not, and it's because she trusts Rotarians to take good care of her. She recalled taking her family to the Rotary International Convention in Hamburg, Germany, and what a positive experience that was for her entire family.

VISITORS & GUESTS

Johnnie Wallace, Chicago friend of **Deborah Jackson**
Amanda Owen, former exchange student to France in 2004-05
Rick Tift, former member, retired as Executive Director of the Shipyard last year
Mary Lou Long
Katie Sharp, Bremerton Housing Authority Communications Manager

It was noted that two longtime members who winter in warmer climes were back with us "Jerry Reid from Palm Desert, California, and **Wayne Lindberg** from Peoria, Arizona.

MUSIC COMMITTEE



Wayne Lindberg, John Stockwell and **Larry Eyer** performed an original song he's written and dedicated to the day's speaker, **Jill Stanton**.

Sung to the tune of "The Tennessee Waltz"

*Oh Jill Stanton, Jill Stanton
Today you'll be speaking,
We look forward to what you say
Will it be youth housing, or youth carousing
Homeless Service or Section 8,
We know what you say will be great*

*I was thinking as I was walking
On my way to Rotary
Of the needs of some in our community.
We need housing for the homeless
And those of low income
So they don't have to live out on the street.*

There are those who live in a car

*Which is better than those who
Don't have any place to go.
So you help them with their rents
And provide them some shelter
When the weather is hot or it snows.*

*We are grateful to have a member in our midst
Who is both wise and we think most kind
To lead Bremerton Housing Authority
We have heard it said
What you do unto others, you do unto me*

SERGEANT & HAPPY BUCKS



Peter Braun was the sergeant, with us in person for the first time in a while. Peter said his absence was due to three surgeries and two medical issues. Nice to have you back, Peter.

With the Mariners on a good winning streak, Peter's thoughts turned to baseball. He asked how many "quality starts" they had (21) and how many consecutive series they had won (6).

Resident Mariners expert **Steve Landau** explained that a quality start for a pitcher is six innings allowing three or fewer earned runs.

Peter had everyone stand who had ever been an AVID mentor, followed by those who had participated in scholarship interviews. Those seated paid fines.

Peter clarified that his fast food business that had provided the food at a Rotary meeting some time ago was Jersey Mike's. Apparently our **President Geoff** had thanked Jimmy John's. Ooooh, bad.

Happy bucks: **Gordon Cromwell** said his grandson **Tanner** was graduating in Montana. He also won the Class B State Golf Tournament.

President-Elect **Karen Sawyer-Meehan** was happy that **Denise Ledingham** put together a list of all Rotarians so she could determine who could fill empty committee slots next Rotary year.

Wayne Lindberg gave 20 happy bucks because he was so happy to be back here and had missed the big freeze. **Jerry Reid**, also glad to be back, was shamed into matching Wayne's 20 bucks.

Carrie Rivers reminded members that Sunday, May 12 is Mothers Day. She urged them to call her at Paul's Flowers, the oldest flower shop in Bremerton.

New member **Reama Schuldt** was still basking in the glory of having her store given an Earth Day Award by Kitsap County for recycling arts supplies. She also said she had a successful three-day art installation at the Seattle Center.

Dave Anderson said his eldest grandson had graduated from WSU in Architecture. He thanked **Steve Rice** for influencing him to go into that field five years ago.

John Stockwell said he's always happy to see an exchange student come back to visit us, referring to **Amanda Owen**, an exchange student to France in 2004-05.

Marty Cavalluzzi said the crew of the USS Nimitz had won the grand prize in the annual Armed Forces culinary competition Saturday at Olympic College. Marty was a judge along with Mayor **Greg Wheeler**, our honorary member.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Deborah Jackson got rid of her temporary red badge in near-record time and was presented with her blue badge. **President Geoff** said her sponsor **Tom Long** had apparently done a good job of orienting her.

President Geoff read part of a thank-you note from our member and Charleston Business Association Vice President **Jim Cline**. He would have read more but said Jim's handwriting was horrible.

Karen McKay-Bevers reported that we're going to resurrect our Reading to Kindergarteners Program, which went by the wayside during Covid, in abbreviated form. We will be visiting every kindergarten classroom in the district and our members will read one book then hand out one or two free books to each child. There will be Spanish language books for those in the immersion program.



Tom Long read an email from last year's inbound exchange student from Spain, **Elena Llorca**, who had just turned 18 years old: "I only have a week left of high school, I am sad and happy at the same time but also stressed because I'm having my finals this week and my big tests to enter university next month. After that I will graduate and go on a trip to Mallorca with all my friends, it will be so much fun."

Larry Eyer said he had received emails from **Steve Rice**, who was in Brazil with wife **Terri** and daughter **Annie** attending the wedding of our former inbound exchange student, Eduardo. The Rices met with family members of former exchange student **Guga Fabron** (2007-2008), but could only speak briefly with Guga by phone. Guga is a physician working very long hours trying to address the crisis needs of flood victims in Puerto Allegra, Brasil. Many people have died there in once in a century floods. Guga has been called to work with the children who have been rescued from their roofs with helicopters.

OUR CLUB FOUNDATION



Gordon Cromwell, **Chuck Capps** and **Peter Braun** came forward to talk about their proposal to use more of the Bremerton Rotary Foundation's income to give out scholarships to deserving Bremerton High students. The three of them participated in interviewing students who had applied for the scholarships this year. They gave out \$53,000, which was well beyond budget in true **Marilee Hansen** style (Marilee is a former Rotarian, now deceased, who ran the scholarship program for many years). However, they were disappointed that they could give out only 16 academic scholarships to the more than 50 students who had applied. Five students received vocational scholarships.

The Bremerton Rotary Foundation (BRF) is our club's own foundation, unique among Rotary clubs, that distributes money to the various causes we support, including scholarships. It is separate from the Rotary International Foundation that funds Rotary's programs worldwide. The BRF was formed in 1983 by Bremerton Rotarians **Williams Kamps, Bill Dane** and **Clint Shinkle**. Donations to the fund languished for some time, and it was hit by stock downturns. The original idea was that once the fund exceeded \$1 million, we would start using income from the fund.

This goal was reached several years ago with a major donation from the estate of former Rotarian **Arland Loftens**'s widow. The fund now stands at \$1.8 million. Last year, **Dave Anderson** and the BRF Board rewrote the original investment policy. Under the new policy, some 3-4% of the fund's income from the prior 12 months will go to support Rotary programs—75% for education and programs benefiting youth and 25% to other community activities. It is hoped that this policy will make more money available for scholarships.

PROGRAM



Jill Stanton, Executive Director of Bremerton Housing Authority, and a member of our club, was our featured speaker. She said she is passionate about housing and highlighted the group's mission statement: "BHA provides high quality, stable and sustainable housing and related services to people who have limited financial means. Our work is to help our clients become economically self-sufficient and at the same time strengthen communities.

We will use our public and private resources efficiently and effectively." BHA manages a number of residential facilities that provide housing for its clients. They also have a voucher program making it possible for clients to rent other private properties.

Jill focused on BHA's latest project, Evergreen Bright Start, which addresses the lack of housing in the community for young adults. It consists of a 30-unit apartment complex in downtown Bremerton opening in the next few months that will house young adults ages 18-24 who may be homeless, are exiting foster care, or have experienced a combination of traumatic events such as sexual exploitation, domestic violence, mental health issues, substance abuse and extreme poverty. The \$10.7 million project has received \$4 million in funding from Kitsap County and the City of Bremerton and an additional \$6.5 million from the Washington State Department of Commerce to meet the fundraising goal.

ELECTION FOR PRESIDENT

John Stockwell indicated that in order to follow our bylaws, we will need to hold an election for President for the upcoming Rotary year. **Karen Sawyer-Meehan** has volunteered for and has been nominated for this position. Starting next week, there will be three readings of the nomination(s), followed by an election.

DRAWING

Jerry Reid, who had just returned from warmer climes, had the winning ticket but did not draw the winning card in the deck.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May 13: Military Appreciation Luncheon (at Kitsap Conference Center)
May 20: Bremerton High School ASB/NJROTC Report
May 27: Memorial Day—no meetings

Photos by proofreading by Tom Long