



Club Meeting

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

Speakers

June 24, 2024
Sunny Saunders
Blackberry Festival
report

July 01, 2024
No meeting

July 08, 2024
TBD

July 15, 2024
Derek Means
Coffee Oasis

Events

June 20th
Bremerton Rotary
Kickout Dinner
@ Evergreen Pizza

Birthdays

Chuck Henderson
June 19th

Dennis Treger
June 29th

Caroline Rivers
July 1st

Gordon N. Cromwell
July 3rd

John F. Mitchell
July 8th

Ana Orona
July 15th

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 June 17, 2024

By Steve Landau, Bulletin Editor

REFLECTION



Amanda Owen, our newest member, gave the Reflection on Fathers Day. She said her dad was a big influence in her life and he is the reason she's a Rotarian. Her husband's experience with his father was not so great. However, he makes a concerted effort to be there for their young son. "Being there for your kids now is making the world a better place," she said.

VISITORS & GUESTS



School's out! Photo of students at this Rotary meeting. From left to right: **Ava Kapps**, Chuck Kapp's daughter, **Treyden Hesch**, RYLA student, **Keaton Martinez**, outbound exchange student to South Korea, **Keith Bevers**, Karen Bever's son, **Evvie Bevers**, summer exchange student to Italy and Karen Bever's daughter, **Vittoria Botta**, Evvie's summer exchange partner from Italy, **Danny Butler**, Tom and Mary Lou's grandson, front row, **Coleridge Shuldt**, Rema Shuldt's son

Evvie Bevers, Karen's daughter

Keith Bevers, Karen's son

Vittoria Botta, summer exchange student Italy, staying with Karen's family

Mary Lou Long

Sunny Saunders, Blackberry Festival manager

Dave White, East Bremerton, Assistant District Governor

Coleridge Shuldt, Rema's son

Keaton Martinez, outbound exchange student going to South Korea this fall

Treyden Hesch, senior at BHS and RYLA participant

Ava Capps, Chuck's daughter

Carolyn Barnes, Doc Stockwell's mother

Sean Rivers, Carrie's son, recent 8th grade graduate

Danny Butler, Tom Long's grandson

MUSIC COMMITTEE



John Stockwell, Larry Eyer and Wayne Lindberg practicing their song prior to the meeting. Yes, Virginia, they do practice!

The songsters dedicated a song to anyone who was a father, had a father, or would like to be a father, which covered nearly everyone. They were asked to stand.

SERGEANT & HAPPY BUCKS

As chairman of the Sergeants Committee, **Dennis Treger** said he was covering the last sergeant's stint of the year. He asked questions about Fathers Day:

• When was the first Fathers Day celebrated? (June 19, 1910 in Spokane)

• When did it become an official holiday? (1972, which was 58 years after President Woodrow Wilson made Mothers Day an official holiday)

Dennis asked Mariners fans to rise "there were only a few" and peppered them with questions about the Mariners' current record (43-21) and lead over Texas (8½ games), both of which baseball fanatic **Steve Landau** answered correctly.

Dennis asked for "happy bucks" and **Jill Robinson** was the first to rise. She said that 25 years ago on the same date she had brought her newly adopted son from Russia to the meeting. He made a mess on the Conference Center floor. She is very happy to have him in her family.

Tom Long said his airline pilot son **Tom Long Jr.** had a layover in Seattle last week and his mom **Mary Lou** and father Tom had an opportunity to have brunch with him at the Pike Place Market.

Doc Blackwell said he received a nice Fathers Day gift when his mom **Carolyn Barnes** came to visit him.

Doug Berger enjoyed spending five days at a school for fine woodworking last week. He also enjoyed meeting Doc's mom, whom he said he mistook for Doc's sister.

Dave Anderson attended his grandson's graduation ceremonies from Auburn High School, which took place between two major rain showers. There was a party afterwards with 50 guests and relatives in attendance.

Steve Rice said he received a nice Fathers Day gift when his youngest daughter joined him for a five-day Rogue River adventure. She was substituting for Steve's wife **Terri**, who had broken her arm.

Carrie Rivers said her oldest son graduated from 8th grade and her youngest from kindergarten.

Larry Eyer said it was nice to be back after a few weeks traveling to explore his family roots in Ireland and Denmark.

Mary Lou Long gave 20 bucks in honor of her husband **Tom's** birthday. She was glad her grandson **Danny Butler** was here to help him celebrate; he is a straight-A student.

Laura McKerrow said she would donate \$100 next week if everyone pays off money owed to Rotary, which now totals about \$3,000.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Those who would like to read the obituary in the Kitsap Sun for former club member **Mike Connolly**, who died May 28 in Silverdale, can [click here](#).

President Geoff said we will meet next week at the usual place at Olympic College, despite refinishing work going on in the building. The lunch will be catered by Mezcalitos in downtown Bremerton.



Elizabeth Shea (formerly Gilje), a past president of our club who recently rejoined us, said she and **Geoff Pentz** will be chairing the World Community Service Committee next Rotary year. Elizabeth was an active participant in a previous Rotary project in Mulege, Mexico, where our club paid for a water storage tank to be added to their water system. She and Geoff plan to continue working on supporting a project in El Rosario, a small town near Mazatlan. Previously, we provided durable medical

equipment to them and helped pay for a multipurpose classroom. This project is spearheaded by the East Bremerton Rotary Club.

Karen Sawyer-Meehan announced that if you are on a committee this year and don't want to serve on it next year, you need to notify her because otherwise all committee assignments will remain the same.



A large cowbell donated to our club many years ago by the father of our inbound exchange student from Switzerland, **Gallus Ineichen**, was presented to **President-Elect Karen**, as is the tradition of our club. She will only have it a few weeks before passing it on to the incoming **President-Elect Marin Solace**.

Blackberry Festival Manager **Sunny Saunders** had brought hot-off-the-presses Blackberry posters to the meeting and encouraged members to post them in their offices or churches.

John Stockwell announced that all club officers and Board members running for office were elected. These are:

President: **Karen Sawyer-Meehan**

President-Elect: **Marin Solace**

Treasurer: **Laura McKerrow**

Secretary: **Daryl Matheny**

Board members: **Ana Orona, Mark Mitchell, Scott Willard and Jim Cline**



Jean Mitchell, chair of the Reflections Committee, is looking for new members. She said the Reflections duty rotates weekly. Reflectors have up to three minutes to present a meaningful quote or story. Jean makes up the schedule six months in advance; if anyone has to miss a meeting they are scheduled for, they are responsible for trading with someone else. Usually committee members have to give a Reflection once every four months.

RYLA PRESENTATION



Treyden Hersch gave a brief presentation about his experiences at the recent RYLA event at YMCA's Camp Colman. Treden was sponsored by the District 5020 E-Club and will be giving a zoom presentation to them, so this was practice for him. He said he learned a lot about what he can do to become a leader. He participated in many activities that took him outside of his comfort zone. For instance, he swung from 30 feet high on a swing, something he thought he'd never be able to do. Each participant had a super power identified, and his was storytelling.

PROGRAM



Deborah Jackson invited the speaker, **Akueya Karen Vargas**, to explain the Juneteenth Holiday, which takes place Thursday, June 19 and became a federal holiday in 2021. She is the Executive Director of Living Life Leadership. Akueya related how she came to Kitsap County from Richmond, Virginia, more than 33 years ago, when her husband was assigned to Submarine Base Bangor. They found housing on Bainbridge Island and discovered they were one of the only African American families on the island. Her children were racially bullied in school and Akueya started her advocacy with the Bainbridge School District. She volunteered every day in her kids' schools and helped form a Multi-Cultural Advisory Council. She started doing research on the roots of local African Americans and discovered a rich history dating back to the 1800s, beginning with homesteaders. She has worked with representatives in Olympia to preserve Indigenous and African American history in Washington State and Kitsap County.



Akueya said Juneteenth celebrates June 19, 1865, when a Union Major General arrived in Galveston, Texas and told the slaves that they were free; it had actually been two years since President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Degree. Juneteenth has been celebrated for 150 years in African American communities with parades, education programs and other events. Juneteenth has been celebrated in Kitsap County since 2002. A Juneteenth Black Film Festival began Wednesday at the Admiral Theatre.

She received a jar of blackberry jam and a contribution of \$75 in her name was made to the PolioPlus campaign.

DRAWING

Steve Landau had the lucky winning ticket, but will have to wait until next week for his chance to draw for the Ace of Spades, since the deck was A.W.O.L.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

June 24: **Sunny Saunders**, full presentation on Blackberry Festival
July 1: No meeting
July 8: To be determined
July 15: **Derek Means**, Coffee Oasis

Photos and proofreading by Tom Long