



Club Meeting

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

Speakers

October 07, 2024

Iiita Yli-Kuha

**Our inbound exchange
student from Finland**

October 14, 2024

NO MEETING

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

October 21, 2024

**Katie Pratt
Northwest Vernacular**

Events

No Events found

Birthdays

Denise Landis

October 4th

Kade Platta

October 4th

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



From the meeting of Sept. 30, 2024

By Steve Landau

REFLECTION



Jim Cline said he was looking at a Facebook page and there was the slogan "radiate positivity." Jim started thinking about how you get to be a positive person and he came up with these guidelines:

☺ Have hope (and take action on it)

☺ Have optimism, thinking the best is yet to come

☺ Have courage, like standing up in front of 500 people and giving a presentation (which Jim has done)

☺ Express kindness

☺ Practice gratitude

☺ Spend time with positive people

VISITORS & GUESTS

Larry Smith, Bainbridge Rotarian (Larry pointed out that **Dennis Treger** lives on Bainbridge Island and belongs to Rotary here; he lives here and belongs to Rotary on Bainbridge. **Kyle Kincaid** remembers that when Larry was Rotary president on Bainbridge 10 years ago, Kyle was president here.

Sunny Saunders, Blackberry Festival Manager

Riley Blaisdell

Mary Lou Long

Chris Swanson, BHS College & Career Counselor

Elliot Birkley, last year's outbound exchange student to Bolivia

Erica Delma, Elliot's mom

RYLA STUDENTS:

Owen Schmick

Claudia Kibbe

Treden Hesh

Avery Gambardella

Timarria Bevins

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Tim Quigley said that they were without their lyricist, **Wayne Lindberg**, who was at home monitoring the grandchildren. But Wayne had managed to send them a ditty to perform:

Tune: I Write the Songs, Barry Manilow

Lyrics: Wayne Linberg, 9-30-24 *We've been around forever*

And we wrote some very bad songs

We put the words and the melodies together

We make music and we write the songs

[Chorus:]

We write the songs that make the whole club sing

We write the songs of fun and special things

We write the songs that make the members cry

We write the songs, we write the songs

Our words may strike fear within you

We know just how to reach your soul

And when we sing and look into your eyes

The way you stare we know we're in control

[Chorus repeats:]

SERGEANT & HAPPY BUCKS



Jean Mitchell served as the sergeant and she started with happy bucks:

President Karen said her family trip to the Hanford Nuclear Reservation was “amazing” and very interesting.

Peter Braun said his wife **Marty** had been looking for a new home for the past decade to replace the family home of 33 years. She found one just exactly a mile from their current home and the deal closed in July but they haven’t moved in yet. He said it has a nine-car garage!

Karen McKay-Bevers said the new sports complex at Mountain View Middle School is nearly complete and already is in use by the students. There was to be a ribbon-cutting on Wednesday. She said the MVMS students are super proud and excited.

Carrie Rivers took her son Sean to his first big concert, along with his friend **Keith Bevers**. Being responsible parents, they caught the 10:30 pm ferry home.

Mark Miller, formerly in law enforcement himself, was happy that the Fraternal Order of Police were having their statewide conference at the Clearwater Casino.

John Stockwell enjoyed seeing a 4th grade friend perform as a standup comedian at a benefit for Lower Columbia College in Longview. He got together with former classmates and they had a good laugh.

Gerry Egan spent two weeks on the Big Island of Hawaii snorkeling and SCUBA diving. He said the reefs that were severely bleached in 2015 have recovered nicely.

Karen McKay-Bevers said her son Keith, an 8th grader at Mountain View Middle School beat a long-standing school record in shotput by 6 feet in his first season on the track team. He has set a goal of making it to the Olympics!

Marin Solace said that, as if she wasn’t busy enough already, she is now on the Board of the Downtown Bremerton Association.

Fines revolved around the performance of Rotarians’ local college and pro football teams. If your favorite team lost you paid \$1; if won you only owed a buck.

Jean fined anyone who wasn’t registered to vote five bucks, except that if they promise to register right away, they only had to pay \$2.

RYLA STUDENTS



BHS RYLA students at the Seabeck Conference Center

The Bremerton High students who had attended the RYLA Conference the last week of school last spring were guests at our meeting and they each related their experiences. RYLA stands for Rotary Youth Leadership Award; our club selects approximately 10 students to go to RYLA each year.

Avery Gambardella said all the people at RYLA, including the counselors, were very welcoming. She enjoyed meeting so many new people, some of whom have become friends.

Treden Hesh said each group at RYLA had to come up with a community service project to take back to their schools. His was a program to provide food for disadvantaged families.

Claudia Kibbe's group project was to turn an unused parking lot at BHS into a food garden.

Timarria Bevins said during meals at RYLA the students would get pieces of cardboard upon which they'd write a message to someone who had showed good leadership or kindness.

Owen Schmick appreciated the group activity where you had to trust other kids to catch you when you fell from the high wires.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tim Quigley, who has been working at the Kitsap County Auditor's Office, reminded us that ballots for the general election would begin being mailed out in two weeks. **President Karen** reminded us that our group is nonpartisan and political discussions are best kept outside of our meetings.

PROGRAM



Elliot Birkley, our outbound exchange student to Bolivia during the previous academic school year, gave the program. He spent 8½ months living in Tarija, a Bolivian town close to the border with Argentina. Elliot spent most of his presentation talking about food, which he apparently enjoyed immensely, although he actually says he lost weight. He estimated he ate 2,000 empanadas during his stay. In fact, Elliot said he spent most of his spending money on food, except having to buy school

clothes.

Elliot attended school six days a week, including a half-day Saturday when he had PE and an elective cooking class. He attended a private school, since the government schools were considered of low quality. He said his school was roughly on a par with Bremerton High, although there were fewer activities. He went to Bolivia without studying Spanish, but gradually picked it up during his stay. His Spanish teacher there told him he was fluent, but Elliot didn't think so.

Ironically, while Elliot was attending school in Bolivia, one of his host brothers was an exchange student to Bainbridge Island. He liked his two host families very much.



President Karen gives Elliot the customary jar of jam as a speaker's gift.

DRAWING

RYLA student **Owen Schmick** had the winning raffle ticket but could not come up with the Queen of Spades.

EXCHANGE STUDENT NEWS



Photo of Ana Orona's family and Exchange student Iita Yli-Kuha at Mt. Rainer last Sunday

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Oct. 7: **Iita Yli-Kuha**, inbound exchange student from Finland

Oct. 14: NO MEETING (Indigenous Peoples/Columbus Day)

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

Photos and proofreading by Tom Long