

Rotary



Club of Olympia

Next Club Meeting Date: August 21, 2023

By Dan Lehuta

If you would like to join the meeting via ZOOM, click on this link: [Meeting by Zoom](#)



Join us at our next meeting on Monday, August 21st, at Rivers Edge Restaurant at the Tumwater Valley Golf Course. Our speaker will be Chris Reykdal of the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Meeting of 8-14-2023 - Child Care Action Council

By Robert Heck on Thursday, August 17, 2023

Rotary Club of Olympia

The Wheel

Date: 8/14/2023

Today's Program: Child Care Action Council - Gary Burris

Meeting Called to order: President Debra @ 12:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Bret Anderson

Four Way Test led by: Bill Lahmann

Visiting Rotarians:

Nita Sell of Gateway club and her guest new Rotarian Brenner from same club.

Guest of Rotarians:

Several guests joined us today.

Announcements:

Colleen Gillespie - New Rotary Scholarship - a big thank you to the Wubbena family for their generous donation to the Olympia Rotary Foundation to start a scholarship for an SPSCC student.

Club Board Meetings - the meeting date is now on the fourth Wednesday of each month, on Zoom. If you need to attend a meeting, the next one is on 8.23.23.

Community Impact Grants - Skip Steffan - shared an update about the community impact grant process. Now the committee is able to award about \$20,000 in grants each year. The committee has decided to parse this amount into two pots. \$10,000 for multiple small grants and \$10,000 as a community impact grant (up to \$10,000 for a single organization, possibly for more than one year). Skip shared the process that the committee followed to award the newly earmarked grant money.

Happy Bucks hosted by **Gretchen Sturtevant**

Colleen Gillespie- excited to share she got a new puppy and that her firm, Sawston Wealth Management won the "best in the south sound" award for financial advisory firm from Showcase Magazine.

Laurie Maricle Bridges - excited to have earned her blue badge!

Jim Balz- very excited about Brazilian beer, and his adventurous trip to South America.

Dennis Cooper- excited to share about his grandson's success in rowing.

Laurie Tebo - shared how her hearing device went for a sneaky swim.

Martin Meyer- excited to share he has a new pet at home.

Olivia Hickerson - shared she has started her own business helping organizations with grant writing.

Program: Child Care Action Council - Gary Burris

Skip Steffen introduced Gary Burris. Gary is the Executive Director of the Child Care Action Council (CCAC). He has been in this position for the last six years. The Child Care Action Council was founded in 1987 by a group of parents, child care professionals, employers, school & government representatives, and other community members concerned about the inadequacies in our community's child care system. CCAC currently serves parents & providers in Thurston, Grays Harbor, Mason, Kitsap, Jefferson, and Clallam counties.

CCAC is the Thurston and Mason County affiliate for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. The Library is a project that is supported by the state, local entities and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Foundation. Children 0-5 are eligible to register to receive one free book each month. As of last week, 2800 children are enrolled throughout Thurston and Mason Counties. Books cost about \$5. CCAC pays for half the cost, the state pays for the other half.

CCAC focuses on early childhood education. 80% of the annual CCAC budget is from the state of Washington. Gary shared about many of the programs that they coordinate throughout the CCAC service area. Some of these programs include "Raising a Reader (early childhood literacy)", Safe Kids Thurston County (child safety), Dolly Parton's Imagination Library (early childhood literacy), Play Groups (family service programming). CCAC also is the partner organization to the Early Achievers program from the State Department of Children, Youth and Families. The focus of Early Achievers is on educating childcare professionals.

Gary took questions from club members.

The meeting was recorded, if you would like to see the recording, please contact President Debra.

Mr. Snappy: Denny Peterson won a \$25 gift certificate to Rivers Edge, donated by President Debra.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:28 pm by President Debra.
