

Rotary



Club of Olympia

Next Club Meeting Date: May 20, 2024

By Dan Lehuta

To join our lunch meetings using ZOOM, click [HERE](#).

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Our program on May 20th is a Memorial Day remembrance Program and Committee Sign-Up, honoring our own club veterans and a chance to sign up for the committee of your choice.

Meeting of 4-22-2024

By Robert Heck

Rotary Club of Olympia

The Wheel

Date: 4/22/2024 **Today's Program:** Experience Olympia & Beyond - Annette Pitts

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Jay Burney

Four Way Test led by: Holly Mason

Visiting Rotarians:

Mitch Dietz - Lacey Rotary

Guest of Rotarians:

Several guests joined us today.

Announcements:

Cool Jazz, Clean Water - if the club sells 50 cases of wine this month, the club will earn an additional \$10,000 towards the total goal. The winery is offering this challenge, they will be the entity providing the match money. Of the cash, 100% of the cost comes back to the club towards the event goal. For more information, please contact Corey Gauny. The event date is Saturday, November, 16, 2024.

Lacey Rotary Duck Dash - Mitch Dietz from the Lacey Rotary Club invited club members to buy their raffle tickets for the 2024 Lacey Rotary Duck Dash. The event is on June 1, 2024. Tickets are \$10. For tickets and more information, visit: <https://laceyrotary.org/duck-dash/>

Rotary Point Park Cleanup - Matt DeBord will be leading the cleanup this coming weekend. To volunteer, please contact him.

Scholarship Committee - Micki Holden-Cooper is the chair of the committee. She will lead the club through the process of awarding each of the club's scholarships. The committee is open to anyone who would like to join. Please confirm with Micki as soon as possible. The committee meeting will be on Thursday, May 9 at 3pm. Location: TBD. Student applications will be available by the end of this week for committee members to review.

Golden Bear - One of the OHS school counselors to recognize Brenda, our April Golden Bear award winner, joined Brett Anderson. Brenda dreams of becoming a nurse and is engaged as a volunteer with her church as well as the local un-housed population. Brenda thanked the club for the award and support.

Auction: Steve Bean helped auction off a bottle of whiskey, won by **President Debra** who promptly gifted it to **Jay Burney** who had been moonlighting as Dr. Pat Murphy for the program.

Happy Bucks:

Steve Bean - Steve's niece, Shoshanna, has opened a new show on Broadway, Hells Kitchen. It is about the life of Alicia Keys. Currently the show has received over 300 5-star reviews. It is playing at the Shubert Theatre. For more information, visit: <https://www.hellskitchen.com/>

Martin Meyer - Celebrating his birthday today.

Bill Latta - shared that he joined Cyndi and her family to enjoy the bottle of wine he won at a prior Club meeting. While the bottle was not off the charts, the company and conversation made for a wonderful evening.

Bret Anderson - the OHS Interact Club International Dinner was a huge success with about 80 attendees the club made about \$500. He shared pictures of the evening and thanked the club for their support.

Matt DeBord - Olympia Downtown Association Spring Cleanup was a success and he is looking forward to the cleanup of Rotary Point Park.

Micki Holden-Cooper - will welcome her kids into town along with her grandkids, she will then fly with them to Chicago for some time together.

Program: Experience Olympia & Beyond - Annette Pitts

Cecelia Loveless introduced the program and **Annette Pitts**. Prior to coming to Thurston County, she led a multi-county destination/tourism organization for a decade. In addition to her role as CEO of Olympia & Beyond, she serves on several local and statewide boards.

Her presentation focused on several areas: the role of her organization in the community, defining tourism, defining why tourism matters and the makeup of tourism in Thurston County.

Annette gave an overview of Thurston County's economic development ecosystem and how her organization either leads or coordinates initiatives that promote tourism growth. She educated the club on what activity qualifies as tourism.

Tourism is essentially a visitor's first date with a place, such as Thurston County. The lifecycle of tourism has four distinct phases: 1) Visit, 2) Live, 3) Work and 4) Invest, which all feed into the overall quality of life in our community.

Annette shared the results of the most recent survey that her organization conducted. Over 1,000 residents responded to the sentiment survey and overwhelmingly reported that local tourism is very important. In 2022, tourism brought over \$51.8 million in economic impact and created over 3,800 jobs to Thurston County.

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

Mr. Snappy: Jenny, Debra's guest, won a \$25 gift certificate to Spud's Produce, donated by Barbara Barney.

Meeting Adjourned 1:28 pm by President Debra.

Meeting of 5-13-2024

By Robert Heck

Rotary Club of Olympia

The Wheel

Date: 5/13/2024 **Today's Program:** Rotary In Action Pt. 1: Club Member Reflections

Meeting Called to order: President Debra @ 12:34 pm

Pledge of Allegiance led by: Wendy Holden

Four Way Test led by: Warren Carlson

Visiting Rotarians:

Denise Keegan - Passport Rotary Club

Guest of Rotarians:

Several guests joined us today

Announcements:

Cool Jazz, Clean Water - please reach out to Corey Gauny to join the committee, all are welcome.

Memorial Day Program - if you are a club member and a veteran, please contact Jim Balz so the club can include you in the special program.

Rotary Day @ Tacoma Rainiers - August 4 is the date for the group outing to watch baseball and enjoy fellowship. To secure your spot and tickets, please contact Oscar Soule.

Scholarship Awards Meeting - Monday, June 10 @ **Olympia Golf & Country Club** - the program at this special meeting will be the students who have been awarded a scholarship from our club.

Happy Bucks:

Reid Bates- he and his wife, members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, have been called to serve as missionaries in Croatia. They will leave this August and serve for 18 months. Reid looks forward to coming back to the club upon their return to share about the experience.

Olympia Trials Legacy Committee - **Denise Keegan** shared about the upcoming events commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Women's Olympic Trials held in Olympia in 1984. Several of the runners will be here to attend events commemorating and celebrating the Trials. The committee is organizing a banquet on Friday, May 17 at 5:30pm at Indian Summer Golf and Country Club. Doors open at 4pm for a social hour. The cost is \$75/person. To purchase your tickets, please visit: <https://event.auctria.com/17d4e060-3d1b-44ca-abbf-808c2261bd7a/>. For more information please visit the Oly Runners Website: <https://runsignup.com/Race/WA/Olympia/InspiringGenerations>

Colleen Gillespie - always happy to help with beverages and beverage procurement for any event.

Tom McLean- daughter is touring with a group in Austria. She is touring and learning about the country/history between performances.

Steve Bean- recently had a record-setting swim.

Program: Rotary In Action Pt. 1: Club Member Reflections

Steve Bean introduced the program and club members **Martin Meyer, Holly Mason, Bret Anderson, Caroline Manger, Wendy Holden**. These are not classification talks, rather club members share why they joined Rotary. Each club member expanded on their involvement with the club since joining.

Martin Meyer - because Dennis Adams asked him to and his father was involved in Rotary and he saw how much his dad enjoyed being a part of his club.

Holly Mason - because she became the Executive Director of the South Puget Sound Community College Foundation and the organization has a long history of involvement with Rotary.

Bret Anderson- because his brother in law was President of the Rotary Club of Seattle and because he wanted to build community after returning to the US after 42 years of working abroad. Tired of the commute, he decided to join the Olympia Rotary Club. He has actually known Warren Carlson for years (well before his time in Rotary).

Caroline Manger- because she was recruited to join the club by Steve Bean. She shared several of her Rotary Club books/memorabilia.

Wendy Holden - because she decided to join a club after she retired. Many of her friends recruited her to join our club. She wishes she would have joined sooner.

Steve Bean - because of the club's reputation when he was growing up in Olympia.

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

Mr. Snappy: a club member won a \$25 gift certificate to The Olive Garden, donated by Gretchen Sturtevant

Meeting Adjourned 1:27 pm by President Debra.

Interact Dinner Sponsors

Our OHS Interact club dinner was sponsored by the restaurants listed below. Please thank them and support them whenever possible.

Streets of Singapore Restaurant
913 Capitol Way S
Olympia WA, 98501

Asahi Sushi
106 Legion Way SE, Olympia, WA 98501

Curry House Restaurant
8765 Tallon LN NE(Unit H) Lacey, WA 98516.

Pints Hot Dogs
4444 6th Ave SE Suite 100, Lacey, WA

Mercato Restaurant
111 Market Street NE
Olympia WA 98501
