



The Gearshift

ROTARY CLUB OF TACOMA #8

We are bringing together business and professional leaders to provide humanitarian services, to encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and to advance goodwill and peace around the world.

The Gearshift is a weekly publication to inform members of current events in the Rotary Club of Tacoma #8.

Vol. One Hundred-One | Issue No. 8



On Thursday August 22nd we will hear from Executive Director, Amy Hoyte, from Rebuilding Together.

In 1973, a small group of people in Midland, Texas, realized a growing need in their community. Homes in their community had fallen into disrepair and their neighbors could not afford to fix them on their own. The group volunteered their time and skills to rehabilitate the homes of their neighbors. Realizing the potential

impact of this work, the group formed Christmas in April, with the intent of performing repair and rehabilitation work in their community every April.

News of the group's good work spread slowly, but eventually achieved national recognition. The mission spread beyond the idea of providing service once a year in April to bringing together partners from all walks of life to help our neighbors year-round. We opened the Rebuilding Together South Sound affiliate in 2001. Since our founding we rehabilitated more than 1,200 homes and non-profit facilities, reaching hundreds of disadvantaged members in our community. This effort has involved more than 10,900 volunteers giving 108,000 hours of their time.

Today, Rebuilding Together has grown into a premier nonprofit community revitalization organization.

Together, with our corporate and community partners, we repair homes, revitalize communities and rebuild lives.

Rotary Club of Tacoma #8 meets weekly on Thursdays.

This week's meeting:

La Quinta Inn & Suites
1425 East 27th Street
Tacoma, WA 98421

WELCOME NEW MEMBER
IEESHA "MARTHA" IRVING



Time paid for by Kathi Willis in recognition of:



The memorial service for former RCOT Rotarian Bob Hammer will be held on Sunday, August 25th, at 2pm.
University Place Presbyterian Church
8101 27th Street West | University Place, WA 98466





When we think of Rotary International's Motto "Service Above Self," it helps define what it really means to be a Rotarian. The idea of combining our time and talents with our financial support is the essence of Rotary involvement. Our local Rotary Club's Project Greater Good (PGG) Annual Campaign allows us to leverage our

donations for up to four different areas of impact.

Each year at this time we invite all members to make an annual pledge. Letters were mailed to all members on August 2. Please take the time to thoughtfully consider what you are able to do this year.

Last year over 100 members participated, but this year our goal is to have all of our members participate at some level. Please help us meet that goal by completing your pledge form now and returning it to the office!

PLEDGE NOW



**COMPREHENSIVE
LIFE RESOURCES**

A Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic

It is far beyond time for this country to embrace behavioral health as a critical component of a thriving society.

A recent op-ed by the CEO of the Legal Action Center advocated that mental health and substance abuse is infrastructure that deserves the same investment as roads, bridges, and airports. They rightly point out that our "human infrastructure" is in peril and that unless we shore up human beings nothing else will matter.

Almost one in four adults in the U.S. lives with a mental illness, substance use disorder or both. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for people ages 10 to 34, followed by homicide for ages 15-34. According to the CDC, in a 3-month period, patients with depression missed an average of 4.8 workdays - expand this out and it equals 200 million lost workdays each year at a cost to employers of \$17 to \$44 billion.

We have starved the behavioral health and safety net systems in this country for decades and we got what we paid for. Despite a vast number of effective treatments for behavioral health conditions, far too few of us get access to the best care, or any care at all, because there simply is not enough available. Less than 50% of those who experience a behavioral health issue receive any treatment.

Here at CLR we have never had better, more sophisticated treatment programs than we do today. New programs like First Episode Psychosis, Assertive Community Treatment and Mental Health Navigators in schools create opportunities for community-based care that have never existed before.



exchange

Let's fill the calendar!

**Sign-up now to show our new Rotary Youth Exchange
Students the time of their lives while visiting.**

We want to fill up the exchange students' first couple of months with great summer activities. Here are some ideas below:



- Visit the State Fair (Aug 30-Sept 22)
- Camping
- Boating
- Attend a Sounders Game
- See a Play (Tacoma Little Theater)
- Visit the Northwest Trek
- Rock Climbing
- Hiking
- Paddle Boarding
- Sea Kayaking
- Golfing
- Horseback Riding
- Fly Fishing
- Zip lining
- Flying (private plane ride)
- Your Idea Here!!



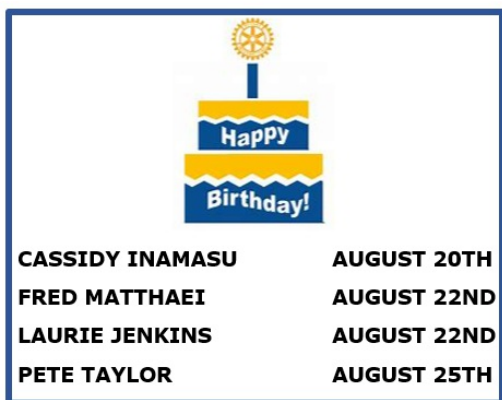
Virtual streaming of Tacoma Rotary Club #8 meetings is now **only** available on

facebook

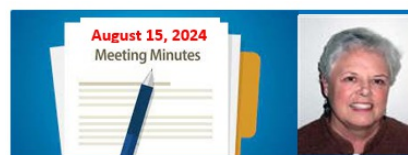
Need to join us virtually? Please join us on **FACEBOOK** by clicking the "Join Now" button.

**Next Broadcast
Thursday, August 22nd
12 – 1pm**





Fellowship, Leadership, and Service Above Self since 1910



Today's meeting was jam-packed with information and fun. The meeting opened with a warm greeting from President Chris Serface and recitation of the four-way test.

Miriam Barnett read the Land Acknowledgment.

Several guests and visiting Rotarians were introduced. Corey Hjalseth introduced his guests: Joy Ikwumezie who is taking a brief sabbatical from her work on a mercy ship off the coast of South Africa and visiting with Mike Thynes and his family who are good friends of Corey. Mike has also volunteered on a mercy ship. Carol Webster introduced Jacob Christiansen, who was an exchange student from Norway in 2018-2019. Jacob returned to Norway to finish high school, spent some time in the military as is required in Norway and is now attending college. Dean Hanks introduced Nathan Wallace, originally from Olympia, who is now a Rotarian in Egypt. Brien Elvins and Greg Rolsma both introduced new members in the pipeline. There are 9 potential new members in the pipeline.

Anniversaries were celebrated for Larry Treleven (45 yrs), Jim Henderson (40), Barbara Mead (29), Lori Bemis (14), Sherri Stanton (8), Hunter George (8), Lori Harnick (7), and Marty Lough (1).

Jan Brazzell introduced Martha Irving as a new member. Martha, originally from Ethiopia, came to the US as a young girl. She now works in the legal field. Martha was presented with her pin, her certificate and a book about Rotary. Jan was presented with a 'sponsor' pin.

Kathi Willis sponsored today's meeting on behalf of Project Greater Good. Andrew Sisolak reminded us that the concept of Rotary is 120 years old. He gave a wonderful presentation on the power of Rotary when we work collectively, pointing out that is the purpose of Project Greater Good. Ask him about his backpack with a 'gear'.

Kathryn Nelson introduced the speakers for the day's program – Judge Candidate Forum.

There are 4 Superior Court Judicial races on the November ballot. TaTeasha Davis and Paul Robson are vying for the Department 1 position. John Cummings and Rebecca Reeder are vying for the position in Department 4. Phil Thornton is seeking the Department 10 position. Scott Peters and Doris Watkins are seeking the Department 9 position. Due to a previous commitment, Doris was unable to attend and sent a surrogate to speak on her behalf. Each candidate gave a history of their legal experience and qualifications for being a judge. It was noted that there is a large backlog in our court system and judges need to be prepared to work hard and long hours. It behooves each of us as voters to read the voters pamphlet about each candidate and make these important decisions regarding our judges.

Chris Serface read a letter from the Rotary Club of Lakes Entrance in Australia. It is a small club of only 24 members but clearly big hearts. They have adopted a 'custom' of contacting other Rotary clubs around the world and asking each to share a toast to the good health of Rotary. We did as asked and made a toast to Lakes Entrance and the people of Victoria, Australia. What a great idea from them.

There was time for a few 'True Confessions'. Carol Webster recently returned from a trip to France with her husband and granddaughter. They had a great time in Paris and left just before the Olympic crowds. Brian Elvins became a grandfather last Saturday. Jim Merritt was excited to announce he had a wonderful FaceTime conversation with his grandson who is now an official cadet. Alex Trettin has moved his travel office from downtown Tacoma to the Hilltop area. Jim Henderson celebrated his 60th high school reunion with Bellarmine. Harrison Laird thanked 3 Rotarians who utilized his services in business real estate. Mark Anderson thanked everyone for voting to select new members of the Rotary Foundation Board and for their feedback comments regarding the Foundation. It was a great, informative meeting.