



University District Rotary Club Bulletin

Wednesday, March 31, 2021



PH: (206) 542-7070

PO Box 31125, Seattle, WA 98103

Brenda Dimond, President

Meeting Location

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87528482798?pwd=MINva2dodXZJM2NNZjZsbWhjYzNiZz09>

When: Every Friday

Business: 12:00-12:20 pm

Program: 12:20-12:50 pm

Wrap-up: 12:50-1:00 pm

Future Programs

April 9

Environmental
Sustainability Committee:
Dave Spicer, Jeff Johnson

April 16

Leilani Jackson-Lee: The
Story of Point Ruston

April 23

Tania Busch Isaksen: Earth
Day 2021, "Restore Our
Earth" and Wildfire
Control

Links

Club Photos

[Club Facebook Page](#)

[Club Website](#)

[DACdb](#)

[District 5030 Website](#)

Club Bulletin Deadline

Monday at 2:00 pm

Send ads & photos
in .jpg

Send material to:
paulalaschober@gmail.com

Program for April 2

Shannon Huffman Polson *The Grit Factor*

Shannon Huffman Polson is a woman of many firsts. Among those high points: She is one of the first women to fly Apache combat helicopters in the U.S. Armed Forces, where she served on three continents and led two flight platoons and a line company.

After nearly a decade as an Army officer and attack aviation leader, she transitioned through her MBA at Dartmouth to become a leader and manager in the corporate sector at Guidant and Microsoft. Now Shannon turned her attention to the study of leadership, as author of *The Grit Factor: Courage, Resilience and Leadership in the Most Male Dominated Organization in the World*, and founder of The Grit Institute,



with robust training in leadership and grit dedicated to whole-leader development in times of challenge and change.

Drawing on her distinguished career and the most current research in leadership and grit, Shannon reveals lessons learned and leadership strategies to help you harness your inner strength, develop your grit and resilience, and attain your goals. With an emphasis on grit, she demonstrates how to tap into that passion and resolve to face any obstacle, own your sense of purpose, and become a leader of greatness.



Thank You from Fundraiser Chair and President-Elect Raymond Connell

Dear Fellow Rotarians:

As Chair of the Fundraiser committee, I am honored to report that our "Spirit of Rotary 2021" was a huge success. Currently, we do not have the total amount raised since checks are still coming. I will provide actual numbers at our next meeting.

Thank you for your support, and commitment to the program. I want specially to thank our fundraiser committee for their time, talent, and resources. Although we were up against tremendous odds by conducting a virtual auction, as a team we pulled it off.

As chair of the committee, I was able to observe committee members hard at work and their dedication firsthand; and it made me proud to have been a part of this august group of individuals. We learnt a lot from the experience, and we showed tremendous resolve in getting across the finish line.

We appreciate all the warm regards from around the world. Attendees were deeply touched by our honorees. Special thanks to honorees Ezra Teshome, Dr. Vin Gupta and University of Washington medical staff. These were well deserved awards, and we were proud to recognize and honor them.

Special thank you to our Emcee, Ms. Penny Legate. Penny is always delightful to work with and she was as gracious as ever. She made it fun and entertaining. She stepped up and filled in gaps effortlessly.

Personal and special thanks to the Fundraising Committee members who exemplified the True Spirit of Rotary: Lisa Edwards, Kay Rodriguez Sider, Basant Singh, Brenda Dimond, Paula Laschober, Lael Ross, Judy Lovelace, Marilee Fuller, Son Michael Pham, Jennifer Younger, Dave Spicer, Linda Fukuda, Susan Sola, Jeff Werthan, Rosemary Barker Aragon, and Carma McKay.

In the words of Bob Marley 'One Love'.

Raymond A. Connell, PE

[Note: Funds raised through March 26 amount to approximately \$64,000. We are still expecting checks to come in.]

The 2021 Rotary International Convention
will be held virtually.

Visit convention.rotary.org for more
information about refunds and the
upcoming virtual event.

**2021 VIRTUAL
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION**

#Rotary21

Rotary 



Partners for Work Volunteer Interviewers Needed *(by Lisa Latchford)*

Through **mock interviews** Rotarians can offer an exceptional experience for students with disabilities. As business representatives, we can provide an actual interview exercise where students can share their resume, experiences and skills. The PFW Mock Interviews give students the opportunity to practice interviewing and get immediate feedback from Rotarians after the interview. Students come away with increased confidence during interviews, an important component in their job search.

**Come join our Partners for Work Project
Mock Interviews with Students with Disabilities
Friday, April 2, 2021, 10:00 am-12:00 noon, on Zoom**

Please email Lisa Latchford (lisaf98102@yahoo.com) if you would like to participate in this event .



Partners for Work (PFW) is one of our club's treasured projects and it is a Rotary District 5030 project that creates employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities by linking Rotarian business leadership and job candidates to find meaningful paid work. Since 2003 Partners for Work has helped create more than 130 jobs in District 5030! The University District Rotary Club has helped create jobs, had Mock Interviews and hired Greeters for the last 11 years through this program.

In our District, people with disabilities can be found working within a variety of occupations and industries. Employees from Partners for Work are office assistants, warehouse/manufacturing stocking associates, membership/service assistants, and utility/janitorial assistants. This project focuses on creating new opportunities for people who have traditionally been left out of the job market by having Rotarians become more aware of individual skills and abilities that exist within their own communities.

The project's target population is people who are over 18 years of age who have developmental disabilities and want to work. These individuals have valuable skills to offer the workplace, yet their employment rate is very low (30%) and many cannot meet the established job requirements set by business' human resource departments. Rotarians are often the top people in their companies and play a key networking and leadership role in helping open the door towards paid work.

Your Gifts/Donations to The Rotary Foundation at Work - Rotary Peace Centers

The Rotary Peace Centers program develops professionals or practitioners to become experienced and effective catalysts for peace. The fellowships cover tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation, and all internship and field-study expenses.

TO LEARN MORE:

[https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/peace-fellowships?
utm_source=linkedin&utm_medium=orgsoc&utm_profile=rotary+international&utm_campaign=](https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/peace-fellowships?utm_source=linkedin&utm_medium=orgsoc&utm_profile=rotary+international&utm_campaign=)



Want to find out if you are qualified? Take the Eligibility Quiz: https://rotary.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bxsthkafvzV5aRv?Q_JFE=qdg

Rotarian Birthdays in April *(from Judy Lovelace)*

April 16—Leslie Grace	April 26—Dan Dow
April 17—Raymond Connell	April 29—Nancy Dalton
April 20—Kimberly Berry	April 30—Jane Wiegenstein
April 21—Peter Damm	April 30—Joe Whitford





Invitation to Join Rotarian Ad Hoc Social Justice Group *(by Jeff Werthan)*

Every Saturday morning, a group of Rotarians from several different clubs meets virtually to listen to a speaker and ask questions pertaining to various social justice issues. Our group has created a safe space, that allows everyone to speak his/her mind in a non-threatening environment. "Non-threatening" does not always mean comfortable and does often mean challenging. It's an opportunity to listen, learn, comment and play the devils advocate.



Our group is based upon a similar group in Portland, OR, that Sala Sweet has been attending every Saturday. Sala brought Portland to my attention, and I started attending as well. Their large group (usually 35-50 attendees) has been meeting for awhile and they have branched out to work with many Portland area based organizations. They have also broken down their Saturday group into several smaller groups that are able to concentrate on different aspects of social justice.

With Sala in the lead, we started a similar group here in Seattle. Since our first meeting last November 7th, our speakers have included a combination of educators, state representatives and other elected officials, community spokespersons/organizations, corporate spokespersons, and police and police reform advocates. This Saturday, April 3, our speaker will be Bellevue Police Chief, Steve Mylett. On April 10, we'll hear from the Seattle Police Officers Guild President, and on April 17 we'll host a representative of the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle.

For a lively way to start your Saturday, visit us from 9:00-10:00. If you would like the link, please let me know (jmwdog@gmail.com or 425-802-1028). I can also include you on the Portland link if you would like.

Invitation to Join Duwamish River Cleanup to Celebrate Earth Day *(by Dave Spicer)*

Our Board just unanimously approved a fun Service Day for our Rotarians.

On **Saturday, April 17**, from 10 am-1 pm, Rotarians are invited to gather and do important clean up and restorative work at the Duwamish River. This will help mark Earth Day that started back in April, 1970. This is the brainstorm of Linda Harris and Linda, Jeff Werthan, Bill Herkes and Dave Spicer scouted this opportunity out a couple weeks ago. The activity is sponsored by our Environmental Sustainability Committee.

This event will be in collaboration with the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition and we will be working with them to remove invasive species and plant new trees and shrubbery along the banks of the Duwamish River. This is the location of a Superfund site that is being restored to the point that salmon, Great Blue Herons and other native species are just beginning to return and we can play a role to continue improving the habitat.



All you need to bring are good boots, leather gloves, masks and a water bottle. There will be porta potties on site. Tools will be provided along with the shrubbery and tree saplings we will be planting. We need a few Rotarians who are comfortable being in kayaks as well so we can do some cleanup on the river.

Lunch will be provided at 1 pm.

We are hoping for 15-20 of our Club Rotarians. If you are interested, please contact Dave Spicer (dspicer@davespicerlaw.com or 206-229-7568) for more details. Children aged 10 or older are welcome to participate.

Free parking will be available at T107, 4500 West Marginal Way. We ask volunteers to arrive by 9:45 am sharp. Coffee and juice will be provided.



ISC Report: School Desk Project in Congo Nears Completion



A grant of just \$4,200 sent in mid-March from our club to the Ekanga-Mbandaka Rotary Club of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has already resulted in locally constructed desks for students of the Bongondjo School of Mbandaka, a city in the northwest area of the country. The Congo club contributed \$100 and got construction started with a non-governmental development organization, Adaj-Congo.

Basic education in Congo is free, but schools are overcrowded and cannot meet the demand. Desks and other classroom amenities are in even shorter supply, and most students do schoolwork while sitting on the floor. This project will result in 60 desks which seat three students each. The Bongondjo School plans to put 10 of these desks in six classrooms.

The project not only provides a better learning environment for primary school students, it also contributes to the local economy and local job-skills training. Adaj-Congo, which is building the desks, trains young people in carpentry, painting, agricultural work, and other activities aimed at empowering them.

The Bongondjo School is owned by the government and managed by a local church. Serving a very poor area, there is no money for equipment. However, the school's administration and parents' committee will be responsible for maintaining the new desks.

Our club's primary sponsor for this project (the first our club has carried out in the DRC) is Linda Harris. The co-sponsor is Joe Whitford. They are already planning another proposal to refurbish the school's blackboards and paint and repair the exterior.



Ekanga-Mbandaka Rotary Club President, Blaise Bonkangu, tries out one of the desks



April 25-June 17, 2021

Do it your way

5K, 10K or 54 miles

Register at

<https://allinforautism.org>

#doityourway

Brought to you by



UDRC: Contact Lisa Latchford (lisaf98102@gmail.com) if you would like to join her in this activity.

How Our Club's Service Fund Works *(by Paula Laschober, Service Fund Treasurer)*

All donations to our annual fundraiser go to our Club's foundation, the Service Fund. The Service Fund is a 501c3 organization under the rules of the IRS. That means it's exempt from paying income tax, as long as it uses its funds for "exempt" purposes as defined by the IRS. Our Service Fund supports charitable and educational activities, and contributions to it are tax-deductible by donors. At the beginning of each Rotary fiscal year (starting July 1), the new Club President proposes and the Club Board approves a Service Fund budget, which is based on donations and investment earnings from the previous year. That budget includes allocations to certain committees as well as amounts for specific line items.

Examples of specific line items are: Harvest Against Hunger, ROOTS breakfasts, Ronald McDonald House dinners, Dictionaries for public school students, Partners for Work greeter payments, and Scholarships. Scholarships are agreed to by a committee with chair/co-chairs appointed by the Club President, and the other activities are led by individuals appointed by the Club President. Scholarship checks are sent by the Service Fund Treasurer directly to the schools or foundations designated to students by the Scholarship Committee (and approved by the Service Fund Board). Appointed leads (or their designees) for the other line items spend funds up to the allocated amount and ask for reimbursement by submitting a Request for Funding (RFF), along with receipts and signature of the appointed lead, to the Service Fund Treasurer—who then sends a reimbursement check.

All other Club committees, led by a chair/co-chairs appointed by the Club President, receive an allocation in the Service Fund budget but, since the funds are not designated for a specific purpose, the projects they support must go through a 3-step approval process. First, the committee decides what projects it wants to fund. Then, the chair/co-chairs of the committee send an RFF for each project, which one or both have signed, to the Club President, who approves it on behalf of the Club Board (projects may also be reviewed by the Club Board). The Club President then sends the RFF to the Service Fund President, who forwards it to the Service Fund Board members, who must approve the project by majority vote. When all these approvals have been finalized, the Service Fund Treasurer sends a check or wires the approved project funds to the organization designated in the RFF to carry out the project. No project funds may be expended until projects and associated funding are approved.

The committees whose projects must go through the above 3-step approval process are Community Service, International Service, Peacebuilder and Environmental Sustainability. The RFFs for all projects proposed by these committees must be accompanied by the committee's project application form, which must include a detailed budget (usually accompanied by pro forma invoices or other proof to verify costs). Funds for an international project must go to a participating foreign Rotary Club, or to an approved charitable organization in countries where no Rotary clubs exist. U.S. organizations proposed to receive project funds must provide an IRS Form 990 (Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax) from the previous year, as well as an IRS Letter of Determination (affirming their 501c3 status) to accompany the RFF.



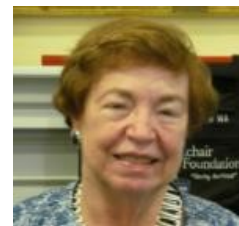
Upcoming Club Activities

- Sat.** 9:00-10:00 am. Rotarian Ad Hoc Social Justice Group. For link, contact Jeff Werthen: jmwdog@gmail.com.
- Apr 2** 10:00 am. Partners for Work Mock Interviews on Zoom. Hosted by Lisa Latchford and Judy Lovelace. If you can volunteer, please contact Lisa at lisaf98102@yahoo.com.
- Apr 12 May 10, June 14:** 12:00-1:00. Peacebuilder Committee meeting. Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82611326233?pwd=Rkd4M292dnA2R2pCMmt0Tkhdz09>
 Meeting ID: 826 1132 6233 Passcode: 9sd3fn
 One tap mobile: +12532158782,,82611326233#,,, *926552# US (Tacoma)
 +16699006833,,82611326233#,,, *926552# US (San Jose)
 Dial by your location: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
 +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)
 +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)
 Meeting ID: 826 1132 6233 Passcode: 926552
 Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc8GsuAQzL>
- Apr 17** 10:00-1:00 pm. Celebrate Earth Day 2021 (April 22) by participating in Duwamish River Cleanup. Contact Dave Spicer: dspicer@davespicerlaw.com or 206-229-7568 for details and parking location.
- Apr 17** 9:00-3:00. District 5030 "Race Matters to Rotary" Forum. The speaker is Valarie Wafer, Rotary International Director. Register at: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)
- Apr 20** 12:00-1:00. DEI Task Force meeting. Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83282853195?pwd=VEplQTJISVc0MGZnTHVNVmduZ29VQT09>
 Meeting ID: 832 8285 3195 Passcode: wU4wsT
- Jun 12-16** Virtual 2021 Rotary International Convention. Information: https://convention.rotary.org/en/?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=orgsoc&utm_profile=johnhewko&utm_campaign=
- Oct 1-3** Rotary District 5030 in-person conference, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Info/registration: [District 5030 Conference](#)

Service Fund Board Nominees Announced

Ed Sider, Service Fund President, has announced nominees for the Service Fund Board. Changes will be effective July 1, 2021. Nominees for positions which will be vacated as of June 30, 2021 are:

Bill Herkes as Treasurer—to replace Paula Laschober
 Beverly Fogle as director—to replace VP Jerry Coe
 Bill and Bev will serve for three-year terms, July 2021 through June 2024.



Bev Fogle



Bill Herkes

Also as of July 1, 2021, Ray Connell, currently a member of the Service Fund Board as President-Elect, will be automatically replaced by 2021-22 Club President-Elect Jeff Werthan. Since Jeff is currently a Director, the Board's first order of business in July will be to elect a club member to the vacant Director seat.

Continuing Board members are: Ed Sider-President, Jane Wiegenstein, Lael Ross and Neale Weaver (through June 2023); Dave Weaver and Richard Cuthbert (through June 2022).

Virtual Boiling Pot Available for Club Members *(by Kirk Laughlin, Club Treasurer)*

U. District Rotary members - A reminder that a way to support our club during this difficult time — especially if you are enjoying the camaraderie of the weekly online meetings — is with a small token of your financial appreciation. The virtual "Boiling Pot" link is: <http://bit.ly/UDRCboil>.



You can choose an amount of \$5.00 to \$25.00 (there is a \$5.00 minimum since this is a credit card transaction). And you can do so during the meeting or anytime! Thank you for your support.