



Rotary

Club of Coeur d'Alene



BULLETIN 08/18/2023

By Rebecca Eyman

NEXT MEETING August 25, 2023

Idaho WWAMI Program and how it influences healthcare in North Idaho
WWAMI is the UW School of Medicine's multi-state medical education program. The acronym stands for the states served by the MD and Graduate Medical Education programs for Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho.

Presided **DOUG RUPIPER**
Invocation **ANN JOHNSON**
Greeter **RYAN JOHNSON**
Sergeant at Arms **KIM EDMONDSON**

Prior to the invocation, **DOUG RUPIPER** shared that there were pages on the tables related to the Maui relief fund. The Board met and decided that our club would be donating. District 5000 (which includes Hawaii) has also set up a relief program (there is QR code on the flyers). Also, **KIM EDMONDSON** had an iPad connected to the Club's credit card system so members could make direct donations. Contributions will be distributed equally to District 5000 and Disaster Aid USA.

Dan Crawford shared that Disaster Aid is working with other organizations in Maui. FEMA is not letting any NGOs into the area until it is clear. Disaster Aid is currently collecting donations and assessing needs. They will be sending supplies to the warehouse (tools, water, food, etc.) and then will mobilize to help with cleanup so displaced folks can return home. Dan commented that the situation in Maui is horrific. He encouraged fellow Rotarians to consider donating to Disaster Aid USA.

GUESTS

Greeter, **RYAN JOHNSON**, recognized the following guests:

- Marishka Pilch, hosted by **LARRY GILL**
- Vivienne Wood, hosted by **JENN WOOD**
- Andy Fields, Steve Smith, Shelly Smith, and Paul Amador hosted by **JULIE AMADOR**
- Doug Elliott hosted by **JODY AZEVEDO**
- Joel Noland, hosted by **MICHAEL CHRISTIANSEN**
- Steve Morgan, hosted by **LINDSEY MORGAN**

We also had one visiting Rotarian:

Speakers

Club Leaders



Doug Rupiper
President



Ashley Lenz
President -Elect



Michael Nail
Treasurer



Julie Amador
Club Director



Kim Jane Edmondson
Club Director

Rebecca Eyman
Secretary
Director
Membership Chair

- Judi Cronin from Coeur d'Alene Sunrise Club

SERGEANT AT ARMS

KIM EDMONDSON asked questions about Guatemala, which was the Program topic.

- "Guatemala" means land of trees.
- The country's national bird is the quetzal, a symbol of freedom.
- Guatemala is the home to the ancient culture of the Mayans, a very religious people who sacrificed people and animals.

BOARD MEETING UPDATE

DOUG RUIPHER provided an update following the Board Meeting on August 15. The board voted to reinstate the membership of Kristi Scott, and accepted the request of Tom Richard to transfer from Sunrise Rotary to our club. The Board accepted the resignations of Heather Wichman and Brian Bean. The Board accepted Brian Aldridge's request for a leave of absence. The Board approved the 2023/24 budget. Doug also noted that our Board minutes and financials are posted on DACdb each month.

NEW MEMBER

SCOTT CARLSON introduced our Club's new member, Harry Nabors. Harry grew up in California, served in the Air Force, and earned a B.A. in criminology from Fresno State University. After a 30-year career as a probation officer, Harry retired and then served as the Executive Officer of the Superior Court for 7 years. Harry has been married to his wife MJ for 37 years. They have a son and a daughter, 6 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. They moved to Coeur d'Alene in 2009.

Announcements

- **LARRY GILL** thanked everyone for showing up to the recent Local Community Service Committee Meeting. He announced that they are looking for volunteers for the State Fair. Flyers were left on tables.
- **DOUG RUIPHER** announced that Pour for Polio will be on November 2, 2023 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Coeur d'Alene Cellars. He also announced that Make-a-Wish Idaho is having the grand opening of their new office space in Post Falls, donated by **CHRIS CHEELEY**.
- **HEIDI ROGERS** made an announcement on behalf of herself and **ANN THOMAS** about the Annual Coeur d'Alene Rotary Foundation Coeur Members party being held on September 8, 2023 at the Rotary Centennial Park on Sherman Ave. Coeur Members are those who have donated at least \$100 to the foundation this year. An email will be coming out with more details.
- **CHRIS CHEELEY** announced that our Legacy Society now has 37 members who have included Rotary in their estate plans. Reach out to him if you have not received an email about the upcoming party.

BIRTHDAYS

- **PHIL WARD** on 8/18
- **TARIE ZIMMERMAN** on 8/18
- **PARKER WOODALL** on 8/19

HAPPY DOLLARS

- **CLAUDIA BRENNAN** gave \$10 for the 10 months that our exchange student from Chile will be spending here. He arrives on Sunday and Ryan Johnson's family will be his host family. A big crew will be meeting him at the airport.
- **Faith Valente** gave \$1 for **Les Atchley** because she loved his program last week and thinks that he emulates a Rotarian spirit in all that he does.
- **Hank Martin** gave \$5 because there is still time to see Pride & Prejudice at the Coeur d'Alene Summer Theater. It has been a very successful summer season and Pride & Prejudice is a fabulous play.

PROGRAM

Julie Amador and **Ashley Lenz** presented their trip to Guatemala with the "Helping Hands Tour 2023 Building Bridges to Literacy," with some input from **Luke Russell** and **Tom Cronin**, who were also on the trip. Tom was recruited thinking it was mostly about literacy, and then after he put down a non-refundable deposit, he learned it involved manual labor. Also on the trip were Deb Russell and Carla Cicero. Everyone brought a strength. Julie's passion is for early childhood education. Luke, Deb, and Carla have experience traveling abroad. Deb is also an EMT. Tom has security skills, and Ashley brought her sunny disposition.

Ashley shared that 2 in 3 indigenous Guatemalans can't read or write, and a majority live in poverty.



Emily Moses
Club Director
Community Service
Chair



Mark Olson
Club Director



Larry Riley
Public Relations Chair
Club Director



Ann Thomas
Club Director
Membership Chair



Britt Towery
Bulletin Editor
Club Director



Chris L. Cheeley
Sergeant-at-Arms



Hank Martin
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Larry Gill
Community Service
Chair



Robert William Smees II
Community Service
Chair



Ian Hicks
International Service
Chair



Alex Stanton
International Service
Chair



Candace Louise Godwin
iPast President



Steven Roberge
Assistant Governor



When the group arrived in Guatemala, they were greeted by students lining the road. The primary work that they came to do was painting walls around basketball courts at a school. They worked with a group of 8 kindergarten students all week. There was a language barrier, but they also had a translator. The kids were incredible and showed a spirit of giving and generosity. Due to their height, they were only meant to paint the bottom half of the walls, but they lifted each other up so they could reach the tops.

The kids left at noon each day, but our team stayed later to paint. Fathers of students at the school volunteered to paint pillars. The point of the volunteers being there was not just to paint; they were there to bond with the students. They played games, did races, and gave the kids a sense of community and visions of leadership. One day at recess, they noticed some kids were wearing sashes and belts. They went up to Luke and somberly asked him for his ID. Luke pulled out his ID to prove he was supposed to be there. Ashley brought a polaroid camera she received from Christmas last year, and brought 150 blank photos for them to take and hand out to the kids, which was a keepsake for the kids.

During their free time, the group took a coffee tour excursion and learned about a co-op where they were growing and exporting coffee. They learned the beans are picked by hand. In the home of the coffee roaster, they were able to roast, grind, and sample some coffee (along with some cookies). They also visited the town of Antigua, hiked to the top of a hill, and did some yoga. Luke and Deb did some salsa dancing. They also went ziplining and kept an eye on a volcano 11-miles away that was spewing ash.

On their last day, they toured the Cooperative for Education Campus. Cooperative for Education is a nonprofit out of Cincinnati which aims to improve literacy and break the cycle of poverty. During the tour, they saw cultural dances (everyone got to dance together) and heard stories from students.

Most students who drop out of school do so between 3rd and 6th grade. This organization offers sponsorships to students so they can continue their education. They heard from students who work in agriculture when not attending school.

The group found a Coeur d'Alene Rotary sign because our club sponsored the program, so they took a photo with the sign. Programs include Pathways Out of Poverty and the SPARK Reading Program, which provides professional development to teachers and instructional coaches helping teachers. Students are less likely to drop out of school once literacy is established. Also, on the last day, they made jewelry with their students from beads they brought.

The group shared their most memorable moments.

- Ashley's was from a home visit with the family of a sponsored student.
- Deb's was from lunch at a restaurant when she accidentally went into the men's room then got stuck due to a broken doorknob. Carla was able to get her out. Deb needs to work on Spanish, and Luke needs to keep a closer eye on her.
- Luke's most memorable moment involved the program itself, which is making a significant impact and something he noted we should continue to support.
- Julie's most memorable moment was zipline day. She was so scared she was shaking, but learned from the strength of her fellow Rotarians. Luke talked her through everything and she couldn't have made it through without him.
- Tom's memorable moment was getting to spend 8 days with 5 incredibly talented, resourceful Rotarians from this club. He was grateful he got to get to know them better. He encouraged us all to sit with new people at our weekly meetings to get to know other Rotarians.

Ashley shared dates for upcoming projects and tours on the organization's website.
UPCOMING PROGRAMS

In Service,
REBECCA EYMAN