

July 2024



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:RichlandRotaryClubWA

Club Assembly Recap: The Duck Race and More!

We discussed the history & evolution of our annual Duck Race, financial obligations, potential rewards, & encouraged members to join our Special Projectscommittee.

Duck Race History and Evolution: Treasurer *Dick Richter* shared that our Duck Race **began 39 years ago**, with the first event facing slow currents. We've released up to 40,000 ducks; this year, we'll release 25,000. Each ticket includes a free car wash from **Autobahn Car Wash**.

Sales Targets and Achievements: Foundation Chair Andrew Cook set our goal at 4,000 tickets annually. In 2022, we sold 126 extra tickets. This year, we **aim to sell 121 more**. The Duck Race funds our scholarships and community service activities.

Call to Action: Denise Buelt, Special Projects Chair, emphasized the importance of every member selling their tickets. She encouraged members to <u>share suggestions & ideas</u> to enhance fellowship and engage participants.

In Addition to the Duck Race, we have other exciting fundraising activities lined up!

Hal's Booze Drawing: This will be held on **July 30th from 4pm to 6pm** during our 75-year Kickoff celebrations at the Riverfront Hotel.

When Santa Shaves His Beard: This popular event continues to generate funds for our initiatives.

Let's work together to make this year's Duck Race and other events a success. Your participation and support are vital to our club's impact on the community. Thank you for your dedication and efforts!

Brags & Confessions

• July birthdays were acknowledged. Jan took a vacation and unfortunately caught COVID. • Ken brought flowers for his wife. • Blaine's daughter is getting married. • Joan presented a gift to Fien, our exchange student. • Jim went to Bellingham to watch his grandson play baseball, met his granddaughter's boyfriend, and announced that another granddaughter is getting married.

Guest Speaker: Dianna Ruff

Dianna Ruff presented on <u>Superior Court Operations</u>, covering the role of the courts, an overview of Benton & Franklin County Superior Court, and courtroom procedures. In 2023, 61 trials were completed in Franklin County and 166 in Benton County. She discussed *Specialty Programs* like Adult Drug Court, with 90 participants and a 6.33% residual offense rate, and the Juvenile Individual Treatment Court.

The Prosecutorial Division Program identifies candidates needing housing or case management after arrest. Updates include digital audio recordings, new court staff, case managers, a remodeled jury assembly room, and a Law Day Committee to engage civic leaders and schools. Local court rules were also overhauled, reducing from 144 pages to 33.

Thank you, **Dianna**, for your insightful presentation.



Announcements

Joan presented Terri with her Past President Badge. Bob Tibbet discussed Duck Race Tickets, and Linda requested host families for visiting delegates in August. The 50/50 raffle was won by Fien, our exchange student, who pulled the \$10 chip.