



Springfield Rotary Club Meeting

Springfield Rotary Meets at Springfield Elks 1701 Centennial Blvd Springfield, OR Time: Wednesday at 12:00 PM We are a SINGING Club

Club Leaders



Rae Anne LaMarche
President



Merlyn L. Hough
President-Elect



Elizabeth B. Degner
Secretary



Patty Schulz
Treasurer



Jay W. Zink
Membership Chair



Mary Bridget Smith
Rotary Foundation Chair



Jo Ann Henderson
Public Image/Relations Chair



Steven Wheeler
Service Projects Chair



Christina SanFilippo
Youth Services Chair



Dan Hurley
Club RYLA



Tony LaMarche
Youth Exchange



Jeff Lovell
Club Programs Chair



Thomas L. McAllister
Club Admin Chair



David M. Walsh
Webmaster



Bruce K. Webber
iPast President

Speakers

May 08, 2024
Becky Jo Samples
Connected Links

President's Message

By Rae Anne LaMarche



Springfield Knocks it Out of the Park

Attending the District Conference in Coos Bay allowed me to visit with old friends and develop new friendships. From tip off on Friday night until the final bell on Sunday morning, our club shined. We know we are a great club; now the entire district is aware.

District awards began at Friday dinner. Congratulations to **Jay Zink**, who received district recognition for Club Service; to **Steve Wheeler** for Community Service; and **Christina San Filippo** for Youth Services. Springfield was just beginning.

At lunch on Saturday we continued with recognition to **Jo Ann Henderson** for best club newsletter.

And at the final banquet, we charged over the endline for the goal. **Jane Falls** was recognized for her work as an Assistant Governor, and surprised with her award for Service to the District for her work as Polio Plus Chair for Dist. 5110.

With all of the above, it was no surprise (well, actually it was to me) that Springfield Rotary was named the **BEST LARGE CLUB** in the District and I received BEST PRESIDENT OF A LARGE CLUB. I cannot begin to describe my pride in our club. It has been the work of our committees and our members that earned all these awards. Thank you everyone.

I also asked those who attended for their reactions to the conference:

BOB SCHUTTE: *DisCon24 held in North Bend was my first experience at a Rotary District Conference. I was impressed by the grand scope of activities presented, including the presentation of incoming and outgoing exchange students (upwards of 50 I guess), RYLA Camp overview, health and education projects for children in Guatemala (with audience comments from our own Evy Hernandez), 4-Way Test speech contest awards (13 high school presenters), and Polio Plus information update from our own Jane Falls and Rae LaMarche. Although my time was limited to a part of the day on Saturday, it was a joy to travel with our Springfield High student speech winner (Colton Petersen) and renew and make new acquaintances with Rotarians throughout the district. It was time well spent.*

EVY HERNANDEZ: *I now understand that I am not only part of a vibrant club promoting friendship and doing good in our community. This weekend I have been a witness of a fruitful tree with a healthy root system that we all are part of, this tree is impacting the world. After being impressed with what is being done in our district am now very encouraged to attend an international conference, hopefully the one in Calgary in 2025. P.S. It was hard to summarize my experience, and I didn't mention how wonderful it was to see people that I haven't seen for a long time and to meet new people who treated me like we have known each other forever.*

COLTON PETERSON (our speech winner): *On Saturday I was given the opportunity to present at the Rotary District 5110 Conference which was a fantastic place to network, socialize and improve my speaking skills. Not only did I have the privilege to give my Rotary 4-Way Test speech but also to talk with other members from my district. I connected with Rotarians and members of Interact and Rotaract Clubs. This experience furthered future collaboration on community service projects.*

PE MERLYN HOUGH: *There were many highlights in the Rotary 5110 Conference this weekend, but the most impactful to me was the Saturday evening keynote message: SIGNS OF HOPE, How Small Acts of Love Can Change Your World, by Amy Wolff, founder of the DON'T GIVE UP MOVEMENT. She illustrated the power of hope and love in the face of suffering, and gave practical ideas for responding to suffering and strategies for loving people who are different. It was the perfect reinforcement of the Rotary theme to CREATE HOPE in the WORLD. Amy outlined how the natural response to overwhelming suffering in the world looks like this: Our HOPE causes ANGER which can result in DESPAIR and APATHY. But through her personal experiences, Amy encourages us to claim our AGENCY (the something we can do to help) and discover PATHWAYS (our specific direction) to support HOPE. Signs of Hope is your catalyst for doing something today . . . because there's no perfect time to help others. **The time is now.***

AG JANE FALLS: *Attending DisCon 2024 brought me yet another opportunity to be proud to be a Springfield Rotarian. Most impactful for me:*

Rotary youth programs are vibrant and alive in our district!! Our club and district wholeheartedly support

Connected Lane County, Site Visit, Elks to Provide sandwich, chips, cookies lunch 11:30 303 S. 5th St., STE 150

May 15, 2024
Jose Garcia Exchange Student to Germany
Jose talks about his experiences

May 22, 2024
June Fothergill and Dr. Sparky Rice
Hope in Cambodia- the work of OEDDO

May 29, 2024
5th Wednesday Service
Project TBD

June 05, 2024
Laura Sanchez
Ophelia's Place one of our grant recipis

Events

Menu: Sack lunch

No Events found

Interact, the 4-Way test, Rotary Exchange Students, RYLA and Rotaract. Kudos to ALL our Springfield Rotarians who give their time, talents and energy to supporting youth!!

We are a club full of amazing leaders: Our club teams do OUTSTANDING work in our community and beyond!

Rotary IS MORE relevant and more needed in our world than ever: locally and internationally Rotary takes seriously our vital role in building peace, eliminating disease, cleaning the environment and educating all. I am so very proud to serve Rotary with each of YOU our club members.

TONY LAMARCHE: *I felt inspired to continue working to "Do Good in the World," and how lucky I am to what be a part of this great organization.*



Weekly Program

By Jeff Lovell

Our regular Wednesday meeting on May 8th will be an off-site visit to Connected Lane County

* Address: 303 S 5th Street, STE 150, Springfield, OR 97477

> * Time: We've held the space from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, so arriving

> any time after 11:30 works for us.

> * Parking: There is plenty of free parking in the Booth-Kelly Center.

> There is a front parking lot and a covered lot right next to our building.

> You can find us right next to Peak Performance. Our entrance's siding is

> blue, and the doors are glass.

Connected Lane County <<https://connectedlane.org/>> is a mission-driven organization striving to improve outcomes for underserved

youth in Lane County. Our team works collaboratively with Lane County school districts, industry partners, workgroups, and community organizations to

create opportunities and prepare youth for their lives beyond high school. By identifying and bridging gaps, working to change systems, and creating

safe spaces, we're helping youth succeed.

We implement three programs and industry-specific Excelerators to prepare young people for work and life. The

Elevate <https://connectedlane.org/> elevate program creates career-connected learning opportunities for youth. The Navigate

<https://connectedlane.org/> navigate program offers individualized work readiness and school re-engagement support services for youth facing significant barriers to employment and education. The Spark <<https://connectedlane.org/> spark/> program brings together community, education, and industry through innovation, education, and hands-on learning. Excelerators <<https://connectedlane.org/> excelerators/ prepare young people for work through accelerated education, training, and hands-on skill application in growing career fields. Each Excelerator focuses on a different high-demand field, including training, certifications, and relevant skill-building to prepare young people for careers.

Tour: The tour will be of Spark at Booth-Kelly <<https://connectedlane.org/> sparkatboothkelly/> our second Spark facility. While all our programs utilize this space, Spark at Booth-Kelly is designed to provide hands-on learning in STEM for youth who have historically been underrepresented in STEM careers. The space is 11,000 square feet and houses an industrial-size CNC machine, an indoor/outdoor welding area, 2D and 3D design equipment

and materials, and more. The space also offers Drop-In Services <<https://connectedlane.org/dropin/>> for youth to access various support services, including employment assistance, housing and healthcare resources connections, basic needs (snacks, laundry, showers), and more. Heidi Larwick, a dedicated leader in the nonprofit sector, advocates for community-driven change. With nearly two decades of experience championing labor rights, public health, and educational equity, she believes in collaborative, strategic approaches. As Executive Director of Connected Lane County, she ensures inclusive learning environments and workplaces, prioritizing mentorship and inclusivity. Her passion for equitable opportunities ignited when her children entered public education, inspiring her to spearhead Connected Lane County's growth, expanding youth programs and support for marginalized communities. Recognized for her achievements, Heidi's leadership has transformed lives, making her a cornerstone of Lane County's philanthropic landscape. Her journey embodies a commitment to empowering youth and fostering community cohesion, with a vision that promises enduring impact.

Justin Thibedeau played a crucial role in the establishment and growth of Connected Lane County's Spark program, making significant contributions to its development from the beginning. His commitment is unwavering - he tirelessly developed curricula, acquired necessary supplies, managed equipment, trained staff and mentors, and directly interacted with young people. As the Associate Director and Spark Program Manager, Justin continues to enhance the program and expand the organization's impact throughout the county. With extensive experience coordinating market spaces and engineering labs, he empowers young people to explore STEM fields and computer science pathways through hands-on design challenges and innovative curricula. Justin's dedication to youth education and community empowerment greatly contributes to the success of Connected Lane County, positively impacting the lives of numerous young individuals.

Weekly Program ZOOM 2023-2024

President Rae LaMarche is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting if you are unable to attend in person.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 865 8699 6997

Passcode: 737231

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,86586996997#,,,,*737231# US (Tacoma)

+16699006833,,86586996997#,,,,*737231# 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)

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 931 3860 US

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April Rotarians of the Month

By Rae Anne LaMarche

Congratulations to Bruce Webber and John Halgren, April Rotarians of the Month.

They were recognized for their leadership on the Nomination Committee, helping assure continuity of Club leadership by identifying a new club Secretary.

John joined Springfield Rotary on December 1, 1979 and was President in 1987-1988. He has served on every committee in our club and is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow. John's favorite activities are those spent with his wife, Joanne, and his children and grandchildren.

Bruce joined Springfield Rotary on May 1, 2002. Since then, he has served as club treasurer for 17 years and President twice, in 2019-2020 and again in 2022-2023. Bruce is also a multiple Paul Harris Fellow. Bruce serves on multiple community boards and enjoys his two cats, and, of course, his wife, Michelle.



Service Committee News May 8

By Steven Wheeler

* Saturday May 11, Human Trafficking Vigil IV will be held, 9:00 am to 10:30 am on the Gateway area to Eugene pedestrian bridge across Interstate 5. Volunteers are welcome to attend all or part of that time. Donuts and bottled water will be available at the Vigil. There is plenty of parking at the Gateway Center, just behind the Post Office facility.

* Saturday May 18 is the Spring Cleanup at the Laurel Grove Cemetery. It will be from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Cemetery, 116 Judkins Rd. in Springfield. Cleaning supplies and snacks are included. Bring gloves and dress for the weather. 544 221-9477 for more information.

* Significant progress is being made to site the first Springfield Rotary Peace Pole near the front entrance to the Bob Keefer Center. A Peace Pole is an eight-foot tall four-sided pole with the inscription "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in eight languages. More information to come soon!

High School Seniors Receive Scholarships

By Tamalyn R. Fitch

The selection of Scholarship Recipients is never an easy task. This year, 39 outstanding students from McKenzie HS, Thurston HS, and Springfield HS applied for one of five \$5000 scholarships from the Springfield Rotary Charitable Foundation. Under the leadership of **Tammy Fitch, Rotarians Emily David, Beth DeGeorge, Debbie Knechtel, Rae LaMarche, Jerry Smith, Bruce Smolniski and John Thomas** narrowed the field to 11 for interviews. Their task completed, the committee will award \$5000 to the following five students:

- Natalie Paskett, Thurston High School, will attend Oregon State University
- Bailey Tovey, Thurston High School, will attend Weber State
- London Pendleton, Springfield High School, will attend Oregon State University
- Madison Irvin, Springfield High School, will attend University of Oregon
- Alexis Bigelow, Springfield High School, will attend University of Oregon

They have been invited to attend our club meeting on June 19th. Congratulations to all.

By Dan Hurley

Springfield Rotary sponsored students:

Leila Kammerzelt-Murphy

Aliyah Roldan

Rodrigo Rojas

Rickey Bray

Midori Rakestraw

Aubrey Howes

Eugene Metro sponsored students:

Lucas Ray

Elijah Hebert

Valerie Clark

Nine amazing students from Springfield High School will be attending RYLA this year - thanks to our Club, Eugene Metro, and several very generous Rotarians. Much appreciation to Steve & Sue Fischer, Ronnel Curry, Dan Hurley, and Christina SanFilippo who helped conduct the interviews. The applicants were all impressive kids - including two 4.0 students, several in leadership positions, active volunteers, and a student who overcame major life challenges living away from his parents. Each student had been recognized for achievement and was nominated by a teacher. We wanted to send them all! It was a tough choice when our budget only covered four campers. Thankfully, Eugene Metro reached out wanting to send three students - leaving only two not covered. Hearing this, several of our club members stepped up last week to make sure they could all go. Beth De George offered to pay for one student. Tammy Fitch, Randy Lodge, Mary Jo & Dave Sanders, Teri Beyer, and Sid Voorhees donated to send the last student. Huge thanks for your generosity! RYLA will be a life-changing experience for all of these kids.

Welcome Assignments

By Sue Fisher

Please arrive by 11:30 am. If you cannot do your assignment, please find another member to do so and let Sue Fisher know your replacement's name. Create Peace in the World (see Debbie Knechtel this week for your prize)

Greeter - wears the greeter badge and notes the names of guests on the clipboard as they come in, and also asks guests for their business card and places it on the clipboard (our President will follow up with each guest). Please have guests write their names on and wear a Rotary guest name tag. The president will have you introduce visiting Rotarians and Rotarians with guests, near the start of the program. Let the Rotarians introduce their guests.

Raffle-Door Prize/Attendance - Bring a gift of \$20-25 and sell tickets (seated next to attendance) If you miss your Raffle assignment, because of the pipeline for red badge assignments and other scheduling issues, you will not typically be rescheduled, and the club will bill you for \$25, and you are expected to provide a \$25 gift card in your payment for the bill. Please do not provide \$25 in cash. Have the

provide a \$25 gift card in recognition payment for the bill. Please do not provide \$25 in cash. Have the speaker, or choose someone else to draw the winning ticket. Give the \$\$ to Liz and the microphone and gift to the award winner as they do Happy bucks. Mark down members that attend the meeting as they pick up their badges.

Bulletin Article – Currently on hold!

Sue Fisher

Duty/Date	05/08/2024	05/15/2024	05/22/2024
Inspiration	Off Site	TBD	Andrew Buck
Greeter	Off Site	Andrew Buck David Hersch/Karen Brist	Terry Beyer
Raffle/Attendance	Off Site	Hersch/Karen Brist	Andrew Buck/ David Hersch
Money Collector	Aaron Chase	Beth DeGeorge	Beth DeGeorge
Entree	Sack Lunch	Tuna Melt	Hamburgers

[Read More](#)

Hello - Goodbye Party

By John G. Halgren

Who: Springfield Rotary Members

What: Annual Hello/Merlyn, Goodbye/Rae Party at the Springfield Elks Lodge

Why: To celebrate the 2023-2024 Springfield Rotary Year for all of us and looking forward to next year

When: Sunday, June 9th, 4:00-6:00 pm, (short program at 5:00 pm)

Where: Springfield Elks Lodge

\$17.00 per person, payable at the regular club meetings via VISA or cash. The \$17.00 per person includes finger foods, sandwiches, meatballs, fruit, chips, cake and two tickets for beer or wine during the event.

Recurring Meeting Schedules

Committee	Meeting	Time	Location	Contact
Board Meeting	Third Tuesday	7:30 am	Prime Time Sports Bar 1360 Mohawk Blvd	Liz Degner
Service Project	Second Tuesday	12:30 pm Lunch 1:00 Meeting	Roaring Rapid Pizza 4006 Franklin Blvd.	Steve Wheeler
Club Administration and Programs	Second Wednesday	1:00 pm	IN PERSON after club	Luke McCallister
Membership/Social	Second Monday	7:30 am	Centennial Steakhouse 1300 Mohawk Blvd	Jay Zink
TRF	Second Wednesday	11:00 am	IN PERSON Before club	Mary Bridget Smith
Youth Services	First Wednesday	1:00pm	IN PERSON After club	Christina San Filippo
Public Relations	Second Wednesday	1:00 pm	IN PERSON After Club	JoAnn Henderson
Weekly Meeting	Every Wednesday	Noon	Elks Club=in person ZOOM	President Rae LaMarche

Rotary's Four-Way Test



Rotary
THE FOUR-WAY TEST
Of the things we think, say, or do

The Four-Way Test is a nonpartisan and nonsectarian ethical guide for Rotarians to use for their personal and professional relationships.



Keep up with District 5110

What's going on in the rest of [Rotary District 5110](#)? Click [here](#) to find out.

WHAT'S NEW IN SPRINGFIELD? VISIT THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



For information about activities and events in Springfield, check out the [Springfield Chamber of Commerce](#). Click [here](#) for [more information](#).

Birthdays - Coming Up

No Birthdays Found
