



Friday, March 21, 2025

**Club Meetings and Time**

**The Rotary Club of Mercer Island**

meets at:  
**Mercer Island Community & Event Center**  
 8236 SE 24th St.  
 Mercer Island, WA 98040

**1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the Month**  
 12:00 - 12:30 Socializing  
 12:30 - 1:30 Meeting and Speaker

**A catered lunch** by Pogacha (a restaurant on Mercer Island) is available for \$25 or you can bring your own.

**VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**(no cost to visit)

**Club Leaders**



**Benson D. Wong**  
 President



**Todd White**  
 President-Elect



**Judy Clibborn**  
 Vice President



**Patricia S. Turner**  
 Secretary



**David Thompson**  
 Foundation Director  
 Treasurer



**Walter Boos**  
 Club Foundation President



**Julie Hsieh**  
 Club Director - Public Image



**Dave Leibman**  
 Club Director - Club Support



**Jennifer Lyn McLellan**  
 Club Director  
 RYLA Club Chair  
 Youth Service Chair



**Robert L. Olson**  
 Club Director - Club Administration



**Diane Tien**  
 Club Director - Membership



**Stuart Scarff**  
 Club Foundation Secretary

**We Are People of Action!**

**"Service for the Soul"**

**VOLUNTEERS are needed NOW!**  
**July 21- First Annual Golf Tournament - Fundraiser**



Goal: To raise \$10,000-\$15,000 for the RCMI Foundation for local and international grants.

**Our club members (and friends) are needed to make this event a success.**

**Immediate Needs:**

- \* Website/Registration interface
- \* Design/produce promotional materials
- \* Solicitation of sponsors and players (80+ players)
- \* Prepare "swag bags"
- \* Organize raffle
- \* Tournament logistics
- \* Design tournament games
- \* Day-of registration staffing (4-6 volunteers)

Contact **Benson Wong** [bensondwong@gmail.com](mailto:bensondwong@gmail.com) or 206.940.9294 to volunteer and indicate how you can help!

**VOLUNTEERS are needed NOW!**  
**AUG 22-24, 2025 - First Annual Pickleball Tournament - Fundraiser**



Registration opens April 1 <https://pickleballtournaments.com/tournaments/2025-merceroisland-rotary-pickleball-tournament-by-pig>

**Volunteers are crucial!** The success of our tournament depends in large part on every club member helping in some capacity.



**Help is needed with:**

- \* Marketing materials

- \* Sponsorship acquisition
- \* Creating sponsor packages
- \* Tournament signage
- \* Awards
- \* Food/beverage trucks
- \* The Friday party (including a pickleball demo)
- \* Player swag bags
- \* Day-of staffing (check-in, court runners).

Contact **Stuart Scarff** [stuart@scarfflaw.com](mailto:stuart@scarfflaw.com) or 206.236.1501 to volunteer.

**Harvest Against Hunger - Fundraiser for Fresh Food for the Needy**



A good time was had by Mercer Island Rotarians at the **Harvest Against Hunger - Hearts and Wine** fundraiser.

The event raised **\$312,000**, which is a record for Hearts & Wine. Funds raised will provide hundreds of thousands of people in need with fresh, healthful produce.  
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## March 26 - 11:00 AM - Family of Rotary



Long-time member, **Bob Weber**, passed away on February 28.

On Wednesday, March 26, there will be a Mass of Christian Burial at St Monica's, at 11 am. Bequests may be made, in lieu of flowers, to St Vincent de Paul in care of St Monica's Church.

His wife Lorraine lives at Covenant Shores: 9103 Fortuna Drive #9406, MI, WA 98040.



## April 1 - Club Meeting - Jon Scholes - CEO of Seattle Downtown Association



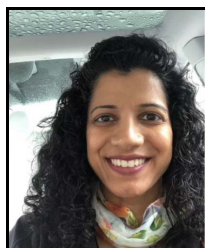
**"The revitalization of downtown Seattle. The challenges and opportunities facing Seattle's urban core five years post-Covid."**

Jon Scholes is president & CEO of the Downtown Seattle Association, where he is responsible for the operations and programs of the DSA, a 650-member association formed in 1958 to create a healthy, vibrant downtown.

In this capacity, Jon is also responsible for the management of the Metropolitan Improvement District (MID), which was established by property owners and the City of Seattle in 1999 to provide cleaning, safety, transportation, marketing and public-realm management services across 285 square blocks in downtown.

He has led the growth and expansion of the organization's services, advocacy agenda and response to the impacts of the pandemic on downtown Seattle.

## April 15 - Club Meeting - Tanya Su - Identifying Dementia



In lieu of our typical meeting, **Rotarian Tanya Su** will be conducting a 45-minute workshop about identifying dementia such as is used by the **Old Friends Club**. This will be an interactive workshop with meeting attendees.

Old Friends Club is a network of social respite programs that offer social connection and engaging activities for individuals living with dementia, while providing care partners with affordable, dependable respite. The programs serve people in their own communities.

## April 19 - SERVICE PROJECT - Restoration of Duwamish River



**Calling on Rotary volunteers from around our Rotary District 5030 (King County).**

**Please join us for a half-day of work restoring Seattle's Duwamish River.**

We will meet from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and work on removing invasive species from the banks of the Duwamish River and planting native species.

There will be a short talk about the EPA cleanup efforts from a member of the Port of Seattle as well as a brief talk from a member of the Duwamish Nation telling about the historical ties between the Duwamish people and this river.

Bring boots and working gloves. All tools and plants as well as donuts, coffee and lunch will be provided. (There is a Portapotty available).

Please email Dave Spicer asap at [dspicer@davespicerlaw.com](mailto:dspicer@davespicerlaw.com)

## SERVICE PROJECT: Want to help struggling readers?



Here are the **volunteer opportunities** we offer with specific time commitments:

**1. Literacy or math tutor:** 1 hour each week during the school year at Beacon Hill (4pm-5:30pm) or Green Lake (3pm-5pm). Volunteers can commit to a semester or the full school year.

**2. Summer program tutor:** 1 hour per week during our summer session (July 8 - August 8) at Dearborn Park

Elementary, Rising Star, or Daniel Bagley Elementary (9am-3:30pm). Volunteers can select the weeks that work for their schedule.

**3. Special events support:** Sponsor a family dinner night, pizza party, boba tea party, or drop off snacks for our students. One time commitment.

**4. Guest speaker:** Share career experiences or special skills with our students. This is typically a one-time 30-minute presentation.

**5. Tech support:** Help support the program through donating your professional website development.

All volunteers receive orientation materials. **We're happy to work with Rotary members to find the right fit for their interests and availability.**

If you (and/or your friends) are interested, please contact Roy Chang directly at [roychang@schoolconnectwa.org](mailto:roychang@schoolconnectwa.org).



## March 26 and April 23 - SERVICE PROJECT - Operation Nightwatch (4th Wednesday Every Month)

Prepare food for those in need at Operation Nightwatch in Seattle.

6:00 to 7:45 PM. **You can volunteer one time, or many.**

This is a great project for family and friends. Bring your kids and friends. (Children leave by 7:30 before serving begins)



Contact Todd White to Volunteer.  
[http://tdw56@hotmail.com](mailto:tdw56@hotmail.com)



## March 29 and April 26 - SERVICE PROJECT - Help Build a Tiny House (4th Saturday - and often the 1st Monday every month)



On the fourth Saturday of every month, anyone from our Rotary District 5030 can help build tiny homes. (Bring your family members and friends - must be 16 years of age). This is a great opportunity to meet other Rotarians from around the King County area. Click here to sign up: <https://www.soundfoundationsnw.org> **You can volunteer one time, or many. Our club members also often volunteer on the 1st Monday of every month.**

**Contact** Terry Lee in our club for more information as he volunteers regularly.  
[JTerryLee44@hotmail.com](mailto:JTerryLee44@hotmail.com)



## April 29 - Let's Support our Schools!

Join neighbors and friends at the Breakfast of Champions

**Tuesday, April 29 - 7:00 AM**

Mercer Island High School



Donate & Breakfast Registration <http://mercerislandschoolsfoundation.com>



## May 6 - Club Meeting - What is Happening at Boeing



Stay tuned - more information to come.

## May 20 - Club Meeting Jane Mayer Brahm - The History of Mercer Island



Come hear Jane Mayer Brahm (former MI City Council member and MI historian (leader of the MI Historical Society) speak about the history of Mercer Island.

## Also on May 20 - City Manager Jessi Bon - Proposed City Capital Bond Issue



**City Manager Jessi Bon** will provide the facts about the proposed city capital bond issue/vote in November.

Mercer Island Rotary does not take a stand pro or con about the bond. This presentation will be only a factual one with no advocacy by anyone to vote for or to vote against the bond issue.

## SERVICE PROJECT - Virginia V

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR HISTORIC SHIP IN SEATTLE



The S.S. VIRGINIA V, a National Historic Landmark, is maintained and operated entirely by volunteers. Based out of Lake Union Park by MOHAI in Seattle, this 103-year-old vessel is the only still operating, wooden, steam-powered passenger ship in the United States.

We are looking for people to work as deckhands, engineers, docents, bartenders, captains, mates, carpenters, woodworkers, and painters. No boating/ship-handling experience is needed!

The Steamer Virginia V Foundation volunteers will receive the following benefits once active:

- Complimentary tickets to public events
- Free membership to the foundation which includes a discount on charters
- V5 shirt and hat
- Invitations to onboard volunteer appreciation events
- Invitations for families/friends to non-public cruises like fuel and positioning runs
- Trainings such as CPR/First Aid

If you are ready to get started, head to [virginiav.org/volunteer](http://virginiav.org/volunteer) for role descriptions and the application. If you have any questions, reach out to the Volunteer Coordinator at [Lucy@virginiav.org](mailto:Lucy@virginiav.org).

## RESOURCES

**Club Website:** <https://mirotary.org>

**Club Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/MercerIslandRotary>

**Club Mailing Address:** PO Box 1, Mercer Island, WA 98040

**Club Email:** [rotarymercerisland@gmail.com](mailto:rotarymercerisland@gmail.com)

**Prospective Members and Applications for Membership:**  
Diane Tien, Director of Membership [dianebtien@gmail.com](mailto:dianebtien@gmail.com)

## Have ideas for, or to volunteer for Community Service

Benson Wong, President [bensondwong@gmail.com](mailto:bensondwong@gmail.com)

### Financial reimbursement - forms are available online and at the meetings.

- **Reimbursement under \$100:**  
Fill out the reimbursement form and have it signed by the President or Director you are working with, then give it to Dave Thompson. [dethompsoncpa@outlook.com](mailto:dethompsoncpa@outlook.com)
- **Reimbursement over \$100:**  
Fill out the pre-authorization form and have it signed by the President or Director you are working with. Once pre-approved, complete the rest of the form and give it to Dave Thompson. [dethompsoncpa@outlook.com](mailto:dethompsoncpa@outlook.com)

### To include something in The Dawn (newsletter), or to change your contact information

Pat Turner, Secretary [turner.pat@gmail.com](mailto:turner.pat@gmail.com) 206-852-4717

### To include something on our Facebook Page

Julie Hsieh, Director of Public Image [juliehsieh@outlook.com](mailto:juliehsieh@outlook.com)

## Birthdays This Month

### Custom Text



[Jennifer Lyn McLellan](#)  
March 3rd



[Joyce A. Wagar](#)  
March 5th



[Daniel Jacobson](#)  
March 15th



[David Schiffrin](#)  
March 16th



[Kellis Borek](#)  
March 21st



[Alan Judy](#)  
March 22nd



[Flo Chambers](#)  
March 25th



[Linnea Augustine](#)  
March 27th



[Fred Rundle](#)  
March 27th



[Trina Westerlund](#)  
March 30th



[Vyvienne C. Stumbles](#)  
March 31st



[Erinann Childress](#)  
April 6th



[Ted Weinberg](#)  
April 6th



[Mike Cero](#)  
April 8th



[William Stafford](#)  
April 10th



[Nancy Lee](#)  
April 15th



[John C. Hamer](#)  
April 15th

## Years of Rotary Service This Month



David Schiffrin  
10 Years



Alan Bunin  
5 Years



Dave Leibman  
1 Year



Jessi C Biagi  
1 Year



Jennifer Crespi  
1 Year