



Friday, November 22, 2024

Club Meetings and Time

The Rotary Club of Mercer Island meets at the **Mercer Island Community & Event Center**

8236 SE 24th Street
Mercer Island, WA 98040

First and Third Tuesdays of the month

12:00 PM - 12:30 Socializing
12:30 - Meeting and a 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 fee to visit)

Club Leaders



Benson D. Wong
President



Todd White
President-Elect



Judy Clibborn
Vice President



Patricia S. Turner
Secretary



Walter Boos
Club Foundation President



Julie Hsieh
Club Director - Public Image



Dave Leibman
Club Director - Club Support



Jennifer Lyn McLellan
Club Director - Youth Services



Robert L. Olson
Club Director - Club Administration



David Thompson
Club Foundation Treasurer



Diane Tien
Club Director - Membership



Stuart Scarff
Club Foundation Secretary

Service for the Soul

Visit our Website: <https://www.mirotary.org>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MercerIslandRotary>

We are People of Action!

NOVEMBER 27 - Operation Nightwatch

Contact Todd White to Volunteer.
<http://tdw56@hotmail.com>

Service Project Operation Nightwatch



Preparing food for the homeless

Last Wednesdays
of the month

6:00 – 7:45 PM

Contact
Todd White
if interested



November is The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund Month

As many of you know, November is the month dedicated to raising funds for The Rotary Foundation.



The Rotary Foundation (TRF) is a fantastic resource for clubs all over the world to do comprehensive projects globally as well as through each district through grants. Member support of the TRF is crucial in Rotary's commitment to helping those less fortunate, both at home and abroad in the seven areas of impact.

Peace and Conflict Prevention / Resolution
Disease Prevention and Treatment
Water and Sanitation

Maternal and Child Health
Basic Education and Literacy
Economic and Community Development

Our goal is for every member to give an amount that is right for them. Donna Buckingham is chair of this year's fund drive. Please contact her with any questions dbuckingham9777@gmail.com

Enjoy this video with more information about TRF.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ta02B3EKe4o&t=6s>

DECEMBER 7 - Let's support our Chamber of Commerce at the Holiday Maker's Market

Community Event Holiday Makers Market

Support our
Chamber of
Commerce

December 7
10am – 3pm

MI Community Center



DECEMBER 13 - Do You Want to Inspire Emerging Leaders and Entrepreneurs?

Service Project Judging for DECA Competition

Friday, December 13th

7:00 am - 1:30 pm

Meydenbauer
Convention Center

Contact
Jennifer McLellan
jen.mclellan@mercerislandschools.org



Do you have time to assist students with their career goals? DECA students need your help as a competitive events judge. You'll be assisting high school students as they work toward successful careers. As a judge, you will participate in role-play activities during which students will act out their solutions to real business world situations. Following training that morning, you will then evaluate the students' performances using a brief, easy to complete evaluation form.

Contact Jen McLellan to volunteer. Jen.mclellan@mercerislandschools.org

DECEMBER 14 - Ringing Bells for the Salvation Army

We are ringing bells for the

Salvation Army's non-religious outreach for the needy. There are still a few spots available. This is a great project to do with your kids, a friend, or another Rotarian. We usually have two bellringers, but certainly more can join in. One Rotarian even brought his 5th grader and his friends to play Christmas carols on their band instruments.

These times were still available as of 11/21/24, but double check with Benson Wong who is coordinating the volunteers. bensondwong@gmail.com

Service Project Ringing Bells For the Salvation Army



Walgreens

9-11 AM - one spot open
11-1 - two spots open

QFC SOUTH

1-3 PM - one spot open

QFC NORTH

All spots are filled

DECEMBER 17 - Annual Meeting via ZOOM

Please plan to attend this brief meeting via ZOOM as we need a quorum to approve the slate of officers and directors for the 2025-26 Rotary year, and to make a few changes to the bylaws.

Rotary Club of Mercer Island Annual Meeting



December 17, 12:30 PM
Via ZOOM

You will be sent a link in advance of meeting

SERVICE PROJECT

Are you interested in TUTORING at risk elementary age children?

Even if you have only a little time to give, there is a place for you! Contact our speaker, Roy Chang for more information and to check out the incredible success that <http://schoolconnectwa.org> is having.



ROY CHANG
206.335.7575
roychang@schoolconnectwa.org

A Terrific Opportunity

By Wally Boos

Our Rotary Club is at an inflection point, where we have the opportunity to match effective Club Leadership with new fund-raising avenues that will enable on-going investments in worthwhile causes, both locally and internationally. Identified causes have been and will continue to be funded through our MI Rotary Foundation.

Reasons for optimism include:

- The leadership of **Dr. Fred Rundle**, who heads up our Community Grants Team.
- The leadership of **Vyviene Stumbles**, who heads up our International Grants Team.
- The plans for a **Summer 2025 Pickleball Tournament**, which will raise funds for the MI Rotary Foundation.
- Initial plans for a **Summer 2025 Golf Tournament**, which will also raise funds for the MI Rotary Foundation.

What this means:

NOW is a great time to get personally involved in our grant activities. This is a big reason why we are Rotarians. If you have an idea for a worthwhile grant, please bring it forward.

Here's a great equation for 2025:

Your idea for a worthwhile grant project
+ a group of MI Rotarians who come together with details and planning
+ effective fund-raising planned for 2025
+ MI Rotary Foundation funding

= SOMETHING GREAT GETS FUNDED

Let's do this together. Please let me know if you have ideas or questions.

Wally@bowfits.com

Wally Boos
Foundation President

SAVE THE DATE: Harvest Against Hunger - Annual Fund Raising Event



PRESENTS



Save the Date Friday, March 14, 2025

Get ready for the next annual Hearts & Wine event
benefiting Harvest Against Hunger at
Pickering Barn, Issaquah

SAVE THE DATE: Mercer Island Rotary's FIRST Golf Tournament



Where Everybody Knows Your Name

Remember that familiar feeling from "Cheers"—where everybody knows your name? In today's increasingly disconnected world, the Rotary Club of Mercer Island offers something similarly precious: a place where genuine connection and purpose intersect.

At its core, Rotary transcends the typical community service organization. While the global network's impact is undeniable, the true magic happens in the small moments—when members share coffee after a project, mentor each other naturally, or celebrate a community milestone together. These seemingly simple interactions weave together to create something rare and valuable: a sense of belonging that extends far beyond meetings and service projects.

What sets the Rotary Club of Mercer Island apart is its unique ability to transform individual good

intentions into collective impact.

Here, a retired executive might work alongside a young

entrepreneur, each learning from the other while working toward a common goal. A quiet retired CFO might discover her voice leading a significant community initiative, while an outspoken business owner might find joy supporting "behind the scenes". This diversity of perspectives and talents creates a rich blend of experiences and abilities, all united by a shared commitment to service.



The camaraderie that develops while doing service projects isn't just about networking or socializing—it's about creating a second family bound by shared values and purpose. When our members roll up their sleeves together, whether they're organizing a local food drive for Mercer Island Youth and Family Services, feeding the homeless at Operation Nightwatch in Seattle, collecting kids' clothes for Treehouse, educating our youth to help stop sex trafficking in King County or implementing global health initiatives like building a health clinic in Africa, they're crafting a legacy of

connection, understanding, and impact that ripples through the Mercer Island community.

This magic isn't accidental. It's cultivated through intentional inclusion, celebrated through shared achievements, and sustained through genuine care for one another. In a world that often feels fragmented and distant, Mercer Island Rotary stands as a beacon of what's possible when people come together with open hearts and willing hands.

For those seeking more than just another membership or networking opportunity, Rotary offers something invaluable: a place where you can be yourself, grow alongside others, and make a lasting difference in the world. It's where purpose meets belonging, and where everybody truly does know your name—and values what you bring to the table.



CLASSIC JOKE TIME



What did Beethoven become after he died?

A decomposer

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

Prospective Members and Applications for Membership:
Diane Tien, Director of Membership dianebtien@gmail.com

Have ideas for, or to volunteer for Community Service
Benson Wong, President 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
- **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

To include something in The Dawn (newsletter), or to change your contact information
Pat Turner, Secretary turner.pat@gmail.com 206-852-4717

To include something on our Facebook Page
Julie Hsieh, Director of Public Image juliehsieh@outlook.com

Birthdays This Month



Judy Clibborn
November 3rd



Charles Maylin
November 5th

Elizabeth Baska
November 6th



Seth D. Landau
November 12th



John I. Nelson
November 15th



Mark C. Wischman
November 18th



Alan Bunin
November 23rd



David Thompson
November 27th



Walter Boos
November 29th



Benson D Wong
November 30th

Years of Rotary Service This Month



Mark C. Wischman
33 Years



Terry Lee
19 Years



Michael Gorski
5 Years



Ashley Hay
1 Year