



Rotary Club of Coeur d'Alene



Rotary Bulletin 08/09/24

NEXT MEETING August 16, 2024

Idaho Fish and Game

Carson Watkins, Regional Supervisor & Dave Bobbitt Commissioner

JOIN MEETING VIA ZOOM: click [here](#).

Presided.....PRESIDENT ASHLEY LENZ

Invocation.....MARK BOTTERBUSCH

Greeter.....KRISTI SCOTT

Sergeant at Arms.....CHRIS CHEELEY

GUESTS

Visiting Rotarian

- Clancy Hughes from Homer, AK
- Dick and Peg Tuddenham from Sandpoint

We had the following guests:

- Matt Albright and Troy Braga, guests of Ashley Lenz
- Liz Godbehere and Cindy Clarke, guests of Teri Farr
- Coryelle Rogers, daughter-in-law of Heidi Rogers
- Joel Hazel, hubby of Christa Hazel
- Bob Colvin, guest of Candace Godwin
- Tim Quinn and Denny Davis, guests of Wanda Quinn
- Neil Nemeec, guest of Mary Sanderson
- Dave McGlasson, guest of the club

BIRTHDAYS

Rebecca Eyman â€" (8/9)

Stu Butler â€" 85! (8/9)

Carol Johnson â€" (8/10)

George Busch â€" August 15

Alex Stanton â€" August 15

PROGRAM

HEIDI ROGERS introduced JAMIE SMITH, CEO of Kootenai Health, todayâ€™s presenter and also our newest member.

Smith has been in hospital operations for decades in multiple markets and levels. He gave a presentation re: what Kootenai Health has been through and what they are looking forward to. Jamie does not plan to change the strategic direction of KH, but does want to accelerate progress.

Some milestones from the past:

Speakers

Club Leaders



[Ashley Lenz](#)
President



[K. John Young](#)
Club Director
President-Elect



[Rebecca Eyman](#)
Club Director
Secretary



[Brian C Shull](#)
Treasurer



[Ian Hicks](#)
Club Director
International Service
Chair



[Kiki Miller](#)
Club Director



[Emily Moses](#)
Club Director



[Mark Olson](#)
Club Director



[Larry Riley](#)
Public Relations Chair
Club Director



[Ann Thomas](#)
Club Director
Membership Chair

Some milestones from the past:

1966 Opened doors

1994 Major remodel

2007 Renamed Kootenai Health

2016 Major Remodel

Smith stressed that KH is an independent, not for profit 501(c)3, and locally governed. It has 1,000 providers, 4,200 employees and 445 beds, including Clearwater Valley and St Maries, which are part of the KH system. Operating revenue is \$94M.

Smith has expanded the KH board from 9 to 11. There is also a corporate member board (on which Heidi Rogers and Sue Thilo sit), as well as a Foundation board.

A key focus for Smith is workforce stabilization. During the pandemic Kootenai Health had 800 open positions. That number is now down to under 200, through a lot of work and wage increases. Traveling positions are luring away full time employees due to their comparatively high salaries.

Another focus is expanding to become a regional hospital, drawing from Spokane Valley, Western Montana, and southern Idaho. Currently 30% of patients come from outside of Kootenai County. KH relies on physician referrals for this growth, and regional transfers are up in areas such as NICU, cardiovascular, and neurosurgery. KH doesn't do transplants because they are low volume and high risk.

Here are stats on other health systems in our region:

Sacred Heart 691 beds, 3,523 employees

Deaconess 388 beds, 1,400 employees

Kootenai Health 397 beds, 3,595 employees*

The reason why the number of employees at KH is so high is because it is the "corporate headquarters" and so has IT, finance, HR, and more support staff.

One measure of KH's success is its Google 4.5 rating from over 5,000 people. This indicates strong community support. In contrast, Deaconess rates 2.6, Sacred Heart 3.1, Bozeman Health 2.7.

Challenges faced by KH include:

- Medicaid disenrollment changed patients to charity care
- Inflation exceeds insurance reimbursement
- Large percentage of patients are Medicare, which doesn't reimburse enough
- Workforce shortage, especially for nurses, radiologists and lab techs

AUGUST PROGRAMS

8/23 Don Pischner - CDA from Past to Present

8/30 TBD

In Service,

PATTIE STRUB



[Britt Towery](#)
Bulletin Editor



[Chris L. Cheeley](#)
Sergeant-at-Arms



[Hank Martin](#)
Rotary Foundation
Chair



[Larry Gill](#)
Community Service
Chair



[Maren Maier](#)
Club Programs Chair



[Wanda Chillingworth
Quinn](#)
Club Programs Chair



[Jennifer W Wood](#)
Webmaster



[Doug Rupiper](#)
Past President