

Rotary



Club of Eugene

Welcome back!

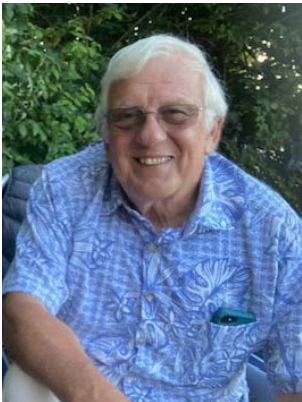
Welcome back fellow Rotarians. I hope you had a great respite to end 2024 and are ready to jump back into action with some great Rotary projects for 2025. If you had the chance to browse through the 2024 Year in Review in last week's newsletter I hope you noticed that we have many projects and opportunities for new projects open as we open the new year.

The projects that are ongoing include; a volunteer opportunity on January 9th assembling Bags of Love to support Cornerstone Community Housing residents; a volunteer opportunity on January 18th with Bring Recycling; additional work on the Cascade Raptor Center isolation ward building; volunteer mentors are needed for our U of O Rotaract mentorship program; volunteers are needed for our three new "\$500 and a group of Rotary volunteers" projects; we are holding an election in January for two new board members of the Eugene Rotary Charitable Fund; our monthly Food for Lane County food rescue service will continue; and, our Club's fundraiser will be held on February 13th. There are lots of opportunities to engage with the Club and community.

As far as opportunities for new projects goes; your Community Service Committee is still accepting proposals for their "\$500 and a group of Rotary volunteers" projects; the next funding round of your Club's Eugene Rotary Charitable Fund is currently accepting proposals until April; and, you should start thinking about potential District Grant projects for Rotary year 2024-2025. If you have a great idea that addresses one of Rotary's Seven Areas of Focus, let's make it so!

January 7th meeting - How safe is your food?

Food Safety 101



Dr. Mike Booth was born 1953, He attended Centennial HS in SE Portland and after graduation spent six months at the US Air Force Academy learning he was not the thing warriors are made of. After reconsidering, Mike choose to attend Oregon State University and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Microbiology. Mike then went on to Veterinary School at Colorado State (1976-1980). Mike practiced predominantly small animal medicine from 1980 to 2010 in McMinnville and Beaverton Orego, and in Lafayette, Indiana. Mike retired from veterinary practice in 2010 and joined the United States Department of Agriculture's Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS). The FSIS is part of a national science-based system to ensure food safety and food defense. FSIS protects public health by preventing illness from meat, poultry, and egg products, acting on the through the authorities of the [Federal Meat Inspection Act](#), the [Poultry Products Inspection Act](#), and the [Egg Products Inspection Act](#). The FSIS also ensures humane animal handling through the [Humane Methods of Slaughter Act](#). Mike worked at the FSIS from 2010- 2014 in Indiana and then moved back to Oregon in 2014 as a

Front Line Supervisor. Mike retired in December 2023.

Mike has graciously agreed to discuss food safety basics with us so that we can improve our odds of avoiding illnesses from the foods we purchase, prepare and eat.

January 7th - At The Graduate!

The Tuesday January 7th meeting will be at **The Graduate - 66 E 6th Ave., Eugene, OR.**

Welcome 2025!

Community Service Committee - Call for Volunteers

Club Meeting

Eugene
Meets at Graduate Eugene (541)
342-2000
66 East 6th Street
Eugene, OR 97401
Time: Tuesday at 12:00 PM

Events

January 7th
[Eugene Weekly Club Meeting](#)

January 9th
[Rotary Club of Eugene's Environmental Committee Meeting](#)

January 9th
[Community Service at Bags of Love](#)

January 14th
[Eugene Weekly Club Meeting](#)

January 15th
[Rotary Club of Eugene's Program Committee Meeting](#)

January 15th
[Food for Lane County Monthly Volunteer Opportunity](#)

January 18th
[Volunteer Event at Bring Recycling - Snow Globes!](#)

January 21st
[International Service Committee Meeting \(via Zoom\)](#)

January 21st
[Eugene Weekly Club Meeting](#)

January 21st
[Rotary Club of Eugene Board Meeting](#)

January 22nd
[Rotary Club of Eugene's Community Service Committee Meeting](#)

January 28th
[Eugene Weekly Club Meeting](#)

Club Leaders



[Nathan Philips](#)
President

[Philip Holt Barnhart](#)
President - Elect



Our Rotary Club is kicking off the new year right with great opportunities for living our Rotary values around service. In addition to our District

Grant work with Cornerstone Community Housing/Bags of Love, sign-ups are now open for the great Healthy Snacks for Healthy Minds project with Camas Ridge (more details below). We are still looking for **one more volunteer** to help out at Bags of Love from 2:30-4:30 on Thursday January 9. **To sign up for January 9 event at Bags of Love, here is the link:**
<https://signup.com/go/OaSzamB>

Call for Volunteers: Healthy Snacks for Hungry Minds

The Rotary Club of Eugene Community Service Committee is supporting a meaningful initiative to ensure that young learners at Camas Ridge Community School are well-nourished and ready to thrive in the classroom. Research shows that full bellies fuel better concentration and learning. The Healthy Snacks for Hungry Minds project aims to address this critical need by providing a consistent supply of healthy snacks to the first-grade level for 2-3 months. The two snacks per day typically come from family and teacher donations and pleas to families to replenish the supply are made on a regular basis. As a Title 1 school, many families at Camas Ridge face financial challenges, making this effort to reduce that burden even more vital. We'll need some help shopping and packaging the snacks for distribution to classrooms!

Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Friday, January 31st – 10:00AM- 12:00PM:** 1-2 volunteers to assist with shopping for healthy snacks at Winco and Costco.
- **Saturday, February 1st - 10:00 AM-12:00 PM:** 3-4 volunteers to help sort and package the snacks into daily/weekly amounts for easy distribution to classrooms at the home of project organizer, Kristina Gribskov.

We're using SignUp to organize the activity. There are different links for the different projects—you just need to click on the link below for this project, enter your email address (You will NOT need to register an account on SignUp), and then sign-up for your spot(s). You will get an automated confirmation and reminders. Note: SignUp does not share your email address with anyone. If you prefer not to use your email address, please contact me and I can sign you up manually.

To sign up for Healthy Snacks for Hungry Minds, click this link:

<https://signup.com/go/dRpqGfx>

Keep an eye out for volunteer opportunities for our two other "\$500 and a group of Rotary volunteers" projects. These projects are described in the next article, below.

Thank you so much for your participation in our community service projects--it feels good to do good!

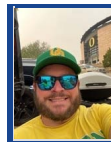
Karen & Jesse, Community Service Co-chairs

Community Service Projects from Member Survey

The Community Service Committee met late November to review great ideas submitted by club members in response to the question: If you had \$500 and a group of Rotary volunteers what would you do to impact our Rotary priorities? Thank you to everyone who submitted—and it's not too late to submit your own idea to the committee for consideration!

We have three projects that will be kicking off in early 2025, and we are hoping our club members will rally to the cause and volunteer in support. More sign-up emails will be coming out soon, so keep an eye on your email for more information.

- **Healthy Snacks for Hungry Minds.** This project is kicking off this month. See the article above to sign-up!
- **Free Little Food Pantries with Burrito Brigade.** Lynne Grilley will be leading this effort to provide food to stock Burrito Brigade's Little Free Pantries <https://burritobrigade.org/pantries>. Our club has the opportunity to help provide nonperishable food and hygiene items and also help distribute food to the pantries. More details to come at a noon meeting in January.
- **Refugee Resettlement Welcome Kits:** Jennifer Geller will be leading this effort to work with the Refugee Resettlement Coalition of Lane County to identify some of the highest-need items for welcoming refugees who are newly arriving in our community, helping get them set up in their new home. Based on the list of items for particular kits, the club will shop for and assemble these kits that can go to our newly arrived community members. More details to come soon about dates and times!



[Ronald Terry Gietter](#)
Secretary



[Erik Peter Gribskov](#)
Club Admin Chair
Club Executive Secretary



[Todd Anderson](#)
Treasurer



[Ken Brown](#)
Club Director
Membership Chair



[Andy Vobora](#)
Membership Chair



[David A. Frosaker](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair



[Lauren Regnani](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair



[Dennis J. Biggerstaff](#)
International Service Co-Chair



[Robert E. Nickel](#)
International Service Co-Chair



[Elizabeth A. Ness](#)
Past President
Eugene Rotary Scholarship Foundation Chair



[Gregory L. Stewart](#)
Eugene Rotary Charitable Fund Chair



[Karen Gaffney](#)
Community Service Co-Chair



[Jesse Quinn](#)
Club Director
Community Service Co-Chair



[Bonnie J. Bailey](#)
Club Director

These are wonderful examples of how our club can make a difference in our community through service. If you have ideas for later this winter or spring, please let us know!

Karen Gaffney & Jesse Quinn

Environmental Committee - Call for Volunteers

The Rotary Club of Eugene Environmental Committee recently donated \$2,500 to BRING Recycling to support their ToolBox Tactics classes. These classes are offered monthly on topics such as Furniture Upcycling 101, Basics of Wiring, Basics of Tiling, and Build Your Own Toolbox. Classes are intended to encourage repairing and re-using materials in and around your home, thereby preventing items from being discarded and ending up in landfills. You can find more information at:

<https://bringrecycling.org/toolboxtactics>

As you all know, our Club strives to include a community service component in all our projects along with donating money to good causes. This project is no exception so we are asking our club members to help out with this upcoming ToolBox Tactics class:

Saturday January 18: Snow Globes

The estimated time commitment is from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm on the day of the class. They need two or three volunteers to help set up the class (which begin at 11:00 am), assist during the class and help clean up after the class (class end at 2:00 pm). If you are excited about helping out, please contact the BRING Recycling volunteer coordinator, Debra West by phone (541-359-6803) or email: debw@bringrecycling.org.

Rotary Club of Eugene Mentorship Program

Many of you recall, and a goodly number of you participated in, our Club's UO Rotaract Mentorship Program prior to Covid. Due to the pandemic, the mentorship program was placed on extended hiatus. Now, at the request of the current cohort of Rotaract members at the UO, we are bringing this great program back! We are looking to you to help restart the program by volunteering to be a one-on-one mentor to a Rotaractor currently attending the UO.

The basics of the program are simple: our Club recruits willing mentors from our members. We match up our available mentors with a student who has career aspirations within the scope of the mentor's expertise. We then ask mentor and mentee to schedule a meeting for introductions and a chat about how the two of you want to interact. Most of our previous mentors ended up agreeing to meet for an hour or so at or near the U over coffee or lunch to just talk about how school and life is progressing, what difficulties the student may be working through, and/or whatever else comes to mind. The goal is to offer stability, advice when asked, act as a sounding board, and generally be there for the student if needed. Meetings generally happened once or twice a month but are totally up to you and your student.

If you are interested in supporting this program and through it some great young students, simply contact Jerry at tgilmour@comcast.net to let me know you wish to be considered as a mentor. I also need to know what profession(s) you have expertise in. You will not regret it!

Alexi Overland and mentor Jerry Whitman Harris at Alexi's graduation from UO with a double major. Alexi now has a permanent job as a scientist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California. As one of 17 national laboratories, Lawrence Livermore's mission is to enable U.S. security and global stability and resilience by empowering multidisciplinary teams to pursue bold and innovative science and technology. Many of our other past mentors have maintained a relationship with their students.



Youth Services Chair



Maxine Proskurowski
Interact Rotary Adviser
Youth Exchange



Raquel E. Hecht
Youth Exchange



Tom Gilmour
Rotaract Rotary Advisor



Noreen Dunnells
Club Director
Club Programs Co-Chair



Chris Stephenson
Club Programs Co-Chair



Robert Scott Impecoven
Vocational Lunch Group
Service Chair



Richard A Barnhart
Club Director



Gregg A. Fuller
Social Events Chair



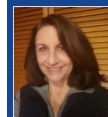
Susan Heisey
Club Director



Richard K Olson
CCO-Club
Communications Officer



Gerald Whitman Harris
Bulletin Editor
Webmaster
iPast President



Monica Wilton
Rotary Connect Chair

Birthdays

Richard Ralston
January 4th

Erik Jorgensen
January 6th

Kelly Sutherland
January 12th

Bonnie J Bailey



Rotary Club of Eugene Collaborates with Cascade Raptor Center!



Since 2022, 529 cases of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI; aka Avian Bird Flu) have been detected and reported in Oregon birds (APHIS, 12/17/2024). Raptors are a group of avian species that generally have severe clinical outcomes or die when infected with HPAI viruses. As of July 1, 2023, raptor deaths during 2023 were reported in 27 species and 48 states (Hall et al, 4/29/2024). The Cascade Raptor Center (CRC), located in Eugene, OR, operates an avian veterinary hospital (the Louise Shimmel Wildlife Hospital) that treats over 400 patients a year. Due to the high HPAI mortality rate for raptors, the hospital's primary patients) the CRC had a critical need for an Isolation Ward separate from the hospital to isolate and treat HPAI-infected birds.

Acting quickly to respond to this need, on Nov. 26, 2024 your Club's Environmental Committee submitted a grant proposal to the Eugene Rotary Charitable Fund (ERCF) to fund and construct an Isolation Ward building for birds infected with HPAI. The grant request for \$5,000 was approved on Dec. 1st, CRC was notified on Dec. 2, the building materials funded by the grant were ordered and delivered on Dec. 17, and two crews of Rotarians hit the ground running on Dec 18 and 19 to construct the 10x12 building on a prepped building pad at the Center. **(CLICK READ MORE FOR PHOTOS)** [Read More](#)

Eugene Rotary Charitable Fund News

Just a reminder that we will be holding Eugene Rotary Charitable Fund elections in January (date TBD). Members running for open board positions are:

Bonnie, Bailey, Chris Binstadt, Lauren Regnani, and Dick Barnhart

The next funding cycle will be January through April 2025. The proposal deadline will be April 30th. Proposal review will take place the week of May 4th.

Food for Lane County Call for Volunteers

We had a great turnout at Food for Lane

January 13th
 Richard K Olson
 January 16th
 Mary Jeanne Jacobsen
 January 21st
 Solomon Harris
 January 22nd
 Philip W. Speers
 January 22nd
 Chris Stephenson
 January 25th
 George Rogers
 January 27th
 Michael Grudzien
 February 2nd

Years of Service

Otto J Glausi
 12-14-1971
 53 Years
 Darryl Lynn Larson
 12-16-1986
 38 Years
 Ronald Terry Gietter
 12-16-1986
 38 Years
 David A. Frosaker
 12-22-1992
 32 Years
 Stephen P. Savelich
 12-15-1998
 26 Years
 Ward Beck Jr.
 12-14-2010
 14 Years
 Kerrie L. Johnson
 01-11-2011
 14 Years
 Solomon Harris
 01-08-2013
 12 Years
 Elizabeth A. Ness
 01-09-2018
 7 Years
 John Barnum
 01-10-2022
 3 Years



County on Dec 18. Thank you to members (left to right): Sonya Carlson, Andy Vobora, Jane and Scott Impecoven, Monica Wilton, Jerry and Victoria Whitman Harris, Chris and Carolina Binstadt, Maria Binstadt and their exchange student Lark. Thanks are also in order to everyone who has donated food, money or their time to deliver Meals on Wheels this holiday season and the past year. I think we all probably know community members who need a little help putting sufficient food on the table for their children and themselves.

The need may wax and wane over time but it never goes away completely. Our FFLC volunteer night is **always** on the third Wednesday of the month - so put it on your calendar as a recurring event and make it part of your monthly routine! Let's do our part to spread the bounty to our fellow citizens who don't have enough to eat at times. Help us by **joining in at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, January 15th, 2025 at Food for Lane County**. Friends, family, children 10+years old and older (supervised by an adult), are all welcome!

It's easy, it's fun and it's a wonderful way to give back and appreciate how fortunate we are to be able to spend time together and get to know your Rotary brethren and sistern better. This past Wednesday our crew met at Sam's Place after FFLC for a nosh and some holiday cheer! We hope next time you can join us.

Please contact **Victoria Whitman** at vwhitman@hearthstonere.com or 541-954-7171 or **Chris Binstadt** at 415-519-7036 or binstadt@gmail.com if you would like to participate, so we can let FFLC know how many volunteers they can count on. We have committed to at least six volunteers a month. The more people who come, the more fun it is!

Food for Lane County, 770 Bailey Hill Road, Eugene, OR 97402
Wednesday, January 15th from 6-8:30 pm

Upcoming Meeting Programs

The Eugene Rotary Club is known locally for our outstanding speakers and programs. Here's what members can look forward to during the next month:

- January 7 - The food safety system in the US - Dr. Mike Booth. Introduction - Noreen Dunnells
 - January 14 - Funk Levis; 40 Years of Excellence - Ann Marie Levis. Introduction - Karen Gaffney
 - January 21 - Smart Reading/Imagination Library - Laurie McNichols. Introduction - Andy Vobora
 - January 21 - Travel Lane County - Samara Phelps. Introduction - Andy Vobora
-

Next Committee Meetings

Community Service: Weds. Jan. 22nd at 4:00 pm at Susan Heisey's office, 747 E. 32nd Ave, Suite A1, Eugene (4th Wednesdays).

Environmental Committee: Thurs. Jan. 9 at Noon, via ZOOM (special date for January only). [Click here for Zoom link to Env. Committee Meetings](#)

Program Committee: Wednesday, Jan. 15th at 8am, location TBD (special date for January only).

International Service Committee: Tuesday, Jan. 21st at 10:30 am, via ZOOM (third Tuesdays) [Click here for Zoom link to Int. Service Committee Meetings](#)

Club Board Meeting: Tuesday Jan. 21st at 4:00 pm (Third Tuesdays). If you wish to attend, contact President Nathan to reserve a seat.

News you can use (and other snippets of useless information)

January 9th is National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day or L.E.A.D. It is a day to express our gratitude to the police officers for all their hard work and for protecting the community.

January 20th is Martin Luther King Jr. Day, This day is a federal holiday honoring civil rights icon Martin Luther King Jr.

January 27th is International Holocaust Remembrance Day. This is a United Nations observance that honors and remembers the tragedy of the Holocaust and the millions of people who lost their lives at the hands of the Nazi government. The 27th was chosen as it marks the anniversary of the date when, in 1945, Soviet troops liberated Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest concentration camp operated by the Nazis.

February 2nd is Groundhog Day. The special day when a cute little groundhog predicts the weather. Did you know that Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow 90% of the time? ...or was it "he sees Bill Murray 90% of the time"?

Do you know what is recommended you do **if you are alone and have a heart attack**? If not, read on....

[Read More](#)

Rotary Club of Eugene



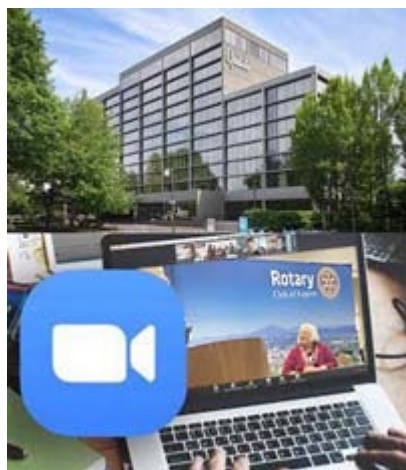
Rotary is an organization of 1.4 million business and professional leaders united worldwide in 30,000 Clubs to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

The Rotary Club of Eugene has served the Eugene and Springfield Area for 100 years. We look forward to our second 100 years of Service.

Join us to make an impact in our community and around the world! To find out more about membership and fill out an application please visit:

[Rotary Club of Eugene Membership](#)

Club meetings can be attended on Zoom - link below



Meetings will be on Zoom assuming internet availability
Automatic link: Click to link. If using the link, no password is required.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83908618864?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83908618864?pwd=Ly85Skc3NXhoVTZGOTZjeGpCWGI2dz09)

[pwd=Ly85Skc3NXhoVTZGOTZjeGpCWGI2dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83908618864?pwd=Ly85Skc3NXhoVTZGOTZjeGpCWGI2dz09)

Meeting ID: 839 0861 8864

Passcode: 695590

One tap mobile

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[+12532158782](tel:+12532158782), [83908618864#](tel:+12532158782), [*695590#](tel:+12532158782) US (Tacoma)