

Rotary



Club of Eugene

January 28th meeting - Travel Lane County CEO Samara Phelps



This week we welcome Samara Phelps, president and CEO of Travel Lane County. Travel Lane County is a private, non-profit 501(c)6 corporation founded in 1980. The organization markets Lane County as "Eugene, Cascades & Coast." Travel Lane County is funded by member and partner support and [transient lodging tax](#) generated at lodging facilities and campgrounds.

Travel Lane County's mission is to grow overnight visitors for a vibrant, year-round countywide economy. As partners with business, civic, government and community groups, including our 500+ members, they provide visitors with extensive services and resources to ensure a quality visitor experience within Lane County.

About Samara:

Originally from Eugene, and a University of Oregon graduate, Samara began her tourism career as Visitor Services Coordinator for Travel Lane County in 2007. Her role evolved to Director of Visitor Services and then to Director of Stakeholder Relations. In 2015, she joined Clackamas County Tourism and in 2019 was named Executive Director of Clackamas County Tourism promoting the Mount Hood Territory region. She holds a VisitAble Disability Inclusion Certificate and is a graduate of both the Oregon Tourism Leadership Academy and the Chinook Institute for Civic Leadership. She has been active within her community and serves as the President of Nearby Nature here in Eugene.

January 28th - At The Graduate!

The Tuesday January 28th meeting will be at **The Graduate - 66 E 6th Ave., Eugene, OR.**

Save the Date!

**you are cordially invited
to attend a murder
mystery party...**



Hosted by the Rotary Club of Eugene
Thursday February 13th, doors open at 5:30
pm The Graduate Hotel and Conference
Center

\$100 per person, table reservations available
Dinner included, open bar
Registration website coming very soon
Contact Liz Ness with questions -
beans1259@aol.com

Food for Lane County Call for Volunteers

We had another(!) great turnout at Food for Lane County on Jan 15. We were anchored once again by the Binstadt family: Thank you Chris and Carolina

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 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](#)

February 4th
[Eugene Weekly Club Meeting](#)

February 5th
[Rotary Club of Eugene's
Program Committee Meeting](#)

February 6th
[Rotary Club of Eugene's
Environmental Committee
Meeting](#)

February 11th
[Eugene Weekly Club Meeting](#)

February 13th
[Rotary Club of Eugene
Fundraiser!](#)

February 18th
[International Service
Committee Meeting \(via
Zoom\)](#)

February 18th
[Eugene Weekly Club Meeting](#)

February 18th
[Rotary Club of Eugene Board
Meeting](#)

February 19th
[Food for Lane County
Monthly Volunteer
Opportunity](#)

Club Leaders

Nathan Philips
President



Binstadt, son Charlie, daughter Maria and their exchange student Lark! Thanks are also in order to members Andy Vobora, Jane and Scott Impecoven, Josh Dickenson (not pictured) and Jerry and Victoria Whitman Harris.

A great time was had by all! - so much so that after FLCC we had a mini-social at Forresters.

Don't miss out on the fun! 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, February 19th, 2025 at Food for Lane County**. Friends, family, children 10+years old and older (supervised by an adult), are all welcome!

Please contact **Victoria Whitman** at vwhitman@heartstonere.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, February 19th from 6-8:30 pm**

Club Christmas Social - At The Hyatt!

By Gregg Fuller



Wow...! what a fabulous social...in front of a roaring fire and lots of fun talking and joking with fellow Rotarians and friends! The beverages and food were awesome also! A great way to beat the fog.



'Tis the season to be jolly' does not need to be just at Christmas time... it can be all year long!

Come next time!



(clockwise from upper left and left to right in each photograph: 1) Linda Eaton, Sybele (Todd's friend), Todd Anderson, Gregg Fuller, Scott Palmer; 2) Monica and Mike Wilton, Karen's fabulous boots, Karen and Richard Scheeland; 3) Nancy Claussen's companion, Karen Fuller, Nancy Claussen; 4) Heinz Selig, Bart Poston, Scott and Liz Ness, Liz's friend)



Community Service Committee - Little Food Pantries Project Call for Volunteers

By Lynne Grilley



Burrito Brigade Little Food Pantries: Hi everyone! I'm writing about Burrito Brigade's Free Little Pantry project approved by our Community Service Committee. We had a short in-meeting presentation about the project at our meeting on the



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Membership Chair



[Andy Vobora](#)
Membership Chair



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



[Lauren Regnani](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair



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[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-

14th. I want to thank you in advance for your help in ensuring folks in our community have access to food and hygiene products through these next few weeks. Non-perishable ready-to-eat or heat, unopened food (instant oatmeal, soups, granola bars) is appreciated, but other unopened staples (sauces, pasta, peanut butter) are also OK. Unopened hygiene products like shampoo, toothbrushes and so forth are also appreciated.

The project will go through January and into the beginning of February. If you want to participate:

Rotarians can donate unopened, nonperishable food and hygiene products in several ways:

- **bring donations to the meetings on January 21st and 28th. I'll have a barrel there and will take the contributions to the Burrito Brigade headquarters.**
- contact me (belynnner@gmail.com) or Burrito Brigade (info@burritobrigade.org) and we'll come pick up donations from your homes
- take contributions to Burrito Brigade directly (get directions from belynnner@gmail.com)

Rotarians who want to help distribute food to the Little Pantries can **register to volunteer** at SignUp (<https://signup.com/go/ymJbbpZ>). There are four dates in February (two on Wednesdays and two on Saturdays). I need 2-3 people for about one hour for each date. We'll meet at Burrito Brigade, pick up food and distribute it to the Free Little Pantries in our community. I hope you will join me!

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

Karen & Jesse, Community Service Co-chairs

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 (photo at left), 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!

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 28 - Travel Lane County - Samara Phelps. Introduction - Andy Vobora

February 4 - Oregon Transportation Issues - Rick Metzger. Introduction - Nathan Philips

February 11 - ODHS/Resource Family Retention - Brandyn Rice. Introduction - Pete Gribskov

February 18 - Looking Glass - Chad Westfall. Introduction - Craig Opperman



Chair



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Club Director
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 Fuller](#)
Social Events Chair



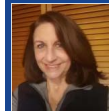
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Club Director



[Richard K. Olson](#)
CCO-Club
Communications Officer



[Gerald Whitman Harris](#)
Bulletin Editor
Webmaster
iPast President



[Monica Wilton](#)
Rotary Connect Chair

Birthdays

Mary Jeanne Jacobsen
January 21st

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. Feb. 6 at Noon, via ZOOM (special date for January only). [Click here for Zoom link to Env. Committee Meetings](#)

Program Committee: Wednesday, Feb 12 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.

Rotary Club of Eugene Collaborates with Cascade Raptor Center II - We're baaack!!



Rotarians Dave Frosaker, Susan Heisey and Jerry Whitman Harris returned to the CRC on Monday to install additional wall studs, cut and hang roll insulation and then saw and install interior wall subpanels of oriented strand board (OSB). Photos of the construction process and crew are below: **(CLICK READ MORE FOR PHOTOS)**

Hans the Eurasian Eagle-Owl [Read More](#)

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

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.

January 29th is the second new moon after the winter solstice, so, it is the date of Chinese New Year 2025, which is the Year of the Snake. Chinese New Year in China is referred to as the Spring Festival. This day is also the day of the Lunar New Year in most countries. Generally, it is okay to use Lunar New Year to refer to Chinese New Year when speaking to a Chinese person or someone from a culture that doesn't traditionally celebrate Chinese New Year. However, it is best to use Lunar New Year when speaking to individuals with other Asian heritage. If you want to show you know a bit about the Chinese culture, use Spring Festival when talking about the actual Chinese New Year, as that is the official term used in China. That also allows you to freely use Lunar New Year for all the other celebrations without any confusion.

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"?

February 13th is Murder Mystery Day for the **Rotary Club of Eugene**. Join in the fun as you solve the mystery:

'Til Death Do We Part

February 13th is also Galentines Day. This is the day set aside for women to celebrate women.

February 17th is Presidents Day. On the third Monday in February, the United States celebrates the federal holiday known as Presidents Day. The day takes place during the birth month of the

Solomon Harris
January 22nd
Philip W. Speers
January 22nd
Chris Stephenson
January 25th
George Rogers
January 27th
Michael Grudzien
February 2nd
David A. Frosaker
February 7th
Mark Hewitt
February 7th
Noreen Dunnells
February 14th
Dan Montgomery
February 17th
Kerrie L. Johnson
February 20th

Years of Service

R. Scott Palmer
02-01-1983
42 Years
Dan Montgomery
02-01-1983
42 Years
Karen Elizabeth Scheeland
02-14-1989
36 Years
Albert Poston
01-26-1999
26 Years
Richard Shugar
01-26-2009
16 Years
Andy Vobora
02-19-2013
12 Years
Josh Neckels
01-24-2017
8 Years
Peggy Whalen
01-21-2025
0 Years

country's two most prominent presidents, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. While the day once only honored President George Washington on his birthday, February 22nd, the day now never lands on a single president's birthday. Across the country, most Americans know the day as Presidents Day. More and more of the population celebrates the day to honor all past United States Presidents who have served the country.

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

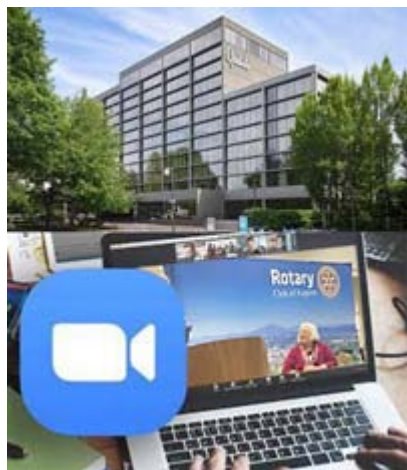


Rotary is an organization of 1.4 million business and professional leaders united worldwide in 30,000 Clubs to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

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?pwd=Ly85Skc3NXhoVTZGOTZjeGpCWGI2dz09>

Meeting ID: 839 0861 8864

Passcode: 695590

One tap mobile

[+16699009128](tel:+16699009128),83908618864#,,,,*695590# US (San Jose)

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