

Rotary



Club of Eugene

February 11th meeting - Oregon Dept. of Human Services Resource Parent/Respite provider Program



Please welcome Brandyn Rice to our meeting today. Brandyn is an Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) resource home retention and recruitment champion. Brandyn will be presenting on being a resource parent or respite provider for the ODHS. She will speak to us about the need for more supports for resource parents and how Oregonians can get involved to support children and youth in foster care.

Brandyn will also be bringing a representative from Every Child as they have some strong programs for people to support those in the foster care system.

About Brandyn

Brandyn has been working for ODHS for 22 years. During her career she has acquired experience in all aspects of child welfare casework.

Brandyn currently does recruitment for new resource homes and provides support for current resource parents. She is passionate about finding new ways to help resource parents succeed and provide the best care for the children and families served by ODHS.

February 11th - At The Graduate!

The Tuesday February 11th meeting will be at **The Graduate - 66 E 6th Ave., Eugene, OR.**

New Member Proposed - Rachel Walker

Rachel Walker, Director of Development at Oak Hill School has been approved by the Board for membership. She is sponsored by Josh Dickinson and Nathan Phillips. If you have any concerns about Rachel becoming a member of the Rotary Club of Eugene, please notify President Nathan.

Project Success! Healthy Snacks for Hungry Minds

The Healthy Snacks for Hungry Minds project was a tremendous success! A grateful thank you is in order for everyone who participated: Kristina Gribskov (project leader), Pete Gribskov, Mark Hewitt, Karen Scheeland, Antonio Anacan

The impact this project has made at Camas Ridge Community School is huge. Thanks to the dedication of our Rotary volunteers and the generous funding from the Club, the 1st-grade classrooms are now stocked with nutritious snacks that will last for over four months!

Club Meeting

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

Events

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](#)

February 25th
[Eugene Weekly Club Meeting](#)

February 26th
[Rotary Club of Eugene's Community Service Committee Meeting](#)

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

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

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

Club Leaders



[Nathan Phillips](#)
President



[Philip Holt Barnhart](#)
President-Elect

[Ronald Terry Gietter](#)
Secretary



On January 31st, volunteers shopped for healthy snack items at Winco and Costco using Club funds granted by the Community Service Committee. They carefully

selected a variety of food options to meet the needs of young learners. Then, on February 1st, a group of volunteers worked together to sort and package the snacks into daily portions, ensuring that teachers have easy access to provide them as needed.

This initiative has helped alleviate the burden on families and teachers who have been contributing snacks from their own resources. More importantly, it guarantees that students can stay focused and engaged in their learning without the distraction of hunger.

A special highlight of this project was that Kristina's daughter, Avery, was able to participate, marking the beginning of her own Rotary experience. As a student in one of the 1st-grade classrooms at Camas Ridge, Avery had the opportunity to see firsthand how community support can make a difference in her school.



Healthy Snacks for Hungry Minds demonstrates the great projects come in all shapes and sizes. Bring your idea to the Community Service Committee and make it happen.

Photographs: Upper left, L to R; Avery Gribkov-Ahearn, Pete Gribkov; Upper right, L to R; Kristina Gribkov, Mark Hewitt, Karen Scheeland and Antonio Anacan (friend of Rotary); Bottom center; Avery.



Save the Date!

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, dinner is included, open
bar.

**There may be some last minute seats
available**

**Contact Liz Ness to inquire -
beans1259@aol.com**



Erik Peter Gribkov
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-

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



Community Service Committee - New Refugee Resettlement Project Call for Volunteers

By Jennifer Geller

Volunteers Needed for Project Supporting Our New Neighbors

The Refugee Resettlement Coalition of Lane County will be welcoming new families to our community this spring. To ease the transition, the Coalition provides families with kits that help them set up their new homes. Our club will be supporting this effort by providing items for bedroom and kitchen kits. The project was developed by member Jennifer Geller and made possible with a \$500 grant from your Club's Community Service Committee.

We will need a small team of shoppers on **Saturday morning, February 22**. The team will **meet at 9 am** at Jennifer Geller's house, make a shopping plan, and then travel to Fred Meyer, Target, or Walmart (depending on sales!) and purchase items for kits. We will try to **wrap the shopping up by 11:30 am**. Kits will be organized for delivery the following week. **If you are a power shopper, we want you!**

Email Jennifer Geller, jennifergeller65@gmail.com if you have questions. Use the link below to sign-up:

[Sign Me Up!](#)

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 Binstadt, son Charlie, daughter Maria and their exchange student Lark! Thanks are also in order to members Andy Vobora, Jane and Scott Impehoven, 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@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, February 19th from 6-8:30 pm



Chair



[Bonnie J Bailey](#)
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 Impehoven](#)
Vocational Lunch Group
Service Chair



[Richard A Barnhart](#)
Club Director



[Gregg Fuller](#)
Social Events Chair



[Susan Heisey](#)
Club Director



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



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

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 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.

We need Rotarians who want to help distribute food to the Little Pantries! You can easily register to volunteer at SignUp (<https://signup.com/go/ymJbbpZ>). There are two more dates in February: **Wednesday Feb 19 at 11am** until noon-ish and **Saturday Feb 22 at 11am** until noon-ish. We need 2-3 people for about one hour for each date. We'll meet at 11 am at Burrito Brigade's building at 1775 W. 6th Ave., pick up food and distribute it to the Free Little Pantries in our community. It is quick, it is easy, and it helps people! I hope you will join me!

If you can't volunteer your time, please consider donating food or other needed items like: Non-perishable, ready-to-eat or heat, unopened food are best (instant oatmeal, soups, granola bars and other items that need little or no cooking), but other unopened staples (sauces, pasta, peanut butter) are also OK. Unopened hygiene products like shampoo, toothbrushes and so forth are also appreciated.

You can donate the items listed above in several ways:

- 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 (contact me first to make sure someone will be there: belynnner@gmail.com)

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

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:

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

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

February 25 - NAACP - Demond Hawkins. Introduction - Noreen Dunnells

March 4 - Better Health! - Bob Pearson. Introduction - Jerry Harris

Next Committee Meetings

Community Service: Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 4:00 pm at Susan Heisey's office, 747 E. 32nd Ave, Suite A1, Eugene (fourth Wednesday).

Environmental Committee: Thursday, Feb. 6 at Noon, via ZOOM (first Thursday). [Click here for Zoom link to Env. Committee Meetings](#)

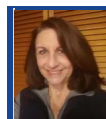
Program Committee: Wednesday, March 5 at 8am at 947 Oakway Road, Suite 280, Eugene. (first Wednesday).

International Service Committee: Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 10:30 am, via ZOOM (third Tuesday) [Click here for Zoom link to Int. Service Committee Meetings](#)

Club Board Meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 4:00 pm (third Tuesday). If you wish to attend, contact President Nathan to reserve a seat.

Rotary Club of Eugene Mentorship Program

Many of you recall, and a goodly number of you participated in, our Club's UO Rotaract



Monica Wilton
Rotary Connect Chair

Birthdays

Noreen Dunnells
February 14th

Dan Montgomery
February 17th

Kerrie L. Johnson
February 20th

Karen Elizabeth Scheeland
February 24th

Nathan Philips
March 6th

Craig A. Smith
March 9th

Years of Service

Phil Barnhart
02-22-1983
42 Years

Erik Peter Gribskov
02-21-1984
41 Years

Karen Elizabeth Scheeland
02-14-1989
36 Years

Gregory L. Stewart
02-27-1996
29 Years

Ravitej Singh Khalsa
02-26-2001
24 Years

Monica Wilton
02-25-2010
15 Years

Andy Vobora
02-19-2013
12 Years



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 Tom at tgilmour@comcast.net to let him know you wish to be considered as a mentor. Tom also needs to know what profession(s) you have expertise in. You will not regret it!

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

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 14th is National Donor Day (also known as National Organ Donor Day). This day aims to increase awareness about organ donation and the lives it saves. In the United States, more than 120,000 people are waiting for a life-saving organ donation. The observance focuses on five different types of donations: Organs – Tissues – Marrow – Platelets – Blood. Many nonprofit health organizations sponsor blood and marrow drives and organ/tissue sign-ups across the nation. Approximately every two seconds, there is someone in the U.S. who needs blood, which translates to the need for over 41,000 daily donations. Are you an organ or blood donor? If not, please consider signing up to be an organ donor and/or volunteering to donate blood or platelets if your beliefs allow it. This day is also Valentine's Day - give the gift of life!

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 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.

February 27th is Anosmia Awareness Day. This day is intended to bring attention to a condition causing a loss of smell. Of all our senses, smell perhaps is taken for granted more than any other. There are many causes of short term Anosmia., for example; upper respiratory or sinus/nasal infections or diseases like colds, allergies or Covid. However, other conditions cause permanent or long-term loss of the sense of smell. When anosmia symptoms are prolonged or lifelong, many anosmics do not get to enjoy the flavor of foods, the scent of an infant or use their sense of smell as an early warning system for danger.

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

[Read More](#)



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](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)