



### Club Meeting

Bremerton  
Meets at Olympic  
College, Building 10  
1600 Chester Ave.  
Bremerton, WA 98337  
Time: Monday at 11:45  
AM

### Speakers

March 17, 2025  
[Sunny Saunders](#)  
Blackberry Festival  
March 29, 2025  
[Bremerton Rotary Wild  
Game Dinner](#)

### Events

March 29th  
[Rotary Wild Game  
Dinner](#)  
Speaker: Bremerton  
Rotary Wild Game  
Dinner

### Birthdays

Amanda Rose Owen  
March 5th  
Katie Walters  
March 21st  
Chuck Capps  
March 21st

### Years of Service

Steven M. Rice  
06-01-1990  
35 Years  
Karen McKay Bevers  
06-01-2012  
13 Years  
Caroline Rivers  
06-04-2015  
10 Years  
Daryl Wayne Matheny  
06-22-2017  
8 Years



# Wild Beginnings Dinner & Auction

## Saturday, March 29, Kitsap Conference Center

**BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW** (see below)

*From the meeting of 3/3/2025*

**BY STEVE LANDAU**

### REFLECTION



**Mark Miller's** Reflection focused on signs that spring is on its way. He said this is a good time to renew positive attitudes, get out and work in the community or perhaps your backyard flower garden. He said that maybe it's time to look at things a bit differently.

### VISITORS & GUESTS

**Jessica Wilson**, Jim Cline's daughter  
**Mary Lou Long**  
**Megan Aguliera**, from Go on The Mission; a friend of Geoff Pentz's  
**Mayor Greg Wheeler**  
**Iita Yli-Kuha**, our inbound exchange student from Finland

### MUSIC COMMITTEE

The songsters had a Valentine's song for a recent meeting that had been canceled. It told about love, with a good dose of practical advice. To wit:

If the romance starts to fly  
And you feel wild and free  
As you rise up to the sky  
Do it carefully  
Carefully, carefully  
To thyself be loyal  
Don't forget to get your sleep  
And change your motor oil.

Gloriously, gloriously  
Love comes to everyone  
This is true in Wenatchee  
And in Bremerton  
Onward, upward to the skies  
Love triumphant sails  
Don't forget to exercise  
And always trim your nails.

### SPIRIT OF ROTARY AWARD



**Geoff Pentz** said he left town at the end of his presidential term and hadn't been able to give **Ana Orona** her plaque as winner of the Spirit of Rotary Award, which he described as "rookie of the year."

#### SERGEANT & HAPPY BUCKS

**Mark Miller** did double duty, having given the Reflection and then serving as sergeant. He asked for "happy bucks."

**Geoff Pentz** had happy bucks for **Jim Cline**, who has agreed to serve as our Treasurer for the remainder of the Rotary year.

**President Karen** enjoyed a trip to New Mexico, which was so much sunnier than here. She had the opportunity to bake in a hot springs. She was glad to be back and thanked President-Elect **Marin Solace** for filling in for her last week.

**John Stockwell** was back from a Rotary Youth Exchange Conference in Mexico's Yucatan. He ran into **Bricia Matus** from Oaxaca, and asked her if she knew **Steve & Julie Landau**, who used to winter in her hometown. Of course she remembered, we sponsored a Rotary project for her club. Also, while floating in a natural sinkhole known as a cenote, John met someone who was from Bremerton; she had been married by John's dad, the late Episcopal Minister Norman Stockwell, a Bremerton Rotarian for many years until his death.

**Dave Anderson** had good luck/bad luck bucks. He and **Sharon** are downsizing and moving into The Willows, which is the good part, but in the process of getting ready for the move, Sharon tripped and dislocated her shoulder, but didn't break any bones. In the process of moving a large sofa into an elevator, the mover hit a pipe and flooded the entire basement of the facility's south wing.

Not so coincidentally, **James LeRoy** said his mother-in-law, who is a resident of The Willows, told him about the "interesting" week she had experienced. Now James knows who to thank for that.

**Jim Cline** said he went to the BKAT Open House with his son and was greeted by **Mark Miller**. He said his daughter, **Jessica Wilson**, a guest at the meeting, had cleaned up his errors on the computer. She is known as "the storm drain art queen" in the Callow Business District.

Finnish exchange student **Iita Yli-Kuha** said she went shopping with friends and found a cute red dress to wear in Hawaii, where she will be visiting with **Tom Long** and family. She is also excited about upcoming

tennis tryouts.

**Mary Lou Long** said she enjoyed attending two performances by the Bremerton Symphony last weekend—one locally and the other at the Aero Museum at the airport in Gig Harbor. For the second performance, she was joined by her twin grandchildren and said they had a great time.

Sticking with his March theme, Sergeant Mark asked questions about the Ides of March (March 15) when Julius Caesar was murdered. While everyone has heard of “Et tu Brute?” there were 60 senators who conspired in his death. We learned that March was the first month in the ancient calendar and that it is named after the Roman god of war, also called Mars. Spring starts March 21 here.

**Doug Berger** chipped in that March 17 is not only St. Patrick’s Day but his wedding anniversary.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**President Karen** pointed out that there was a QR code for tickets to the Wild Beginnings Dinner and Auction on pieces of paper on the tables. She urged people to buy early, so the Conference Center can plan for the event. To date, 40 tickets have been sold, but they are planning for 120-150. Tickets sell for \$120, which covers all expenses to put on the event. All money raised at the live and silent auctions will go back to the community. They are currently looking for more silent auction items under \$500. They also need 2-3 volunteers, who

will get free dinners. For tickets, [click here](#).

**President Karen** wanted club members to begin thinking about serving as the president-elect to President **Marin Solace** next year. Presidents are not alone; they can expect a lot of help from other Rotarians, she said.

**Tom Long** read an email from **Keaton Martinez**, our outbound exchange student who is spending the school year in South Korea: “Exchange is going good, I just did a tour of the Gangwon province. I got to visit the DMZ (demilitarized zone), between North and South Korea, and also go skiing. I start school again in 1 month, but before that I have a Thailand trip.”

## PROGRAM



Bremerton Mayor **Greg Wheeler**, who is member of our club, gave a talk entitled 2025 Areas of Focus – City of Bremerton. He told us about several new building projects in the area that will enhance health care services and add a significant number of jobs:

- CHI/Franciscan Hybrid Emergency Department/Urgent Care, 4205 Kitsap Way—will replace Harrison’s ER and add prompt and urgent care.
- Peninsula Health Services Respite Facility, 810 6th St. —fills the need for wound care or rehabilitation
- St. Michael Medical Center Patient Tower, Silverdale —74 new beds
- Multicare Emergency Room—just outside city limits at 5900 State Highway 303 NE, serving East Bremerton

- Tim Ryan Building, 565 Pacific Avenue—will be fully occupied as of April with 300 new shipyard jobs
- Bremerton Marine Tech Facility, 400 Warren Ave. (site of old KPS building), 50+ new jobs
- Invotech Marine Solutions, 5900 State Highway 303 NE, 150 jobs

Wheeler said that the World Cup 2026, an event bigger than the Super Bowl, is coming to Seattle, one of 9 cities involved, in late June to early July 2026. An estimated 750,000 soccer fans will be descending on Seattle, where six games are to be played. Bremerton is hoping to maximize tourism opportunities with a FIFA Fan Zone located downtown. It will include the new Quincy Square on 4th Street, which will have a ribbon cutting in late June of this year.

Several buildings are also being demolished to make way for new projects. The largest is the former site of Harrison Hospital. The Bay Bowl site is also being demolished, as is the Eagles Building. Mayor Wheeler is also seeking a sustained funding mechanism for Bremerton's fast ferries to Seattle. And the cleanup of Kitsap Lake will continue; it is now relatively clear.



*President Karen gives speaker Greg Wheeler a thank you gift.*

#### RAFFLE

**Dave Anderson** had the winning raffle ticket but failed to draw the right card.

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 17: Blackberry Festival, **Sunny Saunders**

**Photos and proofreading by Tom Long**