



THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2026 YAKIMA CONVENTION & EVENT CENTER

CLEM SEE, RYAN BROOM & JOHN ARNOLD THE IMPORTANCE & IMPACT OF HIGH SCHOOL TECHNICAL SKILLS TRAINING

*Create
 Lasting
 Impact*

At YV-TECH student success is achieved through industry training with purpose. Highly qualified multi-career educators, career guidance from school districts, community involvement and local industries with real needs help them place the right students in the right programs for the right reasons. Clem See, Ryan Broom and John Arnold are YV-Tech educators and college specialists. Together they will share the importance of technical training, their experiences, insights, and vision for creating a new generation of workers.



Clem See
 YV-TECH Career and College Specialist
 Career Bio: Davis High School Graduate, Line Cook, Father, Mechanical Engineer, Elementary School Teacher, Drone Services Provider, Drone Engineering Instructor, New Teacher Support



Ryan Broom
 YV-TECH Entertainment Media Productions
 Career Bio: Selah High School Graduate, Former YV-TECH Student, Sound Production, Radio Broadcast, Television Broadcast KNDO, KAPP, KIMA, KATU (Portland), Yakima Bears Video Director, Entertainment Media Production Instructor



John Arnold
 Career Bio: Eisenhower High School Graduate, Former YV-TECH Student, Father of 2, Softball Coach and Umpire, Volkswagen Service Technician, Chevrolet Service Technician, Automotive Technology Instructor

FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING

Greeters – Corie Burck, Virg Umbarger
 Inspiration – Joe Biondi
 Sergeant-at-Arms – Bob Romero
 Program – Megan Nobbs
 Attendance – Jake Hambly

NEXT WEEKS PROGRAM

August 27th – Global AG Expo FIRA USA Comes to Yakima: A Panel Discussion with Paul Cathcart, Sam Godwin, Brian Pearson & Elizabeth Hargraves

ROTARY PICNIC

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th
 YAKIMA TENNIS CLUB
 5pm – 7pm



ALL-YAKIMA ROTARY CLUB SOCIAL

Save the date of Tuesday, August 25th for a Rotary Social with all three Yakima clubs, District Governor Jill Leonard, and Yakima Rotaract.

The location and time are the Kiln at 815 S 72nd Ave from 6pm to 9pm. You buy your own food and beverage. A portion of the proceeds will go to benefit Yakima Rotaract to support their projects that include an expansion of their pollinator garden, annual scholarship, Kissel Park toddler playground, and a Liberia Maternal Health Clinic.

**PINT NIGHT AT
THE KILN
TAPROOM**

Yakima
Rotaract
Club



KILN

REVIEW

This week we took a road trip to YVC to hear from Rotary District Governor Jill Leonard. With no bell to ring, the meeting opened to Joe Biondi's original music score that brought President John up to the stage where he began by thanking Gail Weaver for greeting and welcomed our District dignitaries that included Past District Governors Darrell Blue and Greg Luring. Foti Panagakos followed with an inspirational message that included Dr. Suess' Green Eggs and Ham as a symbol of invitation to try something new and Rotary's motto of Service Above Self. Dr. Suess inspires generations of readers and for over 100 years Rotary has moved people to accomplish extraordinary things. Proceeds from our sergeant-at-arms were dedicated to White Swan fire relief. With a quiz on Yakima versus Wenatchee (DG Jill's town) and some trivia about District Governor Jill Leonard, Doug Rich raised over \$1,400.

Last Thursday, we filled a record 673 backpacks with school supplies for every student at Adams Elementary. It was so much fun! The next step in the process is to hand out the backpacks on the first day of school on August 27th. If you would like to participate, please contact the Rotary office or Committee Co-Chair Paul Needham. President John announced that our playground project at Larson Park in partnership with Southwest and Sunrise Rotary received a significant gift from Yakima Kiwanis. Along with club contributions and grants from the Parker Youth & Sports Foundation, Rotary District 5060 and the Yakima Rotary Trust the project is now completely funded. Installation is scheduled for spring 2027.

Past District Governor Darrell Blue highlighted an upcoming District event to raise money for The Rotary Foundation called Hearts Across Borders. In 1917, the President of Rotary International was Arch Klumph had \$26.50 left over from his Rotary Convention. With that money he created a fund that would become The Rotary Foundation. Since that initial donation, the Foundation has given more than \$4 billion to good causes around the world. Some of those causes are ones that our club has benefited from and include playgrounds, the Rotary Marketplace, and a hospital in Ethiopia. In 1985, the Foundation launched PolioPlus to eradicate polio around the world; only 2 countries remain polio-endemic today, Afghanistan and Pakistan. An invitation to participate in Hearts Across Borders was extended. The date and location are October 2nd at Spirit Ridge Resort in Osoyoos, B.C. The goal is to raise \$1 million. Several members of our club have already committed to giving. The Board voted to provide a donation as well – for information on the event and how you can help, please contact Darrell Blue.

District Governor Jill gave a warm and engaging presentation as our program speaker that began with the topic of service. When asked about Rotary, members don't talk about the committee they

are on or the strategic plan. If you've been in Rotary for more than 5 minutes, you joined as a Rotary member. With service to others there is a time when you switch to a Rotarian; it can be because of one moment or many moments. Think about a young person with an admittance letter to college but wondering how they are going to make it work. With one scholarship letter, the question changes to what they can become and what they do with it. That is what Yakima Rotary does. Think about the Rotary Marketplace where people and families gather that now glows at night. It was created through partnerships, different club but all one community. That is what Yakima Rotary is about too. When Jill travels, she wears a jacket adorned with pins, just like our youth exchange students. They represent friendship, connections, memories, courage, confidence and a brighter vision of the world. Rotary helps grow people.

As a District, DG Jill and her team set three priorities for the year. The first is to promote Rotary. We have our branding through our logo. The best way promote Rotary is to talk about it and share what we are doing with our friends, neighbors, or random person walking down the street. Let them know that you are building a community that you want to live in. The second priority is to engage membership. Across North America membership is on everyone's mind. It's not about attendance or warm bodies. Find out their passions and ask if Rotary is a path to get them where they want to be. If you notice someone isn't attending, reach out to them. Those little moments can connect us and increase engagement. The final priority is growing future leaders by looking for ways to slowly get members up to speed without overwhelming them. Look for people to do little projects, invite them along, serve as mentors, and watch them grow. The theme for the district last year was Feed the Future. This year's theme is Fueling the Future - investing in the next generation of Rotary.

The year also includes district-wide opportunities for fellowship, learning, and fun. Darrell already shared about Hearts Across Borders. Also planned are a Rotary Club Success Summit the day after the Hearts Across Borders that includes four learning labs to talk about public image, district grants, membership and the Rotary Foundation; and a Rotary Roadshow instead of the traditional district conference that will include 2 stops in Canada, a stop in Wenatchee, and end in Yakima. Every stop will be different – go to one, two or all 4. Our inbound Youth Exchange students will be there. Look for a future email with details. DG Jill will be back in Yakima for an all-Yakima Rotary club social (see details above). Before she comes back, she challenged us to share what we as members are doing to fuel the future and invest in the next generation – email is jlleonard5742@gmail.com.



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