



THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2023 YAKIMA VALLEY COLLEGE CONFERENCE CENTER

*Create Hope
in the World*

DISRICT GOVERNOR MARJOLEIN LLOYD ROTARY DISTRICT 5060



Marjolein Lloyd joined Rotary in 2001 and served as president of Westbank Rotary Club before joining the Kelowna Sunrise Rotary in 2017. Born in Amersfoort, the Netherlands, Marjolein immigrated to Canada with her parents and three older brothers as a young toddler. Landing in Montreal, the family loaded into a motorhome and travelled across the country before settling in Maple Ridge, British Columbia...what better way to see the country! She graduated from Pitt Meadows Secondary near the top of her class and immediately pursued a degree at Simon Fraser University. But her life path quickly changed when she met a boy (who later became her husband).

In 1998, Sean and Marjolein relocated to the Okanagan Valley and became franchisees for Little Caesars Pizza. Marjolein worked in the restaurants, but also dabbled in marketing and some of the administrative work as well. Over a 12-year period their business grew to 13 locations throughout BC and into northern Alberta. They raised their family in the Okanagan and still reside there, but as different opportunities arose and the restaurants were sold, Marjolein's career path also changed in an effort to be able to spend time with the children when they were young. She spent time as a travel consultant for a number of years and was able to work from home.

Marjolein has been involved on the Club, District and Zone levels of Rotary. Some of her roles have included Club President, Assistant District Governor, Chair of the District Strategic Assistance Committee, ShelterBox Canada Ambassador, and the Assistant Public Image Coordinator for Rotary Zone 28. Her passion lies in facilitation; she has been a Facilitator for Pacific Northwest PETS (Presidents Elect Training Seminar), RLI (Rotary Learning Institute), Multi-Year Planning (formerly Club Visioning), the District Facilitator Training Seminar and the "Membership Matters" seminars. She is also a multiple Paul Harris Fellow and has been recognized by her club and community with several awards.

Marjolein has been married to Sean (who is now a business owner in the construction industry) since 2000. She has 2 sons, a stepdaughter, son-in-law, and a grandson who she loves to hang out with. When not volunteering for Rotary, you will find her at Cobs Bread baking in the early morning hours. She has also enjoyed being a Marriage Commissioner in the Central Okanagan since 2013 and performs about 150 weddings in the area every year. She enjoys golfing, hiking, swimming, camping, sewing, and reading.

FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING

Greeters – Pattie Graffe & Tom Gaulke
Music – Doug Rich
Invocation – Sharon Miracle
Sergeant-at-Arms – John Cooper
Program – Eric Silvers
Attendance – Connie Falon
Marble Draw – Sharri Greene & Jim DeGrasse

FUTURE PROGRAMS

August 24th – Michael Kane, Sustaining an Aging Body with Physical Fitness
August 31st – Dan Newhouse, Legislative Update
September 7th – Rotary Picnic
September 14th – Darlene Wilczynski, Fed's Approach to Monetary Policy & Interest Rates

PROPOSED NEW MEMBER

Unless written objection is received by the Board by Friday, August 18, 2023, the following candidate will be elected to membership:

Shawna Masters
Executive Director
Yakima Schools Foundation
Classification: Public Schools Foundation
Proposed by: Ryan Anderson
Endorsed by: Rich Austin

SAVE THE DATE: SECOND CHANCE WEDNESDAY

Block out 5pm to 6pm on Wednesday, August 30th for this month's Second Chance Social at The Distillarium located at 2305 Industry Lane, Yakima 98901.

These fun, informal gatherings are a perfect way to get to know other Rotarians. Bring a friend or potential new member with you. Rotary will supply the hors d'oeuvres; you buy your own beverages.



MARBLE DRAW

There was no winner in this week's drawing. The pot has grown to \$735 with 8 marbles left in the bucket. Next Thursday's sales will be added to the total. If your ticket is chosen and you draw the lucky marble, you win half. Yakima Rotary Charities gets the other half.



REVIEW

One of the things that makes Rotary unique is the opportunity we have to hear from exceptional speakers and learn new things. This week's program featured three such speakers, Carolyn Thurston, Alredo Orozco and Isaiah Munguia who came to talk about Walk About Yakima or the WAY Program. Carolyn Thurston by sharing that WAY is a gang and gun violence intervention program that was founded by the Dispute Resolution Center of Yakima and Kittitas Counties. It is funded by the Department of Commerce through the Office of Firearms Safety and Violence Prevention. It is the only program on this side of the state doing direct gang and gun violence intervention. It is also unique in that they employ people with lived experience to mentor that may want to live a different life but need help. They partner with the Yakima Police Department, the Yakima School District, Juvenile Probation, the courts, and several other agencies within our community; and with the University of Washington Departments of Psychiatry and Social Health who provide mentor training.

Alfredo Orozco serves as the WAY Program Manager and has been with the program since its inception in 2021 when he was the first and only mentor. Alfredo is a former gang member. At the age of nine, Alfredo was molested by a family member. At the age of 10, his father had an affair, and his family broke up. He watched his mother struggle to work two jobs and put food on the table. Left on his own, he joined a gang at the age of 13. His two purposes in life were to kill the family member who molested him and to die young in a shoot-out with his rival gang. He spent time in juvenile detention, jail, and treatment centers – nothing worked. In 2009, he was in jail looking at prison time. He found a study bible on his bunk; it was the start of a journey to finding God. He found his way to the God Pod unit in jail and didn't end up going to prison. He went through 5 years of extensive probation and treatment without one violation. He began mentoring others who were looking to leave the life he once led. He attributes it all to God. It brought him to the WAY Program.

Isaiah is a recent graduate of the WAY Program. His story was raw. He grew up in Othello as the middle of 5 kids with his mom and dad. His dad was an alcoholic who beat up his mom. His older brother was a gang member; he introduced

him to smoking weed at 9 years old. By the age of 10 he was smoking every weekend and four days a week. By the age of 12-13 he was doing and selling cocaine. He also began selling opioids for a teacher at the high school. CPS was getting involved at home because his parents were beating his older sister. He began breaking into homes and was already going to juvenile detention for assault. At 14 his parents caught him with a gun and brass knuckles. He made it through high school even with multiple juvenile detentions, expulsion, and suspensions. He had never met his birth father; he had been deported before Isaiah was born. His older brother had kept in contact with him; he was a drug trafficker for the cartel. They began trafficking with him. Along the way Isaiah became a father. After graduation he worked in the fields and sold drugs. He began using fentanyl until he overdosed; he continued to sell it. At one point he ended up losing everything including his son. He got fired from his job. He tried treatment but relapsed. After trying again, he contacted a friend who was in recovery and living at the Union Gospel Mission in Yakima. He decided to come to the Mission too. It was a faith-based program; he did not know God and was on North First Street with drugs available at any time. He attended Celebrate Recovery at Foursquare Church and met Alfredo; he was the dad he had always looked for. Alfredo invited him to participate in the WAY Program. He was encouraged to go back to school. They helped him pay rent; taught him how to step back from situations and look at pros and cons of his actions; led him to set goals; and provided him a safe place to speak freely, learn his trauma, and express himself. Today, Isaiah is set to graduate from Perry Tech and will become the first WAY mentee to become a WAY mentor.

It was an emotional presentation that resulted in a standing ovation and a much-deserved Rotary Unsung Hero Award to the WAY Program and the real-life heroes dedicated to serving our community.

