



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023

YAKIMA CONVENTION & EVENT CENTER

Imagine  
Rotary

KAREN TROIANELLO

MY LIFE WITH TITLE IX



At heart, Karen Troianello is a poet and a procrastinator, who tends to daydream but always gets the garbage can to the curb on time. The rest of her is a long-time copy editor/page designer at the Yakima Herald-Republic where she may hold the record for quitting and getting hired back (three times so far).

She grew up in Bellingham, the youngest in a blended family of six kids. After her father explained to her the difference between private and public colleges, she set out for Washington State University hoping to earn a place on the track team and a journalism degree. Spoiler alert: She did both, qualifying for nationals one year and then managing to stay employed in the newspaper business almost nonstop since 1980. She also was the named plaintiff in a successful class action lawsuit, Blair v. Washington State University, which sought equity for women athletes.

She is married to Craig Troianello, who retired as city editor of the YHR, and is the mother of Peter, a Perry Tech student.

FOR THURSDAY’S MEETING

- Greeters – Drew Harris, Dave Heinel
- Music – Kate Loeb
- Invocation – Russ Wilkinson
- Sergeant-at-Arms – Brad Hansen
- Program – Bruce Bacon

FUTURE PROGRAMS

- February 23rd – Bete Demeke, Project Mercy
- March 2nd – Imagine Rotary
- March 9th – Regina Malveaux, Washington State’s Women’s Commission
- March 16th – Gloria Mendoza, Engaging Community in Economic Development

2024-25 YAKIMA ROTARY PRESIDENT



James (Jim) DeGrasse has been chosen to serve as our president for the 2024-25 Rotary year. Jim was introduced in November 2003 and has an impressive Rotary resume. He served on the Board from 2010-13; co-chaired the 2012 Rotary auction; has gone on three World Community Service project trips to Honduras, Belize, and Mexico; served as a Youth Exchange host; chaired 8 different committees; and is currently the Treasurer of the Yakima Rotary Trust. Congratulations to Jim! We are so excited to have him join our leadership team!



SAVE THE DATE  
ROTARY SKI DAY  
FRIDAY, MARCH 24

White Pass Ski Area  
Dinner afterwards at  
Bron YR Aur Brewing Co.



MOLLIE DAVIS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM  
APPLICATIONS CLOSE FEBRUARY 22

**SCHOLARSHIP**

**Yakima Rotary Trust**  
Making Our Community A Better Place To Live.

The Yakima Rotary Trust is pleased to announce the

**Mollie Davis  
Scholarship Program**

Renewable Scholarships up to

**\$7,500 / \$30,000**  
a year and / overall

Awards are based on financial need, academic achievement and leadership

Each qualified applicant must be:

- A US Citizen
- A resident of Yakima County (You may be away attending college)
- A high school senior, a high school graduate, a GED recipient or a current postsecondary student
- Enrolled in fulltime undergraduate study at an accredited two or four year college or university **and** pursuing a first associate's or bachelor's degree

The application period is December 1st to February 22nd each year

To begin your applications, please visit our website at [yakimarotarytrust.org](http://yakimarotarytrust.org)

**Mollie Davis**  
SCHOLARSHIP  
YAKIMA ROTARY TRUST

REVIEW

A big thank you to everyone who helped make this week's meeting so much fun. Tony Farina and Mina Worthington served as our greeters. Sheri Bissell shared an invocation all about LOVE (Valentine's Day is next week). Our music was provided by Sheree Seretse, Afua Kouyate, and Susu Pampanin. We provided a grant to fund an After School Arts Drum Camp for students at Gilbert & Garfield Elementary. Sheree, Afua, and Susu traveled from Seattle and San Francisco to serve as teachers. They shared a performance with us that required a little bit of dancing. It was National Pizza Day, Doug Rich used that for sergeant-at-arms.

Our celebration of Black History Month continued this week as our newest member, Rosylen Oglesby who was introduced last week, shared more of her story. She shared how her family taught her many life lessons and guiding principles by which she navigates her path. Two of those were, being there for others and keeping her eyes open for opportunity. She always thought she would be a lawyer, but that was not the case, as windows and doors were always opening showing her she would work in local government. Her family taught her not to be afraid of doing things and to be ready to pivot at a moment's notice. If there was somewhere geographically that she wanted to go – go. Her grandmother, who loved to travel, always told her that she would have plenty of time to rest when she died. Sharing one of her favorite quotes by Mourning Dove (Salish), she shared how it connected her to someone she met from Yakima years ago when she attended the All-American City Awards while living in Portsmouth. When the position in Yakima for a job she loves doing became available, she took it. We are so glad she did!

President Rick announced Jim DeGrasse as our newest President selection for the 2024-25 Rotary year after Erin Black. While sharing a fun treasure trove of clues about Jim all related through the number 3, the current and incoming Board members moved throughout the room and ended up next to him. There were cheers, handshakes, high fives, and a standing ovation from everyone. Congratulations!

One of the most beautiful sights coming into Yakima near Selah is the majestic view of Mt. Adams and Mt. Rainier in the distance; it is always a reminder that you are almost home. Mt. Rainier was the topic of our featured speaker, Jeff Antonelis-Lapp. Introduced by Linda Kaminski, Jeff is the author of *Tahoma and Its People*, a natural history of Mount Rainier National Park.

He began by sharing that all the stories he would be talking about could be found in his book and that the word *Tahoma* is one of the native American words for Mt. Rainier. There were a lot of people that were a big help to him in his research, specifically Native Americans and people within the National Park Service. While people have been going to Mount Rainier for over 9,000 years, the far-reaching effects of climate change was his main focus all shared through some great images. He began with glaciers which are massive sheets of snow and ice. Thirty years ago, a cubic mile of glacier snow and ice from Mt. Rainier would have been enough to fill up enough railroad cars from where we sat in the room to the moon. Today that amount has decreased by a quarter; glaciers are at historic minimums since record keeping began.

Climate change also affects the rivers that flow down from the mountain. Focusing on the Carbon, Nisqually and Tahoma Creek, we saw the results of sediment coming down the mountain. Called aggregation, the movement of sediment is a natural process. Throughout most of the 20th century, it amounted to four inches per decade. Between 1996 and 2006, the amount that moved downstream was 9-fold at 36 inches. Snow and ice are the glue that holds everything together. As they melt, sediment no longer holds and moves downstream, exaggerating flooding events. Two examples were the Nisqually River busting through Longmire in November 2006 and the expansion of Tahoma Creek beyond its boundaries to take away the Westside Road needed for park access.

Beyond the glaciers, aggregation, and flooding, there are studies underway looking at plants and animals. The Bull Trout and Northwestern salamander love really, really cold water. Rising water temperatures put them at more and more risk. The Cascade Butterfly Project is studying pollination process with butterflies and bees arriving too early or too late. The biggest visual can be seen at the flower fields at Paradise.

While it may seem like a melting snow cone, there are things that are hopeful. The Imminent Threats Program plants huge log bundles to slow down the flow of water sentiment, tipping the water away from roads. It is working and brings with it, habitat for salmon to rest. There are dedicated people that work and volunteer at the Mountain (you could be one of them). It was a great look into a treasure that we get to enjoy in our own backyard.