



**THURSDAY JULY 3, 2025**  
**NO MEETING**

*Unite For  
Good*



### **FUTURE PROGRAMS**

July 10th – President Sheri Bissell  
July 17th – Michael Connelly & Sam LaFramboise, Westwood Golf Club  
July 22nd – Rotary Trust All Yakima Rotary Celebration at Rotary Marketplace  
July 24th – No Meeting

### **SAVE THE DATE ROTARY HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE**

Wednesday, July 16th  
5:30pm to 7pm  
OIC Training Center Fruitvale Campus

Join Seattle University Law Professor Zaira Rivera and Yakima attorney Bill Pickett for a conversation about The Intersection of Immigration, Free Speech, Due Process and Other Constitutional Issues. Rotarian Rodrigo Renteria-Valencia will serve as our moderator.

## ROTARY BOOK CLUB – A CONVERSATION WITH ROBERT DUGONI

You are invited to attend our upcoming Rotary Book Club meeting to discuss *The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hell* by Robert Dugoni – this will not be your typical meeting because we'll be joined live by Zoom by the author himself. What better way to dive deeper into the novel and explore the characters, themes, and creative process.

Date: Tuesday, July 2nd

Location: Yakima Valley Community Foundation at 316 E Yakima Ave, 2nd floor

Time: 5:00pm

Please RSVP: Dana Dwinell at [dana@d2cmu.com](mailto:dana@d2cmu.com) or 509-952-2711

If you haven't already gotten your book, grab it today – it's a great read!



## PROPOSED NEW MEMBER

Unless written objection is received by the Board of Directors by Friday, July 4, 2025, the following candidate will be elected to membership:

**Charles Matt**

President/CEO

Charles Faram Inc.

**Classification: Hop Supply & Development**

Proposed by: John Cooper

Endorsed by: Larry Mattson

## REVIEW



This week was a celebration of President Jim and the exceptional Rotary year under his guidance and leadership. The fun began as soon as we arrived with a receiving line made up of past presidents dressed up in honor of the things Jim loves – tennis, UW, and skiing. It was an impressive sight!

Past President Erin Black presided over the meeting that included the introduction of Kaitlin Bealer as our 20th new member for Jim's year. Kaitlin was born and raised in Yakima after her parents moved from Illinois shortly before her birth. The mom to two children, she balances her family life with her passion for the manufacturing industry. She recently completed a degree in Supply Chain and Operations Management with plans to continue her masters. As the Customer Service Manager at Kwik Lok, she is committed to empowering others and does so as a volunteer with the Women in Manufacturing Washington where she serves as Vice Chair of the Chapter Board. She also recently joined the Board of Junior Achievement. Outside of work, she enjoys photography as a creative outlet. It was the perfect way to celebrate the work of the Membership Development Committee.

Past President Charlie Eglin continued with a prayer of thankfulness for Jim's leadership, his service to our club and community, Jim's dad and grandfather for instilling the importance of Rotary service, and the work of Rotary to make life better for those less fortunate. With President Jim called to the stage to sit where we could watch him, Past President Erin shared her love of reading with her new favorite two-chapter book, *The Legend of JDawg*.

It was the story of a legend who goes by Jim, Jimmy, JDawg, or James, and took over the reigns as the 106 President of Yakima Rotary in July 2024. From the beginning Jim made it clear that it would be anything but ordinary. The meetings started with music playing overhead and ended with *This Day in Music History* and *This Day in Automotive History*. There were stories told about tennis, tennis and more tennis. It was a year full of fun and purpose. Chapter one talked about walking in the Sunfair Parade; a backpack project to provide school supplies for every student at Hoover Elementary; the most successful Rotary auction in history that

raised over \$400,000 for Rotary Charities; and outstanding programs that included Adam Beach, Shaquem Griffin, Cheech Marin, Robert Dugoni, and General Jim Mattis. Chapter two highlighted a different side of Jim as a thrill-seeker, accident prone, with driving skills that have earned him his own fan club.

His brother Todd surprised him with his own presentation. He talked about how he and Jim grew up with Rotary, the pride that their grandfather and father would have had to see Jim as president of Yakima Rotary, and more about Jim's driving abilities that included a speeding ticket in Oregon that miraculously ended up being dismissed. There was music with Past President Doug Rich who created an original song to the melody of Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go; the perfect sergeant-at-arms by Past President Kellie Connaughton with questions about music, cars, and tennis; and talk about his love for his wife Dawn and their girls.

Every week Jim encouraged us to show up with open minds and hearts, to leave the noise of the world outside, and step into Rotary with curiosity, kindness, and a willingness to laugh. For that, we will always be grateful. The day ended with call for a motion and a second from the Past Presidents' Council (that include a brief scare of cricket sounds) to join their esteemed group with a yes; a thank you to Jim for his leadership, legacy, and ability to turn every meeting into a cross between a TED talk and stand-up routine; confirmation that Jim is 107 and not 106; and time for Jim to share a thank you to his family and each one of us. It was a remarkable year!

