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# THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022 YAKIMA CONVENTION CENTER

Imagine Rotary

# PRESIDENT RICK FAIRBROOK



Rick Fairbrook's family's roots were planted in an area called Piety Flats at what is now the north end of Donald Road in the mid-1860s. He was born in Yakima, graduated from Eisenhower High School and Willamette University in Salem, Oregon. His first jobs were in retail management with Fred Meyer in Salem and Portland, Oregon.

In 1975, he obtained his real estate license in Oregon. Since his grandparents and father had successful careers in real estate sales (L.B. Andrews Co. Inc.) it seemed to him that he should be able to do the same. After 4 years as a broker in Portland, Oregon, he decided to move back to Yakima to join the family business. At that time in 1981 interest rates peaked at 18%, but he moved anyway. In

1999, he brought the John L. Scott Real Estate franchise to Yakima and operated it for 19 years before selling it to local real estate broker, Cory Bemis. He continues to work in real estate sales for John L. Scott Real Estate.

Rick is married to Gay Scott and, as of this date, they have three children between them and three grandchildren under the age of four with another due in October 2022. He became a member of Yakima Downtown Rotary in 1982 by invitation from his father, John Fairbrook, who joined Rotary in 1956 and had just completed his year as Rotary President.

He still remembers at an early age going to Rotary events including soap box derbies, picnics, and Christmas parties. Forty years later he has the privilege of following in the footsteps of a parent to serve as Rotary President.

## FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING

Greeters – Rotary Board Music – David Rogers Invocation – Rosie Rifa Sergeant-at-Arms – Bob Udell Program – Brad Hansen

### **FUTURE PROGRAMS**

July 14th – Peter Arnold, Yakima Valley Museum
July 21st – District Governor Karl Ruether
July 28th – Ed Bilsky, Opioids, and our communities:
A Post Pandemic Path Forward
August 4th – Frank Pritchard, The Absolutely True
& Improbable Rise of Pickleball

## **VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP THANK YOU'S**

The Rotary Club of Yakima,

I am honored to have been selected as one of the 2022 Yakima Rotary Vocational Scholarship recipients. Thank you for your generosity, which will help me pursue my education and allow me to focus on my studies.

Thank you, Adriana Navarro Dear Rotary Members,

Thank you for awarding me with a 2022 Yakima Rotary Vocational Scholarship. I will be using this scholarship at YVC in the Veterinary Technician program.

I enjoyed the luncheon and learning more about Rotary and the community service you provide.

Warm Regards, Victoria Gutierrez John A. Baule President Yakima Rotary

Iohn -

It is a real honor to join the many others in Yakima Rotary who are grateful to you for your distinguished service to Rotary and for your leadership during the past year as our President.

Your experience and visibility in the Yakima Community and your organizational skill really gave you the background to pull together the many, many positive programs of Rotary.

As a fellow veteran I want to also thank you for your program to recognize and chronicle the experiences of our fellow Vietnam era veterans. The Vietnam War was a very divisive time for America, and it was painful to the 3½ million of us who served to return to such a divided nation. You served honorably in Korea during that time frame which was another ongoing war zone.

John, you have done so much for Yakima as the Director of the wonderful Yakima Valley Museum from 1992 to 2016. Thankfully, you continue your dedicated support as a Director Emeritus. There is no part of that superb museum that does not reflect your care and attention.

Look forward to seeing you at Rotary in the coming years. Thanks for your continued positive engagement with our community.

Barry R. McCaffrey Honorary Member Yakima Rotary

## - REVIEW -

It was a celebration of President John and a year that saw us come back to life with in-person meetings, social gatherings that included two scholarship dinners, fantastic programs, the addition of seventeen new members, and the start of a Rotary Marketplace in the heart of downtown Yakima.

Everyone knows that John has a love of hats - the line-up of Past Presidents greeting as we entered paid homage to him with some of the best hats you would have ever seen. Past President Jennifer Bliesner was in charge for the day and with the help of Past Presidents Dave Hargreaves, Kellie Connaughton, Kurt Labberton, Greg Luring, and Doug Rich they put together a recognition befitting of a king or Rotary president. Dave Hargreaves led us with our invocation with quotes that epitomized John – the most memorable was Maya Angelou's, "People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Sergeant-at-arms was Past President Kellie Connaughton. If you spent any time working at the Rotary Playground at the Greenway, you would have seen John in the tool shed in hundred-degree weather, charging drills, handing out tools, and fixing anything that broke. Kellie brought a whole new set of tools to make life easier for John. There were flowers to decorate his many hats, cleaner for his

glasses, a neck wrap to keep him cool, paint protection to keep him clean, and his very own drill to charge.

Time travel is real thing as special guest Uncle Jimmy Nolan (also a past president of Yakima Rotary) came to visit. While he looked a lot like Kurt Labberton, he was there from the great Clubhouse in the sky to interview President John. He brought hats, ice cream, a half a bottle of gin (which he took back), and tough questions to answer.

Next on the agenda was something truly special as Past President Greg Luring read a personalized letter from honorary member Ret. General Barry McCaffrey (see it above). With the letter shared and consideration of the answers from Uncle Jimmy's questions, a vote was taken by the Past President to allow John into their esteemed Council. It was a unanimous YES!

The meeting ended with Past President Doug Rich and President Elect Rick Fairbrook sending John into the sunset with "Happy Trails." Thank you, John for your vision, leadership, hard work, and service to Yakima Rotary and our community! It is A Brand New Day!









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