



## THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2026 YAKIMA CONVENTION & EVENT CENTER

*Unite For  
 Good*

### QUINN DALAN, TAMMY HANLON & SARA WATKINS WOMEN IN LAW PANEL

When Arabella Mansfield became the first women admitted to a state bar in 1869, she set the standard for generations of women to follow including trailblazers like Sandra Day O'Connor, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Sonia Sotomayer who have gone on to shape our nation's highest court.

While men still outnumber women among practicing attorneys nationwide, the landscape continues to change. Nearly all lawyers and judges start their career as law students. Today 56% of all U.S. law students are women; 52% of federal government general lawyers are women; 50% of law firm associates are women; and 49% of full-time law school faculty are women.

Yakima Rotarians Quinn Dalan, Tammy Hanlon, and Sara Watkins represent some of the many remarkable women in law in our community. Together, they will share stories and experiences that shaped their own career paths.



Quinn Dalan is the Executive Director of Central WA Legal Aid and is passionate leader in the effort to increase access to justice and reduce barriers to the legal system in Central Washington. She previously served as a deputy prosecutor, special prosecutor, and a part-time court commissioner. Before joining CWLA, she worked for the YWCA Yakima as their Development Director. She currently services on the boards of Comprehensive Healthcare, Larson Gallery, and the Endowment for Equal Justice; and serves as a commissioner on the WA State Supreme Court Gender and Justice Commission.

Tammy Hanlon has over 27 years of experience as a deputy prosecuting attorney and over 8 years of experience as a court commissioner. She has tried over 60 trials in Superior Court, including homicides and serious violence felonies. Since 2013, she has handled hundreds of appeals in the Court of Appeals and the Washington State Supreme Court.



Born in Racine, Wisconsin, Sara Watkins attended the University of Minnesota, Twin Falls and majored in International Relations and Political Science with an emphasis on International Environmental Policy. She attended the University of Oregon School of Law where she graduated with a JD as well as a Certificate of Environmental Law. She moved to Yakima in 2002 and started working at Halverson Applegate, which turned into Halverson Northwest. In 2016, she moved to the Yakima City Attorney's Office and was appointed City Attorney in 2021.

#### FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING

- Greeters – Lupita Carillo, Jan Luring
- Inspiration – David Cobia
- Sergeant-at-Arms – Kellie Connaughton
- Program – Dana Eliason
- Attendance – Rick MacDermid
- Card Draw – Mike Hummel, Sean Kinney

#### FUTURE PROGRAMS

- March 12th – District Governor Tracy McCall
- March 19th – Joe Meza, Pexco & the Aerospace Industry
- March 26th – Police Chief Shawn Boyle, Yakima Police K9 Program
- April 2nd – David Eldred, Lessons from a Lifelong Gamer

#### COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE

This is notice that there will be a meeting of the Fellowship & Fireside/Scholarship Dinner Committee this coming Thursday, March 5th immediately following Rotary. If you are on the committee, please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

## PROPOSED NEW MEMBER

Unless written objection is received by the Board of Directors by Friday, March 6, 2026, the following candidate will be elected to membership:

### **Brian Drumhiller**

Financial Advisor  
Capital Advisors Wealth  
Management

**Classification: Invest-  
ments, Financial Advising**  
Proposed by: John Adkison  
Endorsed by: Tony Farina

## ROTARY SKI DAY Friday, March 13th White Pass Ski Area

Get your skis, snowboards, and snowshoes ready for a fun day in the mountains. Demo skis will be on site for you to try at no cost. Southwest Rotarian Mark Hummel will be leading the snowshoe group. If you need rentals, Sporthaus has agreed to provide them at no charge. Contact them directly.



Don't ski or can't come up for the day? Come join us for pizza at Bron Yr Aur Brewing Co. in Naches at 4pm. Southwest and Sunrise Rotary will be there too. The pizza is on Rotary – the drinks are on you.

Invite your spouse, significant other or a friend to join you. PLEASE RSVP to the Rotary office so we can make sure we have enough food.

## REVIEW

It was another great Thursday with great volunteers. Ryan Anderson and Mamie Barboza were selling tickets for the card draw in the lobby. There was no winner; the pot is now at \$675. Serving as greeters were Megan Nobbs, Steven Gustafson and Cole Held. Our song of the day was "Why I am" by the Dave Matthews Band. Chosen by Chief Shawn Boyle, it resonates living life to the fullest. Rick Pinnell shared an inspirational message of the importance of acknowledging others through something as simple as saying hello with a smile or telling someone to have a great day. President Sheri presented blue badge members to Courtney Beckler, Patience Karsten, Jake Church and Lupita Carrillo; and shared that Rotary turned 121 years old on February 23rd. We celebrated with birthday cake. Jim DeGrasse finished Rotary business with a women in sports themed sergeant-at-arms.

Patience Karsten shared a beautiful reflection of her own story as our final Black History Month moment for the month. It began with a flight from Seattle to Houston where the pilot came over the intercom to ask if there was anyone on board with medical experience. Patience turned on her light and did everything she could to sustain a fellow passenger until they landed. In that moment she wasn't just a passenger, she was a healer. It was moment that brought her back to the historical roots that define her. Black History did not start in the Americas. It began in the great empires of Africa. Patience was born in Nigeria. Her grandfather served as a monarch high priest and judge. Her father became a prominent community leader and served in the Benin division of council. Patience was the tenth born of seventeen children. In her home, leadership was never about titles, it was about responsibility. The question was not what you wanted to be, it was how you were going to serve. At the age 12 she found her calling, not in law or palace service, but in the story of Henry Dunant who initiated international Red Cross and Red Crescent. She joined the Red Cross and embraced the message of Service Above Self. Her journey brought her to America where her resilience was tested not by books but the winter elements of Connecticut and Michigan. Having never been exposed to cold or snow, learning how to drive 25 miles in the snow to school was a white-knuckle moment. She went on to earn her LPN, RN, and her MSN that came with a move to Sunnyside, Washington. Immediately, the landscape and trails reminded her of her childhood home. While serving with Astria, she saw a gap in care with patients having to travel long distance for wound care and specialized services. To honor legacy of her father, grandfather and generations before, she opened her own practice where she leads, serves, and belongs. Why? Because Black History is not just about remembering the past, it's about building a future where no one is left behind because of their zip code. My vision for the Yakima Valley is easy – equality. No one in this community should have to travel miles for the care they deserve. This Black History Month she invited us to partner with her as builders of a healthier more connected community to ensure that in this beautiful valley expert care and human dignity are always within reach.

Charlie Robin had the honor of introducing our very own Megan Murphy to share her story and experiences as a participant in the World Marathon Challenge to celebrate her 50th birthday by running 7 marathons on 7 continents in 7 days. It began with her 40th birthday and taking on the challenge of completing the equivalent of 40 marathons by running, biking, and swimming at various events

for a total of 1,048 miles. It was one of the best years of her life, meeting up with friends at random locations to run, swim, or bike at sanctioned events travel. During that time, she learned about World Marathon Challenge. In anticipation of her 50th birthday she signed up to participate. As 50 approached she began doubting herself. A friend convinced her to follow through; that next year she would be that much older and that much out of shape. It became an opportunity to dedicate time to doing something she loved, to meet people with similar interests, and to be able to step on every continent. The race took them from Antarctica to Cape Town, South Africa; Perth, Australia; Dubai; Madrid, Spain; Fortaleza, Brazil; and Maimi, Florida.

Each stop along the way was shared with videos and stories. The first stop in Antarctica took them to Ultima Base on a refurbished cargo plane. Only a few 100 people a year are allowed to go to Ultima Base. Urine, solids and everything brought in is bagged and taken off the base to protect the pristine environment. Megan celebrated the finish and began throwing up almost immediately and continued doing so for the 6-hour flight back to Cape Town for the second race that ended with a ½ marathon for Megan due to continued illness. Perth became the third stop. They arrived at the park in the darkness, ran through the night, and took off shortly before dawn to Dubai. (She has no idea what Perth looks like) Madrid's race took place on a Formula One racetrack. Curtis King's grandson and Jen King's son, Jack who was studying abroad, came to cheer her on. Brazil was one of her favorite places to run. The people there are beautiful; it was a great distraction. It was also unbearable hot. Barrels of water and ice were located throughout the course to help cool off. Maimi was the last and final spot. After the heat of Brazil, the race organizers who wanted to complete the race in less than 7 days, started the race at 1am – they finished in 6 days.

The story of the Challenge was much more than the physical running. It was about the people and lifelong friends she made. Of the 62 runners participating many were raising awareness and money for organizations. They raised over \$1 million for Alzheimer's Research; they ran to create awareness of prostate cancer; two runners teamed up to stop human trafficking of children; and another was raising money for underprivileged children. Together they experienced extreme temperature differences, a go, go, go mentality, and the most amazing group of people accomplishing great things for different purposes. Their final mileage was 28,700 miles, not including the flights to and from home. There was a race component to the Challenge between two women from Spain and Japan. The Japanese woman and is listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the fastest woman to start a race in Antarctica and finish in America.

Megan titled her program, "running teaches us about ourselves and the world." She learned that her body could go for one day even without proper training, it was okay to switch to ½ marathon when needed for her mental and physical health, it reaffirmed her love of running and gave appreciation of her ability to be easily distracted. Her ending encouragement for us was - don't wait to be prepared, go out and do it; if you do it and think you can do it better, go do it again and prove yourself right; celebrate living; surround yourself with friends even if they are friends in the making; and engage in an adventure.