



THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023 YAKIMA CONVENTION & EVENT CENTER

*Imagine
 Rotary*

ANN SIMONS WASHINGTON STATE WOMEN'S COMMISSION



On March 15, 2018, House Bill 2759 was signed into law by Governor Jay Inslee, establishing the Washington State Women's Commission. The bill along with the companion Senate Bill 6583 passed with bipartisan support. The legislature found that women face unique problems and needs. For economic, social, and historical reasons, a disproportionate number of women find themselves disadvantaged or isolated from the benefits of equal opportunity.

Ann Simon's enduring passion is women's justice. She started her career as a lobbyist for Washington Women United, which was a statewide umbrella women's organization representing women's voices throughout the state. She founded a new women's health advocacy organization called the Sun Mountain Women's Health Alliance and published "The Health of Washington Women" and recently completed her Master's in International Service from American University. After 25 years of advocating for the re-establishment of a Women's Commission she succeeded in making the Commission a reality.

Addressing women's issues and improving the well-being of women has a positive impact on larger societal issues. The development of public policy and the efficient delivery of governmental services to meet the needs of women is improved by the Women's Commission.

FOR THURSDAY'S MEETING

Greeters – Mina Worthington, Bill Douglas
 Music – Doug Rich
 Invocation – Leanne Antonio
 Sergeant-at-Arms – Doug Rich
 Program – Quinn Dalan

FUTURE PROGRAMS

March 16th – Gloria Mendoza, Engaging Community in Economic Development
 March 23rd – Craig & Jake Kupp, Faith, Family & Football
 March 30rd – Tom Gaulke, National Disabilities Month
 April 6th – James Donelson, Understanding Mental Health Awareness & Suicide Prevention

ROTARY SKI DAY



Rotary Ski Day is set for Friday, March 24th at White Pass Ski Area. White Pass Ski area is a true treasure in our own backyard with majestic views of Mt. Rainier and terrain for skiers and snowboarders of all abilities. Demo skis provided by fellow Rotarian Sig Fossum and the Sporthaus will be on site for you to try at no charge.

Don't ski? Come for dinner only, which this year will be held at Bron Yr Aur Brewing Company in Naches for some of the best pizza you will ever have. Pizza is on us, drinks are on you. Guests are invited. Sign-ups and announcement will start this week.

ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

The deadlines for the Academic and Vocational Scholarship applications are fast approaching. The deadline for the Academic Scholarship is Friday, May 10th. The deadline for the Vocational Scholarship is Thursday, March 16th.

The Academic Scholarship Committee will be awarding nineteen scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 each. Applications are being accepted from graduating high school students attending Davis, East Valley, Eisenhower, Highland, LaSalle, Naches Valley, Riverside Christian, Selah, and West Valley high schools, along with home-schooled and Running Start students within those districts.

The Vocational Scholarship Committee has a total of \$37,500 to divide up among their recipients. Recipients must be enrolled or planning to enroll at a post-high school vocational institution or a 2-year terminal vocational program at a community college within one year of the scholarship award and at a minimum through the fall quarter of the award year. The same students above are eligible to apply along with non-traditional students who are currently attending or will be attending Perry Technical Institute, Heritage University, and Yakima Valley College and qualify based upon the criteria.

Full criteria and applications can be downloaded from our website at yakimarotary.org under the Youth tab.



REVIEW

This week's meeting was not your typical Thursday with music, invocation, sergeant-at-arms, and a program speaker. Instead, it was an opportunity in a fun, interactive way to *IMAGINE* how our Rotary Club can improve, change, and grow for the future. President Rick and President Elect Erin Black gave a quick overview of the process, and the work began. The model we used was simple with members divided into eight small groups traveling between four stations in 10-minute intervals to provide their thoughts and ideas on 4 different topics:

1. Enhancing our Public Image and Community Awareness
2. Supporting and Improving the Member Experience
3. Growing Rotary's Impact through Local and Global Community Service

4. Parking Lot – Open Discussion and Dialogue on any Other Topic

Facilitators guided the conversations while volunteer scribes were busy taking notes. What happens next? The notes are currently being typed out and organized. The ideas generated will be used to reassess and update our strategic plan.

Thank you to everyone who showed up to participate. Thank you to our facilitators, Soni Alexander, Jennifer Bliesner, John Baule, Jim Berg, Kevin Good, Drew Harris, Rebecca Pennell, Doug Rich, and Eric Silvers. For those that were unable to attend, there is still an opportunity to provide your input by emailing your ideas and thoughts directly to the Rotary office. We can't wait to share the final results with you soon!

