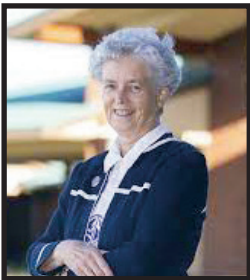




Imagine
Rotary

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2022
YAKIMA CONVENTION & EVENT CENTER

SR. KATHLEEN ROSS & DR. ANDREW SUND
HERITAGE UNIVERSITY: 40 YEARS OF CREATING HIGHER EDUCATION
OPPORTUNITIES IN THE YAKIMA VALLEY



Dr. Kathleen Ross has been published 23 times, including most recently by Harvard Education Press. She’s been awarded honorary doctorates from Dartmouth, Notre Dame, and Gonzaga to name just a few and has served on numerous national higher education boards. Her many awards include the 1995 Washington State Medal of Merit and the 1997 MacArthur Foundation Fellows’ “Genius Award.”

And she’s the Founding President of Heritage University, a position she held from 1982 to 2010.

But Kathleen Ross has always found her most important identity in the initials after her name: “SNJM” – indicating the Catholic order of which she’s a member. She says that, to this day, her most significant achievements have been made in service of people from underserved populations, prioritizing their education so that they, their families, and their greater community may prosper.

Dr. Ross began her 50-year career in higher education as Academic Vice President at Fort Wright College in Spokane. Dr. Ross holds a B.A. degree from Fort Wright College, an M.A. from Georgetown University, and a Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University.

Dr. Ross lives in Toppenish and continues to work part-time at the University. Currently she is focusing on writing her Memoirs of the founding of the University, with the purpose of providing inspiration and motivation to others facing very difficult but important goals.



The mission statement of Heritage University, of which Dr. Andrew Sund is president, includes the following: “Rooted in the homeland of the Yakama Nation, Heritage University embraces student-centered education that cultivates leadership, transforms students’ lives and benefits our communities.”

This mission spoke to Dr. Sund in 2017 when the university was seeking a new president, and it didn’t take him long to make the decision to serve Heritage in that important role.

Since then, a major focus of Dr. Sund’s administration has been planning and re-engaging with the mission of the University and its meaning to daily operations – and students’ lives.

Dr. Sund has restructured the university’s administrative units and the Admissions Office and infused resources into communicating Heritage’s unique learning proposition to the people and prospective students of the Yakima Valley. During his tenure, numerous new faculty have joined the institution strengthening its academic programs and deepening the wealth of its many offerings.

He’s shared his institution’s vision as a speaker at numerous community events, including Rotary presentations and the Yakama Tribal Council, and participates regularly in a Spanish language radio broadcast produced by KDNA.

Prior to joining Heritage, Dr. Sund was President of St. Augustine College in Chicago.

Dr. Sund received a bachelor’s degree in History and Philosophy from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a master’s degree in History from Northwestern University, and a Ph.D. in Educational Policy and Administration from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Dr Sund resides in Yakima and is the proud father of two adult sons, Matthew and Freddy and two cats Chardy and Savi.

FOR THURSDAY’S MEETING

- Greeters – Kurt Labberton, LaDon Linde
- Invocation – David Lynx
- Sergeant-at-Arms – Rob Phillips
- Program – Bob Gerst

FUTURE PROGRAMS

- September 22nd – Neil Barg, The Year of the Virus
- September 29th – Rotary Reunion
- October 6th – Phil English, Eli Juarez & Katie Hinckley, Successful Coaching: How Does it Happen?
- October 13th – U.S. District Court Judge David Estudillo, National Hispanic Heritage Month

ROTARY OPERATION HARVEST

Rotary Operation Harvest is set for Saturday, October 8th. There are opportunities to help before and after the event. BEFORE the event, you can staple flyers to bags, drop off bags on a pre-assigned route between Sept. 30th and Oct. 5th, ask a non-Rotarian to donate \$100, and/or display an Operation Harvest sign in your yard. DAY of event, you can collect food from a pre-assigned route or work a shift at the collection site. PARTICIPATING with a donation can be done anytime with a request to bill your Rotary account or by scanning the QR code provided. 100% participation is the goal!



SEPTEMBER ROTARY BOOK CLUB SELECTION

My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry by Fredrick Backman is this month's Rotary Book Club Selection. It is the story of seven-year-old Elsa. Her grandmother is seventy-seven and crazy but is also her best and only friend.

When Elsa's grandmother dies and leaves behind a series of letters apologizing to people she has wronged, Elsa's adventure begins. Her grandmother's instructions lead her to an apartment building full of drunks, monsters, attack dogs, and old crones. Get your copy today and join in conversation set for 5pm to 6pm on Sept. 28th at John I Haas Innovation Center.



- REVIEW -

After a week off for Rotary picnic fun, we were back together for lunch to learn something new from our speakers Susan Walker and Monica Miller, welcome a new member, and enjoy fellowship. It all began with music handpicked by David Rogers featuring a performance by Bobby Ferrin and Yo Yo Ma playing Ave Maria on the Tonight Show 30 years ago. Leanne Antonio followed with a passage from Maria Shriver's book *I've Been Thinking* called The Power of Women - I think a lot of us found a new book to read. President Rick shared a thank you to everyone who helped with the picnic and how our extra food found its way to the Union Gospel Mission's outreach team that night. The talk of food was the perfect transition to kick-off the volunteer sign-ups for Rotary Operation Harvest. The date is Saturday, October 8th – mark your calendar. Opportunities to help are available before and day of the event. The goal is 100% participation!

It took not one, but two Rotarians, Amy Maib and Quinn Dalan, to introduce our newest member, Sara Watkins. They did a great job! Sara grew up in Wisconsin with her younger brother. Their parents were both teachers; they spent their summers traveling around the U.S. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Minnesota and went on to the University of Oregon Law School. She moved to Yakima in 2002, to work at what is now known as Halverson Northwest. In 2021, she became the first woman to serve as Yakima City Attorney. She met her husband Travis when she signed up to take intro to hiking at YVC. She loves to read and travel; her favorite place is Peru where she climbed Machu Picchu and did so after getting violently sick from bad water. She is a past president of Junior League, wants to be a park ranger when she retires and is a season ticket holder for the Green Bay Packers (she was on the waiting list for 36 years - her parents signed her up when she was a child). We are so happy to have her as part of our club. She will make a great Rotarian!

After the introduction, Quinn stayed behind to model the latest in Rotary swag available for purchase from t-shirts to sweatshirts to scarfs. A link to the site is included in the email with this edition of the Tooter. Rich Austin finished off Rotary business with a Cooper Kupp 101 Sergeant-at-Arms.

Introduced by David Lynx, our speakers Susan Walker and Monica Miller came to talk to us about Women Painters of Washington. A member of the Women Painters of Washington, Susan shared that when she introduced herself before the meeting as an artist, the response she received was "I could never do that." It happens to be the most common thing that she hears when she meets someone new. Anyone can learn how to draw, its just if you want to. You need to have the desire and determination. The women who founded Women Painters of Washington shared the same fire in their brains – what to do with this thing that wants to

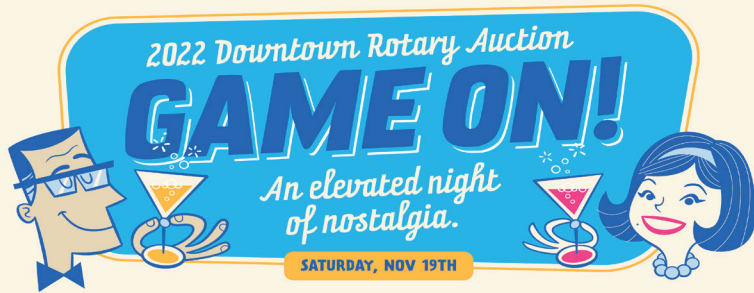
make your hands create and make things. They weren't hobbyist; they needed to do something bigger.

The arts in the early days of Seattle were for people with wealth and privilege who had time and resources to create, unlike those who had to work to survive. In 1928, men artists formed Puget Sound Painters Group and excluded women. The women decided to form their own group, Women Painters of Washington. It started as a luncheon and evolved into their mission statement that continues to be relevant today to promote ongoing individual artistic achievement; nurture a strong fellowship among its members; bring the work of members to the public; and foster art appreciation through community exhibitions. The original group had 25 members and went on to found what became the Seattle Art Museum. A cornerstone of the museum has the signature of the organization's president at that time. During the War, they were very active in fundraising. There are also people like Yvonne Twining Humber who decided to endow women painters.

Today, Women Painters of Washington is a non-profit organization with a current membership of 180. It is an all-volunteer effort. They meet monthly by Zoom, and there is a vetting process for joining. They have their own gallery located in the Columbia Tower in Downtown Seattle. They organize juried exhibitions all over the state including a new show at the Larson Gallery called Intersections opening this Saturday, September 10th and running through October 22nd.

The show at the Larson Gallery requires a decision on what should be displayed. That is where Monica shared her story. Monica is the Executive Director of Gallery One in Ellensburg. In her job she wears many hats - putting together exhibits, classes for kids and adults, outreach programs to schools in Kittitas County, and being out in the community as much as possible. One of her favorite things she loves to do is co-curate exhibits. It is up to the jurist or curator to decide what pieces of art will be part of an exhibit. How does that process work for her? It is her job to ask questions. With a quick exercise she showed us how it works. It begins with a glance to see what you have, and then going back to the beginning to ask, what did I see, what do I feel, what questions come to mind, what are you curious about, are there any similarities or connections, are there any major differences, and is there a story to tell. At first glance, the images shared were all very different, going back they all shared one theme, a disconnect.

Art gives us the ability to express ourselves and is a wonderful way to see the world through someone else's eyes. Susan, Monica, and the other women who make up the Women Painters of Washington provide that opportunity.



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please contact John Cooper at john@visityakima.com.