



ROTARY: MAKING A DIFFERENCE

# THE SPOKE

CLUB NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2, 2019

ISSUE NO. 261

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS

### OCTOBER

Oct. 1 - Club Meeting  
Oct. 8 - Brian Cunningham, Sumner IT, Cybersecurity Month  
Oct. 15- Steve Bell, Bellmont Cabinets  
Oct. 22 - Jeff Dunn, Retired Boeing  
Oct. 29 - Mike Flood, VP Community Outreach, Seattle Seahawks

### NOVEMBER

Nov. 5 - Club Meeting  
Nov. 12 - Aaron Artman, Tacoma Rainiers  
Nov. 19 - Krista Linden, meeting location Step-by-Step in Puyallup

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### Co-Secretary

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## CLUB LINKS

[Rotary International](#)

[About Rotary](#)

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[Rotary History](#)

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[For New Members](#)

### SUMNER ROTARY CLUB

PO Box 272  
Sumner, WA 98390  
[rotaryclubofsumner.org](http://rotaryclubofsumner.org)



Sumner Rotary Club meets Tuesdays,

noon, Branks BBQ, 13701 24th St. E.

Sumner

Send articles/photos to The Spoke editor:

David Hammermaster

[david@hammerlaw.org](mailto:david@hammerlaw.org)

## COMMUNITY SERVICE PARTNERS



Back row: Ken Nicholas, Sherm Voiles, Jon Patrick, Jerry Vandenberg, Sam Suznevich. Front row: Scott Perkins and Keegan (scout member). Among the jobs completed was rebuilding the ramp.

Sumner Rotarians held a work project on Saturday, September 21 to work on the Scout Hall, near Loyalty Park in Sumner. The building was in need of many repairs and among the items we were able to accomplish included:

- installing new fence in the back
- replacing hot water tank and toilet
- installing new cabinets
- installing parking signs
- work on the ramp

A big "thank you" goes out to the following individuals:

Sherm Voiles, Ed McConkey, Jon Patrick, Jerry Vandenberg, Brent Nalder, David Orth, Scott Perkins, Sam Suznevich and Ken Nicholas; and Keegan and his dad, Rich, from the Boy Scouts.

## AT THE MEETINGS

### GUEST SPEAKERS

#### KENT HOJEM (Oct. 1)

Washington State Fair

Highlights from this year's fair:

- The atmosphere was electric. Sept. 7 in particular — the biggest electrical storm ever seen at the fair. The rodeo was cut short as was the concert and the fair closed early. There were about 80,000 in the fairgrounds when it was canceled. Scone sales skyrocketed that night. Social media was the primary means of communication.
- Total attendance was off a couple of percentage points. The bad weather on strategic days played a role. However, there were still over 1 million who came. It's the largest attended event in the entire Northwest.
- People are spending more money since the fair rebranded in 2012 to "Washington State Fair" from "The Puyallup Fair." The fair has attempted to increase the things to do and see which hopefully reduces the lines and allows more people to spend more money.
- The fair posted a lot of social media highlights.

- 1) Husband and wife, wedding day fair festivities;
- 2) Mother (90+ year old) and daughter got on the wooden roller coaster.

Because of the time we live in, security was increased. People were expecting it.

Because the fair is private property, they could insert requirements such as "no weapons."

Community partnerships continued this year. For example, over 200,000 pounds of food were donated to various food banks through volunteer organizations at the fair.

New record in scones sales — 1.4 million scones sold

On the day before the last day, there were 120,000 in attendance.



#### MARINA TANAY (Sept 24)

Capital Projects Manager

Sumner-Bonney Lake School District

Rotary members heard the latest school construction news from Marina Tanay, Capital Projects Manager with Sumner-Bonney Lake School District. Marina highlighted seven construction projects:

**Tehaleh Heights Elementary** – Built with an eye to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

**Bonney Lake High School Performing Arts Center** – Ribbon-cutting ceremony was Sept. 25.

**Emerald Hills Elementary** – This building will be a reflection of the community. Marina loves the lobby area as it is very big and reflective of the area. STEM is also a focus in this school which is why it has a rain garden.

**Sumner Early Learning Center** – Just opened this fall. The space is inviting for parents and children as this is a transition period for children who normally stay at home and now go to school. It also has a covered indoor play area (as well as an outside play area).

**Sumner High School** – Early stages of building new buildings — the picture/slide is only a vague representation of various additional buildings in the plans.

**Lakeridge Middle School** – The grandstand was re-purposed from the high school. The modern lighting is also a plus.

**Mountain View Middle School**

If you missed this presentation, view the slides with photos of each project. Click [here](#) to view slides.

#### GEORGE FILLIS

Owner, Al Lago Restaurant



Members also heard from George Fillis, owner of [Al Lago Restaurant & Catering](#) in Lake Tapps. George said his goal was to provide best Italian food and stay with modern food fashions. His goals for this restaurant was to provide a "Cheers-like" atmosphere. He stated that he has accomplished those goals. He also owns [Island Lodge](#) by Al Lago on Lake Tapps.

It is gastro pub style. Tuesdays during the school year, the kids eat free. You can book holiday parties and business meetings at Island Lodge.

George highlighted Al Lago's focus on support for the community. Sumner Rotary honored George with the Paul Harris Fellow. He was very honored to receive this award. Al Lago has donated over \$40,000 to Rotary in gifts and discounts. George expressed in words (and in action) that he loves our community and his given generously to it. We congratulate Al Lago in celebrating 15 years in business!



#### GEORGIA LOMAX and DEAN CARROLL

Pierce County Library presentation (Sept. 17)

The Pierce County Library System is asking for advice and ideas about the feasibility and funding for a new Sumner library, located on Main Street across from Fred Meyer. The library levy that passed has been in effect starting in 2019. The levy covers increased operating costs to keep up with inflation with the rest saved for "sustainability" projects including new libraries like the one proposed for Sumner. The library system is currently surveying and gathering feedback in the Sumner community. Sumner has had a library for 95 years; the current building which has housed the library since the 1970s is old and failing. Library space could grow in new Main Street location from under 12k sq/ft to about 18k sq/ft.



The current Sumner Pierce County Library is at 1116 Fryar Ave.



#### HAPPY BUCKS (Sept. 24 meeting)

**Mike Dobb**— Happy for his daughter working on an 8k event in Washington D.C. Standing next to Madeline Albright and Colin Powell. Mike's property is also been selected by DNR for a native flower pollination project.

**Ron McCorkle** — Happy Buck for a win by Puyallup H.S. Also, Happy/Sad — wearing a hearing aid.

**Pat Duffy** — \$2 for Ron Malner's abbreviated presentation.

Look for the article on

page 46 in the Dis-

trict 5020 newsletter

about Sumner Rotary's

Jeepline Project.

See [Jeepline](#)

