



## **“Engage Now” with Luis Ortega**



Luis Ortega is a passionate believer in the power of story and he travels around the state encouraging high school and college students to aim high in their careers and overcome challenges.

Ortega knows firsthand the challenges that so many people face in our culture. The son of two college-educated parents born in Mexico City, he came to the Seattle area at the age of 14. Like so many other children from immigrant families, he was thrown into high school while learning to speak English and while his family was struggling to make ends meet. They were homeless at times and his mother worked three jobs. He was fortunate in that his parents instilled in him the expectation of going to college. Furthermore, by virtue of his parents being

college-educated, he knew higher education was a possibility for him too. That's not the case with many young Latinos growing up in North Central Washington today, who are the sons and daughters, in many cases, of migrant workers. A school counselor told Ortega that as an undocumented immigrant, he could never go to college. But Ortega persevered and with the help of private scholarships and encouragement from others, he graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in political science.

Ortega is now the executive director of a fledgling statewide organization that is devoted to facilitating more collaborative and engaged communities by providing leadership development to young people, including but not limited to Latinos.

The organization, Engage Now, a center for civic education and youth engagement, is intended to be statewide and started in Wenatchee end of 2015.

Source: Wenatchee World

### **THE ACADEMY**

The Engage Now Leaders Academy is a 5-month program for high school and college students interested in getting involved in the civic process, developing professional and leadership skills, and participating in community service projects.

Selected students will participate in bimonthly workshops to help them understand local, state, and national government structures, effective advocacy strategies, develop communication skills, and participate in a service-learning project to increase the civic participation of their community. In addition, students have an opportunity to interact with community leaders and public officials from their community.

### **NEW MEMBER PROPOSAL:**

**MICHELLE SHERMER** - Community Advocate – Proposed by Bill Murray

## **May is Rotary Volunteer Month**

*- The year was 1966 - 1967 -*

*Jim Schrengohst was our president this year. A highlight this year was having one of our meetings at Mission Ridge, it's first year of operation. This was the year that we bought the new cabinet we use at our weekly meetings. Ed Cadman again headed up the Apple Blossom Queen's Coronation along with his committee of 56 Rotarians.*

*The club had 175 members at years end.*

### **Upcoming Probable Programs —**

**May 26 - Mental Health - Meeting at Pybus**

**June 2 - Classification Talks - Marianne Rumbolz and Tracy Yount**

**June 9 - Planned Parenthood**

**June 16 - Cave B Business Plan**



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## The Week in Review –

We had a great turn out today for a travelogue on the Pacific Coast Trail. Rich Brinkman took us along on his journey of 2650 miles through some of the world's most scenic country. Starting just North of the Mexican border we traveled along the trail through deserts and mountains, Along the crest of the sierra Madre and Cascade Mountains. Our journey covered 150 days of travel one step at a time. There were a lot of ups and downs, literally, from near sea level to 13,200 at Forester Pass.

If you would like to see a video on Rich's 2015 trek you may go to [pcta.org](http://pcta.org) or google the Pacific Coast Trail. A full length video with some spectacular scenes and see all the folks that made the trek last summer. "The 2015 PCT Class Video is a feature-length look at the Pacific Crest Trail through many different eyes. See the landscapes, wildlife, drought, wildfires, solitude and community as experienced by the Class of 2015. Over 200 hikers and a few trail angels contributed over 13,000 photos and video clips for consideration in this movie."

The trail was the dream of a fellow named Clinton Clarke. In 1932, the avid hiker formally proposed a border-to-border trail connecting the peaks of the Pacific Coast, to preserve and protect America's "absolute wilderness" before it was overrun by "motor cars" and industry.

"In few regions of the world—certainly nowhere else in the United States," he later wrote in 1945, "are found such a varied and priceless collection of the sculptured masterpieces of Nature as adorn, strung like pearls, the mountain ranges of Washington, Oregon and California." The Pacific Crest Trail, he said, "is the cord that binds this necklace." The Pacific Crest Trail officially became the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail in 1968, 11 years after Clarke died at the age of 84.

By 1972, a council created by the government had come up with a final route for the trail that Clarke had imagined 40 years earlier. After years of construction and negotiation with private property

## WENATCHEE ROTARY CALENDAR

May 28 - June 1

RI Convention - Seoul, Korea

August 4

District Governor, Vern Nielsen Visit

owners, the trail was completed in 1993 with a "golden spike" ceremony reminiscent of the transcontinental railroad. That was also the year that the non-profit Pacific Crest Trail Association forged a partnership with the federal government to oversee and keep up the trail.

One of incredible stories was that of the Trail Angels who provide assistance along the trail to hikers with water, meals and shelter when needed. To prepare for this hike Rich packed 15 boxes of supplies and sent them ahead to resupply sites along the trail. So, when he arrived months later his boxes were ready and waiting for him to pick up.

A great program for those who like the outdoors and appreciate the beauty of the wilderness.

*Thanks Rich for sharing your experiences!*



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### THRISTY THURSDAY - MAY 5TH

Here is a sample of what you missed last week on Thirsty Thursday, which happened to coincide with Cinco De Mayo. I thought 119 of you who didn't make it might to see what can happen when a few Rotarians make the effort to put on a great fellowship event.



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### Did you know that you can make up a meeting at the following places? —

Wenatchee North	@ Town Toyota Center	Wed. Noon	East Wenatchee	@ Shari's Restaurant	Thurs. 7 am
Wenatchee Sunrise	@ Red Lion	Tues. 7 am	Lake Chelan	@ Tsillian Cellars	Tues. Noon
Cashmere	@ Cashmere Presbyterian Church	Wed. Noon	Quincy	@ Quincy Senior Center	Thur. Noon
Leavenworth	@ Kristall's	Fri. 11:45 am			

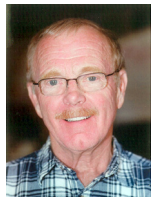
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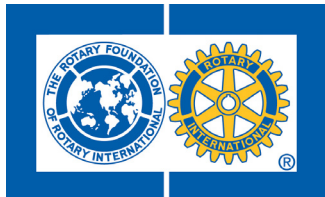
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## Rotary Ambassadors

*This week's greeters will be*



**TERRY SOROM**



**GARRY SPARKS**

*This week's Cashiers will be*



**GIL SPARKS**



**RUSS SPEIDEL**

***Greeters & Cashiers, please try to arrive by 11:30 a.m.  
If you cannot be here please find your own replacement!***

### THE WENATCHEE APPLESEED

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IF YOU HAVE AN ITEM YOU WOULD LIKE TO INCLUDE IN THE **APPLESEED**

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THE BOARD MEETS AT 4:30 PM ON THE 2ND THURSDAY  
OF EACH MONTH IN THE CADMAN ROOM @ RED LION HOTEL  
NEXT BOARD MEETING THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2016

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