

RICHLAND **ROTARY REACTOR**

February 14, 2017

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 Web Site: www.richlandrotaryclub.org
 Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/RichlandRotaryClubWA/>

• PO Box 37 • Richland, WA 99352
 • Meetings every Tuesday at 12:10 p.m.
 Red Lion Hotel (Hanford House)
 • Charter 7390 • District 5080 • Club ID#262

February Speaker Schedule

February 21st – Anna King, Kennewick Man

February 28th – Entrepreneurial Awards

Preliminaries

Members arrived on Valentine's Day to Ken Williams at the door to the meeting room handing out roses to all the ladies. Thank you Ken!!

President Dick gaveled the meeting to order, and thanked Kathy Miller for "volunteering" as Song Leader today, and in hopes of better weather, we sang, "You are my Sunshine", which will bring us closer to Spring!

Visitors & Guests

Jeff Daniels from Columbia Center, and Bill Dunwoody from Tri-Cities Sunrise were our Visiting Rotarians and Becky Keck was the guest of Roy Keck.

Announcements

Dick Richter said that the Quackerbacker certificates were available for those who requested them for their Quackerbacker donors. They will be on the back table for pick-up. He then called up Jon Putz and presented him with a Duck necklace, in honor of his being our top seller of Duck Race tickets. Great job, Jon!

Kathy Miller announced the Tri-Citizen of the Year award dinner will be held on Thursday, April 27th at the Convention Center. This is a project of the Rotary clubs in our area, to honor a fellow citizen who has made significant and valuable contribution to our communities, and attendance is encouraged. Save the date postcards are on the tables, and for more information please go to www.tricitianoftheyear.org.



PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Judy Addis (2S)(B) | Larry D. Jecha | Greg Oberg (4S)(B) | |
| Steve Arneson (1R) | Darrel Johnsen (2S) | Thomas M. O'Brien (2S) | (B) Benefactor |
| Jeremy Asmus (2S) | Roy Keck | Jon M. Putz (6S) | (D) Diamond PHF |
| Jim Bauer (4S) | Scott Keller | Cindy Reents (1S) | (DD) Dbl. Diamond PHF |
| Bob Best (2S)(B) | Shelley Kennedy | Dick Richter (2S) | (R) Ruby |
| Tom Bock (1R)(B) | Phillip Koech | Robert Rivera | (#R) Multiple Ruby |
| Gordon Bopp (1S) | Art D. Kohler (D)(B) | Pete Rogalsky (1S) | (S) Sapphire |
| Blaine Carr (6S) | Dave Larkin (D) | Gary Scofield (4S)(B) | (#S) Multiple Sapphires |
| Thomas A. Cowan (4S)(B) | Pamela Larsen (4S)(B) | Anjan K. Sen (1S) | |
| Bob De Lorenzo (D)(B) | Bob D. Larson (4S)(B) | Chris Senske (1S) | |
| Jeanne Dillner (2S) | Phil Lemley (2S) | Rick Schulte | |
| Barbara French (D) | Tim Lewis (2S) | Bill R. Siefken (1R) | |
| Julie Funfar | Yosen Liu (1S) | Mike Sinclair | |
| Linda Gilmore (2S) | Larry Lowry (3S)(B) | Mark Smith (5S)(B) | |
| Jan Griffin (1S) | Mike McAndrew (1S) | Bob Tibbatts (1S) | |
| Pat Haggerty | Jerry J. McGuire (2S)(B) | Sam R. Volpentest (2R)(B) | |
| Leslie Hawkins (2S) | Kathy Miller (5S) | Tom Watkins (D)(B) | |
| Diahann Howard | Robert D. Nichols (1S) | Ken Williams (5S) | |
| Jan Jackson (2S) | Debbie Nogueras | Hal Williamson (DD)(B) | |

Officers

PresidentDick Richter
 President Elect.....Diahann Howard
 Secretary.....Linda Gilmore
 Treasurer.....Steve Arneson
 Foundation Treasurer.Mike Winegardner
 Past President.....Larry Lowry

Directors

Meeting Service.....Phillip Koech
 Club Service.....Pat Hollick
 Community Service.....Roy Keck
 International Service.Pete Rogalsky
 New Generations.....Jan Jackson
 Fellowship & Fund Raising.Cynthia Vaughn

Diahann Howard said the clipboard was being circulated, for volunteer sign-up for the Junior Achievement Bowl-a-thon in the coming week.

50/50

Gary Schofield announced there was now \$131.00 in our pot. The first number drawn belonged to Becky Keck, who drew a blue chip out of the bucket, and the second number was Dick Richter's, giving him the \$10 consolation prize.



Judge Ken Williams

Judge Ken came to the podium with greetings of "Happy Valentine's Day", a vase of roses and box of chocolates. He proceeded to auction off the flowers and candy, and the winning bid was \$80 by Chris Smith.

Judge Ken then asked club members to tell how they met their spouse. We had amusing and romantic stories by several members who met their spouses in school, travel, and during military service. The best story was from Rick Schulte, who met his future wife while backpacking in Montana, and she was a firewatcher alone in the look out tower. Rick said he spent a week camped at the look out tower.



Program

Chris Meiers introduced our three speakers; Doc Hastings, former congressman in our district, Brad Fisher, former mayor of Kennewick, and Gary Petersen from TRIDEC. They have been spearheading the movement to re-convey 35 miles of Columbia River shorefront under the control of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE) back to the local communities of Pasco, Kennewick and Richland.

The USCOE took control of this land after the major flood of 1948. To get control, the Federal and local Government ceded their land, plus a combination of purchase and condemnation were used on private property.



The USCOE built the levees along the river to protect the area, but after 69 years the risk of flooding is minimal, and the land should be returned to local citizens who can best maintain and look after the interests of their communities and their respective shoreline property. They showed several pictures of overgrown areas on the river side of the levee blocking any view of the river and steep slopes limiting access to the water.

This movement started about two years ago, and at the opening of the Reach museum Senator Murray said that she could support the reconveyance, if it had the support of the local communities.

Discussions have taken place with our current congressman, Dan Newhouse, as well as organizations like TRIDEC, Visit Tri-Cities, Chambers of Commerce, tribal members, and there has been little opposition to the proposal. The communities have been investing monies in this shoreline, even as the USCOE of Engineers invests nothing, and regulations make improvements, including clean-up and pest control difficult to impossible to implement.

Doc Hastings said last year there was language in the National Defense Appropriation Act (NDAA) directing the Corps of Engineers to give the House and Senate Armed Services Committees information on how they acquired and manage the land, and the deadline for that report is March 1st. Local communities can then develop plans for the lands, using that information. Some property might be reconveyed back to the original owners, but generally the Cities would take possession. The



Richland Rotary Members

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Judy Addis (7/89) | Pam Larsen (2/95) | Ken Williams (12/00) |
| Steve Arneson (3/02) | Bob Larson (6/90) | Hal Williamson (4/88) |
| Jeremy Asmus (10/07) | Phil Lemley (6/06) | Mike Winegardner (11/09) |
| James Bauer (1/09)) | Tim Lewis (10/03) | Jacqui Wright (12/13) |
| Bob Best (4/90) | Yosen Liu (1/91) | |
| Tom Bock (3/76) | Larry Lowry (10/05) | |
| Gordon Bopp (5/04) | Mike McAndrew (2/07) | |
| Blaine Carr (12/09)) | Patrick McBurney (6/09) | |
| Travis Clifton (10/16) | Jerry McGuire (3/95) | |
| Tom Cowan (4/80) | Chris Meiers (12/15) | |
| Jeanne Dillner (8/01) | Kathy Miller (6/12) | |
| Barbara French (11/98) | Ian Napier (11/08) | |
| Julie Funfar (7/13) | Bob Nichols (8/97) | |
| Linda Gilmore (4/12) | Debbie Noguerras (8/15) | |
| Jan Griffin (9/00) | Greg Oberg (1/88) | |
| Linda Gustafson (3/08) | Tom O'Brien (11/98) | |
| Al Haggerty (4/12) | Jon Putz (5/81) | |
| Patricia Haggerty (4/12) | Dick Richter (6/08) | |
| Dewayne Halstad (8/16) | Robert Rivera (7/09) | |
| Leslie Hawkins (11/12) | Pete Rogalsky (7/05) | |
| Pat Hollick (8/10) | Gary Scofield (2/75) | |
| Diahann Howard (4/08) | Rick Schulte (6/14) | |
| Tom Huntington (5/16) | Anjan Sen (11/96) | |
| Jan Jackson (6/00) | Chris Senske (1/80) | |
| Larry Jecha (8/97) | Bill Siefken (4/87) | |
| Darrel Johnsen (8/97) | Mike Sinclair (1/11) | |
| Cynthia Johnson (6/09) | Chris Smith (8/10) | |
| Stan Jones (10/07) | Mark Smith (3/01) | |
| Roy Keck (10/04) | Bob Tibbatts (6/03) | |
| Scott Keller (7/02) | Greg Tripp (6/11) | |
| Shelley Kennedy (9/02) | Cynthia Vaughn (12/14) | |
| Phillip Koech (8/13) | Sam Volpentest (1/95) | |
| Art Kohler (2/87) | Tom Watkins (9/11) | |
| Dave Larkin (4/04) | James Watson (4/12) | |

Honorary Members
Bob DeLorenzo & General James Mattis

**Number of Members
as of July 1, 2016**

74

Current Members:

71

Gained:

Dewayne Halstad & Travis Clifton

Lost:

Bill McCue, Tom Kirchner, Grant McCallum, Bing Manawadu & Jack Zinn



NDAA, which is annual legislation, can be used again as the means of re-conveyance. There are questions about the exact amount of land affected by this proposal as the Corps of Engineers bought land in “chunks” and the miles of shoreline could be 35, or 38, or something else.



Questions were posed to the speakers, and the biggest concern was the potential for development on the riverfront, like high-rise condominiums, that would take away the access or view of the river. Doc Hastings said that self government can sometimes be messy and difficult, but at least the use of the riverfront, and ability to develop, clean up, or change use, would be in the hands of the local communities, and decisions made at the local level, not dictated by Corps staff in Washington DC, Portland or Walla Walla (the local Corps of Engineers office is there). There would still need to be compliance with local regulations, environmental impacts, and historic designations.

Further questions led to discussion about the overgrown and poor appearance of the riverfront in many locations because nothing has been done by the Corps for past 60 years, even as the cities have developed more park and green space near the shorelines, only to have those adjacent to a very neglected state of the land on the river. There was a question about obligations to the owners of the land in 1948 on the river, that was presumably seized by the government in accordance with their power to do so, and what rights those owners might have if the property came back to the respective cities. This is not an issue for Richland, which was owned by the federal government until 1958. They have spoken to the USCOE, but do not expect much cooperation. The three presenters said to watch for news about the effort soon.

Hal's Humor

One spring day I was taking the roll in my secretarial class at our local technical college. One of the sun worshipers was absent. “Cindy won’t be here this afternoon?” I asked.

“She went home to lay in the sun,” a young woman in the front row answered.

Trying to correct her grammar without embarrassing her before the class, I whispered, “Lie.”

“Okay,” she replied in astonishment. “Cindy got sick and went home.”