

# Meet Mary Wagner

*Introduction by George Twiss*

Classification: Manufacturing Innovation & Food Safety

Proposed by Lauren Domino and Jerilyn Brusseaus, whom we thank.

In December Mary “retired” from Starbucks, where she had been Senior Vice President responsible for Food Quality, Research & Development. Hers was a global responsibility with 250 person staff and centers in Seattle, London and Shanghai. Previously Mary held executive positions with Mars Botanical, E & J Gallo Winery, Taco Bell, and General Mills.



When I asked why she left, Mary responded, “After a great career and topped with seven years at SBUX, I decided "no time like the present" to focus on some of the things I want to spend more time with... family, boards and travel! Although she will do some industry consulting, she plans to concentrate now on supporting girls and women in technology through work with Washington STEM, Girls, Inc., and being more active in community service.

While living in California, Mary was a member of the Modesto Rotary, and looks forward to having the time without travel to participate with us in Seattle Rotary.

Mary has been active within her industry, serving as the first women President of the Institute of Food Technologists, being appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture to the USDA Advisory Board, and chairing the National Grape and Wine Initiative. Lest we think it is all food tech work, Mary has walked the red carpet at an opening with Angelina Jolie and tandem biked with Carl Lewis. Be sure to ask her about those experiences as well!

She earned a Ph.D. in Food Science & Nutrition from the University of Minnesota, and both a M.S. and B.S. in Food Technology from Iowa State University. She and husband Richard Cariblom live on Mercer Island. They have three children, two still “at home” a daughter at Chapman College in California and a daughter at Mercer Island High School.

So let’s welcome Mary Wagner to Seattle Rotary as she starts her new chapter.