

## THE PNW PASSPORT ROTARY CLUB ROUNDUP



**Date:** June 24, 2021  
**Meeting:** 6:00 pm **End Time:** 8:15 pm  
**Place:** Zoom Online – hosted by P-Elect Deb Wiggs

### BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

President	Roy Holman
President-Elect	Deb Wiggs
Treasurer	Terry Greer
Membership-Elect	Rhian Piprell
Service, Chair	Trudy Gallant
Foundation, Chair	Patricia Sibley
Engagement, Chair	Pati Villhauer
Secretary	Joy St. John

P-E Deb: Assigned members to Break Out Rooms with this question ‘favorite current or childhood summer activity.’ We all found the Break Out Room discussions to be a wonderful way to start the Club meeting.

P-Roy: Rang our Rotary Bell at 6:30 pm

P-Roy: Welcomed all to the meeting, he recognized our members Marietta and Terry Myers who we hadn’t seen for a while. He also welcomed our special guest tonight Phoenix MacLaren, Rotoractor.

P-Roy: Announcements:

Rotary Clubs of Langley have another 50/50 raffle. Please go to <https://langleyrotarymegadraw.com/a/June5mailing> before August 15, 2021 to buy tickets.

Semiahmoo Rotary Club has a 50/50 raffle. Please go to <https://semiahmoorotary.org/Stories/2021-50-50-jackpot-passes-3000> before September 1, 2021 to buy your tickets.

Terry Greer, has sent out a letter to all members requesting dues be sent to either himself or Lindagene **before** June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

We will start our new meeting schedule on Thursday, July 8, at 6:00 pm on Zoom. We will be meeting every second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm.

At our special meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>, it was voted to have a Charter Domicile Change, we are now the PNW Passport Rotary Club, Washington State. This was done to correct our insurance standing with RI.

The following members have become members of the Club Polio Plus Society

Trudy Gallant	Rhian Piprell
Pat Bond	Ken Smith
Lindagene Coyle	Patricia Sibley
Roy Holman	Joy St John
Sean Hogan	Deb Wiggs
Julie Johansen	
Ray Moschuk	

You have until June 30<sup>th</sup> to become a member.

Patricia: The Club's amount for RI Foundation is \$15,212.  
\$240 per club capita  
The district was only \$154 per capita

P-Roy: **Year End Summary**



The 3<sup>rd</sup> year of our club is drawing to a close, and it is appropriate to assess how the club has grown over the past year, I guess we're kind of getting ready for pre-school as far as clubs go, but we have made some small steps forward.

By the time the year began, we were adjusting to the zoom environment, and longing for face to face meetings. Most of us are now comfortable with the Zoom platform, and are still longing for face to face meetings.

We have started our first 2 fundraisers – Shop with Scrip and Fundscrip. Many of us are now comfortable with the systems, and we should be ready to expand our scope on these programs over the next few years.

We applied for and received our first District Matching Grant for the Ferndale Green Bag Project. We seem to be averaging around 2,000 lbs for the food bank with

each pickup. Well done to all who have contributed their time and energy to this program.

We have joined with North Delta and Bellingham Bay to support the ARES project in Kenya and to be part of our first International Project.

We have been restoring the Rotary Park on Camano Island over several sessions. Other Rotarians and Roteractors have also put time in to paint, weed and restore tables.

We had a small service project to help the Urban Waters Restoration Society sand and stain gift boxes for their fundraiser. Most of the boxes have been sold, and Urban waters has raised over \$4,000 to begin the cleanup of Hatchery Creek.

We had our first social walk in February at Deer Lake in Burnaby and the members present enjoyed dog stories and good fellowship.

In respect to club administration, we registered as a foreign society in Washington State, and were able to open a US bank account south of the border.

We were advised of a serious problem with club insurance in the early part of the year. It seems the Canadian Insurance carrier will not insure US members. It has taken us almost a year to explore the options to solve this and I am more than pleased to announce that RI has approved our name change and domicile to the US in order to get all members insured. Here is the new Charter.

Our contributions to TRF have exceeded our goals for the year at around \$15,000 combined Annual fund and Polio Plus.

I believe we have met our club citation goal. I need to review a couple more items before I can confirm this, but I'm pretty sure we did it.

The club held its first Long-Term Planning Session (formerly known as club visioning) and President Deb will be expanding this discussion throughout the coming year.

On the minus side, our membership has suffered a bit, as we have lost 4 members, plus Jill Greer and honorary member Elise Fong. However, Rhian has accepted the challenge to be membership chair for the next year, and I'm sure she has some ideas on how to build the club.

Our Available funds for giving are quite small at the moment, so we have not been able to donate very much to too many groups who presented to us over the year. The challenge is ongoing.

As you probably noticed, we have no President Elect for this year. We have canvassed many of you and have still come up empty. I realize that many of you are members so you can live Rotary your way and in your own time, which may mean that club administration is not part of your vision of participation. so we are challenged to find a way fill this position. Volunteers can contact Deb. Speaking from my own experience and comparing it with my past presidential experiences, this club is fun to be in, and the president's position is not nearly as stressful and full of obligations as a traditional club.

I have been blessed to work with all the amazing members here to build the club and as I pass the Torch back to Deb, I thank each and every one of you for being the Rotarians you are.

P-Roy: At this time, I'd like to introduce our special guest doing the inductions of the Club's Executive for 2021-2022. We are the first Club to have a Rotaractor to do the inductions, we are honoured to have Phoenix MacLaren. Phoenix is: Rotaract Club of the Fraser Valley - Treasurer, District - Rotaract Chair and Board member, Zone 28 - Rotaract Coordinator, Big West Rotaract - Chief of Staff, Rotary Foundation Canada - Board member and Rotary International - RI Rotaract Committee Co-Chair. Welcome

Phoenix: Thank you for having me today, I am honoured to be asked to induct your new executive.

President Elect: Debra Wiggs will you assume the duties of President?  
President Deb – yes

Past-President	Roy Holman
Treasurer	Terry Greer
Service, Chair	Trudy Gallant
Rotary International Foundation, Chair	Patricia Sibley
Membership, Chair	Rhian Piprell
Secretary	Joy St. John

Will each of you help and support Debra Wiggs perform her duties for the coming year? YES

PP Roy: Thank you Phoenix just the way I like inductions to be done Short and sweet.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize some Club members for their service to the Club and their helpfulness to me over my tenure.

**Club Service:**

**Patricia Sibley** – Our Foundation chair. The Foundation giving this year exceeded our club goal by almost 3 times. Patricia helped us understand how our dollars work for both RI and the club. She was active in club projects, was a representative for us at other club's functions, and brought several fund-raising ideas to the table. Patricia donated our bell to the club.

**Pati Villhauer** – Programs, programs, programs. Pati provided us with a great variety of programs. Travel adventures, community help programs, RI Projects, and science related – bird watching, giant hornets, lost apples. I was program chair for several years at my old club and I know how much work it is to keep the quality high and the topics interesting. Well done, Pati. Pati also helped out with the Camano Island cleanup, Starfish and Days for Girls.

**Lornell Ridley** – worked to get the Canadian Fundscrip program started. The program has raised about \$100.00 so far, and Lornell will be working to broaden the scope of the program going forward. She also organized our first club walk in February.

**Deb Wiggs** – As PE, Deb has been instrumental in planning for the years ahead. She has been our Zoom Master for the past year, has worked on Camano Island, Set-up Shop with Scrip, assisted with our District Grant, Has been a regular on Green Bag Saturdays, co-ordinated the Long Range Planning session, and has been a great sounding board for me personally. Thank you, Deb.

**Terry Greer** – Treasurer extraordinaire, Terry registered the club in Washington State as a foreign society, allowing us to have a bank account in the US, He spearheaded the Camano Island cleanup project, entertained volunteers at his home afterwards, and has brought us many insights into the world of society bookkeeping.

**Allen Stockbridge** – Allen researched, advocated, organized and helped fund the Green Bag program. He organized the media and promotion teams, sourced out the Green-bags, contacted the local Rotoract and Rotary clubs to participate and successfully applied for our first District Matching Grant. He gave us a presentation on the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group.

**Joy St John** – For the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running, Joy has been the glue to keep the club running. She has been my ghost writer, has published the Rotary Roundup, sent notices out regarding District and Club events, kept attendance, recorded volunteer hours and many other mysterious Secretary things. She also finds time to volunteer at the New West food bank. I believe you represent Service Above Self.

There are many members who could be recognized for the services they are performing in their communities, and I thank all of you for your active participation and for representing the PNW Passport club throughout the district (and 5040, too).

I am still working on the Club's Citation accomplishments over the past year. I believe we have met the goal.

P-Deb: Thank you for allowing me a 'do over year' as your President. Thank you so much to Roy for helping the Club and myself by stepping in as our President. "don't look back – we're not going there" We're continuing to invent our Club to be the best for us, we have no boundaries, we only have a great future. I look forward to meeting in person again, being more engaged with Rotaractors. I'd like to turn the meeting over to our guest speaker Phoenix speaking about 'What is the future of Rotary from a Rotaract Perspective'.

Phoenix:



As soon as I receive Phoenix's extremely informative talk on 'What is the future of Rotary from a Rotaract Perspective' I will send it to our members.

P-Deb: Thank you so much Phoenix for being here today. It truly has been an honour for myself and the Club. Your speech was very informative. I enjoyed the games you introduced to us. I don't think I use that many alliterations.



P-Deb: It is time for the Club's Happy Bucks. The Happy Bucks donated today will be given to District 5050 Rotaractors to put towards one of their projects.

We had many members donating tonight. Terry will be sending a cheque from the Club.

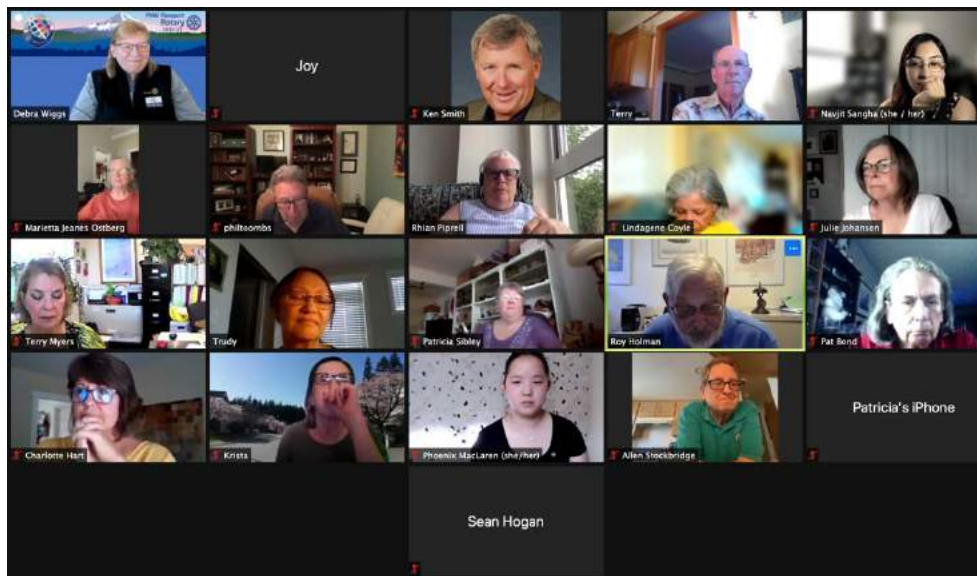
**We need a President-Elect, please step up.**

I will be sending members to Break Out Rooms again with this question, 'How do we do this as a Club, make changes going forward?'

Discussion: the club members came back offering many comments and suggestions on how we could possibly approach the subject. The executive will be taking the comments under advisement.

P- Deb: Roy, please ring the bell to adjourn our great evening.

PP-Roy: Thank you, for joining today.  
I now close our gathering at 8:15 pm



## Pacific Northwest Passport Club Installation Speech

Good evening everyone! To get started, I'm going to have everyone add to a Word Cloud. Please visit <https://www.menti.com/d2ay8fruj> and use the code 6546 7044. Put in one word to describe Rotaract. (30 seconds to 1 minute)

Great, thank you everyone for participating. It is really great to see how everyone's description of Rotaract [is similar, is different].

It is so wonderful to be with you here this evening to celebrate a year that has passed and a year that is before us. As you may know, President Deb is a fan of alliteration, so here's a fun game or perhaps a test... Count how many instances of alliteration you hear. At the end of my speech, we will see what the guesses are. If anyone is correct, I will be donating \$100 to End Polio Now in your club's honour. For those who are into details, we will count an instance where it is two or more words starting with the same letter that are strung together.

Looking back on the last Rotary year, who would have thought that one of the longest years of our lives would go by so quickly. Let us pause and take a minute to think. Think about what you have done in Rotary for the last 359 days... feel free to write in the chat!

Now think about what Rotary has done for you in that time. What opportunities have been presented to you because of Rotary? Is it friendship and connection? Service to others? How about improving your computer literacy? If you did not have Rotary in this past year, how do you think your life would be different?

We have seen Rotary responding responsibly in times of uncertainty. How great is it to be part of an organization full of change makers, doers, and out of the box thinkers? And now imagine... 5 years from now or 20 years from now. Where do you think Rotary will be? Will our organization still be filled with passionate people providing service to others? If there's nothing pushing the limits to make us think outside the box, will we be able to guide growth in membership or impact?

I'm here to tell you that you don't need a pandemic or worldly disaster to break the mold. Rather, you can be leaders today by elevating the next generation to serve side by side. Be mentors who cultivate prideful partnerships with young adults. Be advocates to people passionate about doing good in the world. The group I'm referring to, of course, is Rotaract.

So... what is Rotaract? The name Rotaract is derived from Rotary – Rota and Action – Act. Rotary In Action. At the club's core, Rotaract is like Rotary – a member-based group that is focused on the service of others. While the demographics of Rotaract skews to young adults, it does not make Rotaractors or Rotaract Clubs less impactful in how they do service. In fact, Rotaractors around the world are decisive decision makers who make lasting legacies in the communities they serve. Since 1968, Rotaract has been growing steadily. 2019 was historic for Rotaract as the Council on Legislation



elevated Rotaract to move from being a club partner to a membership type in Rotary. Rotary International recognized that Rotary requires Rotaract for its future. While a bold statement, it is the reality Rotary faces. By 2029, Rotary International has set the ginormous goal of having 1 million Rotaractors reported. Currently we are at 203,298 Rotaractors. An increase of almost 800,000 Rotaractors in 9 years will help to ensure that the foreseeable future is strong as Rotaract rewards Rotary through membership.

The ideal pipeline projection of membership in Rotary is to have members start their experience in Interact. Perhaps Youth Exchange, RYLA, or other youth programs put on by Rotary can introduce them to our service-based clubs. From there, participants progress into Rotaract. As the Rotary relationship grows, the desire to join Rotary becomes stronger. Rotaract, in this case, is important in linking the transition of Rotary alumni to joining Rotary earlier on. Like Rotary, Rotaract needs to focus on membership retention and attraction to grow. The best strategy for this is finding passion projects members want to do.

Checking in for a moment... how is everyone doing with their alliteration counting? Would it be helpful, harmful, or hilarious if I told you we were at 21 already?

This past year alone, hundreds of project submissions were sent in for the annual Rotaract Outstanding Project Awards. The Rotaract Club of University of Moratuwa in Sri Lanka served students, over 500 of them, who were visually impaired with their “Voices of Humanity” project. They curated and sustained Sri Lanka’s largest educational audiobook library while also designing audio-based vocational training lessons for equal employment opportunities. The Rotaract Club of Tortola in the British Virgin Islands did a solar tree project, providing an alternative energy source for visitors of a local park. Visitors were able to sit shaded while charging their electronic devices through the sun’s solar energy. In the Philippines, the Rotaract Club of Zamboanga City West completed “Cultivar en la Auga”: A Hydroponics Sustainable Way to Gardening. This introduced a new phase of impact soil-cured plantation to the affected women of the Zamboanga Siege of 2013 to support a secure food system. As you can hear, Rotaract’s really thriving with innovative ideas and exemplary execution. Now, let’s narrow in a bit on Rotaract. In District 5050, we have just over 80 Rotaractors spread across 8 active Rotaract clubs. At the beginning of the 2018/19 Rotary year, we had 32 members in 7 active clubs. In that year alone, we increased our membership by over 150%. By those statistics alone, wouldn’t you agree that Rotaract rocks? During that year and into the next, Rotaract clubs worked together to raise over \$80,000 Canadian to install 89 clean wood burning stoves, plant 225 fruit trees, and hand out reading glasses in a rural Guatemalan village. During that time and since then, our clubs have continued collaborating and connecting through service.

The Rotaract Club of Surrey has put on an annual TedTalk type event called RotaraX, where they elevate youth voices and raise money at the same time. Semiahmoo Peninsula Rotaract does 12 days of Random Acts of Kindness every winter. This year, the Rotaract Club of the Fraser Valley became a sponsor to the newly formed Interact Club of Mission. In the States, the Bellingham club has partnered with a Rotaract Club in Tunisia to showcase their local area. Meanwhile, the Snohomish County Rotaract Club did live readings of Children’s books on Facebook at the beginning of the pandemic. The Chilliwack Fraser Rotaract Club has a water project where they test local streams to ensure they are safe for fish and other wildlife. The Rotaract Club of Langley partnered with their sponsoring Rotary

clubs to put on the Mega 50/50 Draw where the winner took home \$73,615.00. The Tri-Cities club has a long history of putting on big fundraisers and events to support a variety of local and international initiatives. You can see how our volunteers value service above all.

While we review all the amazing accomplishments Rotaract has done, it's important to recognize the immense support Rotarians and their clubs have given. Rotarians in District 5050 should be brimming with joy in knowing they have helped Rotaract's future flourish fervently. Since your club's chartering, I have had the opportunity to engage in service with many of your members. I have truly valued the opportunities to connect and serve along side you.

So now what? How can you continue to elevate Rotaract? How can you support Rotaract, and in turn support the future of Rotary? First, it is important to understand where Rotary International sees Rotaract. Rotaractors can be dual members, meaning they can be a member of both a Rotaract and a Rotary club. The upper age limit for Rotaract was removed to allow Rotaractors to remain engaged in Rotary rather than being forced to join when they turned 30 or leave the organization entirely. For the 2022/23 Rotary year, Rotaract clubs will begin paying dues to Rotary International. That year also marks the start of when Rotaract clubs can begin to be a co sponsor of a global grant and receive grant money from The Rotary Foundation. All these actions have contributed to the elevation of Rotaract, where we are true partners to Rotary. It should also be mentioned that the demographics and structure of Rotaract differ to that of Rotary, and I am not talking about age. There are more female Rotaractors than males. There is more flexibility when it comes to Rotaract membership – dues are nominal, meeting attendance is not regulated. We are seeing a lot of Rotary clubs' model how Rotaract clubs are run because it works. Your club is a prime example of a non-traditional club, and it is so great to see significant shifts in attitude on this. How many people would have left Rotary if it remained the same over the years?

In knowing what you know now, ways to support Rotaract starts early on. Send people you know to RYLA, YAIL, or other Rotary programs. Advocate for Rotaract by bringing it up to friends, family, co-workers, and so on. Talk to Rotaractors as adults. See Rotaract to partner with you on projects. Do not ask them to do the Coat Check. Instead, invite us into the conversation at the beginning when you are planning an event. Let us say what we are interested in helping out in. We all bring different strengths, knowledge, and abilities, so why not leverage our talents?

For more tangible takeaways, I would recommend doing some goal setting around Rotaract. Being a cross border club, you have an advantage of an open pool of Rotaractors you could invite to your meetings. Extend an offer to be part of your club. We have several Rotaractors who are older and may be looking to see what Rotary clubs they want to join. How great would it be if your club took the initiative in recruiting Rotaractors to be future members of your club. Remember, Rotaractors can be dual members, so they do not even have to be thinking about leaving Rotaract to join your club. If your club wants to do a global grant, invite a Rotaract Club to participate with you this year. This will help the Rotaract club for the following year be able to pursue their own grant. Look at offering mentorship to Rotaractors. This is a great opportunity not only for Rotaractors, but for your members as well. If this year has taught us anything, the "we've always done it this way" excuse should no longer be a barrier to innovation. Start with a conversation and see where that takes you.

Thank you for having me here tonight. It is a true privilege President Deb. With your leadership, I know you will all listen, learn, and serve for the good of Rotary. I have no doubt your club will continue serving to change lives.

I want to have the opportunity for anyone to ask questions. Before the questions though, I would love to hear guesses on how many times they heard alliteration.