



ROTARY DISTRICT 5020 NEWSLETTER

To Submit Items of Interest
Email to:
ann.warman@gmail.com



Be a gift
to the world

DISTRICT GOVERNOR:
ROSE BOWMAN

MAY IS FELLOWSHIP MONTH

Governor Rose's June message:

As this Rotary year draws to a close, I am prouder than ever to have been chosen to lead District 5020 during the 2015-2016 Rotary year. Leon and I are richer for having had the opportunity to visit each and every club in our District. We have learned about so many projects our clubs have implemented that make their community and the world not poorer, but richer; replaces despair with hope; and is a gift to many while allowing each of us to "Be A Gift to the World".

Fellowship is a great theme for the month as each club plans their event to pass the responsibility of leadership to the 2016-2017 team.

Join me at the fellowship of our District Conference on June 24 & 25 as we celebrate and recognize our District successes for the year and the successes of our clubs, as we are inspired for the coming year by our speakers Marilyn Fitzgerald, Michael McQueen, Jean Irwin, and more.

Join me at the District Conference as I too pass the responsibility of leadership to District Governor Elect Joanne Croghan and her team.

Your gift of donations to the Rotary International Foundation will continue to make a difference for years to come. Thank you for your generosity. Without those funds we would not be able to implement the projects we have that are making such a difference.

We welcome the many new members that our clubs have brought into Rotary. Those members will be a great asset to continuing to build our District's strength and our ability to do even more.

Again, thank you for your "Gifts to the World".



DISTRICT GOVERNOR
ROSE BOWMAN



Rose

– Rose Bowman,
District Governor
2015-2016

Lacey Rotary completes it's fourth "overlook project" on the Western Trail

The Lacey Rotary Club recently completed its fourth overlook project adjacent to the Chehalis Western Trail. The trail is publicly owned and was the site of the former Chehalis Western Railway Line.

The overlooks provide a place for trail users to rest and relax, and also offer an excellent opportunity to view unique habitat, wetlands, lakes, and associated wildlife. The most recently overlook is framed by two natural lakes and is located near where the trail and Schinke Road intersect in North Thurston County.

The Chehalis Western Trail is 30 miles long and stretches from Woodard Bay at Puget Sound on the north to the Town of Tenino on the south. It was acquired in the 1980's through a combination of local municipal funds, the county, and state and federal grants.

Approximately 100,000 city and county residents live within two miles of the trail which also bisects the commu-

nities of Lacey and Olympia. It is a unique community asset used daily by hundreds of bicyclists, walkers, joggers, and non-ambulatory individuals of all ages.

The Schinke Road overlook is 10'X20' in dimension with three viewing benches, a code compliant access ramp, safety railing, and a bike rack.

The cost of the latest overlook is approximately \$7,500. The project took several days to complete. Fourteen Lacey Rotarians volunteered dozens of hours toward the effort.

The Lacey Rotary Club raises \$50,000 to \$60,000 annually through its major community event, the Lacey Rotary Duck Dash. One hundred percent of these funds go back to the community for a variety of charitable purposes, including the overlooks. The Lacey Club received a matching District Community Grant to help finance this latest project.

For more information, contact Greg Cuoio, Club President at 360-459-5905 or gregcuoio@comcast.net



Woodland Rotary's Scott Hill Park gets \$500,000 state grant

Woodland's \$10 million parks and sports complex project got a big boost recently when the state awarded it \$500,000.

The money will more than double the \$200,000 or so that had previously been raised, said Darlene Johnson, a member of the Woodland Rotary, which is raising the money for the project.

"Isn't that awesome?" Johnson said of the outlay from the state's capital budget.

When completed, the Scott Hill Park and Sports complex will include nine baseball, softball and soccer fields, a walking trail, a covered area, green space and a playground. It will be located along Scott Hill Road, a spur off Old Pacific

SEE THE VIDEO

on this project at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XRAEkidnt3k>

Highway near the city police station.

The city already has purchased land for the complex, Johnson said. The new state money will finance Phase 2 of the project, which will involve construction of infrastructure such as water lines and roads. That will accelerate fundraising through steps such as naming rights to fields and facilities, Johnson said.

"Until you have infrastructure it is hard to raise money," Johnson said.

She credited the area's 20th District

legislators — state Reps. Ed Orcutt (R-Kalama), Richard DeBolt (R-Centralia) and state Sen. John Braun (R-Centralia) — with helping to secure the \$500,000 capital outlay. State Rep. Ann Rivers, a La Center Republican who used to represent eastern and southern Cowlitz County, also aided the effort, Johnson said.

Rotary Club of Woodland, the City of Woodland, and local community members and businesses have been working to create a self sustaining sports complex and community park since December 2010. Rotary Club responsible for raising funds for and developing the park. Once the park opens, the club will turn it over to the city to maintain.

For more information and details on the facility, visit the website www.scotthillpark.org



Rotary Club of Duncan BC's Exchange student Nicha "Nonnie" Jatuweerawong, receives "Leaders of Tomorrow" Award

Rotary Club of Duncan BC's Nicha "Nonnie" Jatuweerawong, a Grade 11 Rotary Exchange Student from Thailand was recently recognized with the 'Leaders of Tomorrow' Award from the Cowichan Intercultural society, for work in helping newcomers to Canada with their English and reading and writing skills. She is so deserving of this award, several members of the club were able to attend the presentation.

The Children's Reading Group at the Cowichan Intercultural Society promotes English language literacy for children from non-English speaking homes. Eight to twelve Children meet weekly with a CIS staff member and a team of volunteers to learn English, develop their reading and writing skills and become more confident in their English communication skills. Learning activities are fun, creative and engaging. Over the past several months we have had several newcomers to our group who have arrived with absolutely no English. They have gradually grow in their reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. It is challenging to adapt group activities and learning momentum in order to welcome these newcomers, especially without proper volunteer support.

Nicha "Nonnie" Jatuweerawong is a Grade 11 Rotary Exchange Student from Thailand who is currently attending Cowichan High School. She has been a dedicated volunteer with the Children's Reading Group since last Fall. She is dependable, positive, flexible and a beloved member of the team. The children adore her and greet her with hugs when she enters the doorway.

She is calm, friendly and very nurturing to the participants. She easily builds relationships with the shy children and helps them feel secure enough to slowly start to partic-

Michelle Redfern (with the ED at Cowichan Intercultural Society) and Nicha "Nonnie" Jatuweerawong (right) is a Grade 11 Rotary Exchange Student from Thailand who is currently attending Cowichan High School. She has been a dedicated volunteer with the Children's Reading Group since last Fall. She is dependable, positive, flexible and a beloved member of the team. The children adore her and greet her with hugs when she enters the doorway.



ipate in group activities. She is a service minded individual and is relentlessly positive, even after we have had a particularly challenging session. Her positivity not only motivates the children, it motivates me (the facilitator) when I am exhausted or overwhelmed by how best to come alongside the multiple needs in the group. She is quick to offer extra assistance and impresses me with her ingenuity at searching for new strategies to work with the children. The group benefits from her dedication, her humor and her positive outlook.



Comox Water Project:

“Water is fundamental for life and health. The human right to water is indispensable for leading a healthy life in human dignity. It is a pre-requisite to the realization of all other human rights”

- The United Nations Committee on Economic, Cultural and Social Rights.

Sometimes we have to admit when something is too daunting to do on our own. That was the realization for the Rotary Club of Comox when we encountered the challenge of providing clean safe drinking water to the people in the villages around Comayagua in Honduras.

Comox Rotary had already experienced the benefits that come from working with others in Honduras, specifically through participation in the Market Kids program in Tegucigalpa and assisting with water projects spearheaded by North Jefferson Rotary and Campbell River Rotary.

When Comox member Stan Gaskarth, a retired plumber, met with the Comayagua Rotary and saw the needs in the area, he knew it was something the Comox Club could tackle. He also knew that, if we were going to get involved in providing healthy water, we had to be all in. There was no point in fixing the problems for just one village. Right from the start, the plan was to involve as many other groups as possible. There was also no point in going with a small project. Clubs like Comayagua are limited to 5 international projects at a time and, with that much need, we didn't want to take up a valuable slot with something small.

The first village of Colonio Pinto involved funding from Comox, Campbell River, Campbell River Daybreak, Nanaimo, Ladysmith, Project Unity (the Rotary Clubs in the Victoria area) and the Mid-Island Group (a collective of virtually all the Rotary Clubs on Vancouver Island outside of the Victoria area). In a bold move, the congregation of Christ the King Catholic Church put up a large chunk of money, as did a number of individuals, Rotarians and non-Rotarians alike. Of course there were matching funds from District 5020 and the Rotary Foundation as well.

The project was a rousing success. A well was drilled. Clean water arrived in the village. Flush toilets were installed. A community meeting place was established and sanitation education took place.

Comox immediately embarked on a Five Villages project to bring clean water to the villages surrounding Colonio Pinto. The villagers had already secured the right to dam a stream in the hills above the villages and the permission of property owners to run piping down the hill to where a large cistern could be built. In addition to the benefits of the first project, the Comayagua Rotary Club suggested that an evaluation of the reduction in childhood diseases as a result of the introduction of healthy drinking water should be undertaken.



SEE THE VIDEO

...of the visit to the project
at <https://vimeo.com/125275872>

Once again there was widespread financial assistance from neighbouring Rotary clubs and individuals and once again District 5020 and the Rotary Foundation contributed matching funds. This was a much more hands-on project for the villagers, digging the trenches and building the cisterns.

Because Comox Rotary did not want this to be a one-time event, members of the Comox Club, Father Marek from the Catholic parish and a videographer flew to Honduras to evaluate the project. **The visit accomplished quite a few things:**

- We found out how we could do a better job of setting up the water committee with the local population to make the project sustainable
- We confirmed that the neighbouring villages were going to need clean water (and soon) to prevent “water tourism” where the people from the neighbouring villages either moved to the area with clean water or caused conflict by using the water without participating
- Father Marek received confirmation that his parish's money was being well spent. “It is for work like this that I became a priest”.

While there, the Comox Rotarians were approached by a committee from the neighbouring eight villages about bringing clean water to them as well. They were so determined that they had begun the project with their own resources but it would take them 20 years to complete. So once again Comox Rotary, the Catholic Church and other partners are raising funds and applying for grants to bring the total of small villages with the most basic of human rights, clean water, to 15.

At the same time, the Mark R. Isfeld Interact Club, who are already one of the most consistent supporters of the Market Kids program, were inspired by the stories brought back to them by Brian Mather, a Comox Rotarian and retired teacher who travelled to Honduras as part of the Comox Rotary inspection team. They raised \$10,000 and, with assistance from Comox Rotary, the Mid-Island Group and District 5020, replaced the roof on the school at San Nicholas, bought desks for every student in the school and built a latrine.

Brian and Cathy Snyder, another Comox Rotarian and Interact advisor, travelled with two Isfeld Interact students to inspect the outcomes and have inspired a new generation.

All in all, none of this could have been accomplished with-

See “Before and After” >>>>

out the
h a r d
work of the Rotary Club of Comayagua,
a small but dedicated band of Rotarians
handling the overwhelming job of man-
aging the projects, submitting reports
and keeping an outlook for more that
can be done.

So, what are the take-aways from these projects?

- It doesn't have to be our project alone. Helping to make the world a better place can be shared.
- Good things come from good things. Inspiring others can be as important as the work being done.
- We really can do more than what we think.
- We shouldn't just be satisfied with getting the job done. Going back and checking to make sure it is working well is just as important.

The Comox Rotary Club will continue to look beyond our own community to find those in need. After all, the lives of others are as valuable as our own.



Significant Savings until June 6th on 2017 Rotary International Convention in Atlanta

DGE Joanne wants everyone to know from May 28th to June 6th you can register for the 2017 Rotary International Convention (Atlanta, June 10-14, 2017) for the discounted price of only \$265!

This savings is to help celebrate The Rotary Foundation's 100th Anniversary. As many of you know, the first donation to TRF was \$26.50.

Here is the link to the registration site:

<http://www.riconvention.org/en/atlanta/register>



Gig Harbor Rotary in Action

CASA reception for community leaders

by Hugh McMillan

Thursday, Rotary Club of Gig Harbor Midday and Wesley Inn and Suites teamed up to host a reception to help community leaders learn about the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer program. Judge Thomas Larkin kicked off the event by describing his strong support of the CASA program from its beginnings in Pierce County in the 1980s.

CASA volunteers play a critical role for children who have been neglected, abused and removed from their homes by court order. What is now a national effort was developed by a Seattle judge in the 1970s when he noted that there was seldom anyone in his court who spoke only for the child's best interests.

Studies have shown that CASA volunteers save Washington State significant amounts of money, but more importantly they help reduce the amount of time that a child is in the court's custody. The CASA's first goal is safety and the best interest of the child with the hope that the parents will be able to resolve their issues and have their family reunited.

Judge Larkin, who served 28 years as a Judge and was a presiding judge in District Court, Juvenile Court and Superior Court, retired from his seat on the Pierce County Superior Court in 2015. He was a member of the Superior Court Judges Association and his roles have included chairman of the presiding Judges Education Committee and leader in the Detention Reform Project at Remann Hall juvenile detention center as well as supporting numerous other programs

dealing with youth of Pierce County.

Funding for the event was made possible through a Rotary District 5020 Community Grant that also supported a similar county-wide event in Tacoma. Rotarian Bob Anderson and Wesley Inn owner Sue Braaten organized the event and are both CASA volunteers.

Invitations were distributed to service clubs, businesses, local government, schools and churches within the community noted Anderson. He said the flexible schedules for CASAs make it possible for both fully employed persons as well as volunteers to participate in the program.

"There are currently 28 CASA volunteers on this side of the Tacoma Narrows," said Anderson, "but many more are needed here and throughout Pierce County."

A recent plea for CASA volunteer assistance came from Julie Lowery, Pierce County CASA Co-Director. She mentioned eight children who need a CASA volunteer immediately. Four were newborn, one was six weeks old, two were three years old and one was four years old. Drug use by one or more parents was most often described as the reason for the children being in the Court's custody.



To learn more about the CASA program, contact Carrie Appling, volunteer coordinator for Pierce County Courts, at 253-798-3837 or capplin@co.pierce.wa.us.

New this year...

We're back in June!

New moisture wicking Tek Shirt.
The Tour de Blast is a great training opportunity for the STP.



June 18TH, 2016

*Starting line opens at
6:30 am*

First-timers and old pros, it's time to get ready to ride! The Longview Rotary Club once again presents Tour de Blast, a bicycle ride into the heart of the Mount St. Helens blast

SEE THE VIDEO

<http://tourdeblast.com/>

zone!

After you ride the mountain you are sure to be ready for the STP. Join us on Facebook to See the GPS Profile

RIDER INFO

We answer the who, what, where, when and why in our Rider Info section. You can also check out our ride profile or get directions to the ride.

REGISTRATION

Registration for the Tour de Blast is now OPEN online. Please be aware that this event may sell out this year. To help us maintain the quality of this event, please pay close attention to the following Registration Deadlines.

Late Registrants and day of ride registrations will not receive a Tek shirt. Check back for updates as the event approaches (since registrations are subject to space available).

TESTIMONIALS & A Must Read!

Read letters from past riders, and see what fun you have to look forward to!

FAQS

Still have more questions? The most commonly asked questions are answered here.

OTHER RIDES

Gear up for the Tour de Blast with these great rides! get the latest information

JOIN GOVERNOR ROSE IN



You will be inspired by an array of top-notch speakers, meet and share with fellow Rotarians from around the district, and look forward to the year ahead! - See more at:

**DISTRICT 5020
CONFERENCE
June 24 - 26, 2016**

**The Red Lion Hotel
Olympia, Washington**

<http://www.rotary5020.org/conference>

