



Rototeller - Rotary Club of Forest Grove

FGRotary.org

Club Leaders

Claudia Yakos

President

Tom Raabe

President-Elect

Julia Kollar

Executive Secretary

Ken S. Cunningham

Treasurer

Alex Doyle

Membership Chair

Blake Timm

Vice President, Program
Chair

Jeannine Murrell

Past President

Todd Kelley

Rotary Foundation Chair

Duties

Program

February 8 Rotary Peace
Fellows - PDG Mike

Caruso

February 15 Rotarian
Daughter Day Rudy

Tinoco

February 22 Manny
Berman - Tuality

Healthcare

March 1 Chris Rolling -
Water for Haiti

Rototeller Article

February 8 Parri Van
Dyke

February 15 Gail Sheelar

February 22 Doug

Thompson

March 1 Rob Foster

Greeting Partners

February 8 Mackenzie
Johnston Carey & Geoff
Johnston

February 15 Marge
Johnston & Rick Johnston

February 22 Todd Kelley
& Richard Kidd

March 1 Julia Kollar &
Kevin Kuntz

We Are Meeting At Pacific University This Week!

February 8, 2017

Parri Van Dyke

This is my very first Rototeller newsletter article and I've been racking my brain as to what I should write about.....so I chose to write about something that has been an integral part of our family for over 12 years now and that is Rotary Youth Exchange. Pete and I first began hosting exchange students when our children were in 3rd and 2nd grade. We have hosted 8 exchange students throughout the years and I can honestly say it has been a truly wonderful experience for all of us. Our kids have made life-long friendships, Pete and I have many places to stay while traveling and we have had the opportunity to meet so many people from all over the world we never would have gotten to had we not been a host family.

The following is a blog I found online by a young man by the name Joel Dzuba who was a Rotary Exchange Student from Ontario, Canada that spent his exchange in Lower Saxony, Germany.

It would be impossible to pick a favourite memory from my exchange in Germany due to the sheer number of opportunities I had and dreams I lived. From sailing in the Baltic Sea, to walking in the North Sea, to swimming in the Mediterranean, there are simply too many experiences to pick a favourite.

Birthday on a beach

One of the many stories that I do love to share, however, was when I was celebrating my 18th birthday during our year-end European Tour. All the exchange students had gathered on the beach at night to watch the stars in the little town of Portofino, Italy, and eventually I found myself sitting back to back on a rock with a Brazilian student, a Russian student, and a Taiwanese student. In all of my life, no other moment has ever made me feel so paradoxical as that night.

On the one hand, I felt so incredibly small when I realized where I was sitting and with whom I was sitting; as I was just a boy from Ontario who suddenly found himself halfway across the world, with people who would maybe only have a one in a billion chance of meeting together in any other circumstance. And yet, on the other hand I had never felt so large in comparison to the vastness of the world, and the borders as I had pictured them. The world suddenly felt like it had shrunk, and that there was nowhere that was out of my reach anymore.

Larger than life

If I had to try to make a metaphor that could explain the experience, I would say that it gave me a feeling of being "Larger than Life" while still humbling me with the realization of the sheer amount of opportunity that had been given to me by the kindness of others; as without everyone back home in the Rotary club supporting me, I could have only dreamed of being where I was that night. Out of all my life experiences, I would say that my exchange year played a fundamental role in forming and shaping the person I am today. It has shaped my world view; given me the courage to break out of my shell; and has given me the experience of living in an interconnected and continually shrinking world.

Raffle Prize

February 8 Tom Meier
February 15 John Minor
February 22 Paul Minor
March 1 Marykay Morelli

Meeting Place

February 8 MPR Pacific University
February 15 MPR Pacific University
February 22 MPR Pacific University
March 1 MPR Pacific University

Events

Concours Board Meeting

February 8, 2017

Rotary Board Meeting

February 16, 2017

Rotary Steak Feed

June 9, 2017

Forest Grove Concours d'Elegance

July 16, 2017

Board Members

Director 2014 - 2017

Howard Sullivan

Director 2014 - 2017

Jeff Duyck

Director 2014 - 2017

Geoff Faris

Director 2015 - 2018

Lucas Welliver

Director 2015 - 2018

Samantha Swindler

Director 2015 - 2018

Stan Reasoner

Director 2016 - 2019

Pete Van Dyke

Director 2016 - 2019

Lorrie Hutchins

Director 2016 - 2019

Tim Pearson

Community Outreach Chair

Mike Hundley

Fund Raising Treasurer

Jim Crisp

Club Services Group Chair

Geoff Faris

New Generations Chair

Jeannine Murrell

It has also inspired me to seek an international career, as I am currently studying in International Affairs and Policy due to the inspiration I received from my exchange year to continue living an international lifestyle.

As I read Joel's article all I could think was how blessed our family has been to be able to learn about so many different cultures and be able to give that gift to our children. We can never create peace if we do not understand cultural differences and appreciate how people have lived their lives and get another perspective on what's happening in our world today. I will never forget a night towards the end of our exchange student Beto's stay he had invited a group of other exchange students over for a campfire. We had kids from Spain, Venezuela, Czech Republic, Brazil and probably a couple other countries I cannot remember hanging out in our backyard making s'mores – how cool is that???

Please seriously consider being a host family. Come talk to Pete or I about our experiences being a host family. It will change your life for the better – I promise you that!

Parri Van Dyke

Number of Wild Poliovirus Cases Globally as of February 1, 2017

New Cases Last 7 Days	0
YTD - 2017	0
YTD - 2016	37
Total - 2015	74
Total - 2014	359
Total - 2013	416
Total - 2012	223
Total - 2011	650
Total - 2010	1,352
Total - 2009	1,604
Total - 2008	1,651

Source: <http://polioeradication.org/polio-today/polio-now/this-week/>