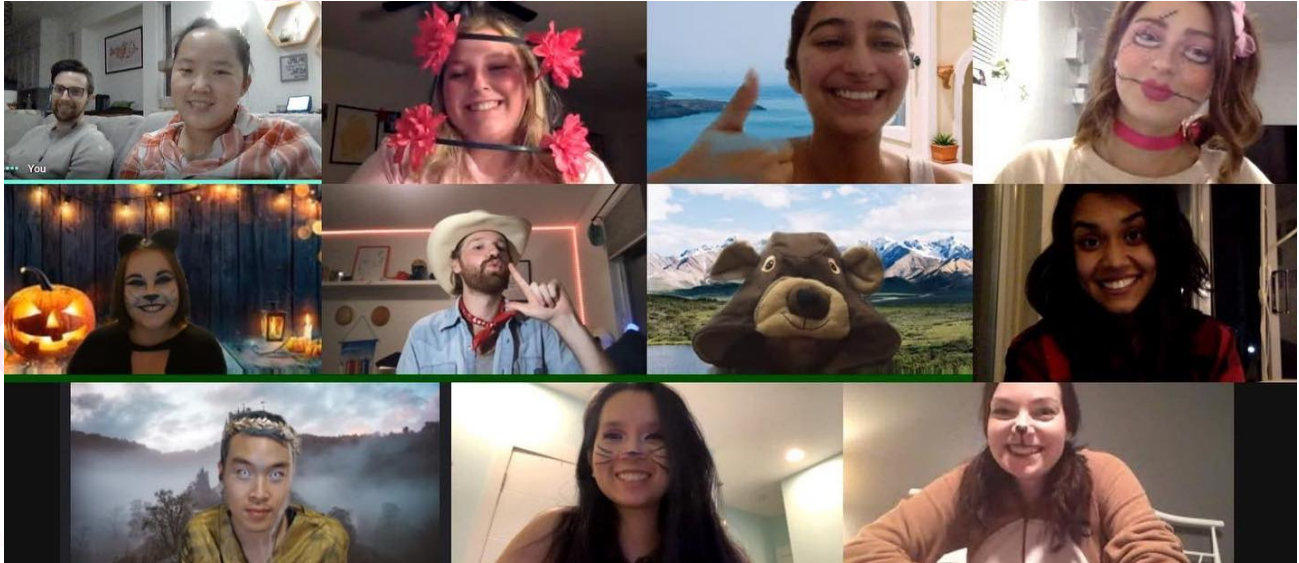


# ROTARACT 5050

*The official newsletter of Rotaract District 5050*



## Rotaract Facts

**10,698  
ROTARACT CLUBS**

**203,298  
ROTARACTORS**

**180 COUNTRIES  
WORLDWIDE**

## International Change Makers

**"50% AMERICAN, 50% CANADIAN, 100% ROTARIAN"**

Happy December! Despite COVID-19 restrictions, Rotaract 5050 has been busy these past few months, continuing to meet and do all that we can to give back to our communities. To keep our fellowship and momentum going, we implemented monthly virtual district-wide Rotaract socials in August and have had clubs take turns hosting them. The photo above was taken at our Halloween social in October, where we handed out prizes for the best costumes, played a virtual murder mystery and even some Halloween trivia.

We are proud to be a binational district where we share a common goal to make the world a better place. We also take pride in the community we have built within Rotaract 5050, a close knit group of Rotaractors that can come together, share our passions, embrace our differences, and make a positive impact in the world. We can't wait to see where 2021 takes us, we can only go up from here.

Wishing our readers a very happy and safe holiday season, however you choose to celebrate.

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## Rotaract Task Force

The Rotaract Task Force in District 5050 was established to help build a strong foundation for Rotaract to exist and flourish for years to come. Over the last 6 years, Rotaract has grown tremendously in our district. Going from one active club to now eight active and two in progress, there is a need for structured organization to ensure our success. The Task Force is comprised of Rotaractors throughout the district who are meeting monthly to address key areas of support. While club and member support are a priority, our Task Force is looking to define the culture of Rotaract in the district by identifying a mission, vision, and values. With this, we are incorporating strategic planning for the next 5 years regarding growth and development of clubs and members. The foundation the Task Force is laying will eventually lead to a fully functioning Rotaract committee that will be able to support clubs and the goals of Rotaract set out by Rotary International. If you have questions, input, or would like to join the Task Force, please contact Phoenix at [phoenix.maclaren@rotaract5050.org](mailto:phoenix.maclaren@rotaract5050.org).

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*Going from one active club to now eight active and two in progress, there is a need for structured organization to ensure our success.*

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## Members

**PHOENIX MACLAREN**

**JAYMEE LYNN**

**LEXIE WYNNE**

**RABAAB KHERA**

**ALIA ALI**

**NAV SAN**

**AMRIT SHERGILL**

**TANYA VANPRASEUTH**

**AMY GILL**

THE WORLD  
NEEDS MORE  
#ROTARACTORS

# Chilliwack-Fraser Rotaract Club

**"WE STRIVE TO CREATE SUSTAINABLE CHANGE, EDUCATE, AND EMPOWER THOSE AROUND US THROUGH ACTIONS THAT EMBODY SERVICE ABOVE SELF"**

Although this year has been looking a little different for Chilliwack-Fraser Rotaract, we have been adapting with the changes to make sure we are helping the community while keeping everyone safe. We had a successful Halloween canned food drive with over 150 cans donated to our local Salvation Army. Now that we have moved to a new meeting location at the new Rotary Building in Chilliwack, we even got to indulge in a safe Halloween social within our group where we decorated tiny pumpkins, discussed what was the safest way to collect cans from our community and how we've changed and improved from past years. With the holidays coming up, we have put together a plant sale selling holiday plants. Even though we are not able to set up an in-person booth this year, we are trying an online order and drop off system so everyone can collect these beautiful plants safely. Overall, we have received a positive response to this fundraiser. We plan to take a small break for Christmas and come back in the new year ready to tackle some new ideas. This year is presenting a new set of challenges but we are looking forward to the challenge of trying new ways of reaching out to our community.



**PRESIDENT:** Megan Shields  
**CLUB EMAIL:** [chilliwackfraser@rotaract5050.org](mailto:chilliwackfraser@rotaract5050.org)



“

*We have been adapting with the changes to make sure we are helping the community while keeping everyone safe.*

”

**Rotaract**   
 Chilliwack-Fraser



# Tri-Cities Rotaract Club

"THREE CITIES. ONE MISSION. CREATING CHANGE. TAKING ACTION."



*If your interested in learning more about the Tri-Cities Rotaract club, or to find ways that you can help, please email us: [drr@rotaract5050.org](mailto:drr@rotaract5050.org)*

**PRESIDENT:** Jaymee Lynn  
**CLUB EMAIL:** [tricity@rotaract5050.org](mailto:tricity@rotaract5050.org)

Tri-Cities  
**Rotaract** 

# Semiahmoo Peninsula Rotaract Club

**"TAKE THE LEAD, TO FILL THE NEED."**

The Semiahmoo Peninsula Rotaract club has not let COVID-19 get in the way of making an impact on their community. With the constantly changing health regulations and restrictions regarding public safety, it has been important to focus on projects that both keep the club and the public safe but also help the community. For the past few months, the club has been focusing on environmental biodiversity, with a specific focus on invasive species removals and garbage cleanup. The club has been heading to local parks to remove invasive species of plants that take over and kill off the native plants to the environment. Plant species such as Himalayan Black Berry bushes, Morning Glory, and Policeman's Helmet are all plants that are not native to local ecosystems. These species wrap themselves around plants that should be there and suffocate them. The invasive species block them from sunlight and nutrients until the native plants eventually die and the invasive species take over. Many of the native plants are needed as a source of food for other plants and animals.

When native plants get taken away, it creates an imbalance in the environment having a spiral effect and negatively impacting the ecosystem around them. It is important for people to take action and remove the invasive species to keep a balance in the ecosystems, which is exactly what the club has done. While removing the invasive species, the club picks up any garbage they find along the way.



“

*For the past few months, the club has been focusing on environmental biodiversity*

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**PRESIDENT:** Jake Sawatzky & Meghan Jones  
**CLUB EMAIL:** semiahmoopeninsula@rotaract5050.org

Semiahmoo Peninsula  
**Rotaract**





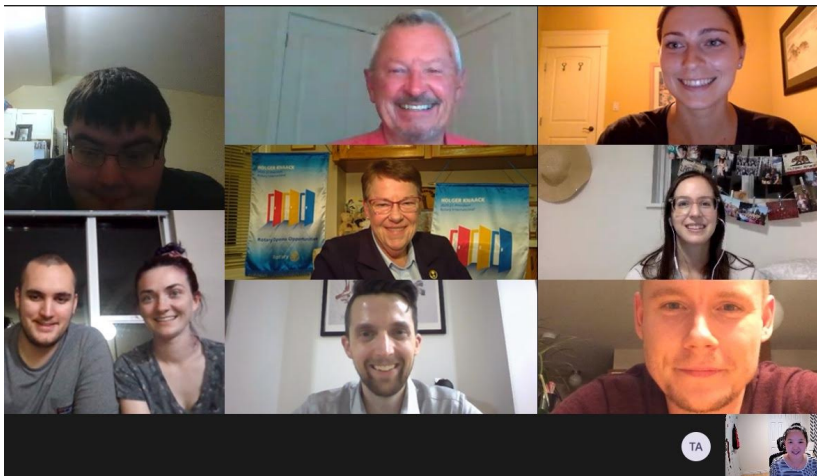
# Rotaract Club of the Fraser Valley

**"WE CONNECT TO MAKE AN IMPACT WITHIN OUR LOCAL AND GLOBAL COMMUNITIES THAT WILL INFLUENCE POSITIVE GROWTH, THROUGH NETWORKING AND SERVICE ABOVE SELF."**

Our club is selling Rotary themed calendars to raise funds for the Starfish Pack Program. This program is for children in school lunch programs. They are provided with a backpack of food that they can take home on weekends. This means they don't go hungry and can come to school on Mondays focused and ready to learn. The calendar features photos submitted by Rotarians, of Rotary's areas of focus. It also includes key Rotary dates and events specific to District 5050. Please visit our website or social media to pick one up before we run out.

We are holding a district wide Christmas Card making virtual event on December 18th at 7pm! We hold one every year at Christmas time and give the cards to Seniors in our community to spread holiday cheer. Seniors have been hit especially hard this year with the pandemic preventing them from seeing their loved ones. We would love everyone to join us and donate your cards to seniors, food banks, nurses, or anywhere you like! There will be games, prizes, and lots of Holiday music.

There are two members in our club that we would like to highlight. They have chosen to become more involved in the running of the club and have stepped into new exec positions. Emily Ell has become the Director of Projects to lead our events. Tracy Anthonson has stepped into Director of Membership to recruit new members and keep current members engaged.



Visit  
<https://rotaractfv.square.site/>  
to order a calendar!

**PRESIDENT:** Alex Carmichael & Adam Hill  
**CLUB EMAIL:** [fraservalley@rotaract5050.org](mailto:fraservalley@rotaract5050.org)

**Rotaract**   
Fraser Valley

# Snohomish County Rotaract Club

In Snohomish County, the fall and early winter months are always challenging times for our community members. With increased expenses, shorter days, colder rainy nights, and the added stress of the global pandemic, we've had to shift our focus. The sunlit beach and park clean-ups we grew to love over the summertime are long behind us. We've had to find new ways to effectively serve our community. In October, our club put together and distributed over 200 Halloween baskets to the Marysville Community. Children were unable to go trick-or-treating this year. We thought providing families with ways to celebrate at home might help make up for it. Even if just a little bit. The baskets included spooky decorations, costumes, candy, and fun DIY Halloween crafts. In November, we wanted to help those facing the cold weather the hardest.

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***Our club put together and distributed over 200 Halloween baskets to the Marysville community.***

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**PRESIDENT:** Billy Hager

**CLUB EMAIL:** [snohomishcounty@rotaract5050.org](mailto:snohomishcounty@rotaract5050.org)

In partnership with the Marysville Sunrise Rotary Club, we hosted a two-week cold-weather clothing drive. Members of the community brought in gloves, coats, scarfs, blankets, and many more essential items for the coming winter months. We couldn't be more impressed with the turnout of so many families wanting to help. Looking to the future, we're delighted about our growing relationship with our twin club in India, the Rotaract Club of Navi Mumbai Sunrise. We've shared a few joint-meetings and socials. Currently, we are working on two projects together; a recipe book exchange and partnering up for an international project in the new year. We love being able to connect with Rotaractors around the world, sharing our love for service and Rotary. Our club is currently working on several projects to begin in the new year. We can't wait to share them with you in the next issue of this newsletter. Wishing you all a happy, healthy Holiday Season and an inspiring New Year.



Snohomish County  
**Rotaract**





## Bellingham Rotaract Club

The Bellingham Rotaract Club has not let “going virtual” stop us these past months. We are excited to officially become a university club with Western Washington University! We saw this as a great opportunity to take advantage of the resources offered by our school that promote and support clubs as we work to grow our membership and further reach out to our community.



So far, we have gained 3 official members and counting. We have also continued to work with the Bellingham Bay Rotary Club to further develop the Mentor Program, as well as starting a Pen Pal program with a local senior citizen center who has been forced to be on lockdown since the beginning of COVID. Our big fundraiser happened in September when we sold T-shirts, sweatshirts, and masks to help support wildfire relief in the PNW. After 2 weeks of fundraising, we raised over \$1,000! The proceeds went to the American Red Cross's disaster relief fund in the PNW. Most recently, we had the opportunity to have a joint meeting with the Rotaract Club of Cologne, Germany! It was so cool to see how Rotaract operates in another part of the world and it was a great way to meet new people. It is safe to say they inspired us with unique ideas and made a lasting impression on our club. In the next month, we plan on meeting with more international clubs, hold a warm clothing drive, and volunteer at a local holiday market.

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*It was so cool to see how Rotaract operates in another part of the world and it was a great way to meet new people.*

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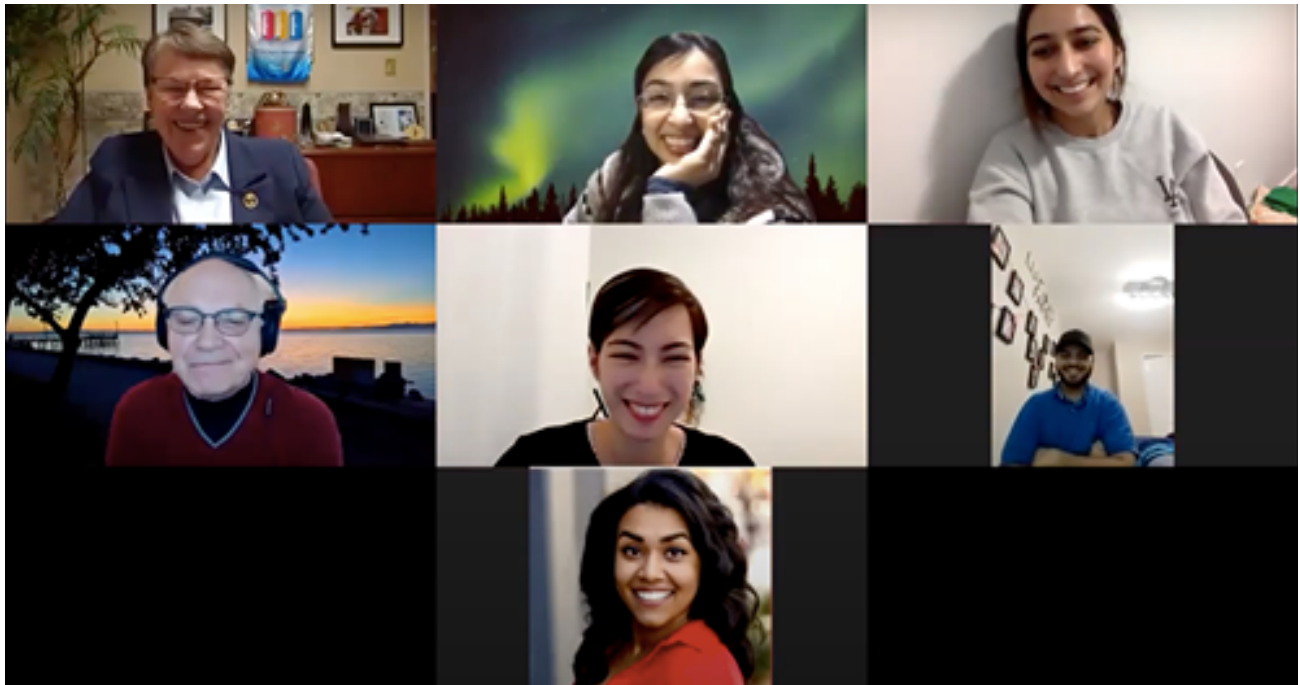
**PRESIDENT:** Reece Carpenter

**CLUB EMAIL:** [bellingham@rotaract5050.org](mailto:bellingham@rotaract5050.org)



# Surrey Rotaract Club

**"WE PROVIDE AN INCLUSIVE PLATFORM FOR YOUNG LEADERS TO BETTER THE COMMUNITIES AROUND US BY BEING MINDFUL OF CHALLENGES, CREATING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS, AND LEADING OR SUPPORTING IMPACTFUL INITIATIVES. WE STRIVE TO DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS, TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER TO BE OUR BEST SELVES, AND TO ENJOY THE WORK THAT WE DO."**



This year has required a lot of adapting for the Surrey Rotaract Club, but we have found many ways to continue to create change and support our community and each other. We have moved our meetings onto Zoom and continue to meet every 2 weeks. Over the summer, we were able to do a social distancing social at a park and connect with each other. Some of our team members have been attending the monthly district socials and a few of our members are currently involved in the Rotaract District Task Force. We are now working to adapt RotarX, our annual "Ted-X" like speaker series and finding ways to make it just as exciting, accessible, and innovate as it has been the last two years. In November, we were able to welcome DG Carol to one of our meetings where we learnt about her and got to share some of the work we have been doing. We are excited to see all that the next year brings for us.

**PRESIDENT:** Rabaab Khehra

**CLUB EMAIL:** [surrey@rotaract5050.org](mailto:surrey@rotaract5050.org)

“

*We have found many ways to continue to create change and support our community and each other.*

”

Surrey  
**Rotaract** 

# Langley Rotaract Club

**"DONATING OUR TIME AND EFFORTS TOWARDS PROMOTING CONTINUITY AND PROSPERITY WITHIN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY, WHICH IN TURN WILL IMPACT OUR GLOBAL NETWORK."**

The Langley Rotaract Club has been working hard this fall, along with the four Rotary Clubs of Langley, to make our Langley Rotary 50/50 Mega Draw a success. And it absolutely was! The 50/50 closed at midnight on November 30 with a final Jackpot of \$147,230. A lucky local Langley woman took home \$73,615. The other half of the jackpot will be split between the four Rotary Clubs of Langley and our Langley Rotaract Club. These funds will help us in our charitable ventures, as well as aide in the support we give to our local beneficiaries, such as Starfish Packs Program, Langley Food Bank, Ishtar Women's Resource Society, Langley Hospice Society, and many more. Many factors went into making this fundraiser a success and a huge one is the hard work and dedication of some incredible Rotarians and Rotaractors. A big thank you for all that you do for your clubs and your community on this and all other projects! To be able to raise these kinds of funds in a year when normal fundraising is nearly impossible is amazing.

“

*To be able to raise these kinds of funds in a year when normal fundraising is nearly impossible is amazing.*

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**PRESIDENT:** Sydney Morfitt  
**CLUB EMAIL:** [langley@rotaract5050.org](mailto:langley@rotaract5050.org)

Langley  
**Rotaract** 

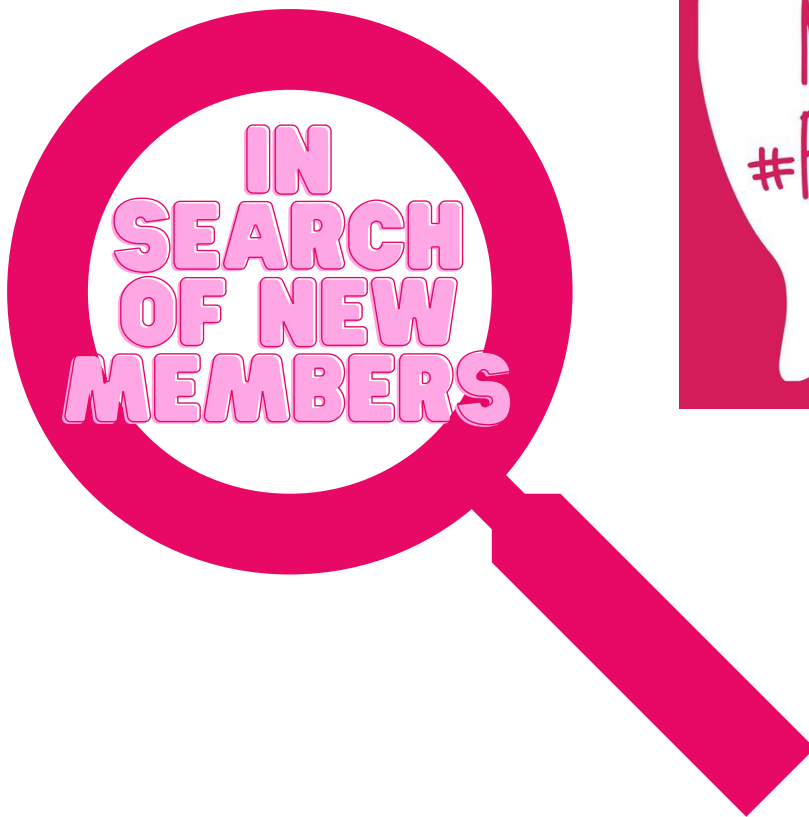
## Oak Harbor Rotaract Club

**FORMING**

*If your interested in learning more about the Oak Harbor Rotaract club, or to find ways that you can help, please email us:*

*[drr@rotaract5050.org](mailto:drr@rotaract5050.org)*

The Rotaract Club of Oak Harbor is in search of members! If you know anyone in the Oak Harbor area looking for opportunities to give back to their community and engage with like-minded people this is the right place! This club is in need of help and support to get them going. If your Rotary club in the Oak Harbor area is interested in sponsoring this club, or would just like to help this club get going, please reach out.



Oak Harbor  
**Rotaract** 



# Skagit Valley Rotaract Club

## CHARTERED & FORMING

### Sponsoring Rotary Clubs:

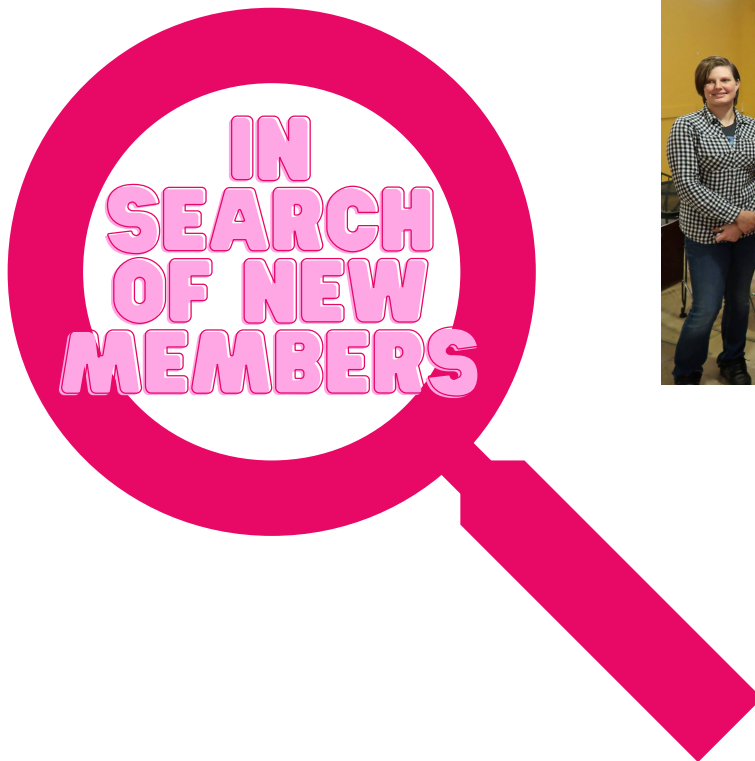
**Anacortes**

**La Conner**

**Mount Vernon**

**Sedro Woolley**

The Skagit Valley Rotaract club originally formed and chartered in 2017, since then the club unfortunately became dormant. This year a goal of the Rotaract 5050 leadership team was to bring back and revive the Skagit Valley club, and so far we are off to a good start. With meetings and conversations happening with sponsoring Rotary clubs, we are hopeful that the future looks bright for the Skagit Valley Rotaract Club.



**If your interested in learning more about the forming of the Skagit Valley Rotaract club, or to find ways that you can help, please email us: [drr@rotaract5050.org](mailto:drr@rotaract5050.org)**

# Rotaract

## District 5050



**Keep up with all things Rotaract**



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[info@rotaract5050.org](mailto:info@rotaract5050.org)

Please email us with any questions or inquiries about  
any of the clubs!