

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"

Spring is almost here! Our Rotaract clubs have been keeping busy despite all the challenges this year has thrown our way. This volume of the newsletter is extra special as it comes out around World Rotaract Week! A very special week for Rotaract all across the globe, as we celebrate all the things Rotaractors have accomplished and the creation of the first ever Rotaract Club. Although our clubs haven't been able to get together in-person and experience the fellowship and connection we thrive off of, we have continued to make the best out of it and keep our fellowship growing virtually. Things are looking up in the world as the vaccines begin to rollout. Slowly but surely we hope to be able to serve our clubs and communities in-person again soon!

In This Issue

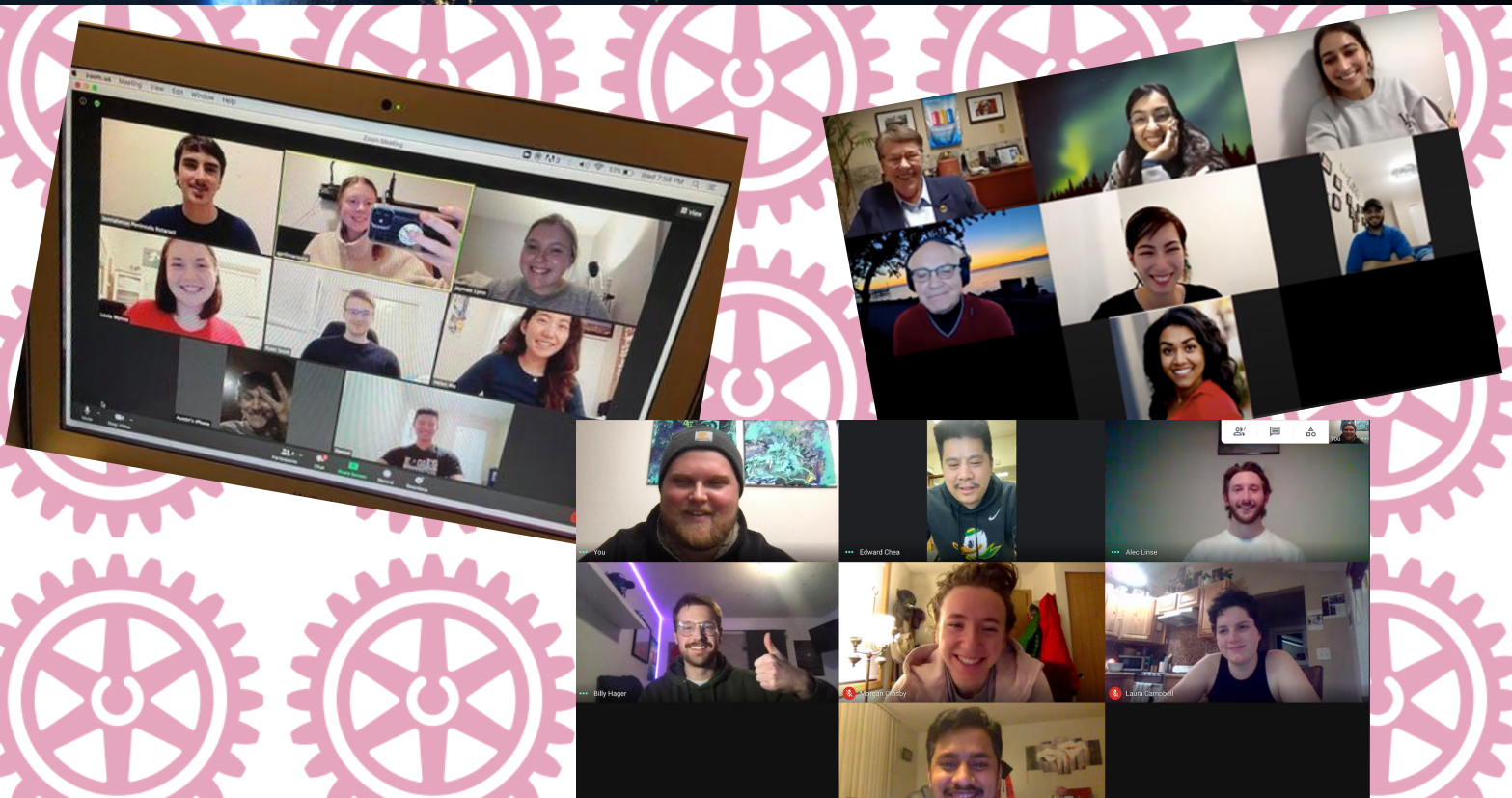
WORLD ROTARACT WEEK	PG 3-4
CHILLIWACK-FRASER ROTARACT	PG 5
TRI-CITIES ROTARACT	PG 6
SEMAHMOO PENINSULA ROTARACT	PG 7
FRASER VALLEY ROTARACT	PG 8
ROTARACT TASK FORCE	PG 9
SNOHOMISH COUNTY ROTARACT	PG 10
BELLINGHAM ROTARACT	PG 11
SURREY ROTARACT	PG 12
LANGLEY ROTARACT	PG 13
OAK HARBOR ROTARACT	PG 14
SKAGIT ROTARACT	PG 15
KEEP UP WITH US	PG 16

MAR. 2021 | VOL.4



WORLD ROTARACT WEEK

8-14 MARCH 2021



WORLD ROTARACT WEEK

8-14 MARCH 2021

“EVERY YEAR, ROTARACTORS AND ROTARIANS AROUND THE WORLD CELEBRATE WORLD ROTARACT WEEK DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 13TH TO COMMEMORATE THE FOUNDING OF THE FIRST CLUB IN 1968.”

World Rotaract Week is a time for celebrating the success and importance of Rotaract. This is also an excellent opportunity to inform members of your community about the amazing work that Rotaract clubs do, and give them an opportunity to get involved.

The Rotaractors in our District are no exception to this; it is time to celebrate them – the future of Rotary. Currently, there are 8 Rotaract Clubs in our District (6 active, 2 forming & 1 inactive) Snohomish County, Skagit Valley, Oak Harbor, Bellingham, Surrey, Langley, Fraser Valley, Chilliwack & Tri-Cities.

Here are some of the highlights of what our clubs have accomplished so far this year:

July - September:

- We held our first ever virtual installation
- Implemented our monthly virtual Rotaract socials
- Rotaract Calendar fundraiser
- Plant giveaway
- Outdoor beach and park cleanups
- Mentorship programs
- School supply kits
- Wildfire relief fundraiser

September - December:

- Implemented a Rotaract Task Force
- Food drives
- Holiday plant sales
- Invasive species removal
- Halloween baskets
- Cold weather clothing drives
- Bellingham Rotaract officially became a University-based club!
- 50/50 Mega draw
- Began work to establish the Skagit Valley Rotaract Club

December - March:

- Waterwealth project
- Valentines day card project
- Blueberry blitz
- Stocking stuffing for seniors
- Green bag project
- Clothing drive
- Supporting the Guatemala Literacy Bus

To learn more about the Rotaract Clubs in our District, visit <http://www.rotaract5050.org/>

If your club does not currently sponsor a Rotaract Club, please consider doing so – Rotaractors are the future of Rotary. Contact Phoenix MacLaren (phoenix.maclaren@rotaract5050.org) District Rotaract Chair, or Jaymee Lynn (jaymee.lynn@rotaract5050.org) and Billy Hager (billy.hager@rotaract5050.org), the co-District Rotaract Representatives for more information.

Chilliwack-Fraser Rotaract Club

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

From pandemic, to Christmas holiday lull, back to pandemic, we've been looking for ways to change things up! Even though we've been stuck at home, that doesn't change our ability to impact our community and the world. We recently heard about the Literacy Library Bus Program in Guatemala, where older school buses are being converted into mobile libraries, bringing books to areas with little access to reading materials. After we heard about it, we wanted to jump on the bus ourselves! For safety's sake, we didn't physically do so (pandemic, after all) but we had the opportunity to support the program financially. We also got to meet up with the Waterwealth Project, an organization here in Chilliwack to keep with our stream-keeping initiative, where we test the quality of water in one of our local streams. As always, it was a great time having fun with science! Currently we are planning a plant fundraiser to run until April. Just in time for the May flowers! Within our club we're planning a little social to catch up, see how we're all feeling, and have some fun! As the year goes on things will shift, needs will change, and we'll be there listening to see how we can better serve our community.



PRESIDENT: Megan Shields
CLUB EMAIL: chilliwackfraser@rotaract5050.org

“

As the year goes on things will shift, needs will change, and we'll be there listening to see how we can better serve our community.

”

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



PRESIDENT: Jaymee Lynn
CLUB EMAIL: tricitie@rotaract5050.org

Tri-Cities
Rotaract 

Semiahmoo Peninsula Rotaract Club

"TAKE THE LEAD, TO FILL THE NEED."

To celebrate Valentine's Day this year, the Semiahmoo Peninsula Rotaract Club took part in our 3rd annual Valentine's Day card writing project to donate 255 cards to the Peace Arch Hospital in White Rock, BC. Typically this is a project that we look forward to spending time together as a club. Complete with snacks, music, and sharing lots of laughs while we write cards together. Even though we couldn't do it the way we are used to, we made the best of it and had a virtual card decorating night! We spent the evening making and writing 255 handmade Valentine's Day cards full of colour, custom designs, and personalized messages. We made the cards to be given to the long-term care residents at the Peace Arch Hospital. Due to visitors not being allowed in the hospitals right now, we delivered the cards to the hospital staff, who then distributed them to the residents. There are 162 residents in the long-term care unit, so there were 93 additional cards that were distributed to other patients in the hospital in need of some extra kindness in their day.



We hope that even among all of the world's uncertainty, these Valentine's Day cards could spread some love and put a smile on 255 people's faces. We are firm believers that small acts of kindness can make a big difference in people's lives. Our club looks forward to continuing this annual tradition in person next year. Watch the project video here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fmOMrhX0pE0>



“

We hope that even among all of the world's uncertainty, these Valentine's Day cards could spread some love and put a smile on 255 people's faces.

”

Semiahmoo Peninsula

Rotaract



PRESIDENT: Jake Sawatzky

CLUB EMAIL: semiahmoopeninsula@rotaract5050.org

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."

We have been partnering with the Abbotsford Rotary Clubs in October and February to sell and distribute locally grown berries for Blueberry Blitz. We helped raise \$994 for our club with this project, from these funds we were able to use \$250 to help fill some Stockings for Seniors over the holiday season! Recently we had a virtual bingo night "Music Through the Decades: Music Bingo" to support the Guatemala Literacy Bus. It was a blast and such a fun way to see everyone virtually, and we were able to raise \$900! Our club is still 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 in Rotary's 7 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!



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

Rotaract
Fraser Valley



PRESIDENT: Alex Carmichael & Adam Hill
CLUB EMAIL: fraservalley@rotaract5050.org

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.”



2021 DISTRICT 5050 PRESENTS:

STATE OF ROTARACT

APRIL 12TH & 19TH
7:00 PM - 8:45 PM

HOSTED ON ZOOM - FROM THE
COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME

JOIN US FOR THIS TWO-PART DISCUSSION
~ REFLECT ~ ENGAGE ~ GROW ~

REGISTER AT: [BIT.LY/2OUQDLR](https://bit.ly/2OuQDLR)

Open to ALL District 5050 Rotaractors
*** Minimum 3 members per club required to attend ***

Rotaract District 5050



!!! ATTENTION ALL DISTRICT 5050 ROTARACTORS !!!
REGISTRATION IS ONLY OPEN TO ROTARACTORS IN DISTRICT 5050

*Join us for the "State of Rotaract" two-part discussion with
Rotaractors from all the clubs in district 5050!*

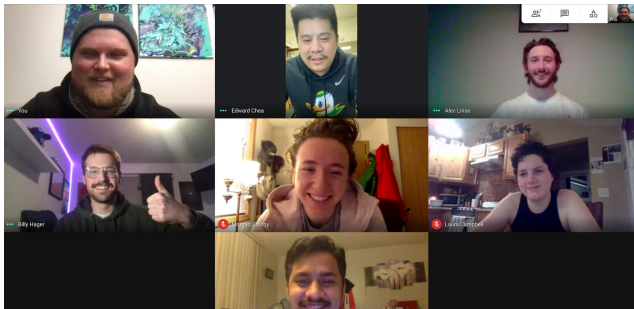
SIGN UP NOW

<https://bit.ly/2OuQDLR>

minimum three rotaractors from each club are required to attend both sessions

Snohomish County Rotaract Club

Calling all Snohomish County Rotarians, friends, family and neighbors. With the new year well underway the Rotaract Club of Snohomish County is starting up a new project to target hunger in our community. **The Green Bag Project** is America's first neighborhood-based food donation program. Every two months, volunteers go door-to-door picking up food from their neighbors. It's the easiest, most effective, most empowering way to organize community support for local food banks. The Rotaract Club of Snohomish County is interested in implementing this program to serve all 18 food banks in the Snohomish County Food Bank Coalition, but we'll need the help of Rotarians like yourself to make it all possible.



“

It's the easiest, most effective, most empowering way to organize community support for local food banks.

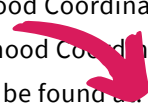
”

PRESIDENT: Billy Hager

CLUB EMAIL: snohomishcounty@rotaract5050.org

The program itself is rather simple:

- **A volunteer called a “Neighborhood Coordinator” (NC) recruits neighbors to be Food Donors, usually by canvassing. Their “neighborhood” can be any size—a few houses, a whole street, or several blocks.**
- **When a Food Donor signs up, the NC gives them a reusable green Food Project bag. We suggest that each week, the donor buy one extra non-perishable grocery item while shopping, take it home and store it in the bag**
- **During the two months between pickups, NCs email or call their Food Donors at least twice to remind them of the date of the next pickup.**
- **Every two months, on the 2nd Saturday (Feb., April, June...), each donor puts their bag of food outside their front door. The Neighborhood Coordinator picks up all the bags in their neighborhood and leaves thank you cards and empty bags for the next time.**
- **The Neighborhood Coordinator takes the bags to the local food bank. Volunteers are waiting there to unload the food, weigh it, and distribute or shelve**

That's all there is to it. Then it starts all over again. Currently we are looking for food donors and neighborhood coordinators, to be a part of the Snohomish County Food Project. If you or someone you know would be interested in registering to become a Neighborhood Coordinator, or a Food Donor, our Neighborhood Coordinator/Food Donor registration form can be found  at

snohomishcounty.rotaract5050.org/snohomish-county-food-project/

Snohomish County
Rotaract



Bellingham Rotaract Club

The Bellingham Rotaract Club is taking 2021 by storm! We started off this year by taking part in a virtual club fair through Western Washington University to help gain membership and raise awareness of our club. It proved successful, as we gained a new member and are starting to be known in the community. We also hosted another international joint Rotaract meeting with a Rotaract club in Rakouda, Egypt.



“

These meetings have been a great way to take advantage of going virtual and establish connections with clubs from around the world

”

PRESIDENT: Reece Carpenter

CLUB EMAIL: bellingham@rotaract5050.org

These meetings have been a great way to take advantage of going virtual and establish connections with clubs from around the world. We have also been continuing with our Mentor Program with the Bellingham Bay Rotary Club and many of the participants have begun meeting with their mentors. We are hoping to expand this program to other Rotaract and Interact clubs. Our focus on establishing a better relationship with our sponsoring clubs has been important to us these past few months. We were the speakers at two Rotary Clubs, where we gave more information about what Rotaract is and our club specifically. These were great opportunities to meet Rotarians in our community and inform them about our projects. We are now planning different volunteer projects with them and feel like we have their support for our future endeavours. Due to the cold weather, our club was motivated to host a winter clothing drive in the community to help give back to those in need in Bellingham. We had 3 drop off locations throughout Bellingham and all donations went back to members of the community. Our future plans include establishing an official Twin club and having the Mayor of Bellingham come speak at a meeting. We are excited to see where this momentum will take us!

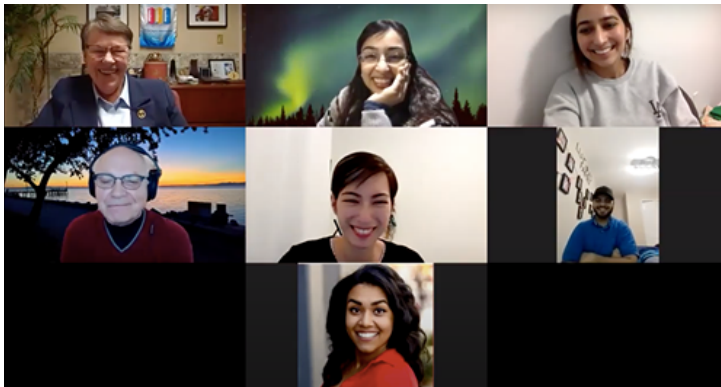


Bellingham
Rotaract



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."



If your interested in learning more about the Surrey Rotaract club, or to find ways that you can get involved, please email us: surrey@rotaract5050.org

PRESIDENT: Rabaab Khehra
CLUB EMAIL: surrey@rotaract5050.org

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."

Youth programs have been highly valued by Rotary and, over the years, Rotary has created and supported many youth programs that aim to acknowledge and celebrate youth and their achievements. Within our community of Langley, The SASSY Awards Program Langley has been instrumental in this aim. The SASSY awards are presented to Langley youth between the ages of 15-21 who have exemplified the ideals of Rotary, specifically the motto of "Service Above Self". Through these awards, Rotary hopes to empower and support our future leaders as they pursue their goals. While these awards are sponsored by the four Rotary Clubs of Langley, the Langley Rotaract Club has been given the opportunity to contribute to these awards by maintaining and updating the SASSY Awards website and promoting the awards through our social media. Even through this small contribution, our hope is to expand the community awareness and support. Like the Rotary Clubs of Langley, we believe that programs like the SASSY Awards, bring irreplaceable value to a community and we are honoured to do our part in promoting such a program.



“

Even through this small contribution, our hope is to expand the community awareness and support

”



PRESIDENT: Sydney Morfitt
CLUB EMAIL: langley@rotaract5050.org



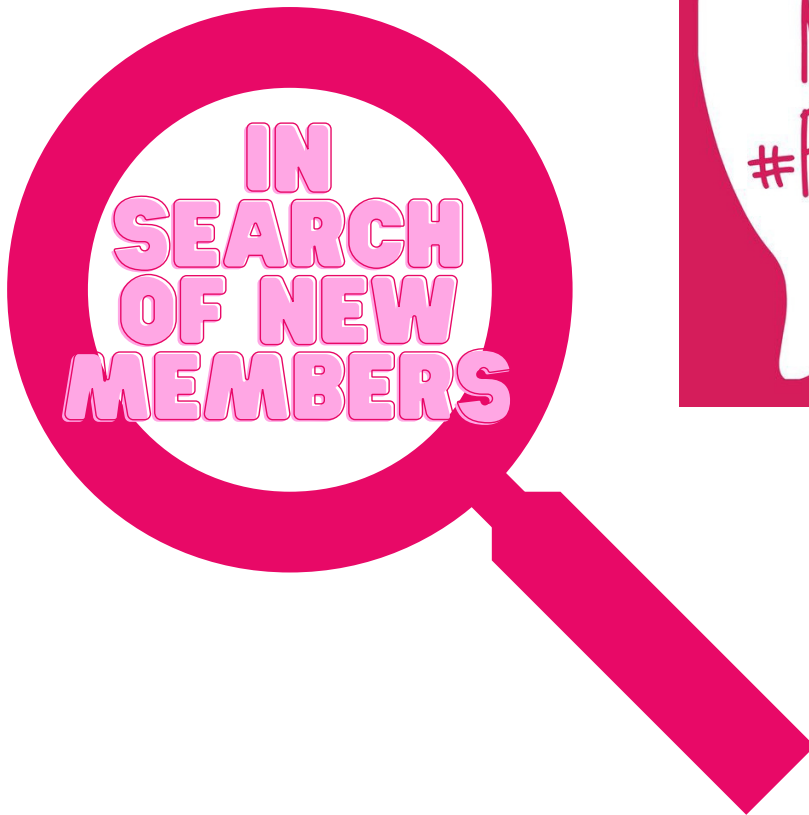
Oak Harbor Rotaract Club

FORMING

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

drd@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:

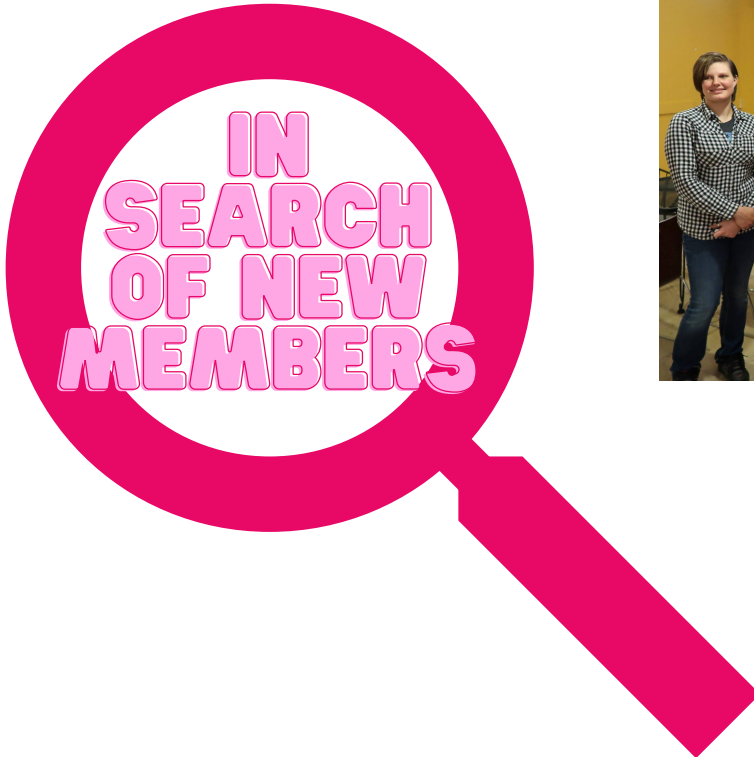
Anacortes

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: drd@rotaract5050.org.

Rotaract

District 5050



Keep up with all things Rotaract



www.rotaract5050.org



[@rotaract5050](https://www.facebook.com/rotaract5050)



[@rotaract5050](https://www.instagram.com/rotaract5050)



[@rotaract5050](https://twitter.com/rotaract5050)



info@rotaract5050.org

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