



Oktoberfest a success!

If you weren't there, you missed a great party. Let's start with a good turnout for the 90 minute fun event. We started off with a history and some facts about beer. 75% of beers in the world, for instance, are pilsners, lighter in color. Rick Steves joined us to introduce a great video about Oktoberfest celebrations in Germany. The main one these days is in Munich. Over 6 million people attend there every year. (My son in law was there with his "bros" last year to celebrate a major birthday.) Music, dancing, sausages, and lots of beer. We even saw a "performance" of the famous, or infamous, Chicken Dance, straight from an Oktoberfest celebration in Texas. How's that for worldwide tradition?

And then there were the celebrity visits, straight from the magic of the internet, by the likes of John Keester, (Almost Live on KING TV) Mark Ripien (former WSU and NFL), Drew Bledsoe (WSU), even Brian Bosworth (the Seahawk we all loved to hate?). And folks from Cascade Symphony gave a shout out. Daniel Johnson of Edmonds Waterfront Center also wished us well. And there were more.

In between it all, we hoisted growlers, steins, even wine glasses from our little ZOOM boxes. Many shared "Tweets" in the Chat Box about favorite beers and wines (yes, wine was the alternate beer for the night). President Beth of course had a joke to share: What did the bartender ask Charles Dickens? "Olive or twist?" It was that kind of evening...

And then there were the bartenders! Niles Peacock, popular bartender-about-town, demonstrated the making of 3 cocktails - the Old Pal, the Boulevardier, and the classic Manhattan. Jeff Boyer, of Uncorked talked a bit about wines. Helpful information about pairing Merlots or Chardonnays. A few special names: Soul Sisters Viognier and Bartholomew Carmenera, both from Sol Stone Winery. You can find them both at Arista's locally. Did you know by the way, that there are over 1000 wineries in Washington State? And that about 10 of them produce 90% of the wine in our state?

So it wasn't the same as last year, outdoors, real time festivities. But these are different times. Difficult times. It was an excellent "adaptation" to have fun and bring smiles. And coincidentally, numbers are not final, but it looks like we may have made about \$9,000 for our programs this year. Thanks to David Kaufer for heading up this event, and to all those members on the team. And thank you to all who participated.





A visit from Chanterelle's

Trying to have a little fun with our programs, we recently invited Tiffany Tran, the new owner of Chanterelle's, and their bartender Greg Zachariah to visit. Greg entertained with a little bar magic, which yes, you can try at home. We wanted to hear how they are doing in these times, and some suggestions from the new menu. Tiffany recently sent us a note of thanks:

Happy Monday! Thank you for taking the time to follow up with me and again for including us in your rotary club meeting. We had a lot of fun with you all and hoped some made the drink we chose on their own (: Look forward to having you inside in the future when things are comfortable for you!

Take care,

Tiffany



The Verdant Commission is a public resource serving residents of Public Hospital District No.2. It funds a number of innovative programs aimed at improving the health and well being of South Snohomish County residents, collaboratively and creatively working to meet the needs of our whole community. Lisa Edwards, Verdant

Superintendent, brought us up to date on how the COVID-19 Pandemic has especially impacted needs in the area, and efforts to mitigate it. The slide at right lists some of the issues they are currently facing. Here in our own club, volunteers have noted the increasing need in programs like Washington Kids in Transition and the Edmonds Food Bank, where demands have likely tripled in the past year, from the Pandemic and the resulting economic recession.

**Lisa Edwards,
Superintendent
of the Verdant
Health
Commission
spoke to us on
ZOOM**



South Snohomish County

Community Partners report:

- There are 1,000 people who are homeless every night
- Calls to the Snohomish County Crisis Line are up 300%
- 62% of the students at Edmonds College report that they are food and/or housing insecure
- Lynnwood Foodbank is reporting a 300% increase in the number served since March 2020.

April 2019 = 3,330	April 2020= 9,750
July 2019 = 3,099	July 2020 = 9,561
- Edmonds Foodbank served 200 families a week , Pre-COVID 19 now they are serving 425 and expect this to continue for the rest of the year

Notes from the Board Meeting

October 29 — mark your calendar!

Halloween ZOOM Social. Wear your best ZOOM Box costume! Details to follow.

Oktoberfest revenue - Total was \$11,800. Net profit about \$9,000 (final calculation still to come). Good results for Party-in-a-Box

Club Membership Manual - Thanks to Brenda Carrithers everyone should have received the latest edition of the Club Membership Manual. Some members may still have their original binder for it even. It's now an online version, which will make it easier to update every year. If you did not receive or can't find it in your email, you can download off the Club Website. Contact Brenda if you don't have printing ability and need a hard copy.

Fundraising - The Board kicked some ideas around - Paella? Wine tasting? Our club is fortunate to have some funds in reserve, so we are able to keep basic programs alive for now, but who knows how long we will be restrained by the Pandemic. We are open to any great ideas members would like to help us develop.



From the Editor...

Three new voter registration laws went into effect last year in Washington State:

~Preregistration for 16 and 17-year olds - online, by mail, through DMV, or in person. Becomes active on 18th birthday.

~Same Day Voter Registration - Eligible citizens can register to vote any time until 8PM on election day.

~Automatic Voter Registration - Eligible voters will automatically be added to the voter rolls unless they "opt out" when they interact with certain state agencies - like when applying for or updating an enhanced driver's license, which requires proof of citizenship, or the Health Benefit Exchange.

That means most of us will be receiving our ballot by next week for this November 3 election. I'll admit, I missed going to the polls when we started voting by mail here in Washington State; I enjoyed seeing the familiar faces each time, neighbors and poll workers. I missed even more that we went from a caucus system to Primary elections too. I enjoyed discussing issues with neighbors in a living room or school setting, choosing our top choice for Presidential candidates. But of course many people were not able to attend those caucuses for various reasons, so the new way allows more folks to participate. Just as the Vote-by-Mail system has allowed more people in our state to vote, especially those who cannot fit the 8:00AM to 8:00 PM time frame because of work or whatever. And we appreciate it even more now of course, because of COVID-19. So now I just wave to my neighbors when I drop my ballot off at the big Ballot Box in front of the Ballard Library. It's been a smooth system in our state for something like 10 years now.

As Rotarians we try to follow the 4-Way Test, and do our best to help make our community a better place. Surely, voting your opinions, participating in our Democracy, is part of that challenge. Please vote!

Pat Thorpe, Editor
c'est finis

