BALLARD ROTAGRAM

OCTOBER 12, 2026 EDITION

Editor: Kathleen Linscott

Member Notes



September 29th 5th Tuesday Outing

Thank you to all who attended our 5th Tuesday outing to hook up with Ballard Solidarity for happy hour at the Conor Byrne pub on September 29th! Ballard Rotary was first on the scene in spite of the gray, damp weather. With a drink in your hand, who cares about the weather? Several members of Ballard Solidarity attended as well, so it was a convivial, get-to-know-you event that we hope can be repeated in the future.

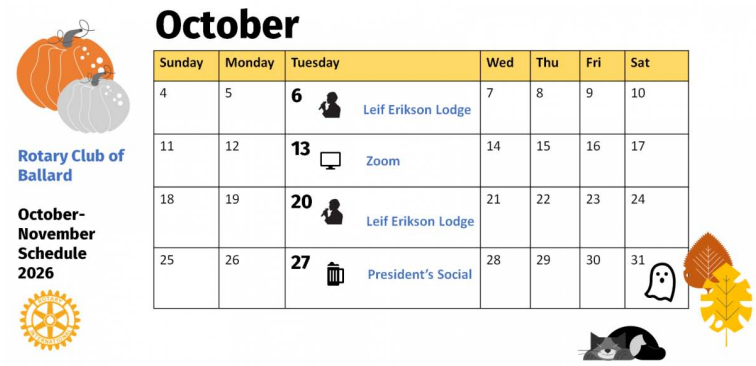
Attendance Total: 10
Members: 9
Visiting Rotarian: 1 (Ryan Maxwell, Lake Union Rotary)

Meeting Pix



Wil Barrett

Club Calendar



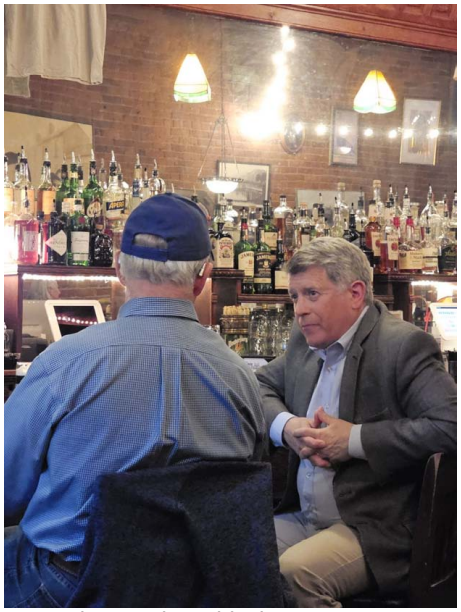
October 13th Club Meeting details:



- **SPEAKER:** King County Council Member Jorge Barón
- **Topic:** Councilmember Jorge Barón will update us on current and trending issues being faced by the Metropolitan King County Council and timely topics of interest specific to Ballard, including voting, homelessness, and public transit, especially the Ballard Link Extension. Come with your questions, as this is a great opportunity to communicate with your elected representative!
- **TIME:** 12:00 Noon
- **LOCATION:** Zoom
- **NOTES:** Here is the Zoom link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82516221978?pwd=J8JDsbpcmzLOw9mkU0qJNQnELflwLy.1

October 20th Club Meeting details:

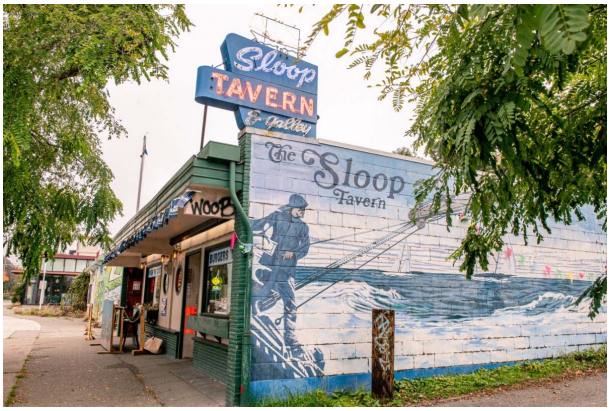

Ryan Maxwell bids Alana Morris farewell


Stan Miner and David Rice



- **SPEAKER:** Chris Kaimmer, Director of Corporate Partnerships at Seattle Sounders FC
- **Topic:** Chris will be speaking to us about the newest ventures in the soccer world! Chris lives and breathes soccer, is a co-founder of Ballard FB, and loves to talk with anyone working and thinking creatively about soccer, sports, sponsorships, and partnerships.
- **TIME:** 12:00 Noon
- **LOCATION:** Leif Erikson Lodge, 2245 NW 57th St
- **NOTES:** Pay for your lunch ahead of time: https://bit.ly/4qOoJl1. And don't forget, you can park for free in the parking lot at Leif Erikson Lodge, as well as in the underground parking lot at QFC (across the street from Leif Erikson Lodge)!

October 27th President's Social details:



- **TIME:** 5:30 PM
- **LOCATION:** The Sloop Tavern, 2830 NW Market Street
- **NOTES:** Wil Barrett invites every club member and their friends and family to join him for happy hour at his old stomping grounds, the Sloop Tavern! The Sloop Tavern is an unpretentious Ballard staple, serving cold beer, tasty burgers, hand-breaded Alaskan cod fish & chips, and nightly dinner specials. So be sure to attend! These monthly relaxed gatherings are a great way to enjoy your fellow Rotarians and to expose a friend or family member to Rotary in a very social setting. It's a win-win!

October 6th Program: Genevieve Miner & Geocaching



Alana Morris and Derick Pasternak


Ellis (member of Ballard Solidarity) and James Raptis



Stan Miner, Alana Morris, and Andree Hurley



Stan Miner and Andree Hurley



Genevieve Miner

The October 6th club meeting featured Genevieve Miner of Geocaching HQ, speaking on the sport of geocaching. She introduced geocaching as a worldwide, GPS-based treasure-hunting activity in which participants use coordinates to locate hidden containers, sign a physical logbook, record their find online, and return the cache for others to find. Caches range from simple waterproof containers to tiny disguised objects and elaborate puzzle-based creations; they are hidden, but never buried. The activity began in 2000 after improved civilian GPS accuracy enabled the first “Great American GPS Stash Hunt,” and Geocaching.com soon became the central registry. Today, millions of caches exist across 191 countries and all seven continents, including more than 29,000 in Washington State.

- **How it works:** Players use the Geocaching app or a GPS-enabled device to find traditional, mystery, multi-step, and other cache types. Some caches include small items for trade.
- **Business model:** Basic accounts are free, while premium membership provides broader cache access, advanced search and filtering, offline lists, additional maps, favorite points, and newsletters.
- **Community:** Geocachers, cache owners, Geocaching HQ employees (“lackeys”), and volunteers sustain the game. Volunteer reviewers check



A member of Ballard Solidarity and Wil Barrett

October 6th Club Meeting

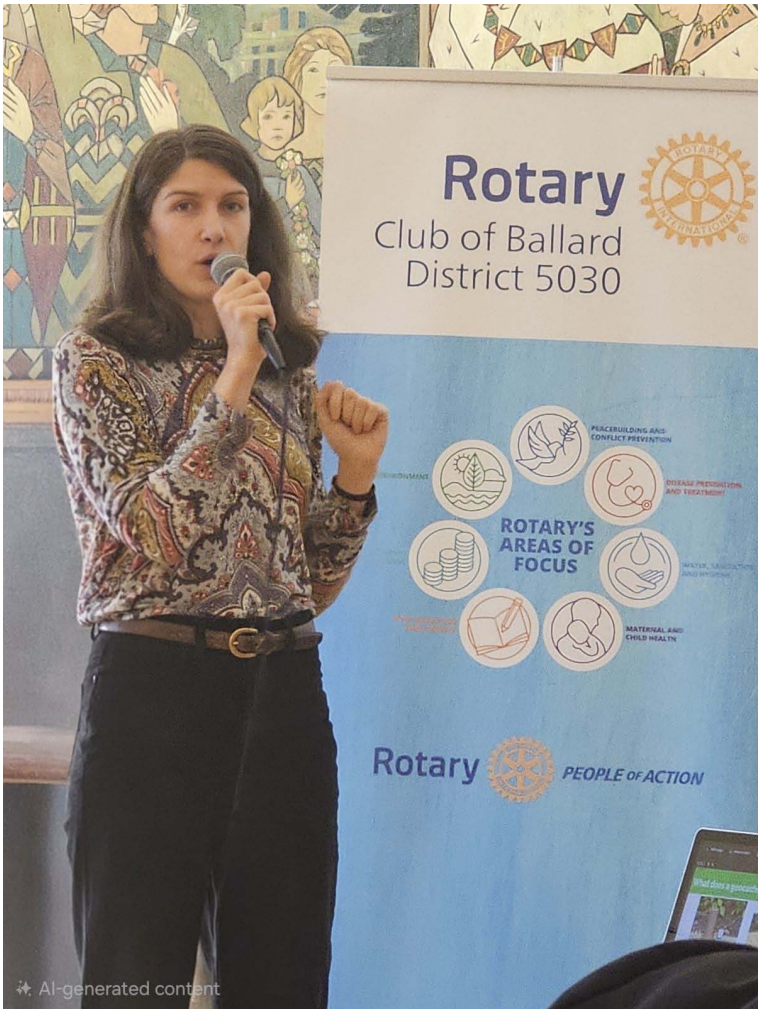
It was an excellent club meeting with many members and guests attending, an inspiring program from Genevieve Miner (daughter of Stan Miner), and multiple recognitions.

Attendance Total: 21
Members: 16
Guests: 5 (Sean Dowling, Genevieve Miner (speaker), Alexander Vaughn (founder of StackHaus), Gary Borjan (re, and Jorge Restrepo


Doug Warne

proposed caches for guideline compliance and safe placement, while translators support 24 languages and moderators maintain online forums.

- **Events and stewardship:** Community gatherings range from local meetups to large themed mega and giga events. Cache In, Trash Out events improve outdoor spaces through cleanups, native planting, and similar projects.
- **Accessibility and appeal:** Geocaching is especially popular with retirees and families but is open to anyone who enjoys outdoor exploration. It also complements travel by leading players to locally significant places.
- **Practical considerations:** Cache owners must obtain appropriate permission, particularly on private or regulated public land. Small cleanup events are relatively straightforward to organize and could be hosted by groups such as Rotary clubs.
- **Recent interest:** Participation grew during the COVID-19 pandemic because geocaching could be done outdoors and at a distance; interest also increased alongside location-based games such as Pokémon Go.



Guest Bonus: Sean Dowling



Sean Dowling, Val Gaifoulline, Alana Morris, and Jossy Murichu



Jorge Restrepo and Nancy Pasternak



A special program bonus was Sean Dowling, who spoke briefly about the local state of business brokering. Business brokering helps small and mid-sized business owners sell their businesses. Much like a real estate broker, but instead of selling real estate, they help sell more of an intangible asset. Businesses such as retail, wholesale, e-commerce, and so on. If you are a business owner who wants to sell, the broker explains what to expect and the current market demand for the business.

There are four broad steps to selling a business: valuation, marketing, negotiation, and facilitation. Valuation looks at cash flow, tangible assets, and the placement cost of ownership. After there is agreement on the valuation, there is a listing agreement and then marketing begins. The broker screens all potential buyers. The serious buyers schedule a buyer-seller meeting to learn more about the business and have all questions answered. When the buyer makes an offer, the seller can accept, reject, or make a counteroffer. There is extremely strong interest in the Seattle market, especially for "AI-proof" businesses, businesses that are steady with recurring customers, have consistency and reliability.

Rotarians Are People of Action!

October Service Project



Wil Barrett, Fred Finkelstein, Genevieve Miner, and Stan Miner



Alexander Vaughn and Andree Hurley

Alexander Vaughn is the director of operations and founder of StackHaus Company, which provided the sandwiches that you guys are eating. It's a wholesale sandwich business here in the Pacific Northwest, with the mission is to provide local, great, healthy food for everybody. All of their purveyors are local companies. You can find their sandwiches at all PCCs. Alex is also the president of the Ballard Elks Paddle Club. He's been in Seattle for about 25 years and loves it. And he just won three medals at the National Stand Up Paddle Championships that recently took place at Gig Harbor. Awesome!



Our service project for October is to support the Leif Erikson Lodge as volunteers helping with its holiday bazaar in late October. This should be fun! A volunteer sign-up sheet is being prepared, which will have available hours and tasks that we can help with. Tasks may include cashiering, serving food, etc. More details to follow!

Event: Nordic Market & Bazaar
Date: October 24 (Saturday) and October 25 (Sunday)
Hours: 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday, 11 AM to 4 PM on Sunday
Volunteers: Sorely needed! So save the dates and plan on signing up to help!

November Service Project

EDIBLE HOPE

The details are still being ironed out, but the plan is to volunteer at Edible Hope Kitchen on different dates in small groups of two or three. Breakfast is served from 8 AM to 10 AM, five days a week (Monday through Friday). Edible Hope Kitchen needs volunteers to help M-F from 7-11 AM with cooking, cleaning, food prep and serving meals. It's a great way to connect with our community and experience the great work being done all year round! More details to follow!



Doug Warne, Alana Morris, and David Rice

New Member Alert!



This news is hot off the press! The Board of Directors just accepted the application of Gary Borjan as a member in our club! Gary is Vice President, Senior Market Manager for Mechanics Bank, which is just up the street. Mechanics Bank merged with Home Street about a year ago. So many Home Street locations are now Mechanics Bank. He moved to Seattle in March from San Luis Obispo, California. He has been a Rotarian for seven, eight years, and is a past president of the San Luis Obispo Rotary Club.

A big welcome to Gary, and we look forward to his induction into the club at a club meeting soon!

Vote NOW for Sustainable Ballard!

Flag Exchange!





At the October 6th club meeting, Nancy Pasternak took the opportunity to exchange the flag of her former club, Rotary Club of Bellevue with the Ballard Rotary flag. She also explained that she was wearing a special scarf, that she had received when she went on a polio mission in Ghana. Giving out the polio solution to the babies was a wonderful experience for her. She was climbing over rocks, and going to places that were very little inhabited. She found it fascinating to see how many people were willing to just hand their babies over to them. This special scarf was part of what she got when she went on that mission. Nancy concluded with thanks to the club for welcoming her. And we are so delighted to have Nancy as part of our club!

BECU PEOPLE helping PEOPLE 2026 AWARDS

It has come to our attention that Sustainable Ballard has been nominated to win a $40K grant. This would be huge for them! They are one of 18 finalists for this particular grant. But the clock is ticking!!

Please take 2 minutes to go to this link https://www.becu.org/members-matter/community-involvement/people-helping-people and vote for Sustainable Ballard (they are down towards the bottom since it is alphabetical). One vote per email, voting began on the 7th and runs through October 16th. Please take a moment to help a fellow community organization that does some incredible work in our community. BECU will announce the awards in December. Good luck to Sustainable Ballard!

Mark Your Holiday Calendar!

Our club's holiday activities are shaping up quickly, so be sure to save these dates. More details to come!

Event: Ballard High School Vocal Jazz Choir Holiday Performance
Date: Tuesday, December 8
Time: Noon
Location: Leif Erikson Lodge

Event: Rain City Voices & Sound Harmony Holiday Show
Date: Dec 12, 2026
Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Location: Quest Church, 1401 NW Leary Wy, Seattle, WA 98107, USA



Event: Ballard Rotary Holiday Party
Date: Saturday, December 12
Time: 4 PM to 7 PM
Location: Home of Derick & Nancy Pasternak



Club Leadership 2026-2027

Please join us at our lunch club meeting at noon every 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Tuesday of the month. On the 1st and 3rd Tuesday we meet in person at Leif Erickson Hall, 2245 NW 57th in Ballard and the cost of lunch is $20. The 2nd Tuesdays are online via Zoom. Request a link to the Zoom meeting from our club president.

On 4th Tuesdays, join us for an informal after-hours social at 5:30 PM at familiar pubs and breweries in Ballard. Check the newsletter for the location!

Excursions on 5th Tuesdays are changeable in location and time so be sure to check our FB page or our website.

UPCOMING EVENTS

District 5030 Rotary Foundation Gala

Support Your Club





Brown Bear Car Wash is the official car wash of the Seattle Seahawks!

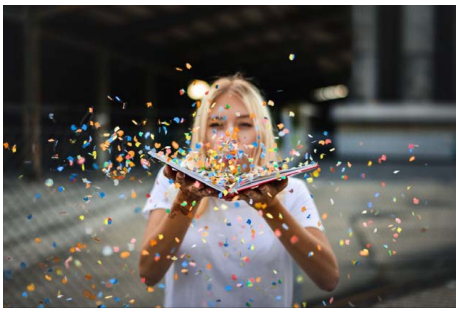
Support our club by purchasing Brown Bear car wash tickets! The price is only $10 (retail is $12) so it is a bargain for you that benefits the club. Send your check to James Raptis, and he will mail your tickets to you. Or you can purchase the tickets

Friday, October 16, 2026
DoubleTree SeaTac Ballroom
Doors Open: 5:00 p.m.
Register at district5030.org/event-tickets.

CLUB LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors
President (2026-2027)
Wil Barrett
President-Elect (2027-2028)
TBD
Immediate Past President
Alana Morris
Club Service Chair
James Raptis
Secretary
Nick Rogness
Treasurer
Pete Scott
Community Service Chair
Nick Rogness & Terry Collings
Membership Chair
Fred Finkelstein
The Rotary Foundation Chair
Stan Miner
Public Image Chair
Kathleen Linscott
Peacebuilders Chair
Val Gaifoulline
Programs Chair
David Rice
International Chair and Grants Officer
Alana Morris & Derick Pasternak
Family of Rotary
William Barrett
Vocational Services Chair
[TBD]
Youth Committee Chair
Mark Stewart
Environmental & Sustainability Chair
Andree Hurley
Ballard Rotary Foundation Directors
Director: Stan Miner
Secretary: TBD
Treasurer: Pete Scott
Member: David Rice

Celebrate!



BIRTHDAYS: Heartfelt happy birthday greetings to the following club member celebrating his birthday in October. Be sure to give your congratulations at our next club meeting!

Member	Birthday
Fred Finkelstein	18 October

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES: Congratulations to the following club members on their anniversary of joining Rotary Club of Ballard. You make our club special! We hope you will remain members for a very long time to come!

at a club meeting, just ask James Raptis!



Buy a peace car flag and support Ballard Rotary! International Peace Day is September 21st, the perfect time to display these flags on your car. Peace car flags are available for the low price of $10 each, with $5 going to Ballard Rotary. The flag attaches to your car window, and when the window is closed, the flag flies just above the roofline of your car. Thank you to Rotary Club of Bellevue and Nancy Pasternak, who had the flags printed and made them available to us. To purchase, contact Derick Pasternak, by email or phone.



Purchase a Ballard Rotary baseball cap and wear it proudly, especially when attending service projects! The cost is only $20! To purchase, contact James Raptis.



No need to bring cash or credit card, if you use these handy links to pay for your club meeting payment needs:

Happy Bucks
https://bit.ly/4a1tsQm

Raffle Tickets
https://bit.ly/4qw5y5z

Member	Years
James Raptis	13
David Rice	8
Frank Airey	6
Brian Dang	4

Lunch Ticket for 1

https://bit.ly/4qOoJI1

Just fill in your payment information, and then click the **Pay Now** button. Easy-peasy!

Follow Us on Social Media

Be sure to Subscribe/Follow/Like Ballard Rotary on your favorite social media platform!

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BallardRotary
Instagram:https://www.instagram.com/ballardrotary/
Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/@ballardrotary