

Leadership Training Assembly to Bring 400 Rotarians to Centralia

Posted: Thursday, March 26, 2015 10:37 am

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For the first time ever, the annual District Leadership Training Assembly, held for Rotary District 1520, will be held in Centralia, bringing hundreds of Rotarians to the area.

The annual event serves as a networking function, where the 88 clubs in the district can share ideas and members can meet each other.

Rose Bowman, the district governor-elect and former Lewis County treasurer, said Centralia College offered a perfect opportunity to hold the assembly, which typically takes place in Victoria, British Columbia.

"I'm so happy that everybody is coming and we are able to bring them to Lewis County, fill up our hotel rooms, and let them see our county," she said.

The opportunity is a unique one for members of the clubs, bringing together 400 Rotarians from a district that spans approximately 600 square miles of territory. All three local Rotary clubs will be represented at the event, Bowman said.

"The most valuable thing that I find that you take away is you hear stories about how other people, other clubs and other Rotaries do certain things and you think, 'We can try that,'" she said. "You are sharing ideas and resources."

Bowman joined Rotary in 1996 and is one of only a few Lewis County residents who will have taken on the role of district governor. Her term will begin on July 1 and last one year.

"I'm very honored that they chose me to be the district governor," she said. "It was never in my plan, but my entire life has been more about recognizing opportunities."

A meet and greet for the Rotarians will be on Friday night in Centralia College's Washington Hall from 5 to 7 p.m., followed by a training day all day Saturday.