

# GET TO KNOW ...

CHUCK GREEN



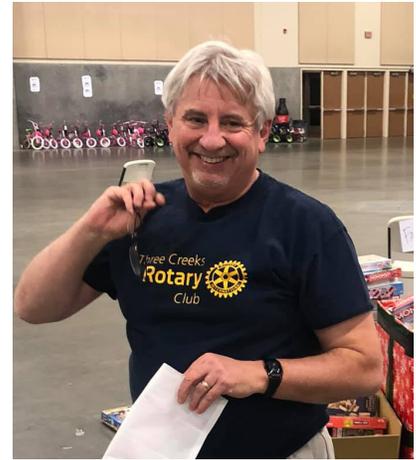
Chuck Green is Senior Project Manager at Otak, an architecture & design firm. As a Charter Member of the club, Chuck served as membership director in 2018-19. As a thoughtful and creative leader, he's contributed lots of new ideas to the club since its founding. The one he's perhaps most famous for is "Chuck Bucks". Ask him about it sometime.

**Why did you join Rotary?** Nelson made me do it! Well, kind of. I'd known Nelson for a few years before 2016 when I was leading the planning for The Vine and he was a stakeholder business owner along the corridor. Nelson knew about my interest in community service as I had been doing that along Fourth Plain at that time. Nelson and Susanne extended an invitation to attend some organizational meetings at Round Table Pizza in Salmon Creek. I'd never belonged to Rotary before, and I not only liked what I heard about Rotary, but I shared Nelson and Susanne's vision for what became the Rotary Club of Three Creeks. And, of course, having pizza while organizing the new club didn't hurt.

**What do you like about our club?** Community service. Rotary's motto is "Service Above Self." It's easy to serve an organization by just writing a check. What's harder is to step up and actually do things for our community. It takes effort. It takes passion. That passion is so visibly inherent in what we do and who we are at Rotary Club of Three Creeks. Now more than ever our community needs our support, and we continue to step to the plate. Whether it's money to support organizations, food to feed the hungry, or supporting our veterans, we've done it. And that's just in the last three months.

**What Rotary activity did you find your passion in?** Service projects, and now the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion program and task force. As a community member (and some would say community leader), I believe in giving back to the community. Our service projects, our fundraisers, our special events, all give back to the community. Now, with divisiveness and social equity and exclusion being so much at the forefront of what's going on now, I am so excited about the potential and power of the new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion program and task force.

**What's your superpower?** The Collaborator. I have friends across the political spectrum. I am a Christian but respect how other people choose to worship, or even if they choose to not worship. I believe in finding common ground when there is so much division, frustration and fear. In 2015, with voter turnout plummeting, I organized "Where Have All the Voters Gone?" Over 120 people crowded our room at the downtown Vancouver Library, across the political and community spectrum. People of color, whites, Republicans, Democrats, all came. I worked hard to make sure all viewpoints and opinions were there to participate. And participate the community did. As our 3-hour session concluded, each group spelled out ideas that they had to get voters re-engaged in our electoral process. Many of those ideas were implemented and continue to this day. Another example was The Vine. As Nelson can attest, there were passionate arguments for and against this project. Why is it needed? Will it impact my business? What is the purpose in the first place? I led C-TRAN in not only reaching out to supporters and opponents, but also creating an inclusive and collaborative process to identify what the problem is we're trying to solve, and then invite the community to help identify, and then shape, what we were going to do about it. All opinions were welcome, and people were heard. We had over 120 public meetings and events. After studying 22 different alternatives, all with the community weighing in, we built the 23rd idea. The community helped us design the system, and the community showed up to celebrate when we opened on my birthday in January 2017. There's so much else I can talk about in using my superpower of collaboration. It's not just what I do, it's what I like to do and want to do in serving our community.



**Would you like more information about Rotary? Check us out. First and third Thursdays 5:30 p.m.**

Creed Coffee Co., 10718 NW Lakeshore Ave., Vancouver, WA 98685

Currently meeting on Zoom. Visitors are welcome! Visit our website or Facebook for more information.

[www.rotaryofthreecreeks.com](http://www.rotaryofthreecreeks.com) | [www.facebook.com/rotaryofthreecreeks](https://www.facebook.com/rotaryofthreecreeks)