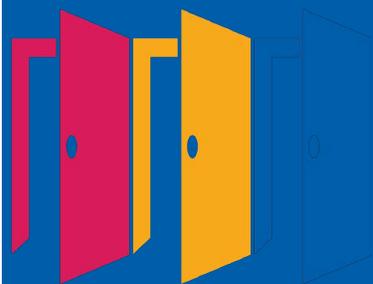




HIGHLIGHTER

Happy (Rotary) New Year!



Rotary Opens Opportunities

Happy (Rotary) New Year Everyone!

Our Rotary International President, Holgar Knaack, announced the theme "Rotary Opens Opportunities" for this year in January 2020, just before the Covid-19 pandemic became widely known. In the intervening weeks much of the way we used to operate has been completely upended. Now we all practice social distancing and most of our interactions are digital. Given these circumstances, I believe we in Rotary really do have major opportunities open to us this year.

We have the opportunity to keep our clubs engaged and active. In times like this we rely on our social networks more than ever. So it is important to reach out to members we have not seen in our virtual meetings and socially distanced gatherings and let them know that we miss them and want them to stay engaged in our clubs. For many of us, our Rotary meetings are our main source of social interactions and friendships. We can't let those connections fade away.

We have the opportunity to remind ourselves of our Rotary "Why." Why did we join Rotary and why do we stay? Whether it is community service, a particularly meaningful local project, international service, leadership development, or fellowship with other Rotarians it is up to us to find ways to be involved in those things that are most important to us. We may not be able to do the things we did six months ago, but we can innovate and find a way to still be engaged with those meaningful activities. If your club isn't providing you with the means to fulfill your Rotary "Why," be proactive and ask them to help you or offer to chair the project or event that you feel is missing.

We have the opportunity to adapt and change. We are basically starting over in the virtual world and the world of partial reopenings. Now is the time to reimagine your club experience. What can your club do to be more open, inviting, and engaging to current, prospective, and past members? How can you make your virtual meetings more fun and upbeat? How can you sponsor social distancing/in person meetings that are safe for everyone to attend? What projects does

Thank You Mama Lu



Thank you Mama Lu!

We in District 5300 owe a debt of gratitude to our latest Past District Governor, Luanne Arredondo aka "Mama Lu." Throughout the last twelve months she has been a tireless advocate and supporter of the Clubs and Rotarians of our District. Under Luanne's leadership our clubs piloted the new "Together We Read Program" and excelled in membership and Rotary Foundation participation. We hope we will be able to have a celebration this year and give Luanne and the District Leadership team a great District 5300 "Thank You" in person.

Rotaplast Webcast on June 20



Please join us for our first District Webcast of the 2020-21 Year. We will feature a program dedicated to our District's past Rotaplast missions on Monday July 20 at 6:00 p.m. Learn about the experience of being on a life-changing Rotaplast mission. We often talk about the lives we change in Rotary - a cleft palate surgery has an immediate and major change on a child's life. You can register for the Webcast on the DACdb calendar.

Meet Your Assistant Governor - Group 4



Lydia Carswell has resided in the city of Duarte for 46 years, since one year after she married. Steve and Lydia have two children and three grandchildren, two granddaughters and one grandson.

Lydia's professional career was in the educational realm for 35 years: teacher, resource teacher, school principal and district office administrator. Her love for service to others called her to Rotary in 1991, when she was working as an Outreach Consultant, serving students in at-risk situations. She has served in various capacities in the Club, just completing her third term as president. She is honored to serve her community through Rotary service and is proud to have brought several new members to the Duarte Rotary Club, "the mouse that roared."

Her hobbies are many, but if one had to be written down, it would have to be a combination of travel/photography. She has

your community need from your club at the current time?

I'm looking forward to meeting all of you to hear about your Rotary "Why" and to see how you have been making changes in your community, in our world, and in yourself through your Rotary experience.

Yours In Rotary Service,
Greg Jones
Rotary International District 5300
Governor 2020-21

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traveled to all seven continents and she shares her travels via travelogues so others can vicariously enjoy the beauty of our world!

Meet Your Assistant Governor - Group 12



Glenn Ritt is immediate past president of the Las Vegas Summerlin Rotary Club. He is a 20-year Rotarian.

Ritt has been a reporter, editor and publisher for four decades. He began his career as a congressional correspondent in Washington, D.C. and later became economics reporter for the Associated Press. Later, Ritt was a business editor and eventually the editor and vice president of The Bergen Record, which circulates across New York City's suburbs in New Jersey. He also established and managed northjersey.com.

He later moved to Cape Cod in Massachusetts where he founded and managed Cape-centric publications ranging from business and real estate to housing and sports. He also created the Cape Cod Museum Trail, a consortium of 70 museums that includes a web platform, newsletters, marketing support and news coverage. It was converted from a business to nonprofit prior to Ritt moving in 2017 to Summerlin.

Ritt holds a bachelors and a master's degree in political science from The George Washington University in Washington D.C. as well as a Sloan economics fellowship at Princeton University.

His nonprofit commitments in Las Vegas include the Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth; Friends of Red Rock Canyon; the Arts Transforms Lives, an initiative with UNLV's College of Fine Arts to mentor and inspire high school students; and, through Rotary, a Together We Learn pilot project with the Discovery Children's Museum and Spread the Word Nevada.

He is an avid Golden Knights fan, so much so he shed a lifelong commitment to the NY Rangers. But, he will not abandon the NY Giants for the Raiders.

District Governor Nominations

District 5300 is seeking applicants for our 2023-2024 District Governor position. One of the most important decisions we make in our District is choosing our future leadership. We are seeking the most qualified person for the position of District Governor. If you have, or know someone who has a demonstrated history of proven leadership as a Rotarian, and would be willing to serve, then we are seeking to utilize that talent, skill and sound judgment as our District Governor for the 2023-2024 Rotary year. You can find the nomination form and all of the details on the District website (District5300.org)

Help Wanted



District 5300 Needs You! As we begin a new Rotary Year we are still looking for some volunteers to assist with District Leadership. We have openings for a District Interact Coordinator, newsletter editors, and Zoom meeting hosts. There are also committee member openings on our Brand, Membership, and Foundation Committees. Contact District Governor Greg Jones if you are interested in helping. gregjones5300@gmail.com

