



**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**

Rotary
PEOPLE OF ACTION

Geeta Kadambi
District Governor 2026-27

Events

October 24th
TRAINING #3: COMMUNITY ASSESSMENTS

November 2nd
Bike Ride Committee meeting

November 7th
Sip and Roll - Wine Tasting Event

November 9th
DG Official Visit - Evergreen Valley, San Jose

November 14th
DG Official Visit - Silicon Valley Passport, STAR, Global Leadership

November 14th
Rotary District 5170 Veteran's Day Celebration

November 17th
Bi Monthly D5170 Finance Committee Mtg (By Invite Only**)**

November 19th
District International Service Session - All welcome!

December 17th
District International Service Session - All welcome!

January 16th
SAVE THE DATE: Mid-Year Leadership Meeting 2026-27

January 21st
District International Service Session - All welcome!

January 24th
DYSC - Club Contest Commitment Deadline 1/24/27

January 26th
Bi Monthly D5170 Finance Committee Mtg (By Invite Only**)**

January 30th
TRAINING #4: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

January 30th
LobsterFest 2027

February 6th
Pre-PELS for President Elect (2027-28 Club Presidents)

February 18th
District International Service Session - All welcome!

February 26th

Rotary D5170 Impact Companion Club is Growing

By Dolly Parikh

Creating New Opportunities to Stay Connected to Rotary

Rotary District 5170 is excited to announce continued growth of its newly established Impact Companion Club, an innovative membership option designed to keep Rotarians engaged, connected, and serving their communities.

Under the leadership of **District Membership Chair Bob Shaver** and **Membership Attraction Chair Chau Phan**, the District 5170 Impact Companion Club is gaining momentum by offering a flexible alternative for individuals who want to remain part of the Rotary family.

Club President Dolly Parikh, working alongside the District Membership Team and Rotary International's Membership Creation Team, is leading an important initiative focused on **Rotarian "Win-Backs and Saves."**

This initiative reaches out to former and current Rotarians whose changing life circumstances—whether professional commitments, family responsibilities, relocation, or other challenges—have made it difficult to meet the traditional obligations of their clubs.

The message is simple: Life may change, but your commitment to Service Above Self doesn't have to!



[Read More](#)

PUBLIC IMAGE: Help Rotary Shine in Your Community!

By Geeta Kadambi

PUBLIC IMAGE: Help Rotary Shine in Your Community!

Want to increase Rotary's visibility, attract new members, and showcase the amazing work your club is doing?

Join one of the upcoming **Rotary Public Image Zoom training sessions** and discover creative ways to promote Rotary within your club, district, and community!

Learn how to make the most of Rotary's **Brand Center**, featuring customizable logos, images, videos, advertisements, and powerful **People of Action** resources that help tell Rotary's story and inspire others to get

DYSC - Last Day for Club Contests 2/26/27

February 27th

TRAINING #5: TRAINING & OTHER COMPONENTS

March 1st

DYSC - Start Joint Area Contests 3/1/27

March 5th

PELS San Jose for President Elect

March 12th

DYSC - Last day for Joint Area Contests 3/12/27

March 13th

Senior Appreciation Lunch

March 16th

DYSC Southern Regional Speech Contest

March 17th

DYSC Northern Regional Speech Contest

March 18th

District International Service Session - All welcome!

March 23rd

Bi Monthly D5170 Finance Committee Mtg (By Invite Only****

March 27th

TRAINING #6: STEWARDSHIP

April 15th

District International Service Session - All welcome!

April 17th

DYSC - Finals @ D5170 Learning Assembly

April 24th

TRAINING #7: OVERVIEW OF GRANTS

April 24th

District Annual Dinner and Awards

May 15th

MSJ Rotary Benefit Bike Ride

May 20th

District International Service Session - All welcome!

May 29th

TRAINING #8: CASE STUDIES DISCUSSION

June 17th

District International Service Session - All welcome!

June 26th

RI Convention Barcelona

involved.

Whether you're a Club President, Public Image Chair, Membership Chair, or enthusiastic Rotarian, these sessions offer valuable tools to strengthen Rotary's image and expand our impact.

* **Explore Upcoming Zoom Sessions & Register Today!** [Click HERE](#)

* **Click the link below to view upcoming training opportunities and reserve your spot!**

Let's tell Rotary's story, inspire action, and show our communities the difference Rotarians make every day!

Together, we are People of Action!

[Read More](#)

Honor. Recognize. Celebrate. Rotary District 5170 Honors Veterans at November 14 Celebration

By Cheryl Lander

Rotary District 5170 invites Rotarians and the broader community to its Veterans Day Celebration on Saturday, November 14, from 6 to 10 p.m. at Sunnyvale Elks, featuring the extraordinary story of Matt and Loreen Gibbons.

In 1978, Matt survived a U.S. Navy plane crash in the Bering Sea, where surviving crew members were rescued by a Soviet fishing vessel during the Cold War. The tragedy claimed the life of the aircraft's pilot, Jerry Grigsby, whose wife, Loreen, later married Matt. Together, they share a remarkable story of survival, loss, resilience, and finding love after tragedy.

The evening will honor veterans and active-duty service members while highlighting how local Rotary clubs support the military community.

Event Details

- When: Saturday, November 14, 2026, 6–10 p.m.
- Where: Sunnyvale Elks, 375 N. Pastoria Ave., Sunnyvale
- Cost: \$25 for Rotarians and guests; free for the first 25 non-Rotarian veterans or active-duty service members.
- Includes: Tacos; no-host bar available.

Register: <https://events.humanitix.com/>

rotary-district-5170-veterans- day-celebration



[Read More](#)

Our beloved Area 12 Rotary Clubs continue to demonstrate the true spirit of Service Above Self!

By Rebecca Gerald

Our beloved Area 12 Rotary Clubs continue to demonstrate the true spirit of **Service Above Self!**

From inspiring young readers and supporting families impacted by ALS to celebrating a decade of service, protecting our environment, and strengthening community partnerships, our clubs are making a lasting difference throughout Silicon Valley and beyond.

Whether hosting distinguished speakers, organizing community service projects, or embracing innovative ways to connect Rotarians worldwide, Area 12 proves that **Rotary's impact is stronger when we work together!**

I'm incredibly proud of the passion, creativity, and dedication our Rotarians bring to their communities every day.

I invite you to click the link below to discover the inspiring stories, upcoming events, and remarkable accomplishments of our seven Area 12 clubs. Join us in celebrating their achievements and finding new opportunities to serve!

Together, We Unite for Good!

Rebecca Gerald

[Read More](#)

Area 1 clubs are demonstrating the power of Rotary in action

Assistant Governor **Michael Jackson** states:

A Strong First Quarter—And More to Come!

Go Rotarians from Rotary Clubs of Alameda, Oakland #3, Piedmont-Montclair and Oakland Uptown. Many accomplishments from these clubs reflect the dedication, innovation, and fellowship of our Area 1 Rotarians. Whether welcoming new members, supporting global grants, promoting peace, or serving our neighbors, our clubs continue to demonstrate that Rotary makes a difference.

We have completed only one quarter of the Rotary year. Let's keep this momentum going and make the next three quarters even stronger!

[Read More](#)

Rotary in Action: Area 3 Celebrates Fellowship, Service, and Community Impact

By Jingmin Yang

Rotary clubs across Area 3 demonstrated the power of **Service Above Self** during the third quarter of 2026. Through humanitarian relief, educational outreach, environmental initiatives, youth leadership, and meaningful fellowship, Rotarians continued to strengthen their communities and create lasting connections.



Fremont Bridge Rotary Club: Giving Hope and Supporting Families

The Rotary Club of Fremont Bridge joined fellow Rotarians from the Silicon Valley Rotary Club on September 10 for **Together for Nepal**, an evening of fellowship and fundraising in support of disaster relief efforts in Nepal.

With support from District Governor Geeta Kadambi, members and guests came together to raise funds for Rotary Nepal disaster relief efforts, demonstrating the strength of Rotary's international network.

Closer to home, the club donated **more than \$2,000 in clothing, food, school supplies, and snacks** to support over **133 unhoused and foster students and their families** in the Fremont Unified School District.

These efforts reflect Rotary's commitment to helping families meet essential needs while creating brighter opportunities for children.

[Read More](#)

Walking for a Cure: Join Rotary on the Run to End Alzheimer's



For Rotarian **Coach Joe Goralka**, the fight against Alzheimer's is deeply personal.

Having witnessed his mother's struggle with dementia, Coach Joe is turning his personal experience into action by participating in the **Walk to End Alzheimer's on Saturday, October 24, 2026, in San Francisco.**

He invites fellow Rotarians, friends, families, and community members to join his team, **Rotary on the Run**, to walk together, raise awareness, and support the ongoing fight against Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia.

Walk Together. Raise Awareness. Make a Difference.



[Read More](#)

The 2027 District Youth Speech Contest is Officially Open!

By Charlotte Montemayor



Hundreds of Rotarians visited the District Youth Speech Contest (DYSC) booth at the recent Collaborative Impact Summit to grab a branded chocolate bar, check out the colorful new look, and help officially kick off the 2027 season.

Learn more below about the DYSC Committee's focus on contest growth through Simplicity.

[Read More](#)

Celebrate Brad Howard's Selection as a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation

By Herb L. Ritter III



District 5170 proudly congratulates one of our own and Past RI Director and PDG Brad Howard, a member of Oakland uptown, on his selection as a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation beginning July 1, 2027 to serve a 4 yr term.

Brad's wisdom, compassion, and steady leadership have shaped Rotary for many years. His appointment to this important role is a natural and well-earned next step in a distinguished record of service.

Brad leads with both heart and purpose! We are grateful for all he has contributed and excited to see the impact he will make as a Trustee of The Rotary Foundation.

Congratulations, Brad. We celebrate this well-deserved honor and look forward to all that you will help make possible.

[Read More](#)

San Jose RotarySeeds of Peace Campaign Goes Public

By Brenda Swiney

Follow the Penguin: Help Build Peace

San Jose Rotarians Bill Baron, Kimberly and Michael Mulcahy, and Ron Zraick joined philanthropist Diane Brandenburg on August 19th to launch the public campaign to raise



the final \$200,000 needed for the \$1.5M project.

A penguin represents Antarctica in the 18' monument but is an NHL rival of our Sharks, so Sharkie stopped by for a bit of hazing.

The penguin will be visiting various venues in San Jose, including the Gordon House (now) and the 9/19 Rotary Collaborative Impact Summit at the McEnery Convention Center, to raise awareness of this peace-promoting project.

Click [here](#) to contribute to the campaign to build peace.

ROTARY CLUB OF SAN JOSE

FOLLOW THE PENGUIN! HELP BUILD PEACE. COMPLETE THE VISION.



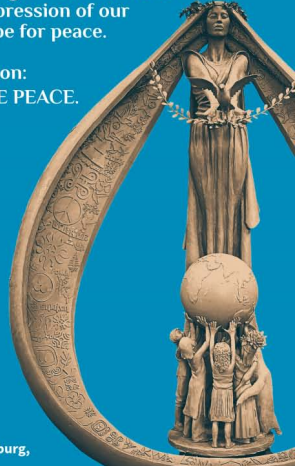
Coming to Arena Green West this December, the Seeds of Peace Monument is an extraordinary new civic landmark created by renowned sculptor Mario Chiodo.

The 18-foot Mother of Peace watches over seven figures representing the continents of the world, a powerful expression of our shared humanity and hope for peace.

Rotary
Club of San Jose



More than a monument, Seeds of Peace is an invitation:
TO REFLECT. TO CONNECT. TO TEACH. TO CHOOSE PEACE.





SCAN & DONATE



INSTALLATION AT
ARENA GREEN WEST

Made possible through a public-private partnership led by Diane Brandenburg, the Rotary Club of San José, the City of San José, and our community.

SEEDS OF PEACE
A NEW LEGACY FOR SAN JOSE
MORE INFO:
WWW.SEEDSOFPEACE.WORLD/SANJOSE



Walk to End Alzheimer's ROTARY DISTRICT 5170 Team

By Alysa Sakkas on Tuesday, October 13, 2026

TEAM Rotary District 5170!



Congratulations Rotarians of District 5170!

It was so fun to get together and walk in the Silicon Valley Walk to End Alzheimer's last Saturday, October 10, 2026. The "Rotary District 5170" team has raised over \$4,000 so far. If you missed it, you can still make a donation (<http://act.alz.org/goto/RotaryDistrict5170>) and you can register to walk in the East Bay or San Francisco events coming up. See dates, times and how to register here: alz.org/ADRAG. Use the word "Rotary" in your team name to be counted as part of the Rotary national team and be counted in D5170's numbers. Your participation really makes a difference for our communities, our families and our future.

AlmadenValley-WillowGlen Some Fascinating Rotary History

By Joan Anne Perry

The Four-Way Test History Lesson



As I started my year as Club President, I asked 'Chat' -- who created the Rotary 4-way test? When was it created? Why did Rotary adapt it? What benefit has it brought? And anything more that's interesting about it. And, it became the kick-off for my leadership...

Guess what 'Chat' said!

'Absolutely. The story of the **Rotary Four-Way Test** is actually much more compelling than the four questions themselves. It wasn't invented as a Rotary slogan. **It was born out of a business crisis—and tested in the real world before Rotary ever adopted it.**'

Who created the Four-Way Test? [Read More](#)

Rotary Club of Mission San Jose- Wine Tasting Fundraiser-- Saturday, November 7. 4:00 PM.

By Jeffrey Severtson on Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Mission San Jose. Rotary is proud to announce a wine tasting event to benefit the wheelchair foundation.

Saturday, November 7. 4:00 PM. [Read More](#)



District 5170 Club News Spotlight; Monthly on the 15th



Rotary District 5170 “Club News Spotlight” to Amplify Local Impact Across the District

Rotary District 5170 is excited to announce the launch of the **District 5170 "Club News Spotlight"** — a new initiative designed to shine a light on the incredible service, events, and achievements of our local Rotary clubs.

Through the **ezStory tool in DACdb**, clubs can now easily share their stories and events with the district. Each month on the 15th, selected submissions will be **spotlighted** in a district wide broadcast email reaching more than **3,800+ Rotarians** across our communities.

“This is an opportunity for every club to showcase the heart of Rotary,” said District Governor Herb Ritter. **“By telling your story, you not only celebrate the impact your club is making, but you also inspire others to join us in service, leadership, and fellowship. Together, we can attract new members, strengthen our commitment to the environment, and continue to unite for good.”**

[Read More](#)