



## November 2025: The Rotary Foundation

### District Events

November 5th  
[Valley Foundation Lunch, Fresno](#)

November 6th  
[Monterey County Clubs Foundation Luncheon](#)

November 8th  
[Interact Conference - on the Coast, Salinas](#)

December 11th  
[Rotary International President's Conference, San Francisco](#)

March 6th  
[Far West President Elect Learning Seminar, San Jose](#)

May 3 - 5  
[Far West Fest - 5 Districts Conference, Reno](#)

Email articles or events for publication to [Editor5230@gmail.com](mailto:Editor5230@gmail.com). Put your story in the body of the email and attach high resolution photos or flyers. Please don't use Word or other such programs.

Articles received by the 20th of the month will be published in the next month's newsletter.

### The Power of the Rotary Foundation: Changing Lives, Changing the World



**Brinet Greenlee**  
District Governor  
(Pictured with RI President-Elect Olayinka Hakeem Babalola)

Every great movement for good begins with a simple idea — the belief that we can make life better for others. For more than a century, the Rotary Foundation has transformed that belief into lasting change, empowering Rotarians across the globe to serve humanity with impact and integrity. The Rotary Foundation is more than just a charitable fund — it's the lifeblood of Rotary's global mission. Since its inception in 1917, it has grown into one of the world's most respected and effective humanitarian organizations. Every dollar contributed is carefully directed toward programs that promote peace, fight disease, provide clean water, support education, grow local economies, and protect the environment.

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### Foundation Column: What Line of Business Are You In?



**Bruce Mackey, PDG**  
District Foundation Chair

In the *Rotarian Minute News*, there was an article that reminded me of an aspect of Rotary that I believe we don't observe as much as we should. The article stated:

*At Rotary, we have two essential callings: professional action and humanitarian action. Over time, the humanitarian side has often taken center stage, but it is important to remember that Rotary was also founded as a place for professional exchange, a forum for reflection on ethics and service in professional life.*

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### Crossing Bridges, Changing Lives: A Golden Day for the Fight Against Polio



**Belinda Daguio**  
District Polio Plus Chair

What a day! My heart is absolutely overflowing after this year's Run, Walk, or Ride Across the Golden Gate Bridge for Polio. We had an incredible turnout from so many clubs across our district — what a sight to see all those Rotary t-shirts across the bridge! The day was truly brimming with energy!

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## Say Hello to PELS: A Bold New Chapter in Rotary Leadership!



**Susan Winey**  
District Governor-Elect  
(Pictured with RI President-Nominee, Larry Lunsford)

Big changes are coming to Rotary training—and they're worth celebrating! After years of gathering for PETS (President-Elect Training Seminar), we're flipping the script and stepping confidently into the future with PELS: President-Elect Leadership Seminar. What's the difference? More than just a name change—PELS represents a fresh, focused, and future-ready approach to equipping our club leaders with what they *really* need to thrive. Club Presidents-Elect, find out more about [Far West PELS](#), March 7 - 9, 2025 at the San Jose Doubletree Hotel at their webpage, [here](#).

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## Thailand Water and Sanitation Project Submits Proposal for \$2M Program of Scale



**Mike Andritch, PDG**  
President, Fig Garden Rotary Club

In early October, our team received the exciting notice that our Thailand Water and Sanitation Project was one of the three projects invited to submit a full proposal to the Rotary Foundation for a \$2 million Program of Scale. Initiated by the Fig Garden Rotary, our current project is in its third and final year, bringing clean water, sanitation and economic freedom to 21 villages in the remote jungle highlands of Northern Thailand. Inspired by the notion that life begins with clean water, 31 clubs and 6 Rotary Districts donated the money in partnership with the Rotary Foundation World Fund to raise \$330,000 for a global grant. The project has been extremely successful, but there are still hundreds more villages in Thailand without clean water. A Program of Scale award would allow expansion of our clean water and sanitation project to another 145 villages in the jungles of northern Thailand.

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## Rotarians Provide Life-Saving Medical Equipment for Venezuelans



**Esteban Pauli**  
Cultural Arts Rotary Club, Fresno

Rotary is built on relationships. When I was District International Service Chair, I met then Rotary Foundation Coordinator for Zone 25A, Gladys Maldonado at the Rotary Convention in Houston, Texas (shown with me in the photo). Our discussions resulted in our club serving as the international sponsor for a global grant to purchase hospital equipment to serve pregnant Venezuelan women receiving treatment at the border city of Cúcuta, Colombia. The result was not only improved health care, but also a relationship that was cemented by a 2024 visit to Cúcuta, joined by then Rotary International President Gordon McInally. While there, we also visited a Venezuelan project fair and were inspired to initiate a new global grant: an intensive care unit for the San Cristobal hospital.

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## World Interact Week Starts November 3

**Lina Contreras**  
District Interact Chair

During World Interact Week, November 3 - 9, 2025, I congratulate all of our Interact Clubs in Rotary District 5230 for their accomplishments since the beginning of the school year! This is a vibrant time for our Interactors to showcase their commitment to service and leadership. Our Interact Clubs are encouraged to plan meaningful activities that reflect their values and engage their communities during this special week. I am also extending an invitation for Rotarians and Interact Clubs to join our Interact Conferences. The first one is on Saturday, November 8th at Salinas High School from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm. The second one will be on February 7, 2026, in Visalia. Please register your clubs by clicking [here](#).



## Retain to Sustain: Building a Vibrant Rotary Club Now and for the Future



**Becky Moser, PDG**  
District Membership Chair

For any membership organization, growth is crucial. For a Rotary club, this means more than just recruiting; it means fostering an environment where members feel connected, valued, and inspired to stay. True club health depends on both attracting new members and retaining the ones you have. By focusing on a few key areas, your club can ensure its long-term vitality and increase its impact. Before your club does the traditional membership separations before our billing cycles in January and July, evaluate your club and its processes now to assure you are addressing these issues before they become a problem. Here are some tips for retaining new and existing members in your club. [Read More](#)

## Club and District Events



Don't our Rotary leaders look like they're having a great time at the Zone Institute? You, too, can enjoy fellowship and celebrate the accomplishments of the Rotary Foundation this month and beyond with these upcoming events:

- November 5: Valley Rotary Foundation Luncheon, The Painted Table, Fresno
- November 6: Coast Rotary Foundation Luncheon, Moose Lodge, Del Rey Oaks
- November 8: Interact Conference, Salinas High School, Salinas
- November 8: Tulare Sunrise Rotary's Veteran's Day Run
- November 17-18: Pies for Polio, <https://tinyurl.com/piesforpolio>
- December 11: Rotary Commemorates the United Nations turning 80, San Francisco
- January 29: A Wonderfully Wicked Evening with Jeff Atmajian, North Fresno & Cultural Arts Rotary Clubs
- February 5: Cioppino Dinner, 6:00 pm, Pardini's; East Fresno Rotary Club
- March 6 - 8, 2026: [Far West President-Elect Learning Session](#), San Jose Doubletree
- May 1-3, 2026: [Far West Fest](#): 5-District Conference, Reno



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