

# Rotary

## District 5300



## DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTER

### Highlights from the District Governor

*Submitted by DG Michael Soden*



#### District Leaders



Michael L. Soden  
District Governor



Michael D. Driebe  
District Gov-Elect



Gilda Moshir  
District Gov-Nominee



Roger H. Gutierrez  
IPDG



Karina D. Anderson  
District Public Image Chair



Thomas D. Allison  
District DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) Chair



Donald R. Ryan  
Executive Assist Gov-Antelope V Jacob

The first quarter of the Rotary year 2023-2024 has come to a close, and throughout this period, I have been fortunate to embark on visits to twenty-nine individual Clubs. These experiences have proven to be exceptionally fulfilling, with every club boasting a noteworthy array of diverse, talented, and compassionate individuals all striving to uphold the responsibilities of an exemplary Rotarian. With the new year well under way, it is of the utmost importance that we center ourselves and prioritize the necessity of placing service above self. As such, I reminded every member present during my visits to join the newly formed Polio Plus Society. As we come together and work towards the highly anticipated and pivotal moment of historical significance—eradicating polio, it is important to note that only a total of seven cases were reported as of last Sunday. As we journey towards the future, it is of utmost importance that we continuously and unwaveringly involve ourselves in the establishment of strong and long-lasting relationships that are firmly rooted in the core values of fostering a more promising tomorrow and planting seeds of optimism in our global community.

Though many of my fall club visits hold a special place in my memory, one, in particular, springs to mind. This was, without a doubt, my visit to the Rotary Club of Mesquite's event, which featured the ever-popular Mud Volleyball Tournament. I was grateful to have PDG John Chase sponsor a team, especially after a hard-learned lesson during my participation the previous year. Though I still played a role in the proceedings, I decided to take on a more practical approach. Our District Admin, PDG Tom Novotny, soon realized that staying vertical on the playing field is quite the challenge; I empathized as I faced the same obstacle the year before. One's mind may know precisely what needs to be done in such situations, yet convincing the body to heed those commands is another matter entirely. On the whole, the Club visits have been a joyous experience and my wife, Sylvia, and I extend our heartfelt gratitude to all involved.

I have some news that I would like to share with you regarding two significant events coming up in the spring.

#### **District Training Assembly (moved) – May 18 8 am**

This event will include the 4-Way Test speech Contest and Hensel Ethics Speech at lunch

#### **Foundation Dinner – May 18 6 pm**

This event will include the Hansel Stover Music Contest

**ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE PARTS 1&2**



Joseph  
Noll Jr.  
Executive  
Assist  
Gov-NV



Isaac  
Hung  
Executive  
Assist  
Gov-CA  
West



Rae  
Kearney  
Executive  
Assist  
Gov-CA  
East



Mark  
Mariscal  
District  
Rotary  
Foundation  
Chair

## Events

October 3rd  
Service -  
Packing  
Feminine  
Hygiene Bags,  
Project Marilyn

October 3rd  
DG Official Visit  
- Pomona/Chino  
Valley

October 3rd  
DG Official Visit  
- Pomona/Chino  
Valley

October 4th  
DG Official Visit  
- West Covina

October 5th  
DG Official Visit  
- La Verne

October 5th  
DG Official Visit  
- Azusa

October 7th  
Pancake  
Breakfast-  
Altadena

October 7th  
Prepare Dinner  
at the Fisher  
House-LV



*Submitted by Dennis Franklin*

District 5300 will be holding Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) events on Saturday **November 4, 2023** in California and **November 18** in Nevada.

**What is RLI?** RLI is world-class interactive leadership development series designed specifically for Rotarians. It's a fun and engaging way to learn through discussion groups, role-playing, and problem solving workshops. The program will motivate the participants to be enthusiastic, creative and dedicated Rotarians.

**Who is it for?** Rotarians who want to grow and develop their ability to serve and lead others. We encourage club board members, committee chairs, and **especially new members** to join us.

**Registration is available on DACDB under the district calendar tab.**

For more information contact Dennis Franklin at [dennismfranklin@gmail.com](mailto:dennismfranklin@gmail.com)

## Your Donor History of Giving to The Rotary Foundation

*Submitted by Mark Mariscal*

Did you know that when you log into [rotary.org](http://rotary.org) and arrive at the landing page, you are greeted with a "Hello" (and your name) just above six very important boxes where all kinds of information can be found? One thing that gets overlooked is on this same page on the top right corner. There is a "My Account" with a drop-down arrow. If you click that, you will see five choices. One of them is titled "My Donations". There, you will be able to see a summary page of the total amount that you (and jointly with a spouse/partner) have given over the years. After that review, there is another tab at the bottom of the page that allows you to see each individual transaction of contributions and foundation points (both in and out). If you cannot find this information, you can always call me or the Rotary Support Call Center. You will be walked through how to locate the information.

Through the first 10 weeks of the Rotary year, about 26% of our district members have made contributions to the Rotary Foundation. This includes to the Annual Fund-SHARE, Annual Fund - others, Polio Plus Fund and the Endowment. In an average year, about 60% of our members contribute to the Rotary Foundation. All Club Presidents are aware (but maybe not all club members) that our District Governor Michael and his wife Sylvia are talking during their club visits about the giving to the Polio Plus Fund. Members who sign up (commit) and contribute at least \$100 annually to the Polio Plus Fund for at least 3 years will become members of the Polio Plus Society and receive special recognition. The easiest way to give is through

## Southwest

October 8th

## Antelope Valley

## Oktoberfest

October 10th

## DG Official Visit

## - Covina Sunrise

October 10th

## DG Official Visit

## - Industry Hills

October 11th

## DG Official Visit

## - South

## Pasadena

October 14th

## Mesquite

## Sunrise Rotary

## Golf Tourney

October 14th

## Police Memorial

## Park Clean Up

October 14th

## Rotary

## Essentials

## Online -

## Membership

October 14th

## Rotary

## Essentials

## Online - Public

## Image

October 14th

## Boys and Girls

## Club annual

## "Kids Day Out"

## celebration

October 14th

## Monrovia Rotary

## Age of Aquarius

## Casino Night

## Fundraiser

October 14th

## LobsterFest -

## Upland (buy

## tickets online)

October 17th

## DG Official Visit

## - Sierra Madre

October 17th

## DG Official Visit

## - Monrovia

October 18th

## DG Official Visit

## - Barstow

October 19th

## DG Official Visit

Rotary Direct online. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

## FIRST QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

### In Just One Week for LV After Hours

*Submitted by Linda Bertuzzi*

For a Club with a motto of Service, Social and Fun, even we were surprised when we recapped our service hours at a recent meeting. It's highly unusual to have four service opportunities in a week, but that we did, and our members and prospective members showed up - 22 folks to be exact!

**Baby's Bounty** morning diaper distribution resulted in 26 service hours of packing and distributing diapers and wipes to 741 families - a record! This meant that the families will be able to take their babies to daycare, so the parents/caregivers can go to work.

**Spread the Word Nevada** resulted in 28 hours of cleaning eleven cases of gently used children's books to be distributed to local Clark County elementary school kids as forever books. It continues to be a Club favorite, as it allows us to break bread together and have fun looking for the craziest titles! 500 "new" books - 500 opportunities for children and families to improve their reading skills.

**The Just One Project** provides ongoing distributions of food to families facing food insecurity. It was another great opportunity for us to earn 21 hours of service packing food into cars for 200 families on a cool Saturday morning, along with volunteers from our local university and businesses.

**Agassi Boys & Girls Club.** Birthday Hour garnered 16 hours of service providing eleven kids with a special party to celebrate their August and September birthdays. Pizza and cupcakes are always a hit, but the games the kids get to play take it over the top. The presence of new Club members brings in fresh, new ideas and our new member LaRae Sloan suggested the Jenga game. Even the "cool" high school kids couldn't resist joining in the fun.

All of these opportunities align with our commitment to local kids and families, and give our volunteers such a feeling of goodwill and joy. The bigger picture for us is the gratitude and feelings of inclusion that we gave everyone. Maybe the most heartwarming story was of a young boy who was hanging out outside the birthday room at Agassi, not wanting to come in to celebrate his birthday. We offered to bring him goodies outside the room, or set him up in a quiet corner of the room, eventually convincing him to come inside, where he quickly made at least one new friend who also liked football. He ended up having a blast as evidenced by his huge smile. This young man was hearing impaired, with double hearing aids. A small act of kindness with a big result. Rotary!!



**- Boulder City  
Sunrise**

**October 20th  
Oktoberfest  
Progressive  
Dinner**

**October 21st  
Just One Pop Up**

**October 23rd  
Service -  
HalloVeen  
(Opportunity  
Village)**

**October 24th  
DG Official Visit  
- Greater Chino  
Hills**

**October 25th  
DG Official Visit  
- Duarte**

**October 25th  
DG Official Visit  
- Upland**

**October 26th  
Happy Feet-LV  
Southwest**

**October 26th  
DG Official Visit  
Ontario-  
Montclair**

**October 28th  
Walk to End  
Alzheimer**

**October 28th  
Make A  
Difference Day  
Service Event**



## **Rotary Club of Lancaster Late Summer Activities**

*Submitted by Lena Weber*

It has been the tradition of our club over the years to make summer our time of fellowship. For the month of August we have backyard BBQ's and our focus is on fellowship with our members and we extend invitations to other local clubs.

At our August 24th BBQ meeting, our club was proud to be able to donate garden tools and backpacks to Linda Verde School, headed by our very own Rotarian Guillermo Balcazar. (Terry Snedigar seen in the picture was there to receive the items).



At our one of our BBQ meeting we celebrated several wedding anniversaries by long time members. John and Pauline Vance, Keith and Cathy Swords, Alex and Isabel Altamirano, Mike and Maureen Scheall.



## Las Vegas Southwest 1st Quarter Highlights

It is a Las Vegas Southwest Rotary Club tradition that when members travel that they bring back a gift for the President. Each year, the incoming president designates what they would like their gift to be. This year President Joe Wittenwiler selected coffee or coffee-related items. So far, he has received coffee from all over the world; for example, Canada, El Salvador, Costa Rica, even Lithuania (although it turned out to have been produced in the Netherlands as apparently Lithuania doesn't produce coffee). In addition to the coffee and almost obligatory coffee mugs, he has also received coffee-flavored peanut butter, coffee-flavored M&M's, coffee-flavored chocolate, and even a Jim Beam-flavored coffee! It is a fun tradition that gives the members a chance to talk about where they have been and what they have been up to.



A tradition of service continues to permeate our club activities. For instance, on August 30, we continued our "Feed the Homeless" tradition. For over 20 years, on any month where there is a fifth Wednesday, we provide an evening meal at Amazing Grace Ministries located at Christ Church Episcopal. We also distribute free clothing, shoes, and hygiene kits.



We also successfully sponsored a new Interact Club at a local high school. They held their first meeting on August 31<sup>st</sup> with 12 attendees and at their next meeting two weeks later had 24 attendees.

Check out our website ([www.lvswr.org](http://www.lvswr.org)) or our Facebook page (@lasvegassouthwestrotary) where you can find our weekly newsletters, calendar of events and pictures of all of our projects.

## Joint Club Happy Hours

*Submitted by Beatrice Casagran, Claremont Socials Chair*

As part of her plan to enhance engagement and fellowship and increase membership, President Nona Tirre Miranda plans to have one social or happy hour each month. In addition, she welcomed the opportunity to get members of the Claremont, Claremont Sunrise, Upland and Pomona Clubs (and friends) together for a quarterly joint Happy Hour, beginning with Claremont Craft Ales on August 17. A good time was had by all! The next one is November 29, when the Claremont Club has taken the liberty of inviting Claremont Kiwanis. The social will be held at Last Name Brewery in Upland. Watch the calendar!





## UPCOMING SERVICE PROJECTS

### Glendora Food Packaging -- Join Us!



**Rotary**  
Club of Glendora

**HELP US  
PACKAGE  
30,000 MEALS!**

TO BENEFIT THE  

**SHEPHERD'S PANTRY**  
*hope and a helping hand*

**Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM**  
 Glenkirik Church | 1700 Palopinto Ave, Glendora

If you, or a group you know would like to volunteer, or want additional information, please contact Dennis Franklin at [dennismfranklin@gmail.com](mailto:dennismfranklin@gmail.com). If you would like to donate, please visit [RotaryofGlendora.org/meals](http://RotaryofGlendora.org/meals).

### West Covina Thanksgiving Baskets

*Submitted by Alicia Mardini, RCWC Thanksgiving Baskets Chair*

The Rotary Club of West Covina will prepare Thanksgiving Dinner Baskets for 95 low-

income families on Wednesday, November 22nd (day before Thanksgiving) at the regular meeting time. Each member will bring items to contribute, and after a quick lunch will put the baskets for dinner (and more) together. With the assistance of Foothill Transit and members with vans, baskets will be transported to East Valley, where staff will help unload and distribute the baskets to the selected families from 2:00 – 6:00 pm.

Members are provided a list of items needed for the baskets. They can choose to bring all 95 items in any category, or share the load with a fellow Rotarian. Alicia will be updating and sharing the signup list on a weekly basis. The Club also requests contributions and/or discounts from retailers in the community.

The Club has been sponsoring the Thanksgiving basket project for almost 30 years, starting with 15 baskets and, as years passed, growing to the current 95. The families are selected from among patients of East Valley Community Health Center who would not otherwise have a family Thanksgiving dinner. High inflation has disproportionately impacted low-income families, their struggle to pay for basic necessities makes it almost impossible to afford a special Thanksgiving meal. They also look at their ability to be able to cook the turkey (some families don't have access to an oven). East Valley also connects with local elected officials for turkey contributions.

This project will signal to the selected families that they are not alone and their community cares about their well-being.



## South Pasadena Project Highlights & Fall Events

*Submitted by Betty Bui, Membership Chair, South Pasadena Rotary Club*

Wow, what a year it has been so far! Last May, we had the most amazing volunteers participate in the *Taste of South Pasadena*, our annual fundraiser. It was our biggest event yet, and we raised the most funds ever for the projects of our mighty Club!

In September, we reinstated the *Interact Club at South Pasadena High School*. It is truly humbling and inspiring to see teenagers discover the *Service Above Self* concept and get passionate about it. It is a 64 member-club! They have already participated in a weekly service project, *Breakfast is Served*, where they serve the homeless on Sunday mornings with the Los Angeles First United Methodist Church in DTLA.





*Our reading series program at the Monterey Hills Elementary School*

Club President and State Farm agent David Morales has donated a Fire Prevention Kit (National Fire Protection Association) to the South Pasadena Fire Department in honor of Fire Prevention Week (October 8 – October 14, 2023) on behalf of our Club. Our effort to "Create Hope in Maui," a fundraiser spearheaded by our president, David Morales, aims to give the Maui Relief Fund a check for \$5,000.

During the holiday seasons, our Club and the Interact Club of SPSH will join forces to source supplies, put together, and donate *holiday backpacks* to the less fortunate. We will fill these backpacks with essentials for the season, presents, and leaflets to give them ideas to transition out of homelessness. The Club also plans to donate a Christmas tree, ornaments, and gifts to needy families in South Pasadena and decorate the City Rose Parade float.

## INVITATIONS TO FUNDRAISING EVENTS

### 16th Annual Mesquite Nevada Sunrise Rotary Golf Tournament

*Submitted by Darlene Montague*

Get ready to tee off at the 16th Annual Mesquite Nevada Sunrise Rotary Golf Tournament on October 14, 2023, at the Oasis Golf Club – Canyons Course! Join us for a day of fun and friendly competition on the greens as we raise funds to benefit the Mesquite Nevada Sunrise Rotary Foundation. This event is the primary yearly fundraiser that enables our club to support our local scholarship programs and other community projects. Literacy is a focus of our club; we believe the youth of our community will be the next generation to contribute to society and our future. Some of the programs we financially support are listed below:

- Rotary Youth Leadership Academy - High School
- Mesquite Reads Initiative for preschool to 3rd-grade
- Scholarships to local students pursuing College & career training
- Buddy Benches for local schools
- Virgin Valley High School Interact Club ..... and more!

Are you interested in joining us for this event? There are various opportunities to participate, including a Golf Team of 4 - \$640 or an Individual Player - \$110 (includes golf, awards buffet, and swag bag), a selection of sponsorship packages, and raffle prizes & silent auction donations.

Golf Registration Application: [bit.ly/2023SunriseRotaryGolfReg](https://bit.ly/2023SunriseRotaryGolfReg)

Contact us for more information at 725-253-0288 or

[mesquitenvsunriserotary@gmail.com](mailto:mesquitenvsunriserotary@gmail.com)





## Upland's Lobsterfest Oct 14



### UPLAND LOBSTERFEST

By:  Rotary  
Club of Upland

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023

6:00 PM TO 9:30 PM

Food Service ends at 8:30 PM

SCHEU FAMILY YMCA OF UPLAND  
1150 E. FOOTHILL BLVD., UPLAND, CA 91786

Come and enjoy the annual Upland Lobsterfest by Rotary Club of Upland!  
steak, lobster, beer, and wine while fundraising for our community. The  
event is open to all!

**Pre-Event Wine Tasting** from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m \$75/per person\*\*

**General Admission** \$125/per person\*\*

includes lobster, tri-tip steak, corn, coleslaw, rolls & dessert.  
Ice tea, water and coffee.

**Dining In Style** - \$175 /per person\*\*

Service of meal at your table,  
a fine wine flight including  
two reds and two white wines,  
Lobster, tri-tip steak, corn, coleslaw, rolls & dessert.  
Ice tea, water and coffee.

Beer and wine for sale at the event. Must be over 21 years of age. Be sure  
to bring your ID for proof.

\*\*Must purchase tickets in advance. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

**RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIPS AND TICKETS NOW!**

<https://rotaryclubofupland.ticketspice.com/upland-lobsterfest-2023>

## Cookin for the Cure -- MultiDistrict International event

*Submitted by Buff Wright, PP Rotary Club of Claremont*

Join a Global Get Together in Aid of Polio Plus On **October 26th, 2023, 9:45 am PT.**

The Rotary Club of Claremont has an honorary member from Claremont South Africa, Biffy Danckwerts, who is urging us to participate in a Polio Plus zoom event organized by the Rotary Club of Morton, Illinois and eClub of Innovation. The speaker will be Michael McGovern, Chair of the International Committee for Polio Plus. Clubs and individuals from the US, UK, Spain, India, South Africa, Uganda, Germany and Belarus are planning to join in online with their personal choices from the collection of 345 recipes gathered from 223 countries around the globe for the event. You can donate and download the cook book by registering for the event.



Register for the event by [clicking here](#) to email the organizers directly. They will send you a registration form and the link.

Follow more news of the event on [Facebook Food the World Over](#)