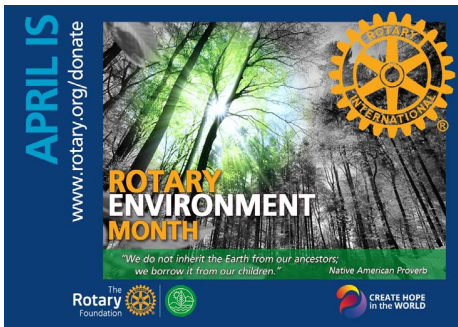




Tuesday, April 21, 2026 --- District Governor Bruce Monro

April is ENVIRONMENT Month!



Each week during April we will highlight the great work of Rotary Clubs in District 5500 supporting the Environment.

If your club has a project that supports environmental projects, and you would like us to highlight it for you, email DaveRotary5500@gmail.com with the details (and a photo!)

Rotary Club of Oro Valley Donates Shade Trees to Historic Steam Pump Ranch



(Left to Right) Oro Valley Mayor Joe Winfield, Club Community Service Chair Jane Shurtleff, Oro Valley Historical Society President Bob Kellar and Club President Emily Erickson.

The Rotary Club of Oro Valley and its nonprofit Oro Valley Rotary Foundation serve Oro Valley and greater Tucson nonprofits with service projects and funds to help strengthen our growing communities. The Oro Valley Rotary Club members have traditionally allocated funds to help nonprofit organizations serving youth, families, seniors and veterans at risk.

According to Jane Shurtleff, the Club's Communications & Community Service Chair, "We were looking for something sustainable that we could contribute to our beloved Oro Valley community and its residents and visitors for generations to come."

The Rotary Club of Oro Valley, through its members' donations and Foundation funds, raised \$1,800 to purchase four multi-trunk, velvet mesquite trees (two 6' and two 8' tall trees) to be planted by the Town at Oro Valley's historic Steam Pump Ranch in its expanded grassy picnic area.

"For over three decades, the Rotary Club has faithfully served our Oro Valley community," said Oro Valley Mayor Joe Winfield.

"This generous donation of shade trees to Oro Valley residents and visitors is representative of the valuable and sustainable relationship we have between our Town and its local Rotary Club members."

A tree dedication ceremony was held at the Rotary Club's 11th annual "A Taste of Oro Valley" fundraiser and food festival on Sunday, April 12, 2026 at Steam Pump Ranch. Emily Erickson, Oro Valley Mayor Joe Winfield and Bob Kellar, President of the Oro Valley Historical Society all spoke at the dedication and thanked the Rotary Club of Oro Valley for its generous donation of the trees.

LAST CHANCE!



These events are coming up THIS WEEK!

Peacebuilders E-Network Meeting April 22, 2026



What if we saw Rotary not just as a network of service clubs, but as a global movement for peace?

Together we can create a world built on dialogue, collaboration,
And understanding.
PEACE IS POSSIBLE



Dear Peacebuilder Club Members, Club Presidents, Assistant Governors and Peace Ambassadors,

If this were a book reading on Mary's life story, it would be a tale so fascinating, you would be captivated by all she has done and all she has encountered having finished the last chapter. Well fortunately, we get to hear Mary's story live, and **on zoom the evening of April 22nd**. The Peacebuilders Network meeting will start at 5:00 pm and end at 6:00 pm. Mary will join us as our guest speaker and share her story. Please scroll down for zoom invite.

Mary Muroki is a recognized leader and advocate known for her impactful work supporting survivors of adversity, particularly in Kenya and for those returning from Saudi Arabia and Jordan. Mary had experienced modern day slavery herself in South Africa and Jordan. She rescued herself and, as an advocate of trafficked Africans, has supported hundreds of survivors and helped them return home.

Her initiatives include developing school infrastructure, establishing sustainable food and bead training programs, securing clean water access, and facilitating the reintegration of survivors through housing and income-generating projects. Her dedication has earned her both national and international acclaim for fostering community empowerment and resilience.

The District Peacebuilder Committee of Doug, Leta, Dennis, Fatima and Ellie is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. If you would like to join our District committee or attend a committee meeting, please contact Doug (dougmay@gmail.com) or Ellie (ellie.patterson1@outlook.com) for information. Thank you.

Topic: D5500 Peacebuilder Clubs Network Meeting

Time: Apr 22, 2026 05:00 PM Arizona

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86440706609?pwd=vQgkQtof6eG0afYksA5zV2gBxXG5qV.1>

Meeting ID: 864 4070 6609

Passcode: 217294

World Immunization Week April 24–30, 2026



THE REAL-WORLD IMPACT OF VACCINES

Vaccines are one of the most significant public health achievements, providing safe and effective protection against many infectious diseases. Vaccination programs have dramatically reduced or eliminated diseases that once caused widespread illness, suffering, or death. Key achievements include:

- OVER 1 MILLION LIVES + TRILLIONS OF DOLLARS SAVED**
Between 1994 and 2023, routine immunizations and adherence to current vaccine schedules for children born in the U.S. prevented an estimated

508 MILLION cases of illness	32 MILLION hospitalizations	1+ MILLION deaths
--	---------------------------------------	-----------------------------

These efforts saved \$560 billion in direct costs and \$2.7 trillion in societal costs (CDC, 2024).

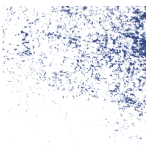
Globally Over 150 Million Lives Saved in 50 Years

Vaccination campaigns worldwide have saved an estimated 154 million lives over the past 50 years, particularly through initiatives targeting diseases like smallpox, polio, and measles (WHO, 2024).

Mountain Empire Movie Night 4/25/26



Rotary
Mountain Empire
Rotary Club
INVITES YOU TO



Our club loves service!

We provide books and dictionaries to students. Twice a year we have a free community dinner highlighting our teachers and students, our Peace Pole in Patagonia, support our graduating seniors with scholarship opportunities, support the County Fair and Rodeo, have a high school career fair, and annually choose students in our middle schools for awards. Plus much more! Join us by becoming a ticket holder and/or a sponsor to do even more!! See [READ MORE](#) for Sponsorship details [Read More](#)

DINNER & MOVIE NIGHT

Enjoy a delicious buffet dinner, drinks and a screening of "McLintock" with cast interviews and contests



5PM | APRIL 25

Pioneer Hall
Sonoita Fairgrounds

\$65/person

Tickets available in advance and at the door



Benson Pickleball 4/25/26



DIVISIONS: \$20 TEAM = \$10 PER PERSON TO PLAY
• BEGINNER - NEW PLAYERS, KIDS & FAMILIES
• INTERMEDIATE - YOU PLAY WEEKLY & KNOW THE RULES
• ADVANCED - COMPETITIVE / ANY TOURNAMENT EXPERIENCE

PLEASE SIGN UP AT THIS SITE:
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/6QZKXQZIN1CS7ZA](https://forms.gle/6QZKXQZIN1CS7ZA)
OR SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE LINK



Tucson Verde 3rd Annual Tour of Tucson Homes & Businesses. 4/26/26



Tucson Verde's 3rd annual Tour of Tucson Homes & Businesses is happening Sunday, April 26th, from 9:00am-2:00pm.

Tickets are \$30 each, or \$25 for 4 or more. Purchase them at www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/a-tour-of-tucson-homes-and-buildings. We need volunteers! Various shifts and locations available. If you'd like to help out as a docent, email Linda Fugate at linda@thevacationplanner.biz.

District 5500 News and Upcoming Events You Should Know About!

District Conference Sponsorship Opportunities Available NOW

District Conference Sponsorship Opportunities Available NOW



September 18-19, 2026 Attention Club Presidents and Presidents-Elect

The annual District 5500 Conference of Clubs will take place on Friday and Saturday, September 18-19, 2026, at the Tubac Golf and Country Club.

We rely on sponsorships to help keep the registration cost as low as possible so more Rotarians can attend.

Please consider having your Club sponsor this year. We have many levels of sponsorship available. Friends \$100, Bronze \$250, Copper \$500, Silver \$1250, Gold \$2500 and Platinum \$5000.

Contact Johnoszust@outlook.com for more information on how you and your Club can help make this year's Conference another huge success.

The conference offers attendees the chance to:

- Learn about District Projects
- Collaborate with fellow Rotarians from neighboring clubs
- Exchange ideas and best practices
- Hear inspirational speakers
- Enjoy fellowship and networking

Thank you for your consideration, and we hope to see you in Tubac!

Reserve Your Table NOW for the House of Friendship

The House of Friendship is your chance to highlight your Club's service projects, fundraising successes, community impact, youth programs, or anything else that makes your Club great. Bring display boards, photos, handouts, or a slideshow to show your fellow Rotarians what your Club has been up to.



The District Conference takes place September 18 – 19, 2026. If your club would like to reserve a table, please contact Tina LJ McGee at TINALJMCGEE929@outlook.com or text at 614-649-4926. We only have 24 tables available, so reserve early to be sure to get one.

Hospitality Night at 2026 District Conference

By Virginia Leavitt



The District 5500 Conference Committee is working on DGE Emma's Conference coming up September 18–19, 2026.

Last year we were able to have our Hospitality night on Friday for the first time in years. It was a great success and sold out all the 11 hospitality rooms. This is just a reminder to club president-elects to budget for this. Some regions or clubs went together for their hospitality room.

Clubs bring in their own food and drinks. The cost of the room is \$165+ tax. If you have any questions or would like to reserve your room, please let me know. Virginia "Ginger" Leavitt, 520.971.6963, vleavitt2336@gmail.com.

Make Your Room Reservation Now for the 2026 District 5500 Conference!

The 2026 Rotary District 5500 Conference will be held at the beautiful Tubac Golf Resort and Spa: 65 Avenida De Otero, Tubac, Arizona.

Mark your calendars for **September 18 and 19, 2026**, and start planning to attend this exciting annual Rotary District 5500 event offering an unforgettable experience for all District 5500 members and guests.

To secure accommodations at the resort, it is highly recommended to make your Tubac Resort and Spa room reservations early. For our Rotary discount rate, call the resort directly at **520-398-3507** and mention group code **ROTA 26** when booking your stay.

Registration for the conference opens July 1, 2026.

TRF: What is the Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisors?



The **Cadre of Technical Advisors** is a group of Rotary members who offer their expertise and advice to clubs and districts that are planning and carrying out grant projects around the world. They also strengthen the impact of Rotary's grants by safeguarding Foundation funds.

Cadre members provide guidance about conducting community assessments, incorporating sustainability, setting up monitoring or evaluation plans, and properly managing the financial aspects of a project.

More than 550 Cadre members who speak more than 80 languages come from 75 countries. You can connect with Cadre members who have expertise in a specific area of focus or in a particular language, country, or district.

Do you want to learn more about the Cadre, connect with a member, or join the Cadre?

What is Rotary International's Endowment Fund, and Why Should You Support it?

By John Anthony Oszust

One of the greatest strengths of Rotary is our shared commitment to service that endures beyond our own time. Today, I invite you to consider a meaningful way to ensure that commitment continues for generations to come: supporting **The Endowment Fund of Rotary International**.



The Endowment Fund is Rotary's long-term investment in doing good in the world. Unlike annual giving, contributions to the Endowment Fund are never spent outright. The **principal of your gift is preserved forever**, carefully invested to grow over time. Only the **earnings** are used—year after year—to fund Rotary projects and programs that change lives.

This unique structure creates a truly **long-lasting legacy of giving**. Your donation continues working long after it is made, providing sustainable support for the causes you care about most.

As a donor, you may designate that the earnings from your gift support one or more of Rotary's **seven areas of focus**:

- Peacebuilding and conflict prevention
- Disease prevention and treatment
- Water, sanitation, and hygiene
- Maternal and child health
- Basic education and literacy
- Community economic development
- Environment

In addition, Endowment Fund gifts offer a deeply personal opportunity. Contributions can be **named in honor or memory of a loved one**, a Rotary club, or a family—creating a permanent tribute that reflects your values and your belief in Service Above Self.

By giving to the Endowment Fund, you are helping ensure that Rotary will continue to respond to future needs, seize new opportunities, and make a positive impact long after we are gone. It is a powerful statement of confidence in Rotary's mission and in the good that dedicated people can accomplish together.

<https://vimeopro.com/rotary/legacy/video/236112322>

I hope you will join me in considering a gift to The Endowment Fund of Rotary International. Together, we can build a future where Rotary's work not only continues—but thrives.

Contact johnoszust@outlook.com or oszustmonica@gmail.com to get additional information or get started on your legacy planning.

Register Now for a District Learning Assembly

REGISTER FOR THE SESSION NEAREST YOU! The DACdb calendar is the best way to RSVP for these learning assemblies.

- [Yuma - May 2, 2026](#)
- [Sierra Vista - July 11, 2026](#)
- [Tucson - July 18, 2026](#)
- [Florence - July 25, 2026](#)

- What to Expect**
- * Grants Management Certification
 - * Membership
 - * Public Image
 - * Youth Protection
 - * Foundation
 - * Governance Training
 - * Secretary and Treasurer Training
 - * Networking Opportunities
 - * 3-Year Rolling Goals Strategy

Why Attend?
Prepare for the new Rotary year with focused leadership development sessions and comprehensive Rotary information. This assembly is an excellent opportunity to learn best practices, share ideas, and collaborate with Rotarians from across Southern Arizona. Take advantage of this opportunity to make a lasting impact within your club and communities.

Yuma: May 2- HACY Building, Mesa Heights Apartments, 2150 S. Arizona Avenue
Sierra Vista: July 11- (location-TBD)- We will communicate the location when it is available.
Tucson: July 18- Northminster Presbyterian Church, 2450 E. Ft. Lowell Rd.
Florence/Pinal County- July 25- Florence Community Center 778 N. Main Street, Florence, AZ.

Zone Workshop: July 17-18, 2026

2026 ZONE WORKSHOP

ATLANTIS CASINO RESORT SPA RENO NEVADA • JULY 17-18, 2026

BUILDING A STRONGER ROTARY TOGETHER

Join Rotary leaders from across the region for a focused, collaborative workshop designed to strengthen impact, leadership, and connection.

The Zone Workshop brings together District and Regional leaders to align priorities, share ideas, and strengthen Rotary's ability to grow, serve, and lead in our communities.

SPECIAL GUESTS

TRUSTEE VICE CHAIR VICKI PULIZ • RI DIRECTOR WYN • RI DIRECTOR ELECT JOHN CHASE

MEMBERSHIP

GROWING AND STRENGTHENING CLUBS

PUBLIC IMAGE

TELLING ROTARY'S STORY WITH CLARITY AND PURPOSE

FOUNDATION

EXPANDING OUR IMPACT THROUGH GIVING AND GRANTS

YOUTH SERVICES

DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- DISTRICT CHAIRS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- ROTARY REGIONAL LEADERS
- DISTRICT ROTARACT REPRESENTATIVES
- DISTRICT GOVERNOR LINE

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

- JULY 17 | 1:00 PM TO 5:00 PM
DISTRICT CHAIR TRAINING (OPTIONAL)
- JULY 18 | 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM
FULL WORKSHOP SESSIONS

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION REQUIRED - \$50 USD

INCLUDES ACCESS TO ALL WORKSHOP SESSIONS AND OPTIONAL DISTRICT CHAIR TRAINING

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE HOTEL BOOKING LINK WILL BE INCLUDED IN YOUR WORKSHOP CONFIRMATION EMAIL.



<https://bit.ly/1w000a>

Arizona 250th Anniversary of the United States (Semiquincentennial)

By Leo J. Lawrenson



District 5500, along with District 5495, plan to participate in the upcoming 250th Anniversary of the United States during 2026 and are looking for club participation as well, including submission of service projects (especially any relevant to the event). **If you or your club are interested, please contact your Assistant Governor or DGN Leo@Lawrenson.com** We will catalog District 5500 Projects and Events related to America250 so we can help with ideas and know what is going on close to you. Below are some things already planned by the Arizona 250 Committee you might consider.

Bring the Arizona America250 Traveling Museum to Your Community:

This mobile exhibit highlights Arizona's unique role in America's 250-year story through interactive displays and educational programming. It will tour the state **from March to May** (dates subject to change), accompanied by Arizona's replica Liberty Bell before its permanent installation at the State Capitol.



Interested in hosting? Submit your interest online here: [Traveling Museum Interest Form](#) or contact America250AZ@azsos.gov with questions. **The schedule and opportunity to volunteer to help at the Traveling Museum when it visits your town starting March 1 can be found in the Read More section below!**

[Arizona 250 Youth Town Hall](#) Watch a recording of the Youth Town Hall with representatives from

[Wish Walls for America's 250th](#) Interactive Wish Walls hosted by Made by US.

[Arizona 250 Tool Kit](#) Resource guide from the Arizona Department of

Education.

[Read More](#)

Save the Date: DGE Emma's Installation June 7, 2026

<https://www.dacdb.com/index.html?EventID=77898199>

or

<https://dacdb.com/Register4/index.cfm?EventID=77898199>

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Save the Date

Governor Installation – June 7, 2026

Dear Rotarians of District 5500,

Please mark your calendars and save the date for a very special Rotary celebration!

Join us as we gather to celebrate the installation of

Emma Carrillo

as District Governor, Rotary Year 2026-2027.

Date: Sunday, June 7, 2026
Time: Installation and Program - 11:00 - 1:45
(Note: College of Governors - 10:00 - 11:00 A.M.)
Location: The Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa, 3800 E. Sunrise Drive
Tucson, Arizona 85718
Cost: \$65.00 per person
Registration is now open –
deadline for registration June 2, 2026
2 ways to register: click on the link
<https://www.dacdb.com/index.html?EventID:77898199>
or go to DACdb District Calendar
Questions: contact Dave Lenox or Debbie Haddock



Club Projects Happening in District 5500 To Celebrate AND That Might Give Your Club Some Ideas!

Yes, we are trying something new again! If your club has a project underway or just completed that you would like other clubs to know about, send the details to DaveRotary5500@gmail.com. We will save this spot in IMPACT! each week for those stories. Be sure to include contact information for someone other clubs might reach out to for more information.

Valle Verde Rotarians Support Tucson VA Medical Center's Fisher House



Valle Verde Rotary Club's first project at Fisher House involved a District Grant to help fund retractable shades for the patio.

The Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS) Fisher House located on the campus of the Tucson VA Medical Center provides a "home away from home" for loved ones of Veterans or Active Duty personnel receiving inpatient care from the Tucson VA. The home features 16 private suites, each with its own bed and bathroom with a shower. Other amenities include a common kitchen, laundry facilities, spacious dining room and living room with a library.

Rotarians Gary Friedman and Max Perry wrote a District 5500 grant to help add 6 motorized sun shades. This project allowed Fisher House visitors and staff to utilize outdoor spaces that were previously off-limits due to the southern Arizona heat.

Following completion of that project, a group of Valle Verde Rotarians would visit the house from time to time to do household chores as directed by staff.

For the last few years, two teams have alternated monthly trips to prepare meals for the freezer. The 'Ranger' team, led by Jim Rusk and Chef Kathie specialize in lasagna meals. The 'Airborne' team, led by John Yeager and Chef Nancy prepare meatloaf meals.

Tucson Fisher House Manager Mike Ramsey applauded the work of Valle Verde Rotarians:

The Valle Verde Rotary Club members come every month to the Fisher House to prepare meals for our guests. These meals alleviate a tremendous burden from our families who are here comforting hospitalized Veterans. We get compliments on a regular basis stating how much it means to not have to worry about meals. The Rotarians also come in with a smile and a kind word for everyone here in the house.

Valle Verde Rotary has also held individual fundraising events to benefit ongoing Fisher House activities...and we'll continue to do so!

Fundraisers Your Club is Welcome to Attend

If you would like to highlight your club's events in this space, contact [Dave Lenox](mailto:Dave.Lenox) with the event information and graphics!

San Luis Frontera Wild West Casino Night 5/1/26

Wild Wild West Casino Night

Cost: \$77.00

Buy tickets here: <https://checkout.square>

site/merchant/BYFAKXK26KW60/ checkout/ T23Y4VAN6WBYHT55CVAVQ16B
When: Friday, May 1, 2026 at 8:00 PM - Saturday, May 2, 2026 at 12:00 AM MST



Where: [780 N Cesar Chavez St, San Luis, AZ 85349](#)

Step into the Wild Wild West for an unforgettable Casino Night! Join us on May 1st from 8pm to midnight for an exciting evening of Blackjack, Roulette, and Craps, plus great music and a lively atmosphere. Your ticket includes delicious heavy appetizers and one complimentary drink to keep the good times rolling. Best of all, every spin and every hand supports the San Luis Frontera Rotary Club Scholarship Fund—helping local students achieve their dreams. Saddle up and join the fun for a great cause!

Raise Money for Your Club! 6/3/26



For our third year in a row, Willcox Rotary is doing a Spring Raffle. Any Rotary club or other group can participate just by selling tickets and keeping half the money. The prizes are all donated, and the tickets are all printed. We have set this up so that many groups can share in the opportunity.

We've done the heavy lifting — you just have to let us know how many tickets your club would like. Let's raise some money together! There are 3 equal prizes, each totaling over \$2,000, including over \$900 cash. A list of the actual prizes can be sent when you receive your tickets. If you would like to just purchase tickets to the raffle, they are 1 ticket for \$10 or 3 for \$25.

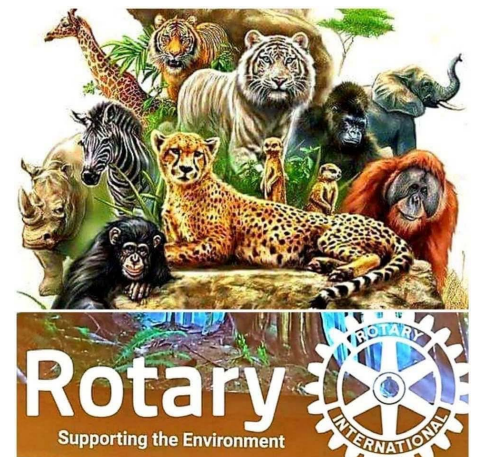
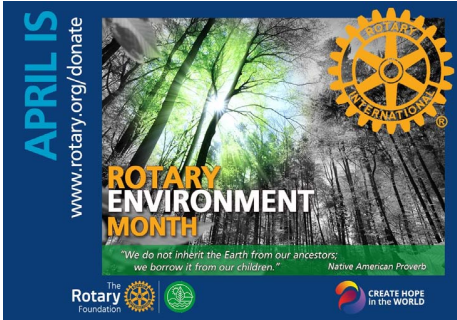
Here is our online link to do so: <https://willcoxrotaryclub.betterworld.org/giveaways/3rd-annual-willcox-rotary-club>

Last day to buy tickets is June 2, 2026.
The drawing will be held on June 3, 2026.

Thanks, Bill Nolan, Secretary, Willcox Rotary, bill@willcox.net, 520-508-2225 and Tina LJ McGee, President, Willcox Rotary, tinaljmcgee929@outlook.com, 614-649-4926

Graphics Corner - Environment

Enjoy these inspiring Rotary graphics related to this month's international focus on **Environment**. They're yours to use for your club's communications. Just download and save to your graphics library, then use them in your social media, newsletters and other Rotary promotional items.



Share Your Club's News!



IMPACT! Showcases District 5500 news, updates, and upcoming events your club needs to know about. It also provides a place to advertise upcoming club projects and fundraisers you want other clubs to know about. To publish your club's upcoming events, projects or fundraisers in IMPACT! Fill out [this form](#) with your information and send it to Dave Lenox at DaveRotary5500@gmail.com by Friday for the following week's newsletter. Include your photo or graphic as a separate attachment as a jpg or png file.

NEW in IMPACT! You may have noticed a new section of IMPACT! that highlights club projects. We decided that rather than hold those stories for **ROTARY IN ACTION!** (Previously, a Quarterly newsletter designed to SHOWCASE YOUR CLUB'S PAST PROJECTS & FUNDRAISERS!) we want to encourage you to share your successes and great ideas so others can see your great work and maybe steal an idea or two! This will also provide you with a record of them in our archives. The same form from

above will work just fine. Send it to DaveRotary5500@gmail.com. *Don't forget to include photos -- the more the merrier!*
