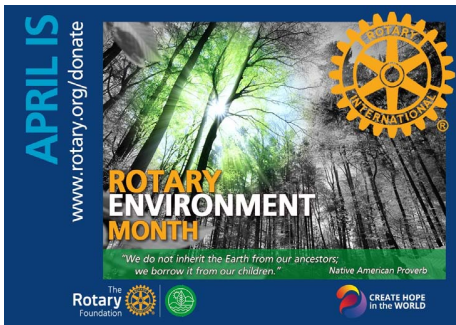




Tuesday, April 28, 2026 --- District Governor Bruce Monro

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!)

The First Environment Club in AZ Is Thriving!



The Rotary Club of Tucson Verde in D5500 is the first cause-based club to protect the environment in Arizona. It was chartered in 2021 with 31 charter members, 27 of whom were new Rotarians.

PDG/Charter President, Michael Drake, has been instrumental in taking advantage of District and Global Grants to do projects both locally and overseas. The club used a District Grant to install solar panels for electricity for remote residents on the Navajo reservation in northern Arizona. To remediate a denuded watershed that polluted Lake Tuxpan in Valle de Iguala in D4185 in central Mexico, they received a Global Grant.

Other significant projects include removal of invasive buffelgrass and arundo cane from local riparian areas, a community garden for disabled elementary school children to grow vegetables, and an annual tour for the public of homes constructed with environmentally sensitive features.

The club meets in person twice a month. The fifth anniversary is a milestone and Tucson Verde Rotary is thriving!

[Watch D5280's EG Environment Project Video Here!](#)

LAST CHANCE!



These events are coming up THIS WEEK!

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 \$540 billion in direct costs and \$2.7 trillion in societal costs (CDC, 2024).

LOCALLY 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).

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



Wild Wild West Casino Night

Cost: \$77.00

Buy tickets here: [https://checkout.square.](https://checkout.square.site/merchant/BYFAKXK26KW60/checkout/T23Y4VAN6WBYHT55CVAVQI6B)

site/merchant/BYFAKXK26KW60/ checkout/ T23Y4VAN6WBYHT55CVAVQI6B

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!

District 5500 News and Upcoming Events You Should Know About!

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://vimeo.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.

TRF: What are Some Ways to Leave a Legacy of Doing Good?



You can qualify as a **Benefactor of The Rotary Foundation** by making an outright gift of \$1,000 or more to the Endowment or notifying the Foundation that you've included the Endowment as a beneficiary of that amount in your estate plan.

Benefactors receive a certificate and insignia to wear with a Rotary or Paul Harris Fellow pin.

If you make a commitment for a future gift of \$10,000 or more to the Foundation, you'll be invited to join the **Bequest**

Society.

Bequest Society members receive benefits and recognition pieces for different levels of giving, including pins and crystals, the ability to endow named funds, or special seating at the Rotary International Convention.

More than 100,000 Benefactors and more than 14,500 Bequest Society members are creating legacies of generosity as they help people around the world live better lives.

Contact johnoszust@outlook.com or Oszustmonica@gmail.com for more information.

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

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

Rotary

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

or

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

Register Now for a District Learning Assembly

DISTRICT 5500 LEARNING ASSEMBLY

Rotary District 5500

Create Lasting Impact

Multiple Locations: Choose One

- Yuma – May 2
- Sierra Vista – July 11
- Tucson – July 18
- Florence – July 25

Who Should Attend:

- All Rotarians
- Presidents & Presidents-Elect
- Assistant Governors
- Secretaries
- Treasurers
- Membership Chairs
- Public Image Chairs
- Club Committee Chairs
- Foundation Chairs

Register Now

REGISTER FOR THE SESSION NEAREST YOU!

[Yuma - May 2, 2026](#) If you have trouble registering, contact Dave at DaveRotary5500@gmail.com

[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.

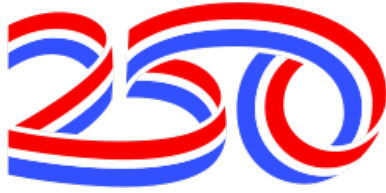
Tucson: July 18- Northminster Presbyterian Church, 2450 E. Ft. Lowell Rd.

Florence/Pinal County- July 25- Florence Community Center 778 N. Main Street, Florence, AZ.

Arizona 250th Anniversary of the United States (Semiquincentennial)

By Leo J. Lawrenson

AMERICA



Rotary District 5500 is highlighting how we serve our communities—both locally and globally. Service projects strengthen our communities and our democracy when we contribute to the common good, and this year we're making it easier to recognize and share that impact.

We're building a district wide database of service projects and aiming for at least **250 entries** across our **50 clubs**. Please submit the projects your club has completed, is currently doing, or has scheduled for this Rotary year. (Fundraisers without a direct service component do not count.) We're not asking for all-new projects—just what you already have planned or will do this year.

Why this matters: A strong project database helps us promote Rotary, attract new members who want to make a difference, and generate more positive attention for the good work already happening across our district. The more complete our project list is, the easier it will be to tell Rotary's story in a way that resonates with our communities.

Patriotic and community projects encouraged: If your club isn't currently planning a patriotic service project—such as supporting parades, hosting community picnics, organizing flag displays, or partnering with local organizations—consider adding one or teaming up with another group to make it happen.

How to submit: Use the Club Projects Submission Form on the Rotary District 5500 website: rotaryd5500.org/clubprojectsform/

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.

Rotary
Zones 26 & 27

<https://rotaryd5500.org>

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.

2026 ROTARY DISTRICT 5500 CONFERENCE

Now Accepting Tubac Resort and Spa Reservations

Call the resort at 520-398-3507 to get a Rotary discount



CREATE LASTING IMPACT

How has Rotary impacted you?

Share Your Story

Save Date
SEPT. 18 & 19,
2026

INSPIRATION
EDUCATION
ENTERTAINMENT
NETWORKING
GOLF
GREAT FOOD
SHOPPING
FUN

Call the resort at 520-398-3507 to get a Rotary discount.

Registration opens July 1, 2026

Save the 2026 ROTARY DISTRICT 5500 CONFERENCE

TUBAC GOLF RESORT AND SPA
1 Otero Road
Tubac, AZ 85646

Tubac! Rotary District 5500

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 TINALJMCGE929@outlook.com or text at 614-649-4926. We only have 24 tables available, so reserve early to be sure to get one.

Registration is now OPEN for Camp Big West Zone Institute 2026 at the stunning The Wigwam Resort in

Invite everyone to join you September 3–6, 2026

Don't miss out on the fun, fellowship, and leadership that await. Register today!

Register today at zoneinstitute.org
—The Camp Big West Team



#CampBigWest #RotaryZones26/27 #RotaryInstitute2026 #BigWestRotary #RegisterNow

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.

From Dust to Dignity



Three children lived seven years in a shelter of leaves. Their lives changed as Rotarians built a home equipped with mattresses, rice, beans, and full school scholarships.

Regaining hope and a future

Kili Shabani (15), Isaac (12), and Miriam (10) were born in The Democratic Republic of the Congo, but their childhood was shattered when machete attacks claimed the lives of their parents. Miriam was only three, and she was on the back of her mother. Fleeing for safety, they arrived in Nakivale Refugee Settlement, Uganda, where survival meant living in a fragile shelter of leaves



and sleeping on dust. For seven long years, they hoed gardens to earn food, with no hope of school or education. Their story began to change when Rotaractor Chris Scott Lwaboshi and Rotarian Prof Emeritus Dennis Bergquist from Tucson Kino Rotary Club intervened, developing a project including a home, equipped it with dignity for \$4,000. With support from Rtn Dennis, they received mattresses, monthly food supplies, and scholarships that opened the doors of education transforming despair into possibility.

Today, their lives reflect not only survival but restoration. A caring woman guardian prepares meals for them, ensuring they return from school to nourishment and warmth. Their evenings are lit by a solar lamp, their kitchen strengthened with a rocket stove, water supply and shelves for plates, symbols of order and dignity. What was once hopelessness has become a story of light, learning, and renewed joy. Rtn Dennis of Rotary Tucson Kino not

only changed their lives, he brought back hope, smiles, and the promise of a future where these children are no longer victims of tragedy, but students with dreams and a home filled with care.

Fundraisers Your Club is Welcome to Attend

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

Sierra Vista Satellite Club Cinco de Mayo Party 5/9/26

Rotary
ROTARY SATELLITE CLUB
of Sierra Vista - Evening

MAY 9th
5 PM
\$50

TICKETS

CINCO DE MAYO

HOSTED BY:
Adrienne Weiss
2422 Isla Bonita Dr.
Sierra Vista, AZ 85650

SALSA MAKING CONTEST

Rotarians are invited to come celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a night of flavor, fun, and friendly competition at the Sierra Vista Satellite Rotary Club's annual fundraiser! Come to compete, taste, or simply enjoy the festa, knowing your participation helps strengthen our community. :)

Rotary Members and friends are invited to the Sierra Vista Satellite Club's annual (post) Cinco de Mayo Party and Salsa Contest on Saturday, May 9th at 5PM.

Tickets are available here: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/satellite-rotary-club-annual-cinco-de-mayo-party>.

Email satelliterotarysv@gmail.com directly to enter the salsa contest!

THANK YOU SPONSORS!

ADRIENNE WEISS CROSSCOUNTRY MORTGAGE
VISTA AUTO CARE
Pioneer Title Agency
Guild mortgage
OWN WHAT MATTERS
Randy Sueskind

Century Point
Subdiv: Springs Valley Ethnic Cooperative, Inc.
OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE
Candy & Dave Pardoe
Sarah Wieland & Adam Kroger
DIAMOND

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.

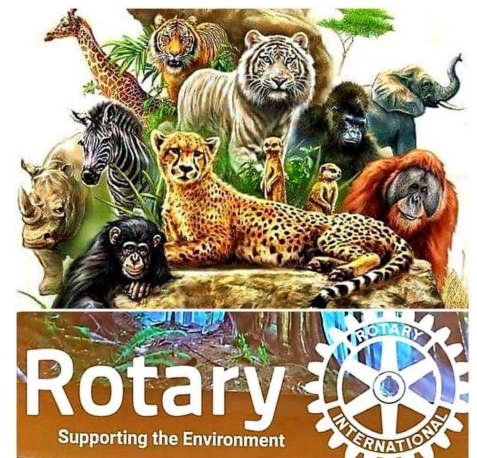
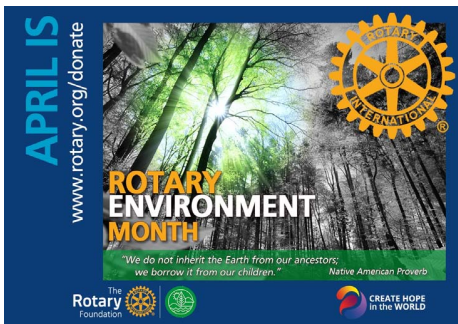
Here is our online link to do so: <https://willcoxrotaryclub.betterworld.org/giveaways/3rd-annual-willcox-rotary-club>

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!**