



Tuesday, February 3, 2026 --- District Governor Bruce Monro

Change in the District Governor Line



Please read the following statement from our District Governor Designate Sherrie Morgan. We will miss her enthusiasm and dedication in the District Governor line, but she will remain a valuable resource for her club, the District, and Rotary. You will hear her name again. Thank you, Sherrie!

"I have made the difficult decision to step down from the DGND position due to expanded opportunities in my professional role that I need to prioritize. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve and for the trust and confidence placed in me. I remain committed to Rotary and will continue to contribute in ways that align with my capacity and allow me to serve meaningfully.

It has truly been an honor to work alongside the DG line and to serve District 5500, whose dedication and spirit continue to inspire me."

Sherrie Morgan

The Power of One

Time to Turn it AROUND!

The Yuma Territorial Club
24 New Members!

New Club
+13 Overall

Existing Clubs
-11 Without New Club

- START SMALL -
Grow by at least
1+
Member

CREATE A GREAT CLUB EXPERIENCE

- Engaging Meetings
- Community Service
- Fun Activities

Set Goals
Take Action

Build for Long-Term Success!

Rotary

At the halfway point of the year, our District saw an overall increase of thirteen members—thanks primarily to the successful launch of The Yuma Territorial Club, which chartered with 24 enthusiastic members. However, without this new club, our membership across the District would have dropped by eleven. For context, at this time last year, we grew by 23 members, meaning we've actually decreased by 34 members in existing clubs over the past twelve months. Historically, we've experienced net growth among existing clubs at this stage of the Rotary year.

How can we reverse this trend? First, we need to **set achievable goals** for membership and identify actions to achieve those goals. Many clubs in the District have no plan for membership and consequently, "they get what they get" at year's end without much control. Many times, that means a net loss.

Let's aim to **grow your club's membership by at least one person**. If it has lost or stayed stagnant in its membership in recent years, focus on growing by just one member. This approach can create momentum for future growth.

Start small: create a plan to attract and retain members and put it into action. There's still time this year to achieve growth, but remember, this is about long-term improvement.

What's the key to boosting membership? **Club experience**—making sure your club meets the interests and priorities of both your members (including you!) and your community. Operating in that "sweet spot" leads to growth. And don't forget, club activities should be FUN. Growing membership isn't a quick fix, but it's a process that sets up your club for continued success and greater impact, both locally and globally.

Give it a try. Devote a club meeting (or two!) to how your club can improve its club experience. Your District Membership Chair and Assistant Governors are here to help. Good luck!

February is Peace Building and Conflict Prevention Month!

FEBRUARY IS... Rotary

Peace and Conflict Resolution Month

Each week during February we will highlight the great work of Rotary Clubs in District 5500 supporting Peace Building and Conflict Prevention.

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

Join other Rotarians at the Tucson Youth and Peace Conference



14th Annual Youth & Peace Conference:
Protecting our Classmates: Addressing Safety, Mental Health, and Equity in Schools
Friday Feb 6th 2026!
Pima Community College West Campus
Conference Registrations for Schools, Youth, Exhibitors, Volunteers



The Tucson Youth and Peace Conference called to ask if area Rotarians could help with this year's conference. Rotarians from several D5500 clubs have already signed up! Since Rotary's February focus is Peace Building and Conflict Prevention, it seems like it might be right up our alley!

What: The 14th Annual Youth and Peace Conference is open to youth and young adults ages 12-24. This youth-led, adult-volunteer-supported event features a resource fair, workshops and discussion circles focused on the topic "Protecting Our Classmates: Addressing Safety, Mental Health & Equity in Schools." Learn more at youthandpeace.org.

When and Where: Friday, February 6th from 8:15 am to 2:15 pm at Pima Community College — West Campus, 2202 W. Anklam Rd.

What's Needed:

1. **Financial assistance with food.** The cost to feed ~250 youth and 50 adult chaperons with a hot breakfast, hot lunch and snack is approximately \$3,300. Funding cutbacks and restrictions on using grant money for food have made fundraising especially difficult this year. To date, YPC has raised approx. \$2K of the needed amount. Contributions of cash and pre-packaged snacks are greatly appreciated! Donate at <https://www.youthandpeace.org/sponsor-form> or contact Chris Medvescek (see info blow) to donate supplies/snacks.

2. **Adult facilitators and scribes for student discussion circles.** We have an **extreme** need for adults to support small groups of students in a one-hour discussion of the conference theme (Protecting Our Classmates). Volunteer facilitators and scribes (note takers) receive detailed instructions and materials to support them in their role. (Note: All facilitators follow the same timed script and do not add in their own thoughts or questions. Facilitators and scribes support each other in moving students through the discussion questions.) To register, go to <https://centercmf.org/calendar/tucson-youth-for-peace-77f3z-bj7nm>



3. **Volunteers are needed between 7 am and 3 pm** to help with set-up/clean-up, registration, food service and guiding students to workshops. You can volunteer all or part of the day. Sign up at <https://form.jotform.com/81997004615158>

Thank you so much for your assistance at this important -- and *fun!* -- event for youth. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Medvescek at programs@centercmf.org or 520-405-5480 (text OK).

Rotary's Commitment to Peace and Conflict Prevention!

By Ellen Rogerson Patterson



Now that we find ourselves in the month of February with the Rotary theme of Peace and Conflict Prevention, let's turn to ways we can demonstrate our commitment to peace. February's theme opens the door for members to engage in meaningful, community-building activities that strengthen understanding and cooperation. Clubs can host peace forums, guest speakers or panel discussions that highlight local peacemakers and explore practical conflict prevention strategies. Members might partner with schools to lead workshops on empathy, active listening, and nonviolent communication or collaborate with community organizations to support refugees and families affected by conflict. Planting a Peace Pole or becoming a Peacebuilder Club is a strong showing of how Rotarians are serious about peace.

Almost any service project that is done brings peace to those impacted by the results. We call that "Peace Through Service." Service projects that bring diverse groups together—such as neighborhood clean-up, cultural exchange events or joint volunteer days—help build trust and connection. Rotarians can also participate in Rotary Peace Fellow-focused events and share stories of peacebuilding successes, and advocate for initiative that reduce violence and promote dialogue. These activities not only honor the months' them but also reinforce Rotary's ongoing commitment to creating more peaceful, resilient communities and a more peaceful world. The time is now and Peace begins with us.

District 5500 News and Upcoming Events You Should Know About!

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

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: Afternoon (exact time to follow)


Location:
The Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa
3800 E. Sunrise Drive
Tucson, Arizona 85718

Cost: \$65.00 per person

Registration opens: February 16, 2026



*Additional details will be shared soon.
We look forward to celebrating together!*




Arizona 250th Anniversary of the United States (Semiquincentennial)



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 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.

[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.

TRF: What is our grant model designed to do?



Our grant model is designed to produce sustainable results that align with The Rotary Foundation's priorities and the areas of focus, engage members, and deepen their connection to Rotary. This means we:

- Focus our service efforts where they'll have the greatest impact by addressing genuine needs that are relevant to communities
- Offer program options to help people achieve both local and global goals
- Simplify Foundation processes to help more people take part

- Give people more decision-making power at the club and district levels to increase their commitment

- Communicate clearly about our work to enhance Rotary's public image

The Rotary Foundation is continuing to make a difference in our world!

More Funds Are Available! District Grant Applications are Being Accepted Now!



District Grants

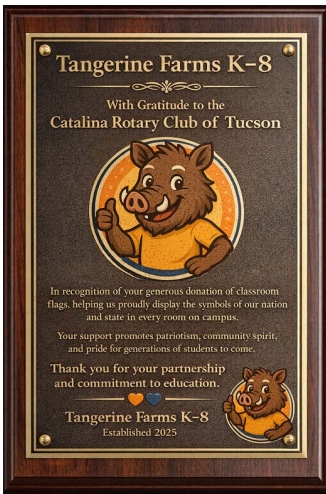
Clubs can now apply for a District Grant for projects with a matching grant of \$250 to \$2000 on a first come, first served basis through May 31, 2026. If you currently have a District Grant, the Final Report must be approved before applying for new grant funds.

District Grant funds come from Annual Fund/SHARE giving our clubs contributed to The Rotary Foundation three years ago. Your club must be qualified before you can apply for a grant. The MOU and District Addendum need to be signed and submitted to the Stewardship Chair and at least two club members must have taken the [Grant Management Seminar](#), including the contact person that will be filling out the grant application. To apply for a district grant, please refer to the [District Grant Webpage](#).

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.

Catalina Rotary Club Outfits Schools with the Stars and Stripes



The Catalina Rotary Club donated funds from the Catalina Rotary Foundation to outfit each classroom at Marana's newest school, Tangerine Farms K-8, with U.S. flags. The school expressed its thanks with a beautiful plaque which is prominently displayed at the school.

Human Trafficking in Your Own Back Yard

By Diane Ventura-Goodyear

To understand human trafficking, experts often use the "Action-Means-Purpose" framework:

Action: The trafficker recruits, transports, or harbors a person.

Means: They use force (violence), fraud (false job promises), or coercion (threats to family or legal status).

Purpose: The goal is to exploit the person for forced labor or commercial sex acts.

Contact Monica Oszust: oszustmonica@gmail.com

Please join us — capacity is limited. This event will be an eye-opener.

Human trafficking awareness focuses on identifying and preventing modern-day slavery, which involves exploiting people for profit through force, fraud, or coercion.

Help protect human rights.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN YOUR OWN BACK YARD

Discuss and learn what you can do about this.

SAVE THE DATE

DATE: Monday, April 13,
 TIME: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
 LOCATION: La Hacienda building at SaddleBrooke Ranch

SPONSORED BY ROTARY CLUBS:
 Dove Mountain, Marana,
 Mountain Empire,
 SaddleBrooke.




Scan for event contact

Fundraisers Your Club is Welcome to Attend

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

Yuma Crossing: Around the World 2/7/2026

By Jesus Fuentes



ROTARY CLUB OF YUMA CROSSING
 Presents
Around the WORLD Gala

9th Annual Dinner Gala Fundraiser
FEBRUARY 7, 2026
 DOORS OPEN/COCKTAIL HOUR - 6:00 PM

Paradise Casino Event Center
 450 Quechan Drive, Yuma, AZ 85364
Tickets \$150 per person

For Sponsorship, Tickets, and Table Purchase contact 928-304-8550

UNITE FOR GOOD

Proceeds to benefit local charities

FORMAL ATTIRE

Spaghetti Spree for Green Valley 2/11/2026

Our annual fundraiser attracts 400 people or so the Green Valley Rec Center West in the heart of Green Valley. For just \$20, enjoy a full spaghetti meal and the company of fellow Rotarians and guests.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GREEN VALLEY

Spaghetti Spree

Spaghetti, Meat or Marinara Sauce, Salad, Garlic Bread, Dessert
Water/Coffee
Wine & Soda available for purchase



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026
4:30 to 6:30
\$20.00 "Eat in or take out!" \$20.00
GVR/WEST SOCIAL CENTER

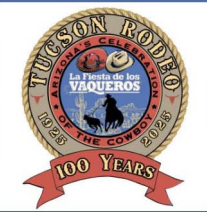
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:
GV/SAHUARITA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
ANY CLUB ROTARIAN AND AT THE DOOR

MANY THANKS:
LA POSADA GREEN VALLEY FOR THE FOOD
GREEN VALLEY RECREATION, INC.
KGVY RADIO
GREEN VALLEY NEWS


Catalina Club Call for Volunteers 2/21-3/1

Catalina Rotary Club

Changing the Lives of Young People in Need!
Support local youth organizations by volunteering to Sell Beer at the Tucson Rodeo!!




Sign up here:



Simply pick the date(s) and slot you are interested in.
Contact Arturo Mojica
(520) 990-0768 for more information!

February 21 – March 1, 2026
Over \$100,000 given to local youth groups!



Sign up today and put a smile on someone's face!

Poster Sale at the Tubac Arts Fair



The Tubac Arts Festival is fast approaching. The Tubac Rotary Club will be selling posters at the Chamber information booth by Tumacookery. We will also have past years posters for sale. Please come visit us.

The artist, Jennifer O'Cualain, will be in our booth on Wednesday from 10am to 12pm and all day on Saturday. The only place to buy posters will be from us and at K Newby Gallery where her original artwork is on display.

Dove Mountain Monte Carlo Night! 3/6/2026



Rotary Club of Dove Mountain PRESENTS

A NIGHT IN MONTE CARLO

MARCH 6, 2026 5 PM TO 10 PM

AN EVENING OF ELEGANCE
AT THE BUTTES AT REFLECTIONS
IN ORO VALLEY

TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!

VISIT WWW.DOVEMOUNTAINROTARY.ORG

Join us for an unforgettable evening and enjoy a night of glamour and fun with casino games, plated dinner, appetizers, desserts, cash bar, DJ, Silent Auction, Raffle Baskets and more, all for a good cause.

ROTARY CLUB OF DOVE MOUNTAIN
A 501C3 ORGANIZATION SERVING CHILDREN, FAMILIES & VETERANS

Yuma Rotary: Midnight at the Oasis! 3/6-8/2026



Yuma Rotary is excited to be back at the iconic Midnight at the Oasis Classic Car Show, happening March 6–8 in Yuma, AZ presented by the Caballeros de Yuma. If you follow the smell of sizzling tri-tip, you'll know you're getting close! Our Rotary booth will be in full swing serving up our famous sandwiches to car lovers, locals, and visitors from all over.

This favorite annual fundraiser helps support something close to our hearts—local scholarships for students right here in the Yuma community. We invite Rotarians near and far to stop by, soak in the amazing cars, enjoy the concerts, grab a sandwich, and share in the Rotary spirit.

Great cars, great food, great music—and an even better cause.

Valle Verde Jazz in the Desert 3/7/2026

Ticket Sales underway for Jazz in the Desert 2026!

The Valle Verde Rotary Club, in partnership with La Posada Green Valley, present Jazz in the Desert 2026.

This exciting fundraising event is set for Saturday, March 7, 2026, at Quail Creek's Madera Clubhouse.

Middle and High School jazz bands from up and down the I-19 corridor will take the stage for a Matinee at 1 PM and a Dinner show at 5:30 PM.

Jazz In the Desert 2026 will feature jazz bands from: Sahuarita High School, Nogales High School, Rio Rico High School, Continental School, Sahuarita Middle School, Walden Grove High School, and Anza Trail School.

Matinée tickets are \$10. Dinner show tickets are \$60 and require advance purchase.

Tickets are available online at www.vvrotaryfoundation.net or by

JAZZ Valle Verde
Rotary Club
2026
In the Desert Saturday, March 7, 2026
In Partnership With

La Posada
• GREEN VALLEY •



calling 208-691-3761 or sending an e-mail to jazz@vrotaryfoundation.net

Over the years, Jazz in the Desert events have raised over \$300,000, benefiting the various schools' music programs, as well as local, national and international Rotary projects.

Marana Tour de Cookie 3/7/26

**CALLING ALL
COOKIE MONSTERS!**

REGISTER TODAY!
EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT THROUGH FEB. 1st

March 7, 2026, for Tour de Cookie!

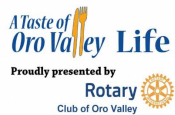
Fun for the entire family.

Rotary Club of Marana
Marana, Arizona
www.rotarytourdecookie.org

Yuma North End Bowling Fundraiser 3/14/26

To register email rotaryavf@gmail.com

Taste of Oro Valley 4/12/2026



SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026
4:30 – 7:30 PM
Steam Pump Ranch
10901 N Oracle Rd, Oro Valley
tasteoforovalley.org

A Taste of Oro Valley - April 12, 2026
tasteoforovalley.org

**Food/Drink, Live Music, Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle,
Wine Garden & More!**

Proceeds will benefit:



Live music by:



Purchase tickets at:



Casa Grande: Diamonds in the Desert 4/18/2026

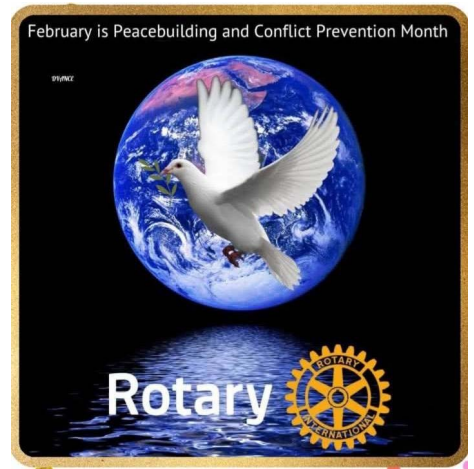
For more information: cgrotaryauction.org

Graphics Corner — Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention

Enjoy these inspiring Rotary graphics related to this month's international focus on **Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention**. 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.

Rotary creates environments of peace.

As a humanitarian organization, peace is a cornerstone of our mission. We believe when people work to create peace in their communities, that change can have a global effect.



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.

ROTARY IN ACTION! is a Quarterly newsletter designed to SHOWCASE YOUR CLUB'S PAST PROJECTS & FUNDRAISERS! We are working on the best way to publish and archive all these great stories. For now, watch for ROTARY IN ACTION! to come your way by the end of October. For now, share your successes and great ideas so you have a record of them in our archives AND to remind yourself of the amazing difference your club has made in the past quarter. Use [this form](#) and send it to

DaveRotary5500@gmail.com. Don't forget to include photos -- the more the merrier!