



Tuesday, January 27, 2026 --- District Governor Bruce Monro

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
Set Goals
Take Action

CREATE A GREAT CLUB EXPERIENCE
Engaging Meetings
Community Service
Fun Activities

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!

What Does It Mean to be a RYLA Adult Advisor?

By Nancy Stockton



RYLA is more than just a program—it's fun, it's meaningful, and sometimes it feels downright magical. As someone who has had the privilege of serving as an adult advisor, I can say that RYLA, which stands for Rotary Youth Leadership Award, holds a special place in my heart. This global initiative, run by Rotary districts everywhere, is all about helping young people discover and expand their leadership potential. Here in District 5500, our RYLA experience unfolds as a four-day overnight camp in Prescott, every Martin Luther King weekend. We welcome around 120 high school students, each selected and sponsored by a local Rotary club. The sponsorship means there's no cost to the students—a wonderful way to ensure RYLA is accessible to every deserving young leader.

Most of what happens at RYLA takes place in teams. Each group includes seven to nine delegates, a junior counselor, and an adult

advisor like me. The junior counselor is a returning student who attended camp as a delegate the year before, and watching them step into a leadership role is one of the most rewarding parts of my own experience. My main role is to keep everyone safe; but that's just the beginning. I get to watch, listen, and only participate when invited by the team. When I see something

that might help the group work better, I'll quietly pull aside the junior counselor or offer a gentle suggestion at the right moment. There's a delicate balance between guiding and letting go, and it's one I cherish deeply.

[Read More](#)

January is Vocational Services Month!

VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH

Rotary
Beats, Bucks & Harms

JANUARY IS

"Vocational service gives Rotarians the opportunity to help others, escape poverty, and gain in business and professional leaders. As business and professional leaders, we have a duty to lead and encourage good ethics through rotation."

©2016 Rotary, 500-2000

Each week during January we will highlight the great work of Rotary Clubs in District 5500 supporting Vocational Services.

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

TRVFA: Don't Forget the AZ Tax Credit!

Many of you should be receiving a brochure from the Rotary Vocational Fund of AZ.



A mail-in donation form is available if you prefer to donate by check. Alternatively, the easiest method is to contribute on-line with a credit card at <https://trvfa.org>.

If you are new to AZ or your tax accountant is out of state, point them to this website. <https://azdor.gov/tax-credits/credits-contributions-qcos-and-qfcs>

You have until April 15th, 2026, to make a qualifying contribution for 2025. Some people like to know their actual AZ tax liability before deciding on the contribution amount so they can contribute enough to offset it.

The Rotary Vocational Fund of AZ - QCO 20698.

- Step 1: Donate to TRVFA
- Step 2: Keep your receipt
- Step 3: File Form 321 with your taxes
- Step 4: Receive your money as a tax credit.

Filing single \$495, Filing Jointly \$987, is the tax credit for 2025.

District 5500 News and Upcoming Events You Should Know About!

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

A "Save the Date" poster for the Governor Installation of Emma Carrillo. The background is a scenic view of a resort with mountains and palm trees. The text reads: "Save the Date Governor Installation – June 7, 2026". It addresses "Dear Rotarians of District 5500" and asks them to mark their calendars. It invites them to celebrate the installation of Emma Carrillo as District Governor for Rotary Year 2026-2027. A circular portrait of Emma Carrillo is shown. Details include: 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. It concludes with "Additional details will be shared soon. We look forward to celebrating together!". The Rotary logo is in the bottom left corner.

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

Special "**Early Bird Gets the Marshmallow" pricing ends November 15th!
Don't miss out on the fun, fellowship, and leadership that await. Register today!
*Fully paid Early Bird registrants will receive a special care package upon arrival!
Register today at zoneinstitute.org
—The Camp Big West Team



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

TRF: What are the Rotary Peace Fellowships?



"The Rotary Peace Fellowship program came at a point in my life where I wanted to validate my work. Some of the skills I took back from the fellowship include better communication in the nonviolent space. I feel supported by this community and can reach out to any peace fellow in the world."

— ElsaMarie D'Silva, CEO, Red Dot Foundation

[Hear from more Rotary Peace Fellows about what they learned and the work they're doing now.](#)

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



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](#).

District Grants

Join Us June 13–17, 2026, at the RI Convention in Taipei!

By Anita D. McDonald



After reading the "Tastes of Taipei" article in the November 2025 issue of the Rotary Magazine, I became even more excited about the upcoming RI Convention in vibrant Taipei! The variety and quality of food offered at stalls or restaurants sounds incredible. Of course, there are many other features of Taipei beckoning you to visit. Most of all, you will enjoy Taipei with thousands of your fellow Rotarians who you will connect with at conference sessions, visiting the House of Friendship, sharing public transportation, attending special events, and more. You gain new insights from the inspiring presentations and see what it means to be a global organization doing good around the world.

To learn more about the Convention or to REGISTER, go to <https://convention.rotary.org/en-us/>

Contact Anita McDonald, msmathlady@live.com if you have any questions.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

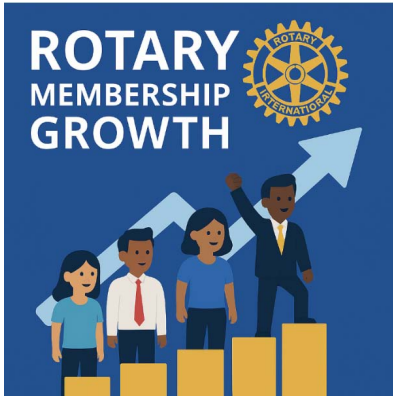
REGISTRATION CATEGORY	13 JUNE 2026 TO 15 DECEMBER 2025	16 DECEMBER 2025 TO 31 MARCH 2026	1 APRIL 2026 TO 17 JUNE 2026
Club member, nonmember, or guest, age 21 or over	\$475	\$575	\$675
Club member, nonmember, or guest, age 18 or under	\$175	\$225	\$275
Guest age 5-18	\$20	\$30	\$40
Guest under age 5	Free	Free	Free
Saturday, House of Friendship entry	\$60	\$60	\$100

All amounts are in U.S. dollars.
 Register today at convention.rotary.org
 #Rotary26

Stop Meeting, Start Engaging: Transforming Your Rotary Meeting

By Wendy Guyton

We've all been there: the familiar chime of the bell, the same seating, and a predictable agenda that feels more like a ritual than an inspiration. While tradition is the heartbeat of Rotary, engagement is its fuel. In an age where time is our most precious commodity, our weekly meetings must offer more than just a meal and a speaker—they must offer a sense of belonging and a spark of purpose. If your club's attendance has dipped or the energy in the room feels static, it's time to rethink the 'standard' breakfast/lunch/dinner meeting.



By shifting our focus from passive listening to active participation, we can transform our meetings into the highlight of every member's week.

Here are some ideas:

"Speed Rotary" Networking: Set up a "speed dating" style rotation where members have three minutes to discuss a specific prompt, such as "What was your first job?" or "Why did you join Rotary?"

The "Ignite" Series: Invite three members to give 5-minute presentations on a personal passion or hobby—strictly unrelated to their business or Rotary.

Fireside Chats: Instead of a podium speech, conduct an onstage interview with guest speakers. It feels more intimate and often leads to much more engaging Q&A sessions.

Change doesn't have to happen all at once. This month, I challenge your club leadership to try one new idea and pilot it. Whether it's swapping a speaker for a micro-service project or simply shuffling the seating chart, observe the energy in the room. You might find that a small shift in format leads to a massive shift in fellowship. Let's stop attending meetings and start creating experiences.

The magic of Rotary doesn't happen because of a specific agenda or a catered meal; it happens because of the people in the room. However, even the most dedicated members need a reason to stay inspired. By trading the predictable for the purposeful, we show our members—and our communities—that Rotary is a dynamic, evolving force for good.

It's been a year since the LA fires. District 5500's support of the Recovery Process

By Sue Archibald



As you are aware, Rotary has played a pivotal role in the recovery process throughout 2025 and into 2026. With clubs from across California and beyond, Rotary's coordinated efforts have focused on long-term relief—providing funding for rebuilding homes, restoring small businesses, and establishing scholarship programs for students impacted by the disaster. Rotary volunteers have also partnered with environmental scientists to plant thousands of native trees and repair damaged water systems in burned areas. Their continued presence has become a cornerstone of resilience in Los Angeles, embodying Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self" as the city transforms tragedy into an opportunity for renewal and stronger community unity. It is important that we do not forget the 17 lives lost and the 6,018 single family homes destroyed with another 1,020 damaged. Also, another 3,000 other structures include commercial businesses. The scale of destruction was truly beyond belief



Click [Read More](#) to see the "Thank You" Letter our District received from Michael Driebe DG 5300 25/26.

[Read More](#)

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.

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

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.



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

Valle Verde Jazz in the Desert 3/7/2026

JAZZ
In the Desert
2026
Saturday, March 7, 2026
In Partnership With
La Posada
GREEN VALLEY

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

Taste of Oro Valley 4/12/2026

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:



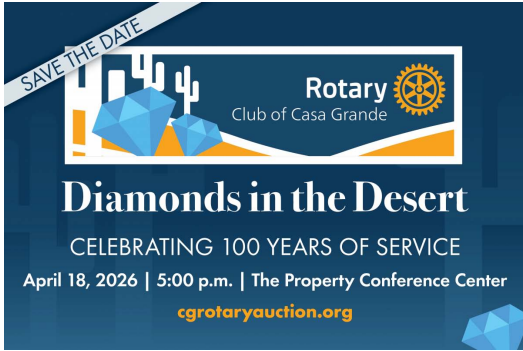
Live music by:



Purchase tickets at:



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



For more information: cgrotaryauction.org

Poster Sale at the Tubac Arts Fair

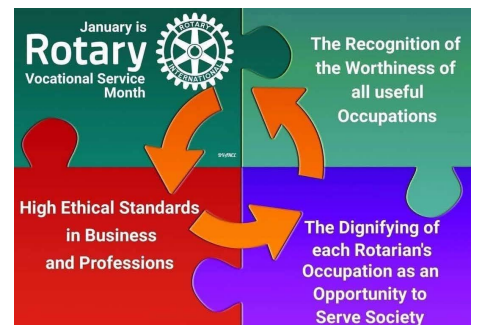


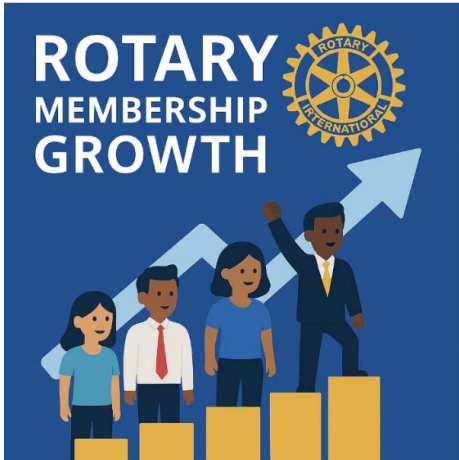
The Tubac Arts Festival is fast approaching. The Tubac Rotary Club will be selling posters at the Chamber information booth by Tumacocookery. We will also have past years posters for sale. Please come visit us.

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.

Graphics Corner — Vocational Services

Enjoy these inspiring Rotary graphics related to this month's international focus on Vocational Services. 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 Truths

- Rotary is for all genders
- Rotary is for all ages, in fact
- Rotary is for all people


True
Rotary's strength is in diversity
Everyone is welcome

- Rotary projects are small
- Rotary projects are large and complex
- Rotary projects are worldwide

True
Our projects make a difference locally & globally

- Rotary is made up of volunteers

True
Why not join us?

Rotary  PEOPLE OF ACTION

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!