

# IMPACT! e-bulletin



June 24, 2025

District Governor Sue Krahe-Archibald

## An Honor to Serve

It's hard to find the right words to describe what an honor it has been to serve as District 5500 Governor. I certainly didn't expect how deeply this experience would impact me. My travels have taken me across the district to our amazing clubs and their fabulous service projects and events. I loved my trips to Rotary International in Evanston, to Hermosillo, MX, working with the Cleft Palate Project, to Xalapa, MX for the Friendship Conference, to LA for PETS, to Spokane for the Zone Conference, to Phoenix for gatherings with District 5495, to Prescott for RYLA, and I can go on.

More than anything, I've been touched by the kindness and generosity I've felt at every club meeting and event I have attended. The warm welcomes, friendly conversations, and genuine sense of community have meant more to me than I can say. I appreciate our amazing club presidents, the District Governor Line, the committee chairs, and all the dedicated Assistant Governors that keep our district strong.

Throughout the year, I've had the privilege of witnessing the incredible work happening across our district. One special highlight was the installation of Peace Poles in Willcox—a meaningful symbol of Rotary's commitment to peace and unity. The LA Fire response from our clubs was amazing and heartfelt. Another inspiring moment was welcoming the brand-new **Rainbow Rotary Club** to our district. It's always exciting to see our Rotary family grow, and I look forward to the energy and ideas this new club will bring.

I've also been continually inspired by the amazing support of the Rotary Foundation. Its resources and vision empower us to make a real, lasting difference—locally and globally. I've seen the impact of Foundation-supported projects across our district, and it's clear that we are part of something much bigger than ourselves. Through our new membership with the ICC, both the Mexican/American Friendship Project Fair and our relationship with Spain will continue to evolve. We added the International Project Fair to the District Conference and have learned so much from each other.



Our Youth Programs are growing, and I look forward to the growth of RYLA, Interact, Rotaract and Youth Exchange in the years to come.

I've learned so much from all of you—about service, leadership, and the strength that comes from working together. Thank you for allowing me to be part of your journey and for making mine so meaningful.

This year has been a gift, and the magic I see every day across the District is something I will carry with me always.

## Call for Nominations for District Governor 2028-29



Rotary International District 5500 is now accepting nominations for the position of District Governor for the 2028–2029 Rotary year. This esteemed leadership role offers a unique opportunity to guide our district, inspire fellow Rotarians, and make a lasting impact on our communities.

Serving as District Governor is both an honor and a significant responsibility. The selected individual will act as the official representative of Rotary International within District 5500, providing leadership, motivation, and guidance to Rotary clubs throughout the district. See the attached Application that includes upcoming important dates.

Make a difference in our Rotary District 5500!

**Nominations of candidates to serve as District Governor in 2028-29 are due to Dave Lenox, our district administrator, at [DaveRotary5500@gmail.com](mailto:DaveRotary5500@gmail.com) not later than September 6, 2025.** Any club may nominate a candidate who is a member of that club or a member of another club (with the other club's concurrence). **We will hold an orientation and Q/A session at 10am on August 9, 2025 via Zoom, for all interested Rotarians who are thinking about applying. Candidate interviews will be held on September 13, 2025, beginning at noon, also via Zoom.**

[Click here](#) for an Application

[Read More](#)

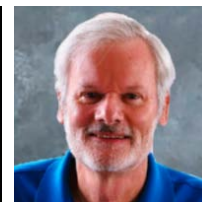
## A Time of Transition: Acknowledging Our Impact, Embracing What's Next

Each year on July 1st, Rotary enters a new chapter—one defined by new leadership based in continuity and renewed purpose. This transition is not merely administrative; it reflects Rotary's tradition of thoughtful planning, shared leadership, and sustained impact.

As the 2024–2025 Rotary year ends, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to **District Governor Sue Archibald**, who has

guided the District with enthusiasm, competence, and compassion.

Sue's tenure has seen growth in member engagement, especially in the outlying areas of the District, cross-club collaboration such as the California wildfire response, and future-focused initiatives like the digital marketing campaign. We appreciate her dedication and the foundation she has built for Rotary's future.



Now, as we prepare to welcome **Bruce Monro as our 2025-2026 District Governor**, we look forward not to a sudden change but to continuity between past, current and future District Governors focused on the Rotary of the future. Bruce transitions into leadership not from a blank slate but as part of a multi-year process developed with input from the entire DG line and feedback from the clubs. This truly represents the passing of the baton between teammates running the same race.

[Read More](#)

## Rotary Also Means Fun and Friendship

Okay. Maybe metal is not your chosen genre of music, and that's perfectly fine. But consider this: If Rotary has an action group for metal enthusiasts, it's highly likely they will have one for a topic that excites you. There is even a group for coffee lovers and bird watching.

Joining an action group can be a fantastic complement to your local club membership. It's an opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals, share experiences, and maybe even form new friendships that could lead to some of the most rewarding moments of your life.

Check out the Rotary Fellowships website [here](#). Hopefully, there is something that interests you.



## Membership Moment



As you prepare for the new Rotary year, remember that engaged members lead to a vibrant club. Members are more likely to be engaged when their needs are met, and the best way to understand your members' needs is to ask about them. You can use a member interest survey and a member satisfaction survey to gather this valuable information that will help improve your club experience.

These surveys have a new, editable online format, so you can easily customize questions for your members. The guides below will help you do that. After members complete a survey, you'll be able to view the results online.

[Creating Your Online Member Interest Survey](#) — Customize a survey for new and prospective members so you can help them find experiences they'll enjoy.

[Creating Your Online Member Satisfaction Survey](#) — Customize a survey for current members so you can learn how they feel about their experience in your club.

Assessing the feedback from the surveys and using it to make improvements to the club experience can lead to the long-term growth and success of your club.

## TRF Closing the Rotary Foundation Year

Thank you for supporting The Rotary Foundation this past year!

The need for the Foundation's programs never stops, and the need for your support and participation continues as well. The Foundation will keep changing lives long into the future.

**Let's be proud of our accomplishments during this amazing year!**



## Rotary International Convention 2026



No time like the present! As we prepare to start the new Rotary year and as the 2025 Rotary Convention is going on in Calgary, this is the best time to start planning for the 2026 Convention in Taipei. Registration fees are the lowest they will be right now as the Calgary convention is wrapping up. Click [here](#) to see what is planned and to register.

## Gary Hirsch Receives Rotary International Service Award

**Optimistic. Dedicated. Persistent.** These are the qualities that define Rotarians around the world—qualities that have driven the success of **PolioPlus** and fueled our unwavering commitment to ending polio forever.

These words echoed at the District Governor Installation event when DG Sue Archibald presented **Gary Hirsch** of the Tucson Rotary Club with the **International Service Award for a Polio-Free World for 2024–2025** in recognition for his significant, hands-on service toward the goal of polio eradication—not just in our Rotary region, but on a global scale.

To give you an idea of the significance of this award, only a maximum of 60 such awards are given out annually across the globe.

Gary's contributions are extraordinary. Since the inception of the **District 5500 Ride to End Polio** in 2008, Gary has been at the heart of the effort. As a founding member of the organizing committee, he helped launch what began as a modest initiative among five local Rotary clubs. Today, he continues to serve as Chair of the Leadership Committee.

Thanks in no small part to Gary's vision and leadership, the D5500 Ride to End Polio has raised over **\$75 million** to date, including the matching funds from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. These funds are vital to distributing wild polio vaccines and bringing us closer to Rotary's shared goal: a world free of polio.

[Read More](#)



## 2025 District Training Assembly in Sierra Vista in the Books!

By Leo J. Lawrenson

The first of our FOUR 2025 District 5500 Training Assemblies to provide club officers and others with valuable training and information was successfully conducted at the Sierra Vista Salvation Army Center on Saturday, 17 May. Approximately 34 Rotarians attended from various clubs, one from as far away as Yuma!

To view copies of the presentations, click on the links below:

- [Opening](#)
- [Club Governance](#)
- [Club Experience](#)
- [Secretary Training](#)
- [Public Image/Communications Training](#)
- [Treasurer Training](#)
- [Grant Management Training](#)
- [Youth Protection Training](#)

Be sure to register for one of the remaining three Assemblies on the D5500 Calendar:

- 12 Jul 2025 [Florence](#)
- 19 Jul 2025 [Tucson](#)
- 26 Jul 2025 [Yuma](#)

**DISTRICT  
TRAINING ASSEMBLY**



**With Bruce Monro**  
District Governor

**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**

**Rotary**  
District 5500

- Sierra Vista May 17
- Pinal County July 12
- Tucson July 19
- Yuma July 26

**Make a Difference  
Make a Friend**

8:00am-2:00pm  
Breakfast & Lunch Served  
No Charge

**WHO SHOULD  
ATTEND:**

- Presidents & Presidents-Elect
- Secretaries
- Membership Chairs

**WHAT TO  
EXPECT:**

- Grants Management Certification
- Public Image
- Foundation
- Networking

**All Rotarians**

- Assistant Governors
- Treasurers
- Public Image Chairs
- Membership
- Youth Protection
- Governance Training

Join us for the annual District Training Assembly. Come learn more about the 2025-26 Rotary club year. Engage and share ideas as you learn about best practices, tips and tools with Rotarians across southern Arizona.

Location specifics  
available when registering

 [rotaryd5500.org](https://rotaryd5500.org)

**RSVP NOW**

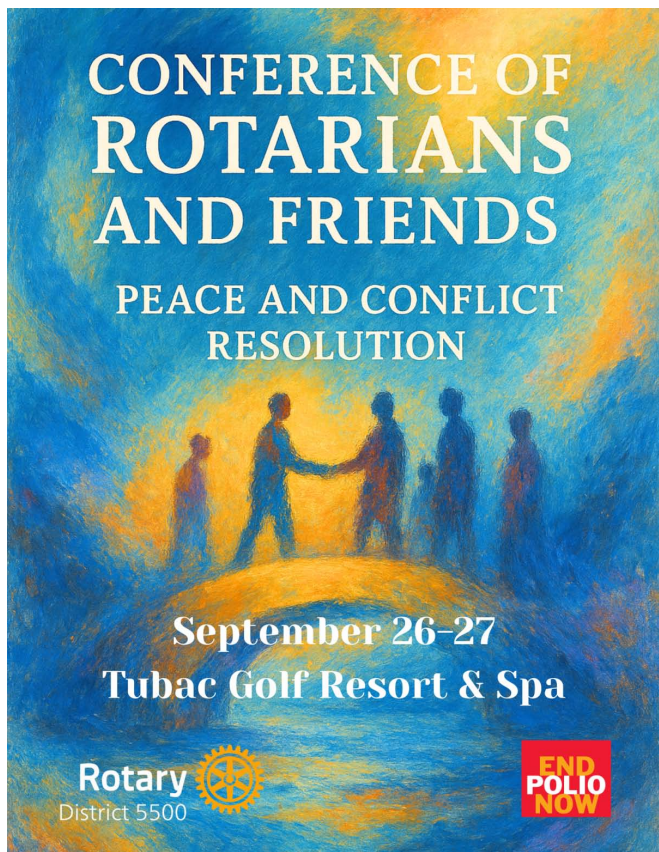
Use QR code or visit  
[rotaryd5500.org/district-assembly](https://rotaryd5500.org/district-assembly)

## District Conference Update

We are excited to present the updated notice for the District Conference. Our major theme is: **Peace and Conflict Resolution**. **Conference registration is now open and you can register [HERE!](#)**

The conference will offer valuable insights and skills to enhance your personal and professional life. In our divided world, navigating conflict with diplomacy is essential. Our speakers and breakout sessions will provide practical **strategies for managing conflicts** in various settings. Engage with experts and gain tools to foster collaboration and dialogue.





[Read More](#)

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## Thank You, District Conference Sponsors!

We wish to extend a massive thank you to our latest Silver sponsor, **Quantum Wealth Management**, for their generosity and support. Also huge thanks to **Oracle Land and Homes, Sue Archibald, Anne Fisher, Ron Darrah, Charlotte Gates, Michael Drake, Rotary Clubs of Mountain Empire, Tubac, Valle Verde, Rio Rico and Pantano**, who have already pledged to sponsor our District Conference this year.

### Will your Club be a sponsor this year?

This year's conference will take place September 26-27 at the beautiful Tubac Golf and Country Club.

Come learn about our District 5500's international projects, collaborate with Rotarians from neighboring clubs, generate ideas, hear inspirational speakers, share fellowship, and more. The House of Friendship promises to be outstanding again this year.

[Read More](#)



## District Conference Room Reservations

### District Conference Rooms are filling up! TUBAC GOLF RESORT ROOM RESERVATIONS

While we are over three months away from the conference, our room block is filling up quickly!! We have already exceeded our room block on Thursday and Saturday. If you are planning to attend, do not wait until the last minute to book your room. You may not get one. You can call the Resort direct at 520.398.2211.



## Celebration of Life for 2025 District Conference of Clubs

By Leo J. Lawrenson



Have any members of your club passed on since 1 October 2024? Please let us know so that they will be included in the Celebration of Life at this year's D5500 Conference of Rotarians and Friends 25-26 September, 2025. Click [HERE](#) for a simple fillable PDF form that should be completed and returned to [Leo@Lawrenson.com](mailto:Leo@Lawrenson.com).

## Save the Date! Mexico - USA Friendship Conference in Yuma

**October 31 - November 3, 2025**

**Registration opens July 1**

Mark your calendar for this year's Mexico-USA Friendship Conference and Global Grants Exchange in Downtown Yuma, Arizona. Scan the QR code below for more information. Registration opens July 1.



## Rotary Zone 26/27 Conference

**October 23-25, 2025, in Albuquerque, NM!**

Imagine cruising down Route 66 and stopping at the BEST attractions along the way. That's exactly what Rotary Zone Institute 2025 offers.

- Inspiring New Perspectives
- Hands-on leadership training
- Networking that fuels your Rotary journey

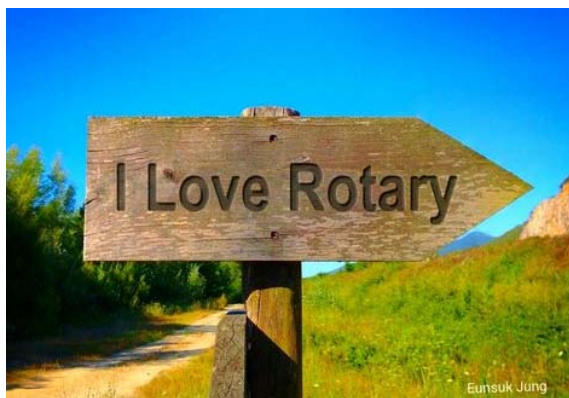
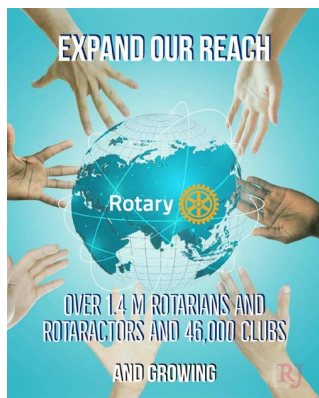
Don't just take the back roads—be on the fast track to success.

Register today! [Click here.](#)



## Graphics Corner

Enjoy this week's inspiring Rotary graphics. 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.



## Yuma Sunrise Bowllo

Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at Inca Lanes, 1250 West 16th Street, Yuma

[Click here](#) for registration form





**Rotary Bowl XI** All proceeds go to  
**Rotary International Polio Plus**

**SATURDAY AUGUST 2, 2025**  
**REGISTRATION BEGINS @ 1PM**  
**BOWLING BEGINS @ 2PM**

**\$35 Per Player**  
**\$150 Per Team**

**LOCATION**  
**INCA LANES**  
 1250 WEST 16TH STREET, YUMA, AZ

**3 GAMES OF BOWLING & SHOES INCLUDED**

**SIGN UP NOW!**  
 Please return the registration to  
**Mike (928) 580-5992**  
**mrsuba@yahoo.com**

Make checks payable to:  
 The Yuma Sunrise Rotary Club/Bowl XI | All proceeds go to Rotary International Polio Plus

[Read More](#)

## RCOT - 2025 Tucson Classic Car Show

**Save the Date! Saturday, October 18**

**A fundraising opportunity for your club:**

All Rotary Clubs are invited to sell tickets to the TCCS and keep half of whatever they raise ... \$5 of every \$10 ticket you sell.

[Click here](#) to learn more and to sign up.



**Tucson Classics  
 Car Show**

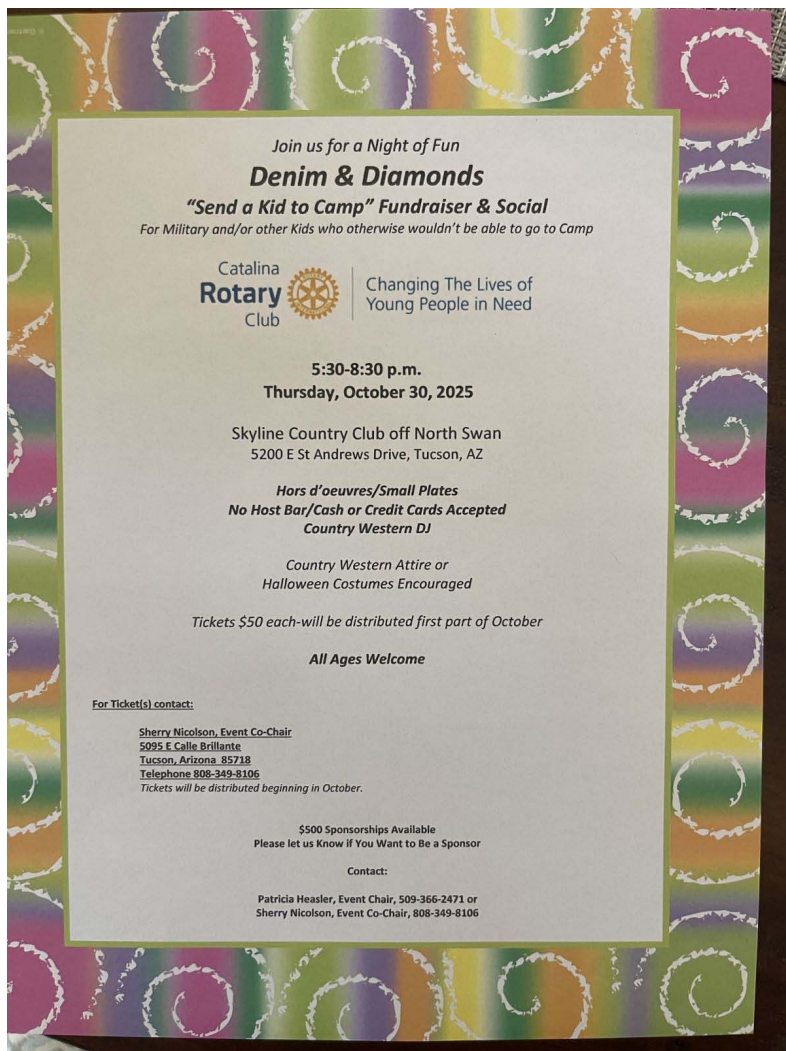
PRESENTED BY:  
**Rotary**  
 Club of Tucson



## Catalina Rotary: Denim & Diamonds Fundraiser

**Thursday, October 30, 2025. 5:30 - 8:30 PM**

**"Send a Kid to Camp"**



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## Share Your Club's News!

Would you like 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](mailto: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.

**PLUS...SHOWCASE YOUR PAST PROJECTS & FUNDRAISERS!** We'll feature them in our **Rotary in Action Quarterly**.

Use [this form](#) and send it to [DaveRotary5500@gmail.com](mailto:DaveRotary5500@gmail.com). **Don't forget to include photos -- the more the merrier!**

