



## Tuesday, March 24, 2026 --- District Governor Bruce Monroe

### Later in Life Service: Thoughts from a District Governor

By Bruce Monroe



If you've ever participated in a Rotary membership session, you're likely aware of the strong focus on increasing our membership with younger individuals. I wholeheartedly support this approach, as young people bring valuable skills and fresh perspectives that can energize our organization. However, I'd like to speak on behalf of those of us who aren't part of the younger generation.

There comes a moment in life when achievement gives way to meaning. When the titles, deadlines, and milestones that once defined us begin to matter less than the people we've helped and the lives we've touched. Many discover, often in the second half of life, that **service isn't just something we do — it's something that completes us.**

Rotary is one of the rare places where that realization can become a calling.

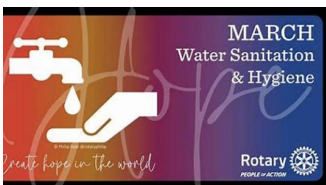
After decades of learning, working, raising families, and navigating life's turns, we arrive with something priceless: perspective. We know what truly lasts. We know that the world doesn't change because of one grand gesture, but because of steady hands and willing hearts. And we know that the greatest impact often comes from those who choose service freely, not out of obligation, but out of purpose. Later-in-life service carries a special kind of power. It says: I've lived enough life to know what matters — and I choose to give back. It says: My story isn't winding down; it's widening. It says: **Legacy is not what we leave behind, but what we set in motion.**

Rotarians embody this truth every day. We bring experience, patience, and a deep understanding of community. We know how to listen. We know how to lead without needing the spotlight. And we know that the most meaningful chapters of life are often the ones we write after the world assumes our story is already told.

Service later in life is not a second act — it's a culmination. It's the moment when **everything we've learned becomes a basis of what we have to give.**

And in Rotary, that gift becomes a force for peace, dignity, and hope.

### March is Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month!



Each week during March we will highlight the great work of Rotary Clubs in District 5500 supporting Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene.

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

### District 5500 News and Upcoming Events You Should Know About!

#### Unite for Lebanon

##### Rotary's Humanitarian Role in the Middle East Conflict

##### District 5500 Message for Clubs and Members

As the conflict in the Middle East continues to affect civilians in Israel, Gaza, and neighboring countries, many Rotarians are asking how Rotary responds in times like these. Rotary International has issued statements reaffirming our longstanding commitment to peace, humanitarian action, and the protection of all people affected by violence.

Rotary does **not** take political positions or align with governments or factions. Instead, Rotary focuses on what we do best: **supporting neutral, needs-based humanitarian relief** and strengthening peace building efforts wherever communities are suffering.

Though Rotary International has not specifically addressed this most recent crisis, in its most recent statements, it has:

\* **Condemned attacks on civilians** and expressed deep concern for the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Rotaract Lebanon Rotary Lebanon Interact Lebanon

# UNITE FOR LEBANON

Rotarians, Rotaractors & Interactors are collaborating on a national level to make sure that displaced families across Lebanon have access to primary needs, such as:

- Nutritional Items
- Medical Items
- Hygiene Items
- Babies Necessities
- Clothing & Warmth
- Shelter & Water Sanitation

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT**

Join our efforts to provide primary needs to displaced families all over Lebanon.

**DONATE NOW**  
www.unite4leb.com

- \* Called on all parties to seek peaceful solutions and protect innocent lives.
- \* Encouraged Rotary and Rotaract clubs worldwide to support trusted, nonpolitical humanitarian organizations working in the region.
- \* Reaffirmed that Rotary's mission is grounded in **peace, compassion, and service above self**, not political advocacy.

Rotary clubs across the Middle East—including in Israel, Palestine, Jordan, and Lebanon—continue to serve their communities despite extraordinary challenges. Districts and clubs around the world may choose to support relief efforts through **vetted partners**, district grants, or global grants that meet Rotary's strict neutrality and humanitarian standards.

As Rotarians in District 5500, we should stand with all people affected by conflict and uphold Rotary's belief that **peace is possible when we commit to understanding, dialogue, and compassionate action**. Our role is not to take sides, but to extend help where it is needed most.

[www.unite4leb.com](http://www.unite4leb.com)

## 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>

## TRVFA Giving

Hot off the press...2nd TRVFA video to share. This video explains the tax credit "how to" and can be used at club meetings, in presentations, and shared with friends and family. It can also be shared with your tax accountant.

VIDEOS to share with your club:

[https://youtu.be/pvaEq6\\_dk](https://youtu.be/pvaEq6_dk) Newest

<https://youtu.be/LipgMyAnjQ> First in the series



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](#)

## 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](http://zoneinstitute.org)

—The Camp Big West Team

[#CampBigWest](#) [#RotaryZones26/27](#) [#RotaryInstitute2026](#) [#BigWestRotary](#) [#RegisterNow](#)

## TRF: Words from a Rotary Global Scholar



"During my time as a Rotary scholar, I learned to look at development differently. We often think of international aid in terms of poverty reduction, and we often see poverty reduction in terms of dollars spent and earned. The anthropology of development aims to analyze global aid in another way. We pay particular attention to how initiatives play out on the ground to determine just what local communities' needs are and how those needs might be met sustainably and, eventually, autonomously. ... Rotarians understand that to have the most impact, we need to learn from other cultures. As global grant scholars, that's what we aim to do — during our studies, and afterward."

— Levi Vonk, a global grant scholar and later a Fulbright fellow to Mexico

Learn more about Vonk and [his work with migrants in Mexico](#).

## 2026 District 5500 Conference Room Reservations!

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

## 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.

Save the  
2026 ROTARY  
DISTRICT 5500  
CONFERENCE

TUBAC GOLF  
RESORT AND SPA

1 Otero Road  
Tubac, AZ 85646

Registration opens  
July 1, 2026

Tubac! Rotary District 5500

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.

## Update on ICC in District 5500



Our district's current ICC members (by order of creation):

- USA France – Odette Koffi, new Representative (Kino)
  - USA Spain – Rick Chimblo, President/Chair (Oro Valley)
  - USA Mexico – Jennifer Sprung, new Representative (Tucson Verde)
  - USA Israel – PDG Diane Ventura Goodyear, Representative (Tucson Sunset)
  - USA Portugal – PDG Diane Ventura Goodyear, Representative (Tucson Sunset)
- USA Canada/Guatemala/Honduras/Belize – Gene Medina, Representative (Tucson Rainbow)

Welcome, Odette Koffi and Jennifer Sprung, our new representatives for district 5500 and ICC. The ICC National Coordination Team is actively working on the creation of new ICCs with N. Macedonia/Slovenia, The Philippines, Vietnam, Germany and China. The charters should be signed before the new Rotary year, starting on July 1, 2026.

Three of those new ICCs are scheduled to be signed in Taipei at the International Rotary Convention (June 2026). If any club in our district has an interest in participating, please contact Claudine Schooley, the ICC National Coordinator, at [cgschooley@outlook.com](mailto:cdschooley@outlook.com) or 805-796-8351.

The newly created DISC committee and the ICC District 5500 Team will have a meeting on Wednesday, April 8 at 5:00 pm to discuss the future of ICC and International Services relationships in district 5500. Contact Gene Medina at [otivar2@gmail.com](mailto:otivar2@gmail.com) if you need the meeting link.

For those who are not familiar with ICC, Intercountry Committee, please learn more about ICC at [Intercountry Committees \(ICC\) | Rotary District 5500](https://www.rotary.org/en/intercountry-committees-icc)

## 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](mailto: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.

## Rotary Club of Tucson Hears from US Senator Mark Kelly on April 8, 2026



### NOTE: DATE CHANGE!

Hello fellow Arizona Rotarians!

Our United States Senator Mark Kelly will be the program at the Rotary Club of Tucson's lunch meeting on Wednesday, April 8, at noon at the Tucson Convention Center (Coconino/Greenlee Rooms) and we'd like you to join us for this interesting and relevant discussion! We will be limiting our regular agenda to give Senator Kelly ample time to speak with us and answer questions.

Registration information:

- All attendees must register in advance by calling the Rotary office at 520.623-2281 or emailing [rotary@tucsonrotary.org](mailto:rotary@tucsonrotary.org) by Friday, April 3.
- Rotary guests get FREE PARKING at the TCC. To register your license plate please send the plate number to: Lorena Guevara at [lquevara@premiumparking.com](mailto:lquevara@premiumparking.com) or stop by guest services right outside of the meeting space.
- Guests will only pay for their lunch (\$40/ea) which includes a buffet – and COOKIES! Please pay at registration via Cash, Check or Credit Card.
- Please submit your questions in advance (send them to [Dotary@dkajobs.com](mailto:Dotary@dkajobs.com)) – there will be no questions from the floor).





Watering Hole is hosting a Youth Programs Benefit on 29 March, 4-8pm. There will be music by "The Band Wanted", dancing, raffles, and most importantly...fun. You can get your tickets using the QR code in the graphic — cost is \$20 through 28 March, which jumps to \$25 the day of the event and at the door. There is also a door prize drawing for early bird ticket holders. Doc's Watering Hole — Good for What "Ale's" Ya!

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/sunrise-rotary-youth-programs-benefit-at-docs>

## Benson Golf Tournament 4/11/26



[www.rotaryswingintospring.com](http://www.rotaryswingintospring.com)

## Taste of Oro Valley 4/12/2026

*A Taste of*  
**Oro Valley Life**

Proudly presented by  
**Rotary**  
Club of Oro Valley

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026  
4:30 – 7:30 PM  
Steam Pump Ranch  
10901 N Oracle Rd, Oro Valley  
[tasteoforovalley.org](http://tasteoforovalley.org)

**A Taste of Oro Valley - April 12, 2026**  
[tasteoforovalley.org](http://tasteoforovalley.org)

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

Proceeds will benefit:



Live music by:



Purchase tickets at:



## Casa Adobes Scholarship Raffle 4/15/26

[www.casasadobesrotary.org](http://www.casasadobesrotary.org)

**2026 Casas Adobes Rotary Foundation Scholarship**

**Guaranteed WIN\***  
\*Everyone that buys a ticket wins with the knowledge they have helped further youth education in our community.

**GRAND PRIZE**  
**One Week Stay in a Beautiful Kauai, Hawaii Condo**

**Tickets are \$20 each**

Since 1990, Casas Adobes Rotary Club has awarded approximately \$750,000 in scholarships to local high school seniors at its annual Eight Grade Honors breakfast. These seniors have previously been honored when they were eighth-graders for showing dedication to learning, the community, and leadership.

**Please Support Local Youth & Education by Purchasing Raffle Tickets**

**Casas Adobes Rotary**

Casas Adobes Rotary Foundation (501c 3) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All proceeds from the sale of raffle tickets go to support the foundation's educational programs including the Trust Center Scholarship Program, August Summer Basketball, Children's Clinic, Impact One Million School, and other throughout our community.

**Dozens of other prizes. For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit [www.CasasAdobesRotary.org](http://www.CasasAdobesRotary.org)**

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

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Rotary**  
 Club of Casa Grande

**Diamonds in the Desert**  
 CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

April 18, 2026 | 5:00 p.m. | The Property Conference Center

[cgrotaryauction.org](http://cgrotaryauction.org)

For more information: [cgrotaryauction.org](http://cgrotaryauction.org)

## Saddlebrooke Golf Tournament 4/20/26

**The Rotary**  
 Club of SaddleBrooke

**MONDAY**  
**APRIL 20, 2026**

**MountainView Golf Club**

Shotgun 1 pm  
 Four person Best Ball Scramble

**Rotary Charity Golf Tournament**  
 benefiting YOUTH PROGRAMS and SCHOLARSHIPS

**Golfer Contribution \$150**  
**Foursome \$600**

Register & Pay in 1 transaction  
[saddlebrookerotary.com](http://saddlebrookerotary.com)

**Includes:** Golf, Driving Range  
 On Course Lunch  
 Buffet Dinner following golf

Special Hole-In-One Awards on every Par 3  
 Plus on course contests for Ladies and Men  
 Tees based on Age and Gender

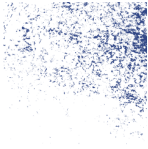
Golfer Name	E-Mail	Phone Number
1		
2		
3		
4		

If we do not have a foursome, please pair me with \_\_\_\_\_  
 Make checks payable to: SADDLEBROOKE ROTARY CLUB FOUNDATION, INC.  
 P.O. Box 8388  
 Catalina, AZ 85738  
 Pay with credit card at [www.saddlebrookerotary.com](http://www.saddlebrookerotary.com)  
 To register or for further information contact Dan Watson: [danielwatson@aol.com](mailto:danielwatson@aol.com) (818) 314-0422

## Mountain Empire Movie Night 4/26/26



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



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

**Tucson Verde Rotary Club** presents  
**A Tour of Tucson Homes & Businesses**  
Hosted by Pam Pineda  
Sunday, April 26 9 am - 2 pm  
Showcasing examples of water, energy, and historical conservation and other environmental features in the community  
FOR REGISTRATION, TICKET PURCHASE AND MORE INFORMATION VISIT:  
[www.RotaryTucsonVerde.com](http://www.RotaryTucsonVerde.com) Rotary Club of Tucson Verde

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](http://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](mailto:linda@thevacationplanner.biz).

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

San Luis Frontera Rotary Club  
CRAPS ROULETTE BLACK JACK  
**WILD WEST CASINO NIGHT**  
MAY 1, 2026 8:00 PM - MIDNIGHT  
780 N. CESAR CHAVEZ ST. SAN LUIS, AZ  
PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT OUR SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
anvida Health  
1 FREE DRINK PLAYING CHIPS HEAVY APPETIZERS  
SALOON

### Wild Wild West Casino Night

Cost: \$77.00

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

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!

## Rainbow Rotary Tucson's Queen of the Night Benefit Ball 5/2/26

To buy a ticket: Use the QR code or follow this link!  
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/benefit-ball>

Get ready to be part of something extraordinary at the Queen of the Night Benefit Ball, Rainbow Rotary Club of Tucson's fundraising event. In addition to the dance,

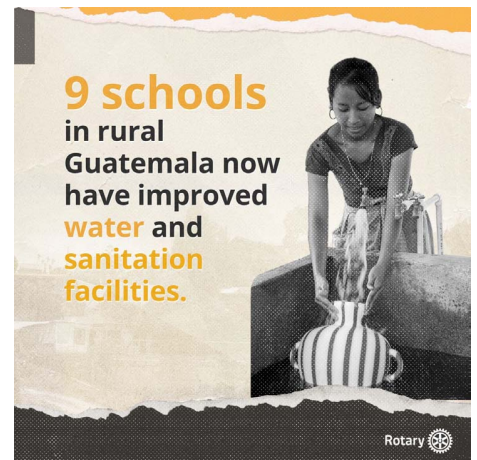
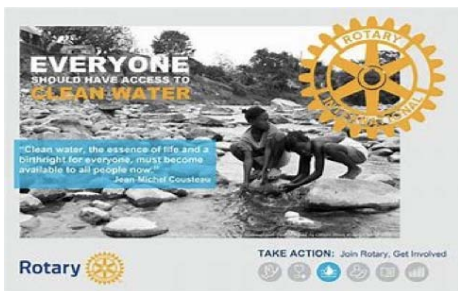


there will be great appetizers, entertainment and other opportunities to donate!  
 The Queen of the Night is a cactus that only shows its beauty at night. Come show the world how YOU bloom as we celebrate our community while helping City High School students and other Rainbow Rotary projects find the support they deserve.  
 Dress to express yourself, impress others, or just dance! There will be prizes!  
 Proceeds benefit City High School of Tucson Junior and Senior Trips and Rainbow Rotary Club of Tucson Service Projects!



## Graphics Corner - Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

Enjoy these inspiring Rotary graphics related to this month's international focus on **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene**. 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](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.

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

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