

Club Name	Nominee	Award Category	Description
Benson	Terry Fleetwood	Energizer Rotarian (submitted by Ann MacInnis Cook)	Terry took on the presidency and has extraordinary involvement in helping to not only carry on our projects, but introducing new ones. He has taken our small club which had lost a number of members due to retirements, moving from the area and death to bring in vibrant new members and strengthening the community recognition.
Casa Grande	Club	Best Fundraising Event Submitted by Zoe Cooper	Denim & Diamonds raised over \$90,000 to support high school scholarships, local nonprofits and school organizations. Over 300 guests showed up in their boots and bling. Local school clubs assisted with setup, cleanup and event operations in a true community effort.
Casa Grande	Club	Public Image & Marketing Submitted by Zoe Cooper	Our club's social media presence has played a key role in promoting our work and connecting with the community. Through consistent sharing of service projects, fundraising events, and community initiatives, we've grown our Instagram account to 218 followers and our Facebook page to 940.
Casa Grande	Robert Miller	Energizer Rotarian (Jerry Stanley)	As president over the past 3 years, Robert has as our President he has taken us to new heights in fundraising and community engagement. With him at the helm e have held three Oktoberfests and brought back the annual Denim and Diamonds fundraiser.
Casas Adobes	Club	Best Youth Engagement; Public Image & Mktg; Collaboration & Partnership; and Innovation in Service submitted by Bob Sommerfeld	This year our club held the 35th Annual 8th Grade Honor Roll Celebration at the University of Arizona's Memorial Student Union Ballroom. The event brought 490 students, parents, school administrators and Rotarians to recognize 148 8th grade students from 17 local area schools and awarded \$55,500.00 in scholarships to 12 high school seniors who were previously recognized in the 8th Grade Honor Roll Celebration.
Dove Mountain	Club	Collaboration & Partnership submitted by Barbara Barr and Charlene Meyers	When faced with replacement of their President in October 2024, The Dove Mountain Rotary Club decided to have Past Presidents take one or more months during the calendar year of officiating Club Meetings! This approach worked extremely well and helped keep the club strong and attractive to new members (4 new members by 6/30/25!)
Fort Yuma	Juan Guzman	Membership Growth / Energizer/Innovation in Service submitted by Wendy Steward, Darlene Firestone and Devon McPherson	Juan danced the Tango, hopped the Wobble and circled the Salsa. He had to navigate a board that DID not want to take the biggest risk we've ever taken for fundraising to build the FIRST ever indoor playground. He is always positive and forward looking. He is energetic and makes our Rotary FUN AGAIN! Against all odds, he is breaking records. He is an amazing leader and fun to be around. We are lucky to have him. -Wendy Steward
Maricopa	Jim Irving	Social Butterfly submitted by Patti Coutre	Jim's passion for Rotary and dedication to community service are evident in every conversation and interaction. He has played a key role in expanding the reach of Rotary in Maricopa, including the successful establishment of two Rotary Interact Clubs at local high schools. He is constantly building connections between organizations, businesses, and individuals to strengthen community involvement.
Mountain Empire	Kati Spencer	Innovation in Service / Social Butterfly submitted by Jean Miller	Kati is always the ring leader for Club projects and fund raisers. She has planned and done most of the work for our last 2 successful raffles. She is the genius behind all the advances the Club has made in Social Media. Whether it is pruning roses at the Sonoita Rotary Park or researching new projects, Kati is always in motion to move our Club forward.
Oro Valley	Club	Innovation in Service submitted by Rick Chimbo	For over ten years, the Rotary Club of Oro Valley has supported the annual Guatemala Literacy Project and its innovative "Adopt-a-Village" program. This year, they completed a Global Grant for "Water, Sanitation & Hygiene", constructed a new library-ESL classroom, and placed Peace Poles throughout the village of El Jute. The Club continues to work together with the village to improve the education of over 250 children, encouraging their studies through university to break the cycle of poverty with better job opportunities.

Oro Valley	Club	Collaboration & Partnership submitted by Jane Shurtleff	The club partnered with the BNI 6 Figure Success organization in its 3rd annual fashion show fundraiser whose primary beneficiary was the Oro Valley Rotary Foundation and its 2025 beneficiaries: Teen Challenge's Springboard Home for Girls and the Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona. \$10,000 was raised by the event, which was then matched by the Oro Valley Club, totaling \$20,000.
Oro Valley	Jane Shurtleff	Public Image & Marketing submitted by Sheree Anderson	Jane worked tirelessly to promote our club's major fundraiser "Taste of Oro Valley" - she procured radio spots, print advertising, news and much, much more. The result was the most well attended event we have ever had. Bravo, Jane!
Rainbow Rotary	Jenni Stern	Innovation in Service submitted by Chad Denson	Jenni put together the concessions for the Ride to End Polio, the rainbow crosswalk painting at YOTO, harm reduction kits with SAAF, AIDS WALK with SAAF, and multiple projects with UofA Rotaract. She has been a master in collaboration and creativity and has largely been responsible for the growth of the Rainbow club.
Rainbow Rotary	Kim Anderson, Youth Services Committee	Energizer Rotarian submitted by Chad Denson	Kim has been at more Rainbow Rotary Club meetings, events, socials than any member or officer of the club. At Ride to End Polio, she held a sign directing people to the concessions for 5 straight hours in the sun, this was after spending 4 hours setting up. She's always got a positive attitude, she's one of the first to every meeting and one of the last to leave.
Rainbow Rotary	Kirk Reed	Innovation in Service / Walking Billboard submitted by Chad Denson	Kirk is always in Rotary gear. He helped the Rainbow club gain members just by talking about Rotary from conversations sparked by his attire. Whether he's in his ride to end polio shirt or his rainbow shirt, Kirk is always dressed to kill.
Rainbow Rotary	Jim O'Rourke	Membership Growth submitted by Chad Denson	Jim O'Rourke is responsible for bringing in more than ten folks brand new to Rotary. Having conversations in the community, powerful posts on social media, and targeted campaigns at events, Jim has been instrumental at recruiting for the Rainbow Club.
Rincon	Rocky Ferrell	Super Recruiter submitted by Thomas Eif	Rocky Ferrell is an energizer bunny recruiter for Rincon Rotary. He consistently recruits and brings new members into the club, including all the bells and whistles that go with the induction. He carries a "ditty bag" of potential members, always on the prowl for them.
SaddleBrooke	John Howard	Innovation in Service / Energizer submitted by Wendy Guyton	John has been our Community Service Chair for three years. He is an outstanding leader in our community, having implemented many projects, engaged participation, and positively impacted many.
SaddleBrooke	Kristi Halvorson	Collaboration & Partnership / Walking Billboard (submitted by Wendy Guyton)	Kristi is an outstanding leader in our club and District 5500. She is a shining star in our club and facilitated the closure of an RI grant for clean water in Nogales Mexico that we tried to get closed for over 8 years. She is a great Rotarian!
SaddleBrooke	Harvey Smith, International Committee Chair	Collaboration & Partnership / Energizer	To date we have identified and approved funding for two Global projects, a community economic development project in M'bour Senegal, West Africa, originated by RC of Tucson, and cleft palate/lip treatments in Mexico originated by the Tubac club. We funded at the silver level of ShelterBox and continue as a Rotary Champion. The club also made a significant donation to support the LA fire victims. We are also a sister club to a club in Hermosillo.
SaddleBrooke	Club	Collaboration & Partnership submitted by John Oszust	The "Corazon - Build a House in a Day" project involved cash contributions from 6 Rotary clubs, members from 7 Rotary Clubs (not including non-Rotarian friends), and locals of the Tecate area. We built a house in a day for a family of 3, and gained friendships the evening prior and afterwards. This International, hands on project changed lives for both the recipients and the attendees, was the literal description of "People of Action".
Sierra Vista	Club	Best Fundraising Event Submitted by Kasey Harter	The Sierra Vista Rotary Club, in partnership with the City of Sierra Vista and Fort Huachuca, hosts a full slate of Independence Day activities on July 4! From scheduling all the food and vendors, Pepsi, and beer, and the most amazing fireworks display in Southern Arizona. This event funds our entire year and lets the community see who Rotary is.
Sierra Vista	Club	Public Image & Marketing Submitted by Kasey Harter	Our club has a team that rides in the El Tour de Tucson to raise money for polio. We're usually able to raise between \$4-5k per year and bring a lot of visibility to Rotary and polio.

Sierra Vista	Club	Innovation in Service Submitted by Kasey Harter	Project Graduation is a community sponsored event funded through S.V. Rotary Charities. This all night party provides with games, gift baskets and fun activities for students. This community event is sponsored by a huge number of organizations in town. This year's theme is "Around the World", and our club is in charge of the casino. This is an annual event that has been ongoing for decades.
Sierra Vista Sunrise	Jenn Wantz & Jessica Gatmen	Best Youth Engagement submitted by Bill Hansen	Jenn and Jessica have been involved with the running of District 5500 RYLA for several years. This event takes many, many hours of planning and coordination with many Rotarians. Approx. 100 students attend each year and nearly all have said that they have been personally changed by this event. Many of these students are Rotary Interact students and come back to their high schools with great stories about how the event changed them. Both of these ladies are involved with our high school students by being of Project Graduation and Jenn is the Buena Interact advisor.
Sierra Vista Sunrise	Club; also submitted as a nomination for Jessica Gatmen and Joe Farmer, directors of Project Graduation	Collaboration & Partnership submitted by Bill Hansen; also submitted by Bill and Kris Hager	We conduct "Project Graduation" at Buena High School each year. This is a party/event for the graduates to keep them from getting into trouble after their graduation. It's free for the graduates. We conduct this event with the other Rotary Clubs, 2 other Kiwanis clubs, the Elks club, the Fry Fire Dept, the Cochise County Sheriff office, school teachers, employees, and other local organizations. We also receive donations of food and drinks from over 20 local restaurants and organizations. We have about 400 kids attend and have about 300 volunteers.
Sierra Vista Sunrise	Jennifer Davis	Energizer Rotarian submitted by Bill Hansen	Jennifer is involved in every club activity, which are numerous. She's part of a team that prepares chili and cornbread once a month at the Salvation Army for more than 100 people, is in charge of the Buena Idol Contest at Project Graduation, and more. She also involves her husband and daughter in most every event, so it is more like the Energizer Bunny Family!
Sierra Vista Sunrise	Club	Best Fundraising Event submitted by Leta Lindstrom	This year will be our 13th annual Rising Sun Run half marathon and 5k fundraiser. It has been a great success with all hands on deck. We plan almost all year for this event with the cooperation and support of the City and many large and small local businesses and individuals. (It is a USATF certified course.) A large portion of the funds raised goes to our annual Project Graduation.
Sierra Vista Sunrise	Bill & Kris Hagerl	Energizer Rotarian submitted by Leta Lindstrom	I believe that Bill and Kris Hagerl work tirelessly in almost every aspect of Rotary. They run several of our regular service projects, they host and cook for our monthly board meetings, they cook and prep the yearly installation dinner and they are at every project we do. They are silent ninjas!
Sierra Vista Sunrise	Club	Collaboration & Partnership submitted by Leta Lindstrom	Our district project this year was a Food Forest that entailed many planning hours with the City of Sierra Vista and the Reap Goodness not for profit. This will be used as a pilot project that Reap Goodness would like to bring to other countries/Regions in need. It utilizes the natural flow patterns and water reservoirs from the monsoon rains to help water trees, shrubs and vines that will continuously produce food with very little maintenance.
Tubac	Ginger Leavitt	Collaboration & Partnership / Energizer (Richard Persely)	Ginger is tireless. She chaired and organized our biggest fundraiser, The Taste of Tubac, which raised 130% of last year's amount. She also co-organized the District Conference last Oct, and is now chair of this year's conference in Tubac in Sept. She also coordinated with other organizations to lead our involvement in the Tubac Festival of the Arts, another successful fundraiser.
Tubac	Tom Maddock	Best Fundraising Event Submitted by Denise Homme	Tom Maddock did a brilliant job of organizing and promoting the 2025 Swing for Kids golf tournament at the Tubac Country Club. Tom also secured a notable LGPA event for the Taste of Tubac Silent Auction.
Tubac	Club	Collaboration & Partnership (Sue Neusteter)	Our club has created the Cleft Palate project to support children in Mexico who require cleft palate repairs. Our club is actively working on securing additional funds and grants to support this endeavor. We have partnered with Rotary in Mexico and applied for a global grant to continue the program.
Tucson	Club	Innovation in Service submitted by Lee Olitsky	The Rotary Club of Tucson developed a different approach to community service projects. Members began by identifying 12 worthwhile areas for service which will span one year. Members who participated generate points. We then offer incentives to members based on their monthly points.

Tucson	Matt Blair	Membership Growth submitted by Rick Rose	Matt's creative approach to recruiting new members was the most effective I can remember in my over 30 years as a member of the Downtown Tucson Club. Dressing up as a Kentucky Derby official and using his kazoo, he brought humor and organization to the membership growth effort.
Tucson Kino	Interact Club	Best Youth Engagement (Deborah Dimmett)	<p>Over the past year, the Tucson Kino Rotary Interact Club at Tucson High School has organized and participated in 12 service projects (Halloween Homecoming Fundraiser, Friendsgiving (with Rotaract) food donations for Tucson families, District Student Council Conference Fundraiser, Tucson Festival of Books, volunteering in Children's and Young Authors' book sections, volunteer with the Rotaract Club to assist them with their dental hygiene project, and the Angel Heart Spring Fundraiser at Barnes and Noble. In addition, two of the Interactors started a peer tutoring service for ELD and other students (the ELD Scholars Society) who seek extra help after school on Tuesdays. The two Interactors who started the peer tutoring service also attended RYLA this year!</p> <p>One standout project was their collaboration with Tucson Kino Rotary on a Hygiene Kit Project; the club donated 145 kits to the Sister José Women's Shelter. The club's leadership and 17 members show a deep commitment to Rotary's core values, with several students stepping up to take leadership roles, creating and executing successful initiatives. Their dedication to service, leadership, and community involvement sets them apart as an exemplary youth organization in Tucson.</p>
Tucson Kino	Gloria Platt	Energizer Rotarian submitted by Chris Bejarano	Gloria Platt agreed to become the club secretary in her first year and continues in that role today. She is now our president-elect. She immediately joined the club's most active committees, participates in our service projects and signs up for the trainings the district provides. She doesn't hesitate to tackle anything and keeps at it until it's done right, even if it means working very early or very late into the night. It is even more amazing when you realize she is helping her husband run a transportation business full time and cares for her parents at home.
Tucson Kino	Dennis Bergquist	Super Recruiter submitted by Chris Bejarano	Dennis Bergquist, current president of Tucson Kino for the second time, is always on the lookout for potential Rotarians. Dennis makes an effort to introduce himself to everyone he meets and tell them about the good work of Rotary International and of the Tucson Kino Rotary Club in particular. He has many stories and photos to share about his work in Guatemala and Kenya and the many lives impacted by these efforts. This year alone, he brought in three new members to Kino, in addition to the two he sponsored in the past. That constitutes 19% of Kino's current membership.
Tucson Kino	Debra Haddock	Social Butterfly submitted by Chris Bejarano	Debbie Haddock meets someone she knows wherever she goes because she has involved herself in numerous service organizations throughout the community, fulfilling her goal to be a person who makes a difference in the lives of others. Debbie's greatest attribute is her ability to connect community services with those in need. Because of her tireless efforts in several community service organizations, she is able to build connections between these organizations which amplify their ability to serve the community. Besides being a dedicated leader in the Tucson Kino Rotary Club, she actively supports the YMCA, Arizona Diaper Bank-Tucson, Angel Heart Pajama Project, Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos, Philanthropic Educational Organization, Tucson Girls Chorus, local literacy efforts, plus her church.
Tucson Kino	Emma Carrillo	Most Enthusiastic Handshaker submitted by Chris Bejarano	DGN Emma Carrillo is on her journey to become the district governor. She has been meeting many Rotarians from other clubs and districts as well as many community leaders. She is bringing her background and skills as an educational administrator into this new role. I have seen her walk up to any and all to introduce herself with a firm handshake and welcoming smile. Emma understands the value of making connections so that she can be an effective and successful district governor.

Tucson Kino	David Fawcett	Walking Billboard submitted by Chris Bejarano	David Fawcett is the Tucson Kino Foundation chair and former Public Image chair. He is an integral member of the golf tournament fundraising committee who solicits prizes in person from local businesses he frequents and any other businesses that might donate something. That is one reason David makes sure he is wearing his pin, his Kino name tag, his Rotary polo or his Kino Rotary golf cap. He wears his Tucson Kino Service Above Self vest when we have a service project. He promotes the use of the Rotary logo on all our publications and materials. David and his wife Joan are very proud Rotarians and display their pride everywhere they go.
Tucson Sunset	Laura Ziady	Energizer Rotarian submitted by Diane Ventura-Goodyear	Laura Ziady is our club energizer bunny. She volunteers for all our community projects and works once a week at The Angel Heart Pajama Project to fold pajamas. She has helped us at the Diaper Bank, Feed My Starving Children, Gospel Rescue Mission to mention a few.
Tucson Verde	Club	Public Image & Marketing submitted by Kent Hamilton	A dozen club members staffed a table at the 2-day Tucson Festival of Books / Science City tent. Attendees were given wildflower seed packets with the club logo and website QR code, plus info on Rotary goals, club focus and mission, including past and current enviro/sustainability projects like FoodCycle at home, the ByFusion soft plastics recycling and the club's upcoming home tour. 45+ people signed up for email, over 65+ hours were logged, and over 650 promotional seed packets were distributed). This same effort was repeated the following weekend at Iskashitaa's Spring Garden Fair.
Tucson Verde	Club	Collaboration & Partnership submitted by Jennifer Sprung	In late September 2024, RCTV partnered with Rotary Club Durango Daybreak in the installation of portable 6W solar panels with 3 lights and a FM radio & phone charging base unit in 13+ remote off grid elders' homes/hogans on the Navajo Nation. Four Tucson Verde members traveled to Chinle, AZ for 2+ days of work installing units to deliver needed light sources along with food and personal care baskets provided by nonprofit Chinle Planting Hope to remote families. Tucson Verde team logged 56+ hours /7 hrs each day over two days on install; equipment funded by club's matching grant.
Tucson Verde	Club	Best Fundraising Event submitted by Kasia Yuska	Tucson Verde's second annual Sustainable Home & Building Tour featured eight locations in the Tucson area. With climate issues on everyone's mind these days, the club provided the community an enjoyable way to learn about resources available to make their living spaces more eco-friendly. Club members served as docents, and homeowners were on site to answer guests' questions. This year's event raised \$4600, which will be used to fund environmental community projects.
Tucson Verde	Jennifer Sprung	Energizer Rotarian submitted by Ellie Patterson	During her busy year as Club President, Jennifer visited Rotary International Headquarters with other 5500 Rotarians, worked on the Navajo Reservation in Chinle, AZ to install solar lights in Native American homes, traveled to Xalapa, Mexico for the Mexico/US Friendship Exchange and visited Rotary clubs in Palm Springs, CA, and in Hanalei Bay, Hawaii, where she observed innovative environmental projects. Jennifer introduced new ways to increase club member engagement as president, was on the RYLA Planning committee and spent the weekend at camp assisting with program rollout. She was a presenter for RLI3, and also was a featured speaker at a large Rotary club. Jen always participates in every service project, attends environmental networking meetings, and carefully plans club meetings that offer variety and great speakers. This human energizer bunny is taking on a second year as club president, as well as serving as AG and being involved with the Mexico/US Friendship Exchange. Her energy is contagious and always has a positive impact on others.
UA Rotaract	Brooke McKalip	Collaboration & Partnership (submitted by Chad Denson)	Brooke has worked with more clubs than the zone this year. From the disco for period poverty, harm reduction kits, Rillito cleanup, etc etc etc Brooke has worked to keep Rotaract connected to Rotary D5500 this year and done a better job than any single Rotary Club President in recent memory.

Valle Verde	Debbie Chavez	Innovation in Service submitted by Michele Lewis, Sue Horton, and Jan Farrington	Debbie is founder and president of Libraries of the World, a registered public charity 501c3. The organization has built libraries in Guatemala, Uganda, and Tanzania. Valle Verde Rotary gave the organization a \$2300 grant in February 2024 for a project entitled "Book Bod,," a mobile library on motorcycle wheels. She continuously gathers books, processes them with help from other VV club members and ships them overseas to the libraries. Debbie has made six trips in the past few years (and taken groups of volunteers) to San Antonio Aguas Calientes, Guatemala (twice) 2022 and 2024; Quetzaltenango, Guatemala 2023; Abwanget village, Uganda (twice) 2022 and 2024; Mafinga, Tanzania 2023
Valle Verde	Club	Collaboration & Partnership submitted by Sue Horton	Jim Rusk of Valle Verde lead an effort to raise funds for the California wildfires. Clubs that participated included the two Green Valley Clubs, Rio Rico, Mountain Empire and Sahuarita. A total of \$10,000 was raised through a combination of club donations and fundraising efforts by each club that participated.
Yuma	Rebecca Melgoza	Energizer Rotarian submitted by KC Hoffman	Rebecca has boundless energy and is always up for helping whenever needed. During the recent Yuma County Fair she made hundreds of pounds of beans all day every day for the fair, and she's always smiling and happy. She's a huge shining light for our Yuma Rotary Club, and this just touches on all she does.
Yuma Crossing	Natasha Rodrigues	Social Butterfly submitted by Rita Noronha; also nominated by Fatima Smith	Natasha Noronha has been an unstoppable force in promoting and uplifting the club. With her vibrant social media presence on Facebook and Instagram, she ensures the club's work is always in the spotlight. She uses every event as an opportunity to grow awareness, build engagement, and encourage participation. From the successful Wine and Cheese Night, where she secured an impressive number of gifts and donations, to the Gala Event, where her efforts brought in even more contributions, Natasha has shown what it means to lead through action and influence. She actively promotes Rotary not only online but also at various community events, always with enthusiasm and professionalism.
Yuma Crossing	Mike Lundy	Walking Billboard submitted by Rita Noronha; also nominated by Fatima Smith	Mike Lundy is a quiet but powerful ambassador for Rotary, proudly wearing his gear wherever he goes and representing the values of service and integrity. He is composed, respectful, and well-versed in Rotary's mission, making him a natural spokesperson without saying much at all. Mike educates members with Rotary information and history, faithfully conducts the fireside chat and prepares the new member for installation. One can always identify him in the Rotary shirt.
Yuma Crossing	Jesus Fuentes	Best Fundraising Event submitted by Rita Noronha; also nominated by Fatima Smith	Jesus exemplified extraordinary strength, leadership, and dedication in the face of deeply personal loss. While preparing for the club's biggest fundraiser of the year, Jesus' beloved mother passed away. She was not only a central part of his life but also a constant support in raising his children. He also lost a trusted family helper who had been by his side for years. Despite it all, Jesus never wavered in his commitment to the club, pouring his energy into making the fundraiser a resounding success.
Yuma Crossing	Jesus Fuentes	Innovation in Service submitted by Fatima Smith	Jesus excels as a President, has made excellent changes in carrying out the work of the club. He has also partnered with other organizations to help in the growth of the needed organizations. In doing so, he has motivated the other members to support this new innovation. He is an inspiration for future Presidents. Jesus has empowered other members to take charge, supporting them to develop new activities and events.
Yuma Crossing	Fatima Smith	Innovation in Service submitted by Rita Noronha	Fatima brings a unique and creative flair to every project she undertakes. Her heartfelt initiative to honor mothers from the Crossroads Mission on Mother's Day—with handmade summer hats and thoughtful gift sets—was both innovative and deeply compassionate. This project not only celebrated motherhood but also uplifted women who are often overlooked.
Yuma Crossing	Salvador Gomez	Innovation in Service submitted Fatima Smith	Sal is a silent and dedicated Rotarian of our club. He is always present for all the meetings, and does the 50/50 fundraiser for every Rotary meeting. He also takes this responsibility for every Rotary event that is organized as a fundraiser.

