



District 5230 Newsletter September 2023 - Education and Literacy Month

Headline Photo: Tower District Rotary, Fresno

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From the Desk of the District Governor

By Debbie Hale



"I guess there are never enough books." – John Steinbeck.

As a Salinas Steinbeck Rotary Club member, I strongly support Rotary's focus on primary education and literacy. We know that literacy improves lives. Imagine being in a foreign city where you can't read the language – you can't read shop signs, you can't read warning labels, you can't even read a menu – that's what it's like to be illiterate. Children who learn to read and attend school have a greater chance of becoming adults who rise out of poverty, get a good job, stay out of prison, and become active community members.

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Rotarians Take Action To Help Victims of Maui Fires

By Debbie Hale

District Governor and Mark Merriman (Hawaii), District Governor 5000



You no doubt have heard the devastating news about the fires on Maui. When disaster strikes, Rotarians and their clubs want to know how to help. Please click this link to donate to a particular [Maui Fires Relief Fund](#). To learn more, read this excerpt of a letter I received from my fellow District Governor, Mark Merriman, of Rotary District 5000 (Hawaii):

[Read More](#)

Women Empowerment Resource Fair

By Steve Adams

Prepare for District 5230's next Women Empowerment Resource Fair in Soledad, California, on Saturday, September 16th!

[Second Annual Run Walk Ride - Registration is Now Open](#)

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For more information about this newsletter issue or to submit an article, contact Nick Grim and Merritt Wiseman at editor5230@gmail.com.

Please note all articles or event info must be submitted by the 20th of each month to make next month's issue

Be a part of the fun by volunteering at this fabulous event to empower girls and women of all ages! This resource fair is in partnership with The Limitless Mentorship and Scholarship Program, and it features a Women's Speaking Panel, free workshops, resources, BBQ lunch, and the opportunity to meet with more than 12 local non-profit organizations. The event will be held at Soledad High School on Saturday, September 16th, from 11 AM- 2 PM.

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Where do your Foundation Dollars Go and Why do they Go There?

By Bruce Mackey



We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give. ~ Winston Churchill

I've heard Rotarians say, "When you join Rotary, you are joining a family." For many of us that's true. We forge friendships lasting all of our lives, help each other in adversity and rejoice together in success. Our family, the Rotary family, has a great financial institution, The Rotary Foundation, whose sole aim is to help us achieve our goal of doing good in the world.

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Selection for 5230 District Governor, 2026-27

By Rebecca Moser

IPDG & District Membership Chair

We are seeking nominations for 5230 District Governor candidates for the 2026-2027 Rotary year.

Selection interviews will be held for 5230 District Governor, Rotary year 2026-27, on Saturday, October 7th, 2023, at Hartnell College, 117 N. 2nd Street, King City, California. The interview start time will be determined by the number of interviewees and announced to the candidates.

NOMINATION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO IPDG Becky Moser by **September 18th, 2023**. As I said, in-person interviews will be conducted in **King City on Saturday, October 7, 2023, with no exceptions.**

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Regeneration - Ending the Climate Crisis in One Generation

By Peter Skinner



Can We End Climate Change in One Generation? We Think So. Together.
World Renowned Environmentalist, Author, and



Entrepreneur Paul Hawken Will Visit the Monterey Peninsula this Fall to Share How.

[Read More](#)

Who will keep your classic car running if you don't know how?

By Mary Schley and Carmel Pine Cone

The number of people with the skills to repair and maintain the decades-old Fords, Bugattis, Ferraris, Packards and other beautiful vintage cars spotted cruising along the Monterey Peninsula's roads during Car Week is dwindling, and without a crop of young mechanics to take over the tasks in the years ahead, the valuable cars could grind to a permanent halt. That's why Carmel Highlands resident and Carmel-by-the-Sea Rotarian Mark Grandcolas and another Rotarian, Ric Masten, decided to start a vocational program at the nonprofit Rancho Cielo in Salinas to help troubled teens and young adults learn to repair classic cars. Their efforts received a big boost this week when Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance chairman Sandra Button announced she and others are funding scholarships for the program in honor of the late Don Williams, a key figure at the concourse for a half-century.

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District Foundation Recognition Luncheons to be held in November

By Bruce Mackey

We are excited to announce that we will host a series of Foundation Recognition Luncheons this November. These events are a special occasion to celebrate and honor the Foundation award winners from the past Rotary year. While these luncheons are not intended as fundraising events, they serve as an opportunity for us to acknowledge the exceptional contributions of Clubs and individuals within our District.

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Monterey Car Week Means Lots of FUNdraising for Rotary Clubs

By Debbie Hale

Rotary District Governor 2023/24

Since its origin in the 1950s, Monterey Car Week has grown from a single event – the Concours D'Elegance - to [over 30 events](#) spanning more than a week. While it is great fun for car enthusiasts, it also raises millions of dollars for local nonprofits, including Rotary. An ambitious Rotarian could find opportunities to volunteer every day of this 10-day event. I was fortunate to volunteer with three Rotary Clubs during Car Week, and in doing so, helped them to raise money for scholarships and other youth activities.



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Focus on Membership in 2023-2024

By Rebecca Moser
IPDG & District Membership Chair

I am so pleased to be your District Membership Chair this year and to assist with the continued growth of Rotary in District 5230 in the coming year. Last year, we created a Membership Liaison position to help Club Presidents and Club Membership Chairs with Attraction, Onboarding, and Retention/ Engagement. These dedicated members are experienced Club Membership Chairs, enthusiastic, and skilled at the latest and greatest tips and resources available through District 5230 and RI regarding Membership. Please welcome them into your clubs as a valuable asset to assist you with growing, engaging, and retaining your membership!

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District 5230 Rotary Vocation Corner

Rotary's ideal of service is based on the Five Avenues of Service – Club, Vocational, Community, International, and New Generations – that comprise Rotary International's philosophical cornerstone.

Vocational service focuses on recognizing the worthiness of all useful occupations, not just your own or those that Rotarians pursue. Vocational service focuses on the contribution of your vocational talents to the problems and needs of society.

Thank you to our District 5230 members for sharing your vocations.

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Mark Your Calendars for World Polio Day 2023

By Belinda I. Daguio



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Second Annual Run Walk Ride - Registration is Now Open

Support a GREAT Cause!

Saturday, October 21st
Golden Gate Plaza - 10 am - 2 pm

We're closer than ever to eradicating polio but we're not done yet.

We still need funds to continue immunizations and surveillance efforts. Your participation will get us closer to the finish line.

[Click here](#) to view the 2nd Annual Run Walk Run registration and sponsorship flyer.
[Read More](#)

Membership Momentum: Engagement

By Merritt D. Wiseman



It is the individual Rotary Clubs that make Rotary strong. It's the clubs that make up that international Rotary Family we are all a part of! What is that, really? It's TEAM SPIRIT! Being a Rotarian is not only about service, it's about being a cheerleader for your club.

What does it mean to be a Cheerleader for your Club?
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New Immunotherapy Piggybacks Off Polio Vaccine To Treat Cancer

By [Samantha Black, PhD, ScienceBoard](#) editor-in-chief

The complete article may be read here: [New Immunotherapy Piggybacks off polio vaccine to Treat Cancer](#)

Polio and the Cancer connection, who would have thought? Right?

So I was recently among a Fluffle Of Rotarians (my happy place to be), and I was asked by Rotarian Gina, " Is it true that people that have had Polio don't get Cancer?" My first thought was that this was a bit far-fetched... BUT I never discount a person's legitimate question. Therefore, I have done considerable research and inquired from the folks at the top of the Polio Organization - most certainly the folks in the know. In other words, if you don't know, ask the experts. (I am truly blessed to have access to those experts.)

[Read More](#)

Pennies For Polio

By Belinda I. Daguio

And It's a Wrap!!!

Once again, the Cultural Arts Rotary Club of Fresno has done a superb job raising funds for Pennies for Polio! Spearheaded by Polio Warrior and club member Janice Noga, \$1,600 was raised their first year, \$2,600 was raised their second year, and this year it was... **Drum Roll Please... \$7,860.00!**

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District Training - Club Action Plans & Attraction and Onboarding & Engagement

Club Action Plans & Attraction – Learn how to access and use your club's historical data to set goals and how to best promote your club to attract new members.

Onboarding and Engagement – Discover ways to improve our new members' journey into Rotary and engage all members to serve our communities better.

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District 5230 Board of Director's Corner

By Susan Winey



Your District Board of Directors held the first quarterly meeting on July 11, 2023. The Board reviewed the District's financial position, and we are looking solid. Items to note were the significant increase in the cost of Camp Royal, which was covered by reserves. Work will continue to adjust to the rise as we move into the future. The District has 44k remaining to do more work on Flood Relief. The District has some exciting new opportunities coming your way. A new Mental Health and Wellness program is in the works in Community Service. Spearheading this project is Nick Grim (North Fresno). If International Service is your passion chaired by Esteban Pauli (East Fresno). Our District representative to the new InterCountry Committee is Ilge Karacak (Monterey Cannery Row). This committee collaborates with other Districts and 13 countries on service projects. The Friendship Exchange program also returns with a potential exchange with El Salvador in the Spring of 2024. On the Leadership training front, Jon Pree (Visalia County Center) is working to bring RLI (the Rotary Leadership Institute) training to our district members. This leadership training program enhances leadership skills not only for Rotary but also for your career. Please keep an eye out for more Multi-Club Social Events as well.

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Rotary Youth Exchange is Back!

By Leroy W. Blankenship

Past District Governor



After a two-year hiatus and a one-year soft start, the Rotary Youth Exchange is back and almost at its pre-pandemic levels. Congratulations to all the participating Rotary Clubs! [Read More](#)

District 5230 Mental Health Committee to Begin Work

By Jennie S Santonastasi

Rotary has a remarkable record when it comes to health initiatives. We've helped bring polio to the brink of eradication, and clubs have carried out many projects focused on preventing disease and supporting maternal and child health.

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Come Play by the Bay! 5230 District Conference



Join us in Monterey for the the istrict Conference on May 10 - 12, 2024! We have a great schedule of fun activities planned; you otter come!

[Read More](#)

Rotary Club of Salinas Valley Passport

By Brinet Mullen Greenlee

In 2018, Rotary International embraced the idea of giving Rotary Clubs the autonomy to structure clubs in new and innovative ways to attract new members and make membership more realistic (doable) for some. With that permission, several Rotarians (already members of another Salinas club) joined to launch the first Passport Club in District 5230. [Read More](#)



North Fresno Rotarians Contribute to Record-Setting Food Packaging Event

By Neal Howard



President North Fresno Rotary 2023-24

On Saturday, July 29, a small but determined band of North Fresno Rotarians (plus 25 other community members) gathered at the Lady of Perpetual Help to package dry food bags for an organization called Rise Against Hunger.

Our staunch group had six members, and after the preliminary description of the process, it was explained: " The Rice always goes in Last!" We divided ourselves evenly to pack the individual bags, seal them, and put the finished product into boxes.

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District 5230 Top 10 Clubs in Foundation Donations For the Month of July 2023

By Bruce Mackey



Congratulations to the Top 10 Clubs in Foundation Donations For July 2023
Keep up the Great Work!

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District 5230 Rotary 25+ Anniversaries



Congratulations to all of our members who had a milestone Rotary Anniversary of 25 years or more during the past month!

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District 5230 New Members for August 2023



When you join a Rotary club, your potential to make a difference grows exponentially. That's because you're joining a network of over 1.4 million people who take action — volunteers from all over the world who share a common goal of improving others' quality of life.

Welcome to our Rotary family!

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