

Rotary  
District 5230



# Newsletter

District 5230 Newsletter September 2024 - Basic Education

## In This Issue

[DG Mike's Message](#)

[Guard Your Gram: Guide to Social Media Safety for Clubs](#)

[Autumn of Giving: Rotarians Unite for Life-Saving Blood Drive](#)

[2023/24 Rotary Citation Winners](#)

[Sailing for Service Above Self! Register for the District 5230 Conference](#)

[Where's Michael? A Fun-Filled Night at the Chukchansi Ballpark with District 5230](#)

[Luggage of Love: Suitcase Challenge Rotarians Working to Restore HOPE & DIGNITY for Foster Youth](#)

[5230 Events and Happenings!](#)

[Happiness is: Recognizing District 5230's New Members and 25+ Anniversaries!](#)

[Rotarian Responsibility](#)

[A Grateful Acknowledgment to Our Major Donor Level 2](#)

[Zeroing In on Polio: The Facts & Rotary's Fight to Finish the Job](#)

[Rotary Grants Empower Our District and Spark Global Change](#)

[Future Leaders Unite: The Path to the District 5230 Rotary Interact Conference](#)

[District 5230 Youth Exchange Program Welcomes Inbound Students and Prepares Outbound Travelers](#)

For more information about the newsletter issue or to

## DG Mike's Message

By Michael J. Rabara



Michael J. Rabara  
District Governor  
Rotary International District 5230

### Empowering Minds, Uniting Hearts

As we step into September, Rotary International shines a spotlight on Basic Education and Literacy Month, a theme that lies at the core of our mission to create lasting change in our communities and the world. Education is the foundation upon which individuals build a better future for themselves, their families, and their communities. It empowers people, breaks the cycle of poverty, and fosters peace and understanding.

[Read More](#)

## Guard Your Gram: Guide to Social Media Safety for Clubs



Your 5230 "Comms" Team (left - right)  
Merritt Wiseman - Editor, Lynda Patrick - Chair,  
Nick Grim - 5230 Webmaster

Welcome Alex Walker - Social Media



Chair [Read More](#)

submit an article, contact Nick Grim and Merritt Wiseman at [editor5230@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## Autumn of Giving: Rotarians Unite for Life-Saving Blood Drive

By Kevin Kenoyer  
District 5230 Fall Blood Drive Chair



The Annual District 5230 Blood Drive will kick off this year on 9/11 coinciding with the Tulare Rotary Club's Annual 9/11 Blood Drive. The Tulare Club's Annual event is the perfect opportunity to kick-off our District Blood Drive since it is the largest and most successful Club sponsored Blood Drive in our District. Please plan to attend!! Blood donations by Rotarians donated at Tulare's event will also be credited to their individual Clubs. Be sure to identify your Rotary Club when donating!

[Read More](#)

## 2023/24 Rotary Citation Winners

By Debbie Hale



### CONGRATULATIONS!

The Rotary Citation recognizes a club's demonstrated commitment to achieve the goals set at the start of their year in key areas. Rotary International considers the Rotary Citation to be "the most significant award a Rotary club can achieve".

[Read More](#)

## Sailing for Service Above Self! Register for the District 5230 Conference

**2025 District Conference "Sailing for Service Above Self"  
on the Royal Caribbean Navigator of the Seas Cruise Line  
April 4-7, 2025!**

[Read More](#)

## Where's Michael? A Fun-Filled Night at the Chukchansi Ballpark with District 5230



DG Mike and members of District 5230 recently gathered for an unforgettable evening at the ballpark where Rotarians, family, and friends came together for a night of fun, laughter, and community spirit. A highlight of the evening was the Rotary challenge, "Where's Michael?", to find DG Michael Rabara in the ballpark!

[Read More](#)

## Luggage of Love: Suitcase Challenge Rotarians Working to Restore HOPE & DIGNITY for Foster Youth

By Yvonne Zysling

You are invited to join the Cultural Arts Rotary Club of Fresno in the 2024 Luggage of Love: Suitcase Challenge! Be a part of supporting Foster Youth by donating your new or gently used suitcases, duffel bags, sports bags, totes, and backpacks. 351 pieces of luggage were collected in 2022 and 722 pieces of luggage were collected in 2023. All items were donated to the Fresno County Department of Social Services for the benefit of Foster Youth. Social Workers were thrilled that they were able to replace trash bags and cardboard boxes with suitcases. Foster youth utilized the luggage to travel between foster homes, to travel to visits with family members, and on school related trips for academics, athletics, and other co-curricular activities.

[Read More](#)



## 5230 Events and Happenings!

Here is what's going on around District 5230! [Read More](#)

## Happiness is: Recognizing District 5230's New Members and 25+ Anniversaries!

By Rebecca Moser



**PDG, District 5230 Membership Chair**

Congratulations to our new members in District 5230; Welcome to the family! Congratulations to our members celebrating 25+ years as a Rotarian. We celebrate you, and appreciate your Rotary legacy.

[Read More](#)

## Rotarian Responsibility

By Bruce D. Mackey

**PDG and Foundation Chair District 5230**

Cheng Lei is a journalist who was working in China when she was detained and held for over three years by the Chinese government on suspicion of illegally supplying state secrets overseas. The charges were clearly fabricated and weak. After her release and move to Australia, she spoke about the responsibility of freedom. She believed that since she had been fortunate enough to regain her freedom and relocate to where she was able to pursue her career as a journalist without stringent restrictions, she had a responsibility to take full advantage of that opportunity.

[Read More](#)



## A Grateful Acknowledgment to Our Major Donor Level 2



**Major Donor 2, Bernadette Hansen, pictured with Arch Klumph Society Member Dr. Pad and Governor Mike**

[Read More](#)

# Zeroing In on Polio: The Facts & Rotary's Fight to Finish the Job

By Belinda I. Daguio



## District 5230 Polio Plus Chair

Polio Statistics as of September 1, 2024

Unfortunately there were 6 new wild Polio cases and 8 cases of Vaccine-Derived Polio this week alone, bringing the total to 33 cases of wild Polio for the 2024 year-to-date. This time last year we had only a total of 7, with 12 cases for the entire year. (Vaccine-derived poliovirus is a well-documented strain of poliovirus mutated from the strain originally contained in OPV.)



[Read More](#)

# Rotary Grants Empower Our District and Spark Global Change

By Douglas S. Brown

## District 5230 Grants Chair

Rotary District 5230 is really buzzing with grants! A record number of clubs attended training sessions to be eligible to apply for District Grants. The grant applications are in and by the time this newsletter is published they will have been approved by the Rotary Foundation. These grants cover a very large number of community needs, from dictionaries for third graders to community development and support for the needy.

[Read More](#)



# Future Leaders Unite: The Path to the District 5230 Rotary Interact Conference

By Lina Contreras



## District 5230 Interact Chair

I'm thrilled to start organizing the Interact Conference and I look forward to an exceptional year ahead! As Rotarians, and community leaders, you each play a crucial role in shaping our Interact students' futures, and I'm excited to see the positive impact we'll make together this year. Let's continue to build a supportive and dynamic environment where everyone can feel valued and succeed.

[Read More](#)

# District 5230 Youth Exchange Program Welcomes Inbound Students and Prepares Outbound Travelers

By Leroy W. Blankenship

## District 5230 Youth Exchange Chair

The District 5230 Youth Exchange Program is in full swing, with two inbound students in California already settling into their new homes and schools. Last Saturday, an orientation was held in Visalia to welcome the new arrivals and ensure a smooth transition into their year abroad.

[Read More](#)

