

Highlighter



District Leaders



Michael
Driebe
District
Governor



Gilda Riaz
Moshir
District Gov-
Elect



Dennis
Franklin
District Gov-
Nominee



Michael
Soden
IPDG

Events

October-November
[Lancaster Sunrise
Football Fall
Fundraiser](#)

October 2nd
[DG Official Visit -
West Covina
Rotary](#)

October 2nd
[LV After Hours -
Bunco Fundraiser](#)

October 3rd
[DG Official Visit -
La Verne](#)

October 3rd
[Henderson After
Hours - Spread the
Word Nevada](#)

October 5th
[Altadena -
Pancake Breakfast](#)

October 5th
[S. Nevada Pre-
PELS \(PETS\)](#)

October 5th
[Montebello - Steak
Fry Fiesta](#)

October 8th
[DG Official Visit -
Sierra Madre
Rotary](#)

October 2024

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From District Governor Mike Driebe



Dear District 5300 Rotarians,

I've been on the road and enjoying my visits with you very much. What an eye-opener it's been! Whether a club is small, medium or large, the work being done in your communities is remarkable. "Thank you," hardly seems enough, but I know the look of gratitude in the eyes of those you serve is enough. Keep up the great work and continue to let your friends and neighbors know about the impact you're making. In fact, I hope you'll find a way to invite them to your next service project, so they can see first-hand what Rotary accomplishes. One way to inform the public is to make sure your club's description and calendar of service projects are posted on comeseewhatwedo.org. You can get your club's projects listed by

posting them on the district calendar. You can also send a one or two paragraph description about who you are and what you do to [Mike Soden](#) and he'll make sure that it gets posted, as well.

The first in a series of **Rotary Essentials training** is taking place on Zoom on October 12th at 10:00 a.m. This is a great opportunity to hear more about the new and different approaches to attract prospective members to your club. RI President-Elect Mário César Martins de Camargo shared some great tools recently. Go to the district calendar and you'll find all the information you'll need to participate. There will be future Rotary Essentials

October 9th
DG Official Visit - Pasadena

October 10th
Las Vegas Southwest - Happy Feet

October 10th
DG Official Visit - Altadena

October 10th
Ontario-Montclair Students of the Month

October 11th
Green Valley - Trunk or Treat at Robert Taylor Elementary

October 11th
Claremont - Fall Social

October 12th
Rotary Essentials Training

October 15th
DG Official Visit - Rancho Cucamonga

October 16th
LV Summerlin - Just One Project - Grocery Packing & Stocking

October 16th
DG Official Visit - Upland

October 16th
LV After Hours - Agassi Birthday Hour

October 16th
LV After Hours - Book Cleaning for Spread the Word Nevada

October 16th
DG Official Visit - West Covina Cause Based

October 16th
District - Growing Club Membership

October 17th
DG Official Visit - Boulder City Sunrise

October 19th
Ontario-Montclair - Route 66 Relay for Life

October 22nd
DG Official Visit - Glendora Rotary

October 22nd
District Leadership Zoom Meeting

October 22nd
DG Official Visit - East Los Angeles Rotary

October 23rd
DG Official Visit -

trainings on the Rotary Foundation, Public Image, and more, so please stay tuned. Each one is an opportunity to learn more about these and other core issues, and to find out where you can get the resources you need to be even more successful as a member and a club.

One of those fundamentals is DEI. The DEI committee, and several non-committee members, had a very lively and thought-provoking discussion via Zoom on Saturday morning. The meeting was recorded and if you'd like the link, please connect with District Administrator Tom Novotny at office@district5300.org and he'll send it your way. Thanks to Thomas Allison, there are resources available to help you and your club extend the hand of Rotary to prospective members from across your community. These will be posted shortly on the district web page. In the meantime, if you have ideas you'd like to share, feel free to send me an email at rotarymike24@gmail.com.

We're also planning the **President's Advance** on January 17, 18 and 19 at the Irvine Marriott in Irvine, CA. The program will look a bit different this year; both Presidents and Presidents-Elect are welcome to attend. Registration with the agenda for the weekend will open in the next week or two. So, please watch for my email announcing it.

You'll also find in this issue of The Highlighter, articles about the **Rotary Friendship Exchange to India**, and the **Rotaplast** mission to Kampala, Uganda. These are two wonderful opportunities to see Rotary in action and to experience its culture in far off lands. Please connect with PDG Rampur Viswanath and Drexel Smith respectively for more information.

Last, registration and hotel reservations are now live for the **District Conference** on April 12! Just go to district5300.org, scroll down to find the links you need. When booking your hotel, keep in mind that the District Training Assembly will be the day prior, on April 11th, which will also be at the Disneyland Hotel. We have a very special program for the conference, including an opportunity to experience the Disney Leadership Institute, the finals of the Dan Stover Music Contest, the 4-Way Test Speech Contest, and much more, including discounted admission to Disneyland on Sunday!

As always, please let me know if you have any questions and I'll get back to you as soon as possible.

DISTRICT NEWS

MEMBERSHIP CORNER: You're Invited--Monthly meeting



Las Vegas After Hours

October 24th

DG Official Visit - Green Valley

October 24th

District online - Rotary Action Plan

October 26th

S. Cal. Pre-PETS

October 26th

Henderson After Hours - Spread the Word Nevada

October 30th

LV Southwest - Feed the Homeless

October 30th

AG On Line Zoom Meeting

October 30th

LV After Hours Bonus Wednesday - tbd

October 31st

Club Intent to Participate RYLA 2025

November 2nd

Glendora Food Packing Event

November 5th

DG Official Visit - Alhambra and Monterey Park

November 5th

Rotary Action Plan

November 6th

LV After Hours - family dinner prep at Ronald McDonald House

November 6th

Rotary Action Plan

November 7th

DG Official Visit - Covina

November 8th

District Budget and Finance Committee On Line Zoom Call

November 8th

District Board of Directors On Line Meeting

November 8th

Green Valley - Las Vegas Distillery Tour and Tasting

November 9th

High Desert Veterans Appreciation BBQ

November 11th

Covina - Field of Valor

November 12th

LV Southwest - Happy Feet

November 12th



by Dennis Franklin, District Membership Chair

Question - What are three things that your club is doing in the next two months that a prospective Rotarian might want to be invited to? My guess is that your answer would include one or all of the following:

- A service project.
- A club program that features a special topic or speaker.
- A social.

These are all things that most clubs already have on the calendar, so the next question is, how do we use them to drive new membership?

To answer that question, we invite you to join the district membership committee's monthly Zoom meeting where we will be sharing ideas on how to effectively identify and motivate perspective members to come to your events. Our committee gets together at 6:15 on the third Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, October 16**. Please join us. The Zoom link is: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82077877877?pwd=0mbZLDDNsYUsqwyidC2Tkt7QjXgI.1>

OR Meeting ID 820 7787 7877 Passcode - 938669

(the link is also on the district calendar in DACdb)

See you there!

Mental Health - Building our Resiliency

By Sheila Gutierrez, Glendora Rotary



Sheila Gutierrez, M.S., LMFT, and Rudy Hayek, M.A., LMFT of the Glendora Rotary Club created six evidence-based mental health programs for District 5300. These programs will soon be accessible to all district members via a platform on the District website, including scripts, sources, referral resources, and engaging homework assignments. Designed for easy delivery through handouts, guest lectures, or club member presentations, the materials can also be shared with schools, organizations, and businesses.

This Highlighter issue features a short video on building resiliency, with more mental health topics to follow.

Please watch: [Mental Health - Building our Resiliency](#)

April 2025 District Conference Registration Open!

By Luanne Arredondo

Watch for special editions of Conference News starting in mid-October! Can't wait?

[Register for the April 2025 District Conference here.](#)
[Book your hotel visit here.](#)

THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

District Conference 2025

Hosted by Districts 5180 and 5300

Registration Is OPEN!

The Gang is all here and we are waiting for you! Join D5180 and D5300 for a weekend filled with

November 12th
**Green Valley -
Holiday Meal
Assembly at Olive
Crest**

November 13th
**DG Official Visit -
South Pasadena**

November 14th
**Ontario-Montclair
Students of the
Month (DG Visit)**

November 14th
**DG Official Visit -
Ontario Montclair**

November 14th
**Henderson After
Hours Service
Project**

To Register for the Conference visit:
<https://www.district5300.org/district-conference-2025/>

To book your hotel visit:
<https://www.mydisneygroup.com/GDDD25A>

Early Bird Registration closes December 30, 2024

D5300 for a weekend filled with
the Magic of Rotary



Rotary Friendship Exchange, January 2025

By PDG Rampur Viswanath

Vizag, Andra Pradesh, India
Experience Different Cultures
Build Goodwill
Strengthen International
Friendships
Expand International Understanding
Create A More Global Community
and
Foster Peace

What is a Rotary Friendship Exchange?

The Rotary Friendship Exchange is an international exchange program for Rotary members from one District to travel to another for fellowship and fun. Participants take turns hosting one another in their homes and clubs. All exchanges are funded by the participants. Hosts are not expected to assume significant financial burden. Participants pay their own way but they are rewarded with warm hospitality and an international travel experience unlike any other!

Email District 5300 RFE chair, PDG
Rampur Viswanath at
r.viswanath@yahoo.com or call 509-546-
1524 for more details

2025 ROTARY FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE



**JOIN US ON THE
TRIP OF A
LIFETIME TO INDIA!**

EMAIL: PDG DR. RAMPUR VISWANATH AT

District 3020 invites you to Vizag to experience India's legendary hospitality from **January 20th to February 1st!** Enjoy her culture, cuisine, history, and art. Be hosted in the homes of fellow Rotarians, and

1554 for more details.

R.VISWANATH@YAHOO.COM

OR CALL 609-646-1634
FOR MORE DETAILS

help grow "peace through understanding." You can even extend your visit to see Agra, the Taj Mahal, Jaipur and New Delhi.

Rotaplast Mission to Uganda June 2025

By Drexel L. Smith, Chair

Planning is underway to sponsor the next Cleft Lip Project Mission. District 5300 is partnering again with Rotaplast International for a two-week Mission to **Uganda** -- **June 7 to June 22, 2025**. The Team will travel together from and return to San Francisco. The team members pay for their own travel to and from Uganda, but expenses on the ground are covered. Indicate your interest **by Dec. 2**. (see details below) A Mission Team of volunteers includes medical members -- surgeons, nurses and therapists, and eight non-medical, each with a specific job assignment:



1. Medical Record Keeper
2. Sterilizer
3. Mission Historian (Documentarian/photographer)
4. Quartermaster
5. PACU assistant
6. Recreation Therapist
7. Ward Coordinator
8. Patient Transporter

The impact of providing surgical assistance repairing cleft lip, palate and burn-scar repair is life-changing for each patient and for Team members as well.

- * If you are interested in being considered as a non-medical volunteer please let us know.
- * If you would like to schedule a guest speaker on this important work please let us know.
- * If you would like to make a donation, please do not hesitate.

For more information, contact a Committee Member:
Drexel L. Smith, Chair, dls@drexelcg.com 951-202-2012
Robin Smith, Co-chair, Robin@smithteamlasvegas.com 702-460-5080
John Chase, Jchase5300@gmail.com 702-497-3328
Marilyn Diaz, diazwalker@icloud.com 626.383.1328
Bonita Ramos, bramos@abilityfirst.org 909-561-5150
Tony Scheppmann, tncscheppmann@gmail.com 702-460-5723

Applicants need to:

- * **Complete the [linked Interest Form](#).**
- * **Submit a short personal statement addressing: "Why you might be interested in joining a Rotaplast team and what skills you would bring to the team."**
- * **Email the interest form and personal statement to dls@drexelcg.com by December 02, 2024**

• Email the interest form and personal statement to: lis@wrexcity.com by December 02, 2024

INTERACT NEWS

Attention ALL Interact Clubs and Sponsors

By Diane O'Neal, Rancho Cucamonga, District 5300 Interact Liaison FY 2024-2025

Now is the time for your Interact Club to submit its favorite Interact Service Project!

The project can include a video, photos or a written essay to show the **world** how Interact accomplished its project from start to finish! Include the Club's planning process; service in action and how the project makes a difference in the community!

Submit your project to Rotary International: youngleaders@msgfocus.rotary.org by **December 2, 2024**. Please include a 'cc' for Diane O'Neal at dorunner5858@gmail.com, the 2024-2025 District 5300 Interact Liaison.

Celebrating the Interact Club in LV Valley

By Keith Thomas

The Rotary Club of Las Vegas Southwest (â€œSouthwest Rotaryâ€) is the sponsor of the only certified Interact Club in the Las Vegas Valley. It is located at the [Advanced Technologies Academy](#) (â€œA-Techâ€) which is a magnet public high school in Las Vegas, Nevada. A-Tech focuses on integrating technology with academics for students in grades 9â€12. The magnet school program was founded in 1994 and is part of the Clark County School District. A-Tech was recently announced as the Number 1 high school in the entire state.

The 2024-2025 school year will be the second year of the Interact Clubâ€™s existence. On 9/25/24 they held their officer installation for the next year. Five members of Southwest Rotary attended the installation.



Interact Club meetings are held monthly and Southwest Rotary members attend those meetings also. Cynthia Hamada, a member of the Rotary Club of South San Francisco and a resident of Las Vegas and regular attendee at Southwest Rotary meetings was a guiding hand in the establishment of the Interact Club.

One of their projects is assembling hygiene kits for the homeless. They also sent participants to RYLA last year and will likely do so again this year. Their October meeting will be planning projects for the year.

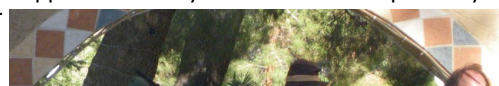
Weekly newsletters and pictures from all our meetings and events are posted on our Facebook page and on our website (www.lvswr.org).

CLUB FUNDRAISERS

Antelope Valley: Oktoberfest

By Joshua Konrad, Antelope Valley

It is that time of year again when friends and family who support the Rotary Club of the Antelope Valley come together and meet at the Hacenda Ranch in Palmdale for our annual Oktoberfest fundraiser. Tickets are \$40, and with a limit of 100 tickets, we were sold out before



October started! The event offers food, drinks, live music, raffles, and silent auctions of donated goods and services for all to enjoy. This year, the City of Palmdale will be on hand to acknowledge our club for our 74 years of continual service to our community. All proceeds will go directly towards purchasing Walmart gift cards we give away at our local Walmart on a Saturday in December. Although our winter holidays Walmart giveaway event has been taking place for decades, we have recently partnered with Keppel Union School District to furnish our club with the names of the families and children who are invited to participate. Keppel Union School District also sends volunteers to support our club members, Rotaract clubs, and other volunteers, as the items purchased at Walmart will be gift-wrapped before going home with the children. This event will occur in early December at the Walmart off 10th Street West in Palmdale. More information will be shared as our Winter Holidays Walmart gift giveaway gets closer.



Mesquite's 10th Annual Mudd Volleyball Tournament

By Chantile McAllister

The Mesquite Nevada Rotary Club hosted its 10th annual Mudd Volleyball Tournament fundraiser on September 21, 2024, at the Eureka Casino Resort. The event brought the community together in a fun, high-energy competition that included 28 teams, comprised of both business-sponsored teams and community members. The highly anticipated "Studs of the Mudd" tournament kicked off the event, which featured a friendly rivalry between the Mesquite Police Department and the Mesquite Fire and Rescue Department. This year, the Mesquite Fire and Rescue team claimed the title of "Studs of the Mudd."

Adding to the excitement was a special guest appearance by Rotary District 5300 Governor Mike Driebe, who shared the spirit of Rotary in a brief yet inspiring speech. He highlighted the importance of service and community involvement before diving into the muddy pits to join the fun with the Rotary Club of Boulder City, Nevada. His participation energized the crowd and reinforced the values of camaraderie and giving back.

After a day of spirited matches, Buddy's Refrigeration team emerged victorious as the tournament winners. The success of the event was made possible by the extensive support from volunteers, event sponsors, and the many teams that participated. The Rotary Club is already looking ahead to next year's tournament, which will feature a new location and some exciting, creative additions to make the event even bigger and better.



CLUB PROJECTS

Green Valley Club Helps Project Marilyn with Period Supplies

By Barbara Billitzer

On September 24, members from the Rotary Club of Green Valley met at Project Marilyn in Las Vegas to assemble a few hundred period supply kits. According to the nonprofit, period supplies are the least donated items when it comes to helping the community. Two in five females can't afford period supplies, and for the teens and women who are homeless, home insecure or living in a shelter, there is a lack of adequate storage space. Project Marilyn assembles period kits and distributes them to other nonprofits, such as shelters, libraries and schools. Each kit contains enough tampons, maxi pads and wipes to carry a person through their monthly cycle. The program also asks local businesses to hold kits on hand. Anyone in need can visit the businesses and organizations during regular business hours and ask for the bag Marilyn left them. For the one in four girls forced to miss school for lack of supplies, Project Marilyn is a gamechanger.



LV After Hours: Partnership with Spread the Word Nevada

By PP Linda Bertuzzi, LV After Hours

LV After Hours recently had our semi-monthly book cleaning for Spread the Word Nevada where we cleaned 13 cases of gently used children's books for our local CCSD elementary school kids. Well, there may have been a few questionable non-children's books in there, which always brings us a laugh, along with the craziest titles for the kids. Cici Duron, the STWN Volunteer Coordinator, also joined us and said she "wanted to check out the Rotary Club I had heard so much about!" So glad she did. This single event was zero cost, and yet positively impacted nearly 1,000 students by providing forever books for them to take home. This is a program we supported even before our charter in May, 2019 and to date we have cleaned nearly 35,000 books during fun evenings of fellowship! We are so proud to be the Award-Winning, original So NV After Hours Rotary Club.



Walnut Valley new meeting place and service project

By Mack Moore, Walnut Valley

The Walnut Valley club now meets at the newly reopened Diamond Bar golf course every Tuesday at 8am.

A service project upcoming on October 23 includes BBQ hamburgers and hot dogs at the Sheriff's station in

A service project upcoming on October 28 includes bbq hamburgers and hot dogs at the Sheriff's Station in Walnut for all Sheriffs, Firemen and administrative personnel from 10:30am to 3:30pm. We did this last year and had a great time.

