



District  
Leaders



Michael  
Driebe  
District  
Governor



Gilda  
Riaz  
Moshir  
District  
Gov-Elect



Dennis  
Franklin  
District  
Gov-  
Nominee



Michael  
Soden  
IPDG

Calendar

September 3rd

[DG Official  
Visit -  
Monrovia  
Rotary](#)

September 4th  
[Covina - Back  
to School  
Extravaganza](#)

September 5th  
[LVAH- Social -  
Super Summer  
Theater](#)

September 5th  
[DG Official  
Visit - San  
Marino](#)

September 5th  
[Upland - Sour  
Cellers  
Brewery  
Meetup](#)

September 6th  
[DG Official  
Visit -  
Claremont](#)

September 7th  
[LV Red Rock-  
Help  
Opportunity  
Village Set Up  
for Halloween](#)

September 7th  
[Azusa - 9th  
Annual Field of  
Glory](#)

September 7th  
[Altadena -  
Special  
Concert  
Volunteers](#)

# HIGHLIGHTER

September 1, 2024

**IN THIS EDITION:**

**DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS AND REMINDERS**

- Do you aspire to be District Governor? DG Mike Driebe**
- Mental Health Resources – Anxiety and Panic Attacks. Sheila Gutierrez**
- Action Plan Champion - Mary Ann Lutz**
- Exciting News: SuperBuild 2025 Planning is Underway!**
- Is Your Club-sponsored Interact Club Registered as Active?**
- TLC -- December 6-8 and Relevant Deadlines**
- Las Vegas Peace Fellow Continues to Lead**

**MEMBERSHIP MINUTES**

- Membership Help Wanted! (and Given!) DGN Dennis Franklin**
- Membership - Service Social and Fun at LV After Hours**

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

- Mesquite's 10th Year For –œMUDD–œ!!**
- Pahrump Valley 9-11 Memorial Ceremony**
- South Pasadena Promotes Education and Cybersecurity Awareness in September**

**SUCCESSFUL CLUB EVENTS and PROJECTS**

- San Marino: Paul Harris Fellows**
- Covina July 4 Car Show and Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser**
- Pomona - Casa Colina Playground Ribbon Cutting**
- Claremont Hosted Multi-Club Social**
- Green Valley Club Cleans Books for Spread the Word Nevada**
- Rancho Cucamonga, Happy Feet!**
- Las Vegas Southwest Welcomes Nevada Governor Lombardo**
- Shop with a Cop, Pasadena Rotary Style**
- Ontario-Montclair Recognizes Student Achievement in Academics and Leadership**
- Las Vegas Summerlin Donates Book Vending Machine to Local School**
- Pomona Teacher Appreciation Day**
- Altadena - The Magic of Music (and Rotary)**

## Do You Aspire to be District Governor?



Dear District 5300 Rotarians,

I hope this finds you and those you love doing well. While I’ve had a chance to meet some of you at my club visits, there are many more of you I haven’t yet had the pleasure of meeting. So, when your club announces my time with you, I hope you’ll make plans to join.

In thinking about what I’d share with you in this article, it occurred to me that as we announce our latest Rotarian in line to serve as DG in 2027-2028, Kari Anderson, from Claremont Sunrise, some of you may have questions about who can apply and what the job requires. To become a District Governor you need to have been a Rotarian in good standing in a

functioning club for at least 7 years, and have served as a club president for a full 12-month term. If you were a charter club president, you must have served at least 6 months.



September 10th  
[LV After Hours - Living Grace Career Night](#)  
 September 12th  
[Ontario-Montclair Students of the Month](#)  
 September 12th  
[Montebello - Beer Booth at Night Market](#)  
 September 17th  
[LV Southwest - Happy Feet](#)  
 September 17th  
[4 LV Rotary Clubs Joint Meeting/Social](#)  
 September 18th  
[LV After Hours -- Baby's Bounty Diaper Distribution](#)  
 September 18th  
[LV Summerlin - Just One Project - Grocery Packing & Stocking](#)  
 September 18th  
[Membership Committee On Line Zoom Meeting](#)  
 September 18th  
[District - Growing Club Membership](#)  
 September 20th  
[Claremont Sunrise - Fireside Chat](#)  
 September 20th  
[Club Intent to Participate TLC 2024](#)  
 September 21st  
[Mesquite -- MUDD VOLLEYBALL](#)  
 September 21st  
[LV After Hours - Food Distribution with Just One Project](#)  
 September 21st  
[Green Valley - Chili Cook-off](#)  
 September 23rd  
[LV Southwest - SOAR Awards Ceremony](#)  
 September 23rd  
[DG Official Visit - Las Vegas Southwest](#)  
 September 24th  
[Green Valley - Project Marilyn](#)  
 September 24th  
[LV Summerlin - Professional Dev Series: Branding](#)



It's also important that the candidate demonstrates a willingness and ability to fulfill the duties of District Governor. You might well ask, "How do I do that?" I think the best way to demonstrate that is to serve in district leadership roles. The district is always in need of people who are able to take on a position, move a program area forward, and especially, demonstrate a willingness to help clubs and Rotarians be the best resources possible to the communities they serve. Now, someone could say they are able to fulfill the duties of a DG, but a track record of effective leadership speaks much louder. In fact, another requirement is that the candidate have a reputation of integrity and good conduct. A history of effective and ethical service can certainly demonstrate that, too.

You also need to know what you're letting yourself in for. Article 16 of the Rotary Manual of Procedure (available online) spells out the qualifications, duties and responsibilities of the position. The candidate has to attest to the fact that they understand what's expected of them. This includes having a high business or professional standing and having the time to dedicate to the role.

The job also requires a willingness to devote the time needed to train to be DG over a period of two and a half years. This includes attending Governor-Nominee and Governor-Elect training, as well as attending the Rotary International Assembly.

I know this sounds like a lot, but Kari and the others in the Governor line are not alone. There are Past District Governors and other Rotarians who stand ready to help ensure that their service is successful, and most importantly, that the clubs served are successful, too. When each of us joined Rotary we had no idea what our membership could help us achieve, and I would guess most have achieved far more than we ever expected. Take another step in that direction and serve your club as president, and then find a leadership role at the district level. I promise you'll get far more out of those experiences than you'll have given.

Yours in Rotary,  
 DG Mike Driebe

## DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS AND REMINDERS

### Mental Health -- Focus on Anxiety and Panic Attacks

*By Sheila Gutierrez, Glendora Rotary, District Mental Health Initiative Co-Chair*

Rotary International 2023-24 President Gordon McInally launched a global Mental Health Awareness initiative during his term. In response, 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, that will soon be accessible to all district members via a platform on the District website, include 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 anxiety and panic attacks, with more mental health topics to follow.

Please watch: "Focus on Anxiety/Panic Attacks" A Five Minute Lesson on How to be Your Own Therapist

### Action Plan Champion

*By Mary Ann Lutz, District 5300 Rotary Action Plan Champion*

I am thrilled to share with you my new appointment as the District 5300 Rotary Action Plan champion, a new district role that helps promote the Rotary Action Plan.

The Rotary Action Plan was first drafted in 2018 with the help of our current RI President Stephanie Urchick. Many of us have heard of the Action Plan, but may not be as familiar with it as our Four Way Test.

Similar to the Four Way Test, the Action Plan has four components:

1. Increase our **Impact**
2. Expand our **Reach**
3. Enhance participant **Engagement**
4. Increase our ability to **Adapt**

**Brands**  
**Everything**  
 September 25th  
**AG On Line**  
**Zoom Meeting**  
 September 26th  
**DG Official**  
**Visit - Apple**  
**Valley,**  
**Victorville &**  
**Barstow**  
 September 26th  
**San Dimas -**  
**Brew & Cans:**  
**Kickoff Event**  
**to Feed**  
**Military**  
**Families**  
 September 28th  
**SanDimas -**  
**Feeding**  
**Heroes:**  
**Military Family**  
**Support Food**  
**Drive**  
 September 28th  
**LV Southwest -**  
**Picnic - Mt.**  
**Charleston**  
 September 28th  
**Upland -**  
**Lobster Fest**

Just as the Four Way Test serves as the Rotarianâ€™s moral compass, the Action Plan can lend us direction while we serve as People of Action. The Action Plan guides what we do together to strengthen our clubs and increase our ties to our community. The four components of the Action Plan are interconnected through our service projects. A powerful service project is not just relevant to the needs of the community, it helps us to reach out to new members and engage our current members. A new project can also help us to adapt to changing needs.

Conversely, we can use the four components of the Action Plan to evaluate the merit of a service project, whether it is impactful and engaging. The goal is for Rotarians to integrate the Action Plan into all Rotary activities and events, much as we weave the Four Way Test into the things we think, say, and do.

We are embarking on a new Rotary year, and thereâ€™s no better time to incorporate the Action Plan into the planning process. I am available as a liaison between the clubs so great project ideas can be shared and amplified. I plan to meet with club leaders, in person or via Zoom to explain the Action Plan, share your clubâ€™s ideas, and learn from each other.

The ROTARY ACTION PLAN

## TAKING ACTION FOR CHANGE

We are at a defining moment in Rotary's history. We're implementing our Action Plan, a strategic road map that will help us better connect with each other, grow as an organization, and more effectively share our stories of how we are making a difference in communities.

At every level of Rotary, we have embraced opportunities to work together to achieve our goals. Over the coming four years, you'll hear from Rotary members around the world who will offer their inspiration, encouragement, and guidance as we carry out the four priorities of the Action Plan.

**IMPACT**

We want to put our resources behind programs that will have the greatest impact and that align with our areas of focus. We're creating tools and guidelines for tracking and sharing our efforts. We're also developing an evaluation process that will help us make objective recommendations about what is working and what we should continue, start, or stop doing.

**REACH**

We're committed to exemplifying and embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in everything we do. We're testing new products and alternative models that will allow more people to connect and take action with us in ways that work best for them.

**ENGAGE**

We're tearing down the walls between "us" and "them" and focusing on participants. We're asking people how they want to participate, finding ways to meet them where they are, and making sure they know we value them.

**ADAPT**

We're streamlining operations so we can be more agile and responsive. We're simplifying the way we do things and helping members manage change so that our clubs, districts, and zones can more effectively communicate and work together.

Learn what your club can do at [rotary.org/actionplan](https://rotary.org/actionplan).

## Exciting News: SuperBuild 2025 Planning is Underway!

*By Robin Smith, Las Vegas Rotary*

Mark your calendars for May 3, 2025! Weâ€™re thrilled to announce that weâ€™ll be building one to two homes with Corazon in Tecate, Mexico, as part of our ongoing SuperBuild initiative. SuperBuild is a remarkable opportunity to engage in international service just across the border. In a single day, you can transform the lives of a family for generations and experience a profound change in your own life.

My own Rotary Clubâ€™s partnership with Corazon began with the Rotary Club of Claremont Sunrise, with early support from La Verne, Pomona, and other clubs. Thanks to the dedication of Alan Jack and Ken Rowlandâ€™both originally from Claremont Sunriseâ€™this initiative quickly grew into a District 5300 project. Alan, now with RC Claremont, and Ken inspired many other clubs by sharing their experiences and photos, sparking the passion that has fueled our efforts for years.

Weâ€™re proud to continue this legacy, and we invite you to join us in making a lasting impact. Letâ€™s build together!

*Click "read more" for full article*  
[Read More](#)

## Is Your Club-sponsored Interact Club Registered as Active?

*By Diane Oâ€™Neal, District 5300 Interact Liaison*

Interact, Rotary clubs for young people ages 12-18 that empower them to take action, become leaders and gain a global perspective, are required by RI to complete the Interact Club Advisor form **annually**.

The RI link to complete this form is: <https://my.rotary.org/en/report-your-interact-club-advisor>. You can also obtain this form by email, from RI at [Interact@rotary.org](mailto:Interact@rotary.org).

### Has your Interact Club been terminated because your registration is not up to date?

There are approximately 120 Rotary Interact Clubs in District 5300 that have been listed as "Terminated" by RI. Please email RI Interact at [Interact@rotary.org](mailto:Interact@rotary.org) to ascertain whether your Interact Club is listed as "Terminated." If "Terminated" and your Rotary Club wishes to reinstate your Interact Club, this can be accomplished by completing the form entitled, "Interact Club Certification Form" which will be sent to you by request to the RI email address above.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Diane Oâ€™Neal, Rotary Club of Rancho Cucamonga, District 5300 Interact Liaison at [dorunner5858@gmail.com](mailto:dorunner5858@gmail.com)

## TLC -- December 6-8 and Relevant Deadlines

*By Eric Threeton, District TLC Chair*

We are excited to announce this yearâ€™s Rotary District 5300 Teen Leadership Camp (TLC), scheduled for **December 6-8** in

Running Springs, CA. TLC is an intensive 3-day program designed to develop leadership skills in outstanding 8th graders from our district. Sponsored by Rotary Clubs across California East, California West, Antelope Valley, Victor Valley, and Southern Nevada, this camp offers students a unique opportunity to engage in team activities, participate in Rotarian-led labs, and learn from various guest speakers. Students will connect with over 200 peers from across our district, making for an enriching experience.

**Important dates and facts to remember:** Intents are now due by **September 20th**, a bit earlier this year to finalize numbers. The cost for each student has increased to \$375. Student applications are due by **November 1st**, and club decisions must be finalized in DacDB by **November 15th**.

We are also looking for dedicated facilitators. If you're interested, please contact Facilitator Coordinator Rebecca Fritz at [rfritzrotary@gmail.com](mailto:rfritzrotary@gmail.com). For those who might be hesitant, DG-Elect Gilda Moshir has shared glowing reviews of the experience and would love to share her experience!

If you know high school seniors who would make excellent counselors, please send their information to Senior Counselor Coordinator Jeremy Bruner at [jeremybruner@gmail.com](mailto:jeremybruner@gmail.com). For registration questions, reach out to our Registrar, Raghada Khoury, at [raghada@khouryent.net](mailto:raghada@khouryent.net).

For any other inquiries, feel free to contact our TLC Chair, Eric Threeton, at [eric3ton@gmail.com](mailto:eric3ton@gmail.com).

We look forward to a memorable and impactful TLC experience!

## Las Vegas Peace Fellow Continues to Lead

By Bill Payne (San Marino) and Karen Whisenhunt (Las Vegas)

Our District/RI has a Peace Fellowship scholar program (fully funded by RI, to any of six or seven universities throughout the world). One of our Las Vegas Alumni not only participated in the Fellowship, but has gone on to make a full-time living in the Peace business, and continues to share and promote what she has learned/her experiences to others. Florence Maher is a panelist in an upcoming [Peace Fellowship Alumni Association International](#) webinar, *Careers Through the Back Door: Advice & Experiences on Breaking In*. It's a Zoom call on Saturday, September 7.



## MEMBERSHIP MINUTES

### Membership Help Wanted! (and Given!)

DGN Dennis Franklin, Chair of District Membership Committee

At 6:15, on the third Wednesday of each month, the **District Membership Committee** holds an hour-long Zoom meeting that's designed to help our clubs increase their membership. We're looking for people of action who are willing to share and learn from one another about growing membership. If you're a Rotarian who fits that description, please join us as we share best practices, ideas, and resources.

Our next get together will be at **6:15 p.m. on September 18th**. Here's the zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82077877877?pwd=0mbZLDDNnsYUsgwyzidC2Tkt7QJXgI.1>

Meeting ID: 820 7787 7877  
Passcode: 8yqPMH

### Membership - Service Social and Fun at LV After Hours

By Linda Bertuzzi, Las Vegas After Hours

It takes the dedication of every member in our Club to create opportunities for us to serve the families and children in our community. We stepped outside the box when we chartered in 2019 and created our "Cruise Director" team that coordinates all our Service, Social and Fun events, instead of having different committees for youth, international, etc.

Coordinating the calendar has been a breeze. With the members individually in charge of their favorite projects, they bring the enthusiasm needed to inspire others to join in. Creating different time slots on both weekdays and weekends provides every member an opportunity to serve, no matter their busy personal or work schedules.

And, if you want to know where your favorite Rotarians will be in the next few months, just check out our [calendar online](#) or at right.



DATE	TIME	PROGRAM	LOCATION	CHAIR
Wed, 8/21	4:30 - 5:30 pm	Agassi Birthday Hour	Agassi Boys & Girls Club	Barbara /Dawn
Wed, 8/21	6:00 - 8 pm	Spread the Word Book Cleaning	Prez Linda's home	PP Linda
Thurs, 9/5	6:00 to 10 pm	Super Summer Theatre Service, Social & Fun Night	Spring Mountain Ranch	Cruise Director
Thurs, 9/10	6:00 - 8:00 pm	Living Grace Career Night	Living Grace Home	Beth Baughan
Wed, 9/18	8:00 to noon-ish	Baby's Bounty Diaper Distribution	4495 W Reno, 89118	Candace Woodbury
Sat, 9/21	7:30 am to 11:30	The Just One Project Food Distribution	Cimarron Memorial HS, 2301 N Tenaya	Eugene Maresh
Mon, 9/23	8:30 to 10:30 am	SOAR	City Hall	SOAR Committee
Sat, 9/28	10:30 - 1:30	Salvation Army Meal Service	Salvation Army, 35 W Owens	Julie Stemple
Wed, 10/2	TBD	Service, Social & Fun night	TBD	Pres Cat
Wed, 10/16	4:30 - 5:30 pm	Agassi Birthday Hour	Agassi Boys & Girls Club	Barbara Dempsey
Wed, 10/16	6:00 - 8 pm	Spread the Word Book Cleaning	TBD	PP Linda
Wed, 10/30	TBD	Bonus Wednesday Social?	TBD	Linda
Wed, 11/6	TBD	Service, Social & Fun night	TBD	Pres Cat
Sat, 11/16	7:30 am to 11:30	The Just One Project Food Distribution	Cimarron Memorial HS, 2301 N TenayaEu	Eugene Maresh
Wed, 11/20/27	2:30 - 5:30 pm	Agassi Thanksgiving	Agassi Boys & Girls Club	TBD
Thurs, 12/5	7:30 - 9:30 am	Santa Clothes	JCPennneys, Meadows Mall	Cruise Director
12/6 - 12/8	All Day	TLC	TBD	Jeremy Bruner
Sat, 12/14	Shifts/All Day	Salvation Army Bell Ringing	Summerlin Mall	Cruise Director
Wed, 12/18/17	10:30 am-1:30 pm	Lunt Elementary Winter Feast	Robert Lunt Elementary	PP Linda/Andrew Pro
Wed, 12/18	4:30 - 5:30 pm	Agassi Birthday Hour	Agassi Boys & Girls Club	Barbara Dempsey
Fri, 1/10	6:00 - 8 pm	Club Holiday Party	TBD	TBD
Wed 1/15	8:00 to noon-ish	Baby's Bounty Diaper Distribution	4495 W Reno, 89118	Candace Woodbury
Wed, 1/29	TBD	Bonus Wednesday Social?	TBD	TBD
Wed, 2/5	TBD	Service, Social & Fun night	TBD	Pres Cat
Wed, 2/12	6 - 8 pm	Project 150 Joint Club Food Drive	TBD	TBD
Wed 2/19	4:30 - 5:30 pm	Agassi Birthday Hour	Agassi Boys & Girls Club	Barbara Dempsey
Wed, 2/19	6:00 - 8 pm	Spread the Word Book Cleaning	TBD	PP Linda
3/21 - 3/23	All Day	RYLA	TBD	Jeremy Bruner

## UPCOMING CLUB PROJECTS AND EVENTS

### Mesquite's 10th Year For "MUDD"!!

*By Debra Parsley, Mesquite*

The Rotary Club of Mesquite NV's popular Mudd Volleyball Tournament, held behind the Eureka Casino Resort, will take place on **September 21st**. For the 10th year, area teams will compete for a chance to win a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place trophy. The Mesquite PD and Fire Rescue teams will start the fun at 9:00 am as they vie for the "Studds of The Mudd" title for 2024-25! Team play will follow right after. Teams of six players cost \$240 and include a unique "Mudd" t-shirt for each player. One alternate player is allowed for an additional \$40.

The money raised will provide scholarships for graduating seniors, the Children's Story Walk, food pantries, and several community improvements, to name a few. The tournament has become an annual event that is very popular with players and spectators alike. We put a lot of hard work and love into making it a fun event for everyone.

Teams are encouraged to come in costume and vie for the "Best Team Costume" prize. Three judges will review all costumed teams and vote in these categories: Best Theme, Creativity/Originality, Attention to Detail, Most Humorous, and Effort. So have some fun, use your imagination, and come up with the best costume and win!

Businesses are encouraged to become corporate sponsors by supporting this annual fundraising event at any one of the available levels. All proceeds remain in the local community. Well-known local DJ #1Juan will keep everyone jammin' with great tunes, adding to the fun. This year, food trucks and the very popular Fixxology flavored drink truck will be present, and plenty of water will be available courtesy of Reliance Connects. Spectators should come prepared with shade structures, lawn chairs, and personal items for a fun day in the sun! We don't want anyone becoming overheated or sunburned!



For more information on this great event, contact us at [RotaryMesquiteEvents@gmail.com](mailto:RotaryMesquiteEvents@gmail.com). To sign up to play, please visit: <https://bit.ly/MUDDReg> To sign up as a sponsor, please visit: <https://bit.ly/MUDDSponsor>

### Pahrump Valley 9-11 Memorial Ceremony

*By Rick Scanlan, Pahrump Valley*

On Wednesday September 11, 2024, the Pahrump Valley Rotary Club will host its annual "9-11 Memorial Ceremony". The ceremony will take place at the First Responders Reflection Area of the Calvada Eye, which was created by the members of Pahrump Valley Rotary Club. The presentation will begin at 8:30 a.m. to commemorate and honor all first responders.

The Program will consist of a recap of the events that occurred on the infamous date of Sept. 11, 2001, which began with the attack on the World Trade Center towers in New York. Event speakers will consist of representatives from the Pahrump Valley Rotary Club, Chief of the Pahrump Valley Fire Dept. Scott Lewis, Nye County Sheriff Joe McGill, County Commissioners, and more.

This event is a great opportunity to support our first responders and honor all who died in this tragedy. Please join us on Wednesday Sept. 11, 8:30 a.m. at the Calvada Eye. Donuts & coffee will be available. Donations are always appreciated.

### South Pasadena Promotes Education and Cybersecurity Awareness in September

*by Betty Bui*

September marks Rotary International's Basic Education and Literacy Month, highlighting the organization's commitment to enhancing basic education and literacy to combat poverty, improve health, and foster peace.

The South Pasadena Rotary Club is actively supporting the South Pasadena High School Rotary Interact Club through various service

initiatives. Upcoming events include the Holiday Gifting Party for the homeless community on December 8, and the Halloween Haunted House running from October 15 to October 31. The club also continues its partnership with the Rocky McKinnon Adaptive Surf Program. For more information on these events, contact [rotaryclubofsouthpasadena@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryclubofsouthpasadena@gmail.com).

In an age where AI literacy is becoming essential, the Rotary Club is also focusing on cybersecurity education. In response to alarming statistics—43% of successful cyber-attacks target small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs), with 60% of these businesses closing within six months of an attack—Rotary aims to offer a remote workshop on AI-Powered Cybersecurity. This session will be led by a Managed Security Service Provider (MSSP) specializing in AI-driven cybersecurity solutions, addressing the critical need for businesses to protect themselves in an evolving threat landscape. According to recent data, 85% of cybersecurity leaders report that recent attacks are powered by AI, and 75% of security professionals have noted an increase in attacks over the past year, largely attributed to the misuse of generative AI.

Stay tuned for the confirmed date in September 2024, and join us to enhance your understanding of cybersecurity and its importance for business resilience and customer trust.

## SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS AND EVENTS

### San Marino: Paul Harris Fellows

*By John Jones, San Marino Rotary*

The Rotary Club of San Marino has always been a strong supporter of The Rotary Foundation (TRF). All members of our club are Paul Harris Fellows, and their recognition levels vary from PHF, up to 17 members at the PHF+8 level. There are 11 major donors at level 1 and 3 Major Donors at Level 2.

Each year we host a Paul Harris Fellow luncheon where we recognize a local non-Rotarian as a new Paul Harris fellow for involvement in the community and for actions that emphasize “Service above Self”.

This past year a special emphasis was placed on Paul Harris Fellow recognition. Through a unique use of the club’s recognition points and increased member donations, 23 members increased their Paul Harris Fellow recognition levels, and 11 new members were awarded Paul Harris Fellow certificates and pins.

The district designated funds (DDF) that result from our TRF donations have had a significant impact on our club’s ability to fund projects. In future years our focus on donating to The Rotary Foundation will remain a high priority.

### Covina July 4 Car Show and Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

*By Samantha Davis, Covina Rotary*

Covina Rotary hosted its annual Fourth of July car show and pancake breakfast event. This fundraiser raises money for the annual budget to fund community outreach. This year \$10,500 was raised!



### Pomona - Casa Colina Playground Ribbon Cutting

*By Josh Landis, President, Pomona Rotary*

On August 12th, members of Pomona Rotary attended the ribbon cutting ceremony of the Huunat interactive musical playground at Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare. Pomona Rotary was



interactive musical playground at Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare. Pomona Rotary was one of the first community partners to help raise funds for this first of its kind interactive musical playground that helps children with rehabilitation through the use of music. Designed with extensive research by developers at MIT, the computer system within the playground allows for a network of sophisticated programming to support the children in their individual rehabilitation. Pomona Rotary received special recognition for its support of the musical stairs that light up as children walk on each step. The playground will soon add a rainbow waterfall that plays music to add to the innovative approach to helping children in their journey of rehabilitation.



## Claremont Hosted Multi-Club Social

*By Susie Ilesley, President of Claremont Rotary*

The Rotary Club of Claremont hosted a multi-club social at Casa 425 in Claremont on Wednesday, August 21. These events began last year to bring area Rotarians together. About 50 people attended this one, including from Claremont Sunrise, Upland, La Verne, Ontario/Montclair and the Claremont Kiwanis Club. Participating Clubs will host additional events later in the year.



## Green Valley Club Cleans Books for Spread the Word Nevada

*By Barbara Billitzer, Rotary Club of Green Valley*

On August 20<sup>th</sup>, Green Valley Rotary members, family and friends gathered at Spread the Word Nevada (SWN) for a book cleaning project. The organization's mission is to advance childhood literacy within low-income communities by changing lives one book at a time. Spread the Word Nevada relies on the generous support of individuals, local businesses and organizations to provide new and gently used books to students in Nevada who can't afford their own. These books go directly to children to inspire them to read and help them succeed both inside and outside the classroom. To date, they have adopted 78 Nevada elementary schools and donate an average of 70,000 books per month. Since 2001, SWN has distributed 7.2 million books. They have also given generous support for our Club, donating books for our annual Hoolihan's Christmas for Kids event.



## Rancho Cucamonga, Happy Feet!

*By Rick Gomez*

On August 2, The Rotary Club of Rancho Cucamonga hosted its annual "Happy Feet" event in partnership with the Alta Loma School District and with support of the staff of Burlington at the Ontario Mills Mall. Together, we transformed a hot summer day into a bright hub of hope and happiness for local children in need.

The event provided new shoes, socks, backpacks and school supplies to the children who attended. Eyes lit up and smiles widened as each child tried on their perfect pair of shoes, many experiencing the joy of new footwear for the first time in a long while. We also donated an additional 20 pairs of shoes and socks to the Alta Loma School District to address ongoing needs. These will be kept at the District Office for students who were unable to attend the event in person.

The success of "Happy Feet" is a testament to the power of community partnership and the generosity of our club members. As these children step into the new school year with confidence and comfort,



weâ€™re reminded of why we serve: to create positive change, one step at a time.



Thanks to all our volunteers, donors, and partners who made this event possible. Together, weâ€™re not just providing shoes, weâ€™re providing hope, dignity, and a path to a brighter future.

## Las Vegas Southwest Welcomes Nevada Governor Lombardo

*Keith Thomas, LVSW Public Relations/Newsletter Editor*

Southwest Rotary has a history of having meeting speakers who are impact members of the community and on August 5, 2024, we were favored with a great presentation from the Governor of the State of Nevada.

[Governor Joe Lombardo](#) was elected as Sheriff of Clark County in 2014 after 26 years on the force, and re-elected in 2018. He was elected as the 31st Governor of Nevada in November 2022 and sworn into office in January 2023. and is focused on diversifying and revitalizing Nevadaâ€™s economy, restoring law and order in communities across the state, and bringing excellence, school choice, and accountability to Nevadaâ€™s education system. After graduating from college, he served in the United States Army and in the Nevada National Guard. Following his military service, he joined the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, where he quickly rose through the ranks and served on nearly every level of LVMPD, from detective to assistant sheriff.



In recognition of the service he has provided, and is providing, to the State of Nevada, and in recognition of the many years that he protected our country and our community, it was our pleasure to award Governor Lombardo with a Paul Harris Fellowship. Bruce MacKenzie, our club President, and Troy Lochhead, our Foundation Committee chair, made the presentation.

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

## Shop with a Cop, Pasadena Rotary Style

*By Rotarian J.P. Harris, Retired LA County Sheriff Lieutenant*

Pasadena Rotary President Kathy Meagher launched the Shop With A Cop program in 2015 as a partnership between Pasadena Rotary (through a District grant), the Pasadena Police Department, the Boys and Girls Club of Pasadena (BGCP) and one of our local Target stores. The purpose of the program is to afford middle school aged youth the opportunity to interact, one on one, with a police officer while doing something that may be common to us, but not so common for them: shopping for school clothes and supplies to start their new school year. The BGCP strives to find those youngsters who may be resource challenged and whose families could use a little help at back to school time.

We pair 20 officers with 20 BGCP youth during the first week of school and Rotary provides each pair with a \$100 gift card. We then set them off inside the Target store in search of back to school items. Target has also engaged by giving each youngster a small gift bag with items they can use at school.

The power of the program is evident. Lt. Carlo Montiglio, who helped coordinate the police departmentâ€™s participation, sent the following, which really says it all:

â€œOn behalf of the whole police department, it is an honor and a pleasure to be part of this event. The officers are always touched. As we discussed, the things we take for granted, such as basic hygiene items and snacks, are often lacking in these kidsâ€™ lives, and itâ€™s heartwarming to be there for them. Thank you, guys, for bringing the kids, and thanks to JP and the Rotary for the funding. I have fond memories of the Boys and Girls club from my own childhood and you guys really make a great difference in peopleâ€™s lives!â€

Thanks to all the partners who make this annual event possible. Lives are impacted at each event.



## Ontario-Montclair Recognizes Student Achievement in Academics and Leadership

By James Hammond, President, Ontario-Montclair

The Ontario-Montclair Rotary Club is proud to partner with the Ontario-Montclair School District to recognize the exceptional achievements of our community through the 8th Grade Student of the Month Program. This initiative celebrates academic excellence and emphasizes the importance of service, responsibility, and leadership in our students.

Each month, we gather at the Ontario DoubleTree by Hilton to honor selected students who have distinguished themselves in both academics and service to others. This event is a special occasion where students, their principal, family members, and District administrators come together to celebrate these young leaders.

The program is more than just an award; it's an opportunity to plant seeds for a brighter future. As we recognize these students, we instill in them the core values that Rotary upholds: responsibility for peace, the fight against disease, the provision of clean water, sanitation, and hygiene, and the importance of education. These are not just abstract concepts but real-world issues that these young leaders can begin to address in their own lives and communities.

An integral part of the program is the chance for students to present speeches. This experience allows them to showcase their achievements and to develop proper etiquette in a formal business environment. The opportunity to interact with community leaders, Rotarians, and District officials provides invaluable exposure to the expectations of professional settings, helping to build confidence and poise.

Through this program, the Ontario-Montclair Rotary Club is committed to nurturing the next generation of responsible, compassionate, and educated leaders. We believe that by recognizing and encouraging these young individuals, we are helping to shape a future where they will continue to serve their communities and make a positive impact on the world.

Click to see a video about the program: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oMPKi1rB8As&t=5s>



## Las Vegas Summerlin Donates Book Vending Machine to Local School

By Glenn Ritt, LV Summerlin

Nevada's public-school pupils have chronically struggled to meet grade-level benchmarks in reading, even before the COVID-19

pandemic knocked back student achievement nationwide. Less than 40 percent of third-graders are proficient readers, according to state standardized exams. The impact of this statistic is profound. One in six children who are not reading proficiently in third grade do not graduate from high school on time, or at all, a rate four times greater than that for proficient readers.

These numbers have motivated the Las Vegas Summerlin Rotary Club to invest dollars and volunteer hours in the students at McMillan Elementary School. At the start of the school year, pupils discovered a new vending machine in their multi-purpose room. But this machine does not vend candy bars or soda. It vends books. And they're free with a twist. Students must earn them by exhibiting values akin to Rotary's Four-Way Test.

The machine cost more than \$6,000 and was a joint investment by the club and a corporate partner, Raising Cane's, the fast-food chain specializing in chicken fingers which has a restaurant next door to McMillan. In addition, 14 Rotary club members donated \$200 each to purchase books to fill the vending machine for the school year. Raising Cane's also contributed bookmarks as an incentive. Collect multiple bookmarks and get free food.

The machine comes with 50 special coins. Students identified by their teachers earn a coin. And they get to purchase their book right in front of classmates, a strategy to impress other students to proudly achieve, explains school principal Nikki Longmore. "We will be using the vending machine to reward students who uphold McMillan's core values " Be Respectful, Responsible and Safe. We also will incentivize students who meet their reading goals."

"Las Vegas Summerlin Rotary is so proud of this program that merges fundraising and volunteerism for an enduring purpose " and legacy," says club president John Rizzo. "We're now recruiting club members to volunteer as mentors to read and discuss the books earned by our very special students." Our next step is to recruit other companies to partner for purchasing vending machines for other elementary schools.



McMillan Elementary School Principal Nikki Longmore and first student to earn a book.

## Pomona Teacher Appreciation Day

*By Josh Landis, Pomona Rotary*

On Saturday, August 17, Pomona Rotarian Victor Caceres of the Youth and Family Club of Pomona Valley coordinated an amazing event to support the local teachers as they kick-started the new school year. Through some generous donations, there were pallets full of school supplies for teachers to use in their classrooms, which is a cost they would typically have to pay themselves. Several Rotarians had the opportunity to show up in support to assist in the distribution of the supplies, with over 600 teachers showing up!

There were several supporters of the event including the Fairplex, Home Depot (supplied shopping carts for the teachers to gather all of their supplies), and all of the wonderful staff at the Youth & Family Club who showed up to be part of this day.

As Rotarians, we were there to assist as needed. I greeted the teachers as they started their shopping spree and explained the process to them. The teachers were filled with gratitude as they thanked us over and over again for coordinating this event. Several teachers broke down in tears as they expressed how much this type of support meant to them.

We can do amazing things when we work together through partnerships to impact the community! Huge shout out to Victor for having the vision to put this event together!



## Altadena - The Magic of Music (and Rotary)

*by Maricela Wan, President of Altadena RC*

The signature project for Altadena Rotary is our eight-week Summer Concert Series each Saturday night in July and August. These concerts allow 1,000 local community members to see live music Tribute Bands perform. Our club raises the more than \$50,000 it takes to produce these shows. Our members serve as security, stage helpers, ushers and operating the concession stand. We "Pass the Pitcher" asking for donations. For the last few years, we have raised more than \$2,000 each season to send to The Rotary Foundation for the End Polio Now campaign.

To date, our rotary volunteers have provided more than 600 hours of service. The community volunteers have added another 300 hours of service to this project. Other than the funds for Polio and funds from the concession, we do not generate big dollars. But all dollars raised are given out to the community through grants, scholarships and supplies.

