

May 2025: Youth Service Month

In This Issue

[Follow Us on Social Media](#)

[Looking Back, Passing Forward: Grateful for the Journey, Hopeful for the Future](#)

[Comms Corner: Your Monthly Update!](#)

[Planting Seeds of Leadership: Why Youth Service Matters Now More Than Ever](#)

[From the Desk of the District Governor: Million Dollar Gala to Inspire a Legacy of Service](#)

[Rotary International Day of Service, May 17th Put on YOUR ROTARY SHIRT, and get to WORK!](#)

[Growing Together: Celebrating Membership and Youth in Rotary](#)



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Looking Back, Passing Forward: Grateful for the Journey, Hopeful for the Future

By Michael J. Rabara



5230 District Governor

As I near the end of my year as your District Governor, I find myself reflecting on the journey—and what a journey it has been.

[Read More](#)

[Rotary Recognition Matters: Celebrating Those Who Give Back](#)

[Polio and Trivia, Interact Style](#)

[Setting the Bar High for Camp ROYAL 2025 and Beyond!](#)

[Rotary in Motion: Moments that Matter](#)

For more information about the 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.

Comms Corner: Your Monthly Update!

From your 5230 Comms Team

Hey there, this month's **Comms Update** is packed with fresh tools to help you share the Rotary story far and wide. Since it's **Youth Service Month**, we've added a brand-new resource to your **District Comms Toolkit** — a handy, step-by-step **guide for starting an Interact Club!** It's perfect for clubs ready to empower young leaders and grow the Rotary family.

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Planting Seeds of Leadership: Why Youth Service Matters Now More Than Ever

By Merritt D. Wiseman



As we celebrate **Youth Service Month** this May, Rotary clubs around the world are embracing one of the most vital aspects of our mission: **empowering the next generation of leaders**. Through **Interact and Rotaract clubs**, we provide young people with the tools, mentorship, and opportunities to lead lives of purpose and global impact.

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From the Desk of the District Governor: Million Dollar Gala to Inspire a Legacy of Service

By Michael J. Rabara

District Governor

As District Governor, it is my great honor to invite you to one of the most meaningful celebrations of our Rotary year—the upcoming **Million Dollar Gala**. This event will recognize the extraordinary generosity of Rotarians and friends of Rotary who are pledging their support to The Rotary Foundation at a leadership level. Together, we aim to raise over one million dollars that will fuel life-changing work both locally and across the globe.

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Rotary International Day of Service, May 17th Put on YOUR ROTARY SHIRT, and get to WORK!

By Kevin Kenoyer



May 17th has been designated a “Day of Service” by Rotary International. RI President Stephanie Urchik is calling on all 1.3 million Rotarians worldwide to get involved with an act of Service to their Community, Region, or the World on that date. District 5230 is asking ALL CLUBS and Rotarians to participate in an “Act of Service” on May 17th.

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Growing Together: Celebrating Membership and Youth in Rotary

By Rebecca Moser

PDG, 5230 Membership Chair

Pictured: PDG (Queen) Becky is always ready to take part in fun and engaging Club shenanigans! (We don't know who is the photobomber behind her.)

As May blooms with the spirit of **Youth Service Month**, we're reminded that Rotary's strength lies in its **people** — **past, present, and future**. This month is the perfect time to reflect on the powerful connection between honoring longtime members, welcoming new ones, and **growing our clubs with purpose**.

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Rotary Recognition Matters: Celebrating Those Who Give Back

By Bruce D. Mackey



PDG, 5230 Foundation Chair

As some of you may know, I spent 25 years in the Army. The Army, much like Rotary, believes strongly in recognizing outstanding performance and I was honored to do my part in making sure that many of the soldiers under my command had their incredible dedication and professionalism acknowledged and rewarded by the military. Early in my career, one of the many great mentors I had reminded me that recognition I received or that I recommended for others, was for the benefit of, not only the person being recognized, but for the organization as a whole. In bestowing an award, you are not only saying that the awardees' action is worthy of praise, but the action for which they are being recognized is something every member of the organization should respect and honor. When you receive a Rotary honor, such as a Paul Harris Fellow (PHF), it signifies you have made a financial sacrifice to support the ongoing work of our Foundation. If you've received a PHF from someone else, that's a rare honor

signifying they respect your life and actions to the extent they wish to recognize your commitment with an award. As a Rotarian you should honor that award by sharing it with others.

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Polio and Trivia, Interact Style

By Belinda I. Daguio

5230 Polio Plus Chair

Earlier in this Rotary year, I had the opportunity to attend Interact conferences on both sides of our district. At first, I'll admit—I was a little nervous. Up until then, most of my time had been spent speaking to Rotary clubs about polio. I kept thinking, These young people probably won't know much about polio. *That was something from the 1950s. They likely don't know anyone who's been affected. They've got other priorities.*

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Setting the Bar High for Camp ROYAL 2025 and Beyond!

By Nicolas Giannandrea



As the District Chair for Camp ROYAL, I am always on the lookout for new ways to strengthen our program and increase participation across our District. Recently, while reading the May 2025 issue of Rotary Magazine, I came across an article about Rotary Club Central — a platform where Clubs can set, track, and achieve their goals for the Rotary year and beyond.

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Rotary in Motion: Moments that Matter

Events and Happenings in District 5230

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