

The Highlighter

December 1, 2018 Volume 92, No. 6

2018-19 District Conference

Listen...



What are you doing May 3rd & 4th, 2019?

Well, keeping listening for details to come and mark your calendar! It's District 5300's annual *District Conference*, celebrating families in Rotary, Club's successes and may just include a little **Disney** magic. It's not too early to register and, by the way, kids will eat free. Keep listening and watching for more exciting news and information.

[District 5300 Conference Registration Link](#)

Want to Become a Better Leader and Rotarian?

by Michael Gordon

If you answered in the affirmative then the recently redesigned Rotary Learning Center is the place for you! Although there are several courses focusing specifically on club officer roles, every Rotarian will be able to benefit both personally & professionally from the courses that highlight Service & Administrative Projects.

To get started:

- Go to and login using your My Rotary account b1f you don't have a My Rotary account, create one on the landing page
- Take the "Getting Started with the Learning Center" course to see all the available courses and understand how to best make use of this extensive resource
- Explore topics ranging from membership to Foundation to detailed club officer roles

Downtown Las Vegas Serves Thanksgiving at Booker

By Linda Bertuzzi

For 16 years, members of the *Downtown Las Vegas Rotary Club* have been serving up a hot turkey dinner to the kids at **Kermit R. Booker Elementary**, in partnership with **Alexander Dawson School At Rainbow Mountain** in Las Vegas. This year more than 550 kids and 50 school staff were treated to a hot meal served by warmhearted Rotarians, Interact Students, family & friends, and some of the newest members of the *Las Vegas After Hours Rotary Club*, with the mission to show the heart of the community through *Service Above Self*. From the simplest act of opening the milk or buttering the bread for the pre-k students, plating the food, or just talking with the kids, it was an act of love that was felt throughout the room, from kids to adults. And, who can forget Mr. Turkey played by

For any questions or comments, please reach out to learn@rotary.org

[Rotary Learning Center Link](#)

Enter 2019 Rotarian Photo Contest

Do you have a great shot from a club project or fundraiser? Did you capture a memorable moment at the convention or during an international trip? Enter your images in The Rotarian's 2019 photo contest and you might see them in the pages of the magazine. You may enter up to three photos taken since 1 January 2018. The contest **closes 15 December 2018**, so submit your great photos now. Winners will appear in the June 2019 issue of *The Rotarian*. [Enter Here](#)



Past Pres. Lane Kay! The leftovers were packaged up for distribution to the families most in need, including one Booker family who was forced to stay in a hotel during Thanksgiving with barely the clothes on their back. The volunteers also brought more than 75 pounds of food to be distributed to kids in need for the weekend backpack program.



In Memoriam of Past District Governor Don Aikin

by the Las Vegas Rotary Club

Las Vegas Rotary's long-time member, *Past President* (1981-82) and *Past District Governor* (1992-93), **Donald Aikin** has passed away.

He was extremely active in Rotary, both in our the *Las Vegas Rotary Club*, as well as *District 5300*, having served as a Director of the Las Vegas Rotary Club Board from 1974-83, Treasurer from 1975 -80, President Elect in 1980-81, and Club President in 1981-82. He went on to become District Governor in 1992-93 and Past President Rep in 2000-01. Don was a *Paul Harris Fellow* and an RIMD.

He is survived by his wife, **Jane**, and son, **Ross** and daughter, **Robin**. At the present time, no services are scheduled.

He was a great guy, always ready to take on any Rotarian project. He will be missed by everyone who knew him but most especially the Family of Rotary!

Lancaster Rotary's Power Packs Make a Difference in Schools

Power Packs provides weekend food and

nutritional information to families within the *School District of Lancaster* who are food insecure when the school's lunch program is not available to them. Families are taught how to stretch their limited food dollars using the food provided by the Power Packs Project. The goal of the program is to empower families to regularly provide healthy meals and that children return to school, well-fed and ready to learn. Power Packs provides long-term solutions to end childhood hunger.

Each week a recipe for a low-cost meal and the ingredients to make it is provided in addition to staples like peanut butter and cereal. The Power Packs Project is in 45 schools in 12 school districts and has more than 350 volunteers who serve more than 1,500 families. Volunteers provide help at the warehouse and distribution points giving their time each week to ensure that the participating parents have the groceries and the tools to provide complete meals to their families over the weekends. Each week during the school year, members of the *Rotary Club of Lancaster* assist with Power Packs at *Reynolds Middle School* in the School District of Lancaster. One or two volunteers are scheduled to pick up food at the Power Packs Project Warehouse and deliver it to the school.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

12/13 - So. Nevada President Elect Resource Training

[Registration link](#)

12/15 - Early discount ends for Rotary International Conference

1/5 - So. California President Elect Resource Training

[Registration Link](#)

2/8 - 2/10 - President Elect Training

[Registration link](#)

2/23 - 29th Annual Peace Conference

[Registration Link](#)

3/16 - District 5300 Foundation Gala

3/29 - 3/31 Rotary Youth Leadership (RYLA)

**5/3 - 5/4 - District 5300 Conference
Anaheim, CA**

5/18 - Corazon SuperBuild

6/1 - 6/5 - RI International Conference

Hamburg, Germany

[Registration Link](#)

The Governor's Wrap



The holiday season is in full swing – a perfect time for Rotarians to pause and appreciate the magnitude of good our clubs are doing in our community, around the globe and even in ourselves. **Elizabeth** and I have had the distinct honor to visit 2/3 of the clubs within *District 5300* throughout the last few months. We have witnessed firsthand that Rotarians are indeed ordinary people doing extraordinary things – day in and day out. Projects ranging from placing buddy benches in elementary school playgrounds in Mesquite to providing the gift of sight in Glendora – collectively Rotarians are people of action and indeed continue to Be The

Inspiration throughout their communities!

2018 is quickly coming to a close – I urge each of you to consider WHY it is you are in Rotary – not what you do as Rotarians, but WHY. Esteemed author Simon Sinek encourages us to find out why we are doing something and to continue to feed that flame – so the “what” that we do is that much more defined. A good example, on January 1, 2019 people around the world will see our amazing Rotary Rose Parade Float rolling along the parade route – that is the “What”. Why do we have a float in that historic parade is the important part – perhaps this is what differentiates us from all others. We have a float to celebrate with Rotarians and the world the amazing work done by Rotary. We have a float because we want to share the passion of Rotary with the world. We have a float to share the love we all have with our organization and our global community. So, when you are watching the parade on January 1, or showing up for your next Rotary meeting – share with others WHY you choose Rotary – encourage them to find their WHY and encourage your club to keep their WHY front and center in all they think, say and do!

Happy Holidays and thank you all so much as you continue to Be The Inspiration for so many, to include Elizabeth and I.

December is Disease Prevention & Treatment Month. Check out RI's Resources here!



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We Want to Hear From YOU!

Share the news about your Club, special member recognitions, programs, or events. Newsletter articles are due by the 20th of the month prior to publication. Highlight one special event, recognition, fundraiser, community or international service - 150 words or less, edited and ready for publication. Photos in JPG format with submission. Please provide credits for article and photos. Submit to [newsletter](#)

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