



# DESERTARIAN

## PROGRAM

Reported by Margie Taft

### MARCH 26, 2023 QUICK GLANCE AT THIS ISSUE

RYLA

DISTRICT TRAINING

ROTARIANS AT WORK

## rotary youth leadership awards

Palm Springs RYLA Club were the guests of Roary Noon and Sunup today and gave their presentation on the RYLA High School Event last week.

Those in attendance were: Adriana Figueroa, Shelomith Hoy, Jan Ordanez, Jamie Mendoza, Juillia Fidel, Carlos Naveja, Anthony Montiel, Rowan Watt, and Kimverly Maldonado.

Their messages were passionate and clear and arose from the training and classes they attended including:

*"It was a life changing experience. They made closer friends than they ever made in school and learned to build trust."*

*"The RYLA experience created an environment of no judgement and safety and trust"*

*"The lesson learned among all was that life is never always good or bad(red or green). That we all must learn to bounce out of each environment and continue on to the next thing, to adapt."*

They learned that it is ok to have low points, because unexpected things always happen. They all learned to open up to each other and share, that the RYLA leaders set up an environment to share. One person said that they learned that the best way to get to know a person is to open myself up to them. They said it's ok to be scared and "do it anyway", the fear will disappear.

The Club donated fifty dollars to the RYLA group, the Interact Club and it came to \$100.

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS

Karl Kruger

May 3

**Program: International Service**

Speaker: Jack Fitzsimmons

International service is in the DNA of Rotary. Learn about the IS committee's plans for 2023-24 and how you can get engaged.

May 10

**Program: Inland Empire  
Community Foundation - Salton  
Sea Community, Economic, and  
Environment Fund**

Speaker: Jeremy Hobbs, West Wind Foundation, IECF

The SSCEEF Fund was established in 2022 to support the critically urgent social, economic, and environmental resilience of the Salton Sea and surrounding communities.

# ALL ABOUT RYLA



**RYLA** in District 5330 is the **largest overnight RYLA in the Rotary world**. With over 900 kids broken out over three weekends, we serve a two-county area in southern California made up of parts of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Below are some quick facts:

## WHAT IS RYLA?

The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is a three-day Leadership Conference. It is a reward for outstanding youth to further develop their leadership skills. Sponsored by the 61 Rotary Clubs in District 5330 (San Bernardino & Riverside Counties), RYLA combines learning in a casual, relaxed atmosphere with social and fun time to provide a fast paced and memorable leadership experience.

## WHEN AND WHERE IS RYLA?

RYLA will be held over two weekends at the Thousand Pines camp, Crestline, California. Students will report to a designated bus pickup location on the Friday of their weekend

They will return Sunday afternoon of their selected weekend. Exact details will be sent in a letter to all award winners.

## HOW MANY WILL ATTEND RYLA?

Approximately 900 High School Juniors selected from all public and private high schools within District 5330 will attend, along with 90 Rotarians and additional camp staff.

## WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR SELECTION?

High School Juniors are selected on the basis of leadership potential, personal values, intelligence, and potential for future success.

## HOW ARE STUDENTS SELECTED?

The selection process may vary, but each school is asked to nominate outstanding juniors. The sponsoring Rotary club appoints a screening committee to make the final selections.

## WHAT TYPE OF ACTIVITIES ARE CONDUCTED AT THE CONFERENCE?

The program features several outstanding leadership speakers, Friday through Sunday. These presentations are followed by small group discussions with trained adult discussion leaders. Recreation activities are scheduled throughout the weekend, including sports, games and a Saturday carnival. Excellent food and snacks are also provided.

## HOW IS THE CONFERENCE SUPERVISED?

The conference is supervised by an all-volunteer Rotarian staff, headed by a Rotarian Camp Director. The staff consists of 14 staff members, 70 Discussion Group Leaders, 30 Alumni students and a camp nurse. Each Discussion Group Leader is assigned to a group of 8 students for the entire weekend. Participants are housed in separate dormitories for the men and women.

# DISTRICT TRAINING

Jack Fitzsimmons

Michelle, Karl, Walter, and I attended the District 5330 training in Hemet last weekend. The jam-packed information sessions covered 53 topics ranging from how to write and manage a district grant to creating a public image campaign. Best of all was the opportunity to meet fellow Rotarians (all 120 of them) from all over the District and share experiences, questions, and concerns. We left the conference full of ideas, enthusiasm, and the renewed awareness of the amazing breadth and depth of Rotary.

**District Training is open to all Club members!** For long-time and new members alike, this is a low-cost opportunity to acquire some new knowledge and make connections with like-minded community members.



## DISTRICT SNAPSHOT

We have 1,951 members in our district, and an existing membership retention rate of 90.55%. Our district currently has 25 clubs with an existing retention rate percentage of 94% or better. We have 5 Clubs that have inducted 10 or more members this Rotary year thus far. Corona is leading the way with 17 inductions, followed by Desert Hot Springs 13, Rialto 13, Palm Desert 11, and Temecula Noon with 10.

**INVITE A FRIEND TO LUNCH!**





## ROTARIANS AT WORK

Members of the two Rotary Clubs met early on Saturday morning to pack nutritious meals for members of the Mizell Center. Mizell delivers approximately *600 meals* each weekday to homebound seniors and communal meal sites that stretch from Whitewater to the Salton Sea. Every meal is delivered by a staff driver who is CPR certified, trained in signs of elder abuse and is able to connect our homebound clients to our Outreach Coordinator for referral to additional services. Clients are asked to make a \$3.00 contribution per meal.

Mizell drivers are frequently the only person a homebound senior will see on a daily basis, making Meals on Wheels so much more than just a delivery service. It is one of the primary reasons that their clients are able to age in place and retains their independence and dignity.

Mizell Center is one of the grant recipients of our Club Foundation.



Hector and Michele



## Rotary District 5330 Club: Palm Springs

### Birthdays and Anniversaries for 05/01/2023 to 05/31/2023

Member Birthdays	Birthday
Barrett, Robert (ROBERT)	03 May
Femino, Domenico (MIMMO)	09 May
Nobleman, Michele (MICHELE)	09 May

Partner Birthdays	Member Name	Birthday
Femino, Paula	Femino, Domenico	06 May

Member Anniversaries	Start Date	Years	Years(P)	Total
Aikens, Marjorie Conley(MARJ)	05/20/17	6	0	6
Fitzsimmons, Jack(JACK)	05/17/22	1	0	1
Hacker, Dennis V.(DENNIS)	05/01/22	1	0	1
Hughes, Robert(ROBERT)	05/01/22	1	18	19
Rosenthal, Arlene(ARLENE)	05/17/22	1	0	1
Taft, Margie(MARGIE)	05/01/87	36	0	36

Wedding Anniversaries	Partner's Name	Anniversary	Years
Femino, Domenico(MIMMO)	Paula	05/24	26



### IT'S ALMOST TIME!

Calling all District 5330 Rotarians!

### Come to Indio (Fantasy Springs Casino) for the District Celebration – June 16/17, 2023!

The conference committee is already hard at work organizing a weekend full of information and excitement. So come:

- *Listen to the amazing stories of our amazing speakers, Rotary Regional Foundation Chair – Shirley Grace and PDG Wade Nomura.*
- *Let's Celebrate our Achievements and Recognize all we have done together.*
- *Participate in a hands-on project – we're People of Action so let's act!*
- *Fantasy Springs Chef Freddy Rieger and his team will be tantalizing your tastebuds with tasty dishes. (Check out the Menu Below)*

From everything we're hearing, this is going to be a popular event so register early and book your hotel room quickly.

See you in June at our District Celebration!

Don Casper, DG

MICHELE NOBLEMAN, President  
 KARL KRUGER, President-Elect  
 ED MC BRIDE, Secretary/Treasurer  
 STEVEN RICHITT, Public Relations Chair  
 FRANK PEABODY, Membership Chair  
 BOB ALLEN, Rotary Foundation Chair

JACK FITZSIMMONS, Int'l. Service Chair,  
 Desertarian Editor  
 JUDY BRONSTEIN, Youth Services Chair  
 PAUL RAFFER, M.D., iPast President  
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MARGIE TAFT, Board Member  
 JOHN WILLIAMS, Board Member  
 BARBARA LIPPERT Board  
 Member, Vocational Chair  
 TIM ELLIS, Ex-officio PSRC Foundation  
 Chair