

THE Renotarian

Rotary
Club of Reno



Chartered August 1, 1916 || Volume 44, No. 29 || January 26, 2026
We Meet on Monday's at noon at the Atlantis Casino Resort

Monday's Program

Valeria Koss, MPP

Rennervations



Valeria Koss is a non-profit leader and advocate dedicated to advancing equity, opportunity, and systems change for young people with lived experience in foster care. She brings extensive experience in public policy, program development, and cross-sector collaboration to her work at the RennerVation Foundation, where she focuses on building innovative pathways that support youth and young adults in achieving stability and independence.

Valeria holds a Bachelor's degree from UCSD and a Master of Public Policy from Pepperdine University, grounding her work in data-informed decision-making and community-centered policy solutions. Her academic background informs her commitment to creating trauma-informed, youth-centered pro-

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January is Vocational Service Month

Upcoming Events

Rotary Club of Reno Board Meeting

February 17, 2026 | 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Dickson Realty Caughlin Ranch Office

Reno Rotary Foundation Board Meeting

February 19, 2026 | 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Dickson Realty Caughlin Ranch Office

Membership Information

Please contact **Shenea Strader** at shenea.strader@gmail.com if you have any membership questions or need information about joining our club.

Upcoming Speakers

Kurt Mische and Nancy Moldonado

February 2, 2026

PBS Writer's Contest

Ron Aryel

February 9, 2026

Every Mind Matters

No Meeting

February 16, 2026

President's Day Holiday

**The Rotary Club of Reno
Officers and Directors**

Mark Growdon President
 Julie Griffiths President Elect
 Laurie Leonard Ex-officio Past President
 David Spillers Secretary
 Kathy Fraser Treasurer
 Christine Barnicki Director
 Mark Cameron Director
 Andrea Cantlon Director
 Pat Dunn Director
 Sarah Elliott Director
 Julie Griffiths Director
 Chesa Keane Director
 Shenea Strader Director

Committee Chairs

Club Administration David Spillers
 Community Service Pat Dunn
 Finance Kathy Fraser
 Fundraising Mark Growdon
 International Projects Colburn Shindel
 Vanda Tarlea
 Membership Shenea Strader
 Programs Dave Bianchi
 Social Christine Barnicki
 Sunshine Stefanie Scoppettone
 Vocational David Spillers
 Youth Services Chesa Keane

Reno Rotary Foundation

Steve Kent President
 Mike Blakely Ex-officio RRF P. Pres.
 Mark Growdon Ex-officio RCR President
 Julie Griffiths Ex-officio RCR P. Elect
 Stacy Asteriadis Trustee
 Dave Gallagher Trustee
 Oliver Grosz Trustee
 Charlie Dodson Trustee
 Alex Phillips Trustee
 Stefanie Scoppettone Trustee
 Gary Warren Trustee
 David Spillers Secretary
 John Spears Investments

Newsletter/Website

David Spillers Newsletter Editor
 Pat Dunn Web-master

Last Meeting Volunteers

Thought of the Day: Sonja Leonard
 Pledge: Laurie Leonard
 Scanner Judy Coleman
 Sergeant At Arms Marty Kramer
 Cashier Harvey Fennell
 Photographer Chesa Keane
 Raffle Colburn Shindell
 Set Up/Takedown Des Powers
 Set Up/Takedown Carl Fuetsch



David Spitzer with Northern Nevada Legal Aid was our speaker last week.

Valeria Koss, MPP

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grams that address gaps in access, education, and economic mobility.

She is actively involved in the Junior League of Reno and is a proud member of Delta Gamma, where she continues to support leadership development, service, and philanthropy within the community.



Sonja Leonard gave the *Thought of the Day* at our last meeting.



Students use water from a handwashing stand provided by a Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Rotary Action Group (WASH-RAG) project at St. Jude Nantawawula Primary School. WASH-RAG's WASH in Schools project installed rainwater harvesting tanks and water distribution systems, and provided health training programs for students at four schools in Bugiri, Uganda. © Rotary International.

The Rotary Club of Reno and The Rotary Club of Sparks Provide Laptops for the TMCC Automotive Technology Program

Each club contributed \$4,615 (total grant of \$9,230) for ten new laptop computers for the Automotive Technology program.

The TMCC Automotive Technology program has fully transitioned to Open Educational Resources (OER), eliminating traditional textbooks and printed worksheets. All course materials—including readings, assignments, and ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) worksheets—are now completed digitally through Canvas. This shift supports our program's ASE accreditation, ensuring students are trained to the highest national standards.

Laptops are now essential tools for every student. They provide access to professional service information systems such as AllData and ShopKeyPro, which contain the same diagnostic procedures, wiring diagrams, and repair data used in modern automotive shops. With these resources, students learn how to diagnose and repair vehicles accurately and efficiently, mirroring real-world industry practices.

Laptops are also used for NC3 (National Coalition of Certification Centers) training, where students earn nationally recognized certifications through partners such as Snap-on, Starrett, and Pro-Cut. These credentials directly enhance employability and career readiness.

Currently, limited laptop availability requires multiple classes to share devices, restricting access and reducing learning time. Increasing the number of laptops would ensure equitable access to digital coursework and professional-level training, allowing students to fully engage with the technology that defines today's automotive industry.

