

THE Renotarian

Rotary
Club of Reno



Chartered August 1, 1916 || Volume 44, No. 30 || February 2, 2026
We Meet on Monday's at noon at the Atlantis Casino Resort

Monday's Program

**Kurt Mische and
Nancy Maldonado**

PBS Writers Contest



Kurt Mische

Kurt Mische, President and CEO of PBS Reno, and Nancy Maldonado, Vice President of Education at PBS Reno, will give us a presentation about the 2026 PBS Reno Writers Contest.

The PBS Reno Writers Contest encourages children to write and illustrate their own original stories around the selected theme. The theme for 2026 is SPECIAL.

By participating in the PBS Reno Writers Contest, children build their creative voices and develop critical reading and writing skills.

A team of dedicated educators and volunteers will go through an



Nancy Maldonado

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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

Ron Aryel

February 9, 2026

Every Mind Matters

No Meeting

February 16, 2026

President's Day Holiday

Dr. Tracy Ostrem

February 23, 2026

University Advancement

**February is Peace-building and
Conflict Prevention Month**

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 Shindell
	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:	Chesa Keane
Pledge:	Judy Maruszko
Scanner	Jacquie Cheun-Jensen
Sergeant At Arms	Christine Barnicki
Cashier	Stacy Asteriadis
Photographer	Chesa Keane
Raffle	Colburn Shindell
Set Up/Takedown	Tony Padavich

Honor Roll

Mark Growdon	\$100
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No challenge is too big for us

For more than a century, Rotarians have bridged cultures and connected continents. We champion peace, fight illiteracy and poverty, help people get access to clean water and sanitation, and fight disease. Our newest cause is to protect our planet and its resources.

Kurt Mische and Nancy Maldonado

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in-depth review process and select first, second, and third place winners from each grade. The winning authors will be honored in a variety of exciting ways, including having their stories published into hardcover books and featured on PBS Reno on the air and on the station's website.

Each student who submits a story will receive a special certificate of participation.

In 2025, PBS Reno received 3,206 Writers Contest entries from students in Washoe, Douglas, Pershing, Elko, Lyon, Humboldt, and White Pine Counties.

2026 **PBS RENO**
WRITERS CONTEST



Chuck Lutz (right) received a Paul Harris Fellow Certificate from Past District Governor **Dave Bianchi** (center) and President **Mark**. Congratulations, Chuck!



President **Mark** presents a Polio Plus Certificate to last week's speaker, **Valeria Koss** from *Rennervations*.

Rotary Club of Reno



**Rotary Club of Reno Annual
2026 Public Speaking Contest**

Rotary is a volunteer organization, how have you volunteered towards promoting HOPE in the world, and how did you see HEARTS impacted through the experience?

1st Place	\$500+
2nd Place	\$400
3rd Place	\$300
All participants	\$100

12 :00 pm March 30th, 2026
Atlantis Hotel Casino

Area Contest TBD
District Conference - May 2, 2026

Winners from the club level will advance to the area contest on date to be determined at the Sparks Rotary Club meeting at the Hidden Valley Country Club
With the awards of \$750 for 1st place, \$500 for 2nd place and \$250 for 3rd place,
1st place winner of the area contest will also advance to the District 5190 area speech contest May 2, 2026; those advancing will compete for 1st place = \$1,000.00; 2nd place = \$750.00; 3rd place = \$500.00 and 4th place = \$50.00.

Open to all students grades 9-12 attending school and residing in Washoe County.

CONTACT:

Contact to confirm your participation:
Steve Kent
(775) 772-4299
skent@grsm.com

