

# THE Renotarian

Rotary  
Club of Reno



Chartered August 1, 1916 || Volume 45, No. 42 || May 4, 2026

***We Meet on Monday's at noon at the Atlantis Casino Resort***

## Monday's Program

**Jeremy M. Smith, PhD**

*Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency*



Jeremy M. Smith is the Director of the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency. He started with the agency in 2011. Jeremy holds a PhD in Geography from the University

of Colorado and achieved his master's and bachelor's degrees at the University of Nevada, Reno. Jeremy has worked extensively with geographic information systems in both the public and private sector. Along with fulfilling the regulatory capacity of TMRPA, the Agency's current work objectively tracks and reports on growth and land use decision-making as it relates to master planning, housing, natural resources, and public infrastructure.



**April is Environmental Month**

## Upcoming Events

### Rotary Club of Reno Board Meeting

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

*Dickson Realty Caughlin Ranch Office*

### Reno Rotary Foundation Board Meeting

May 21, 2026 | 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

*Dickson Realty Caughlin Ranch Office*

## Membership Information

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

*"Leadership is not about being in charge. It is about taking care of those in your charge."*

*Paul Harris*

## Upcoming Speakers

### Alli Villines

May 11, 2026

*She Means Business*

### Sean Hill

May 18, 2026

*Sierra Nevada Journeys*

### Memorial Day Holiday

May 25, 2026

*No Meeting*



## From the archives . . . .

Rotary



ROTARY  
SERVING  
HUMANITY

100  
YEARS  
Anniversary Celebration

Rotary  
Club of Reno



ROTARY  
SERVING  
HUMANITY

August 1, 2016 | Reno, Nevada

## HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF RENO

### FORMATION OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF RENO

Paul Harris, Sylvester Schiele, Gus Loehr, and Hiram Shorey met together for the first time in Paul Harris's office in 1905 in Chicago. Each was a business man looking for new business opportunities – networking is the term we use today. While much has been made of the purpose and intent of the first meeting these men quickly came to understand the opportunities for doing business with each other, fellowship and service.

From that first meeting, Rotary moved to the West Coast with the formation of the second Rotary Club in San Francisco in 1910. Homer Wood, first president of San Francisco quickly spread Rotary to Oakland, Seattle and Los Angeles by 1909. This early establishment of Rotary on the West Coast set a high standard and even today Rotary on the West Coast thrives with special emphasis on training for club presidents and district governors. You may be surprised to know that our club presidents and district governors actually receive training before their year of service – who would have known?

Judge Willis Brown, originally of Salt Lake City had been appointed as a Juvenile Court Judge in Utah. It appears that Willis Brown was not an attorney but had developed quite a reputation as an advocate for training and guidance for boys. It is not clear what brought Brown to Reno but there are repeated references to Boy City, Nevada, which will be detailed later.

At the time, Nevada was the only state in the union that did not have a Rotary club. Judge Willis Brown had been exposed to Rotary in other cities and proposed the creation of a Rotary Club in Reno in 1916.

Normally, an existing Rotary club proposes the formation of another club. In the case of the Reno Rotary Club, a group of

men came together and petitioned Rotary International for membership. After a few letter exchanges – no emails – the prospective club leadership promised to send Judge Willis Brown, their newly elected president, to the annual convention in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Rotary International dispatched District Governor H.P. “Bru” Brunnier of San Francisco to Reno to discuss membership with the proposed new club.

H.P. “Bru” Brunnier was later to become President of Rotary International and seemed to take a liking to the Reno Club returning on many occasions to provide support to the club and to participate in club celebrations.

Willis Brown and Bernard W. Glick of the Rotary Club of Reno then traveled to Cincinnati with District Governor Brunnier to attend the international convention. While in Cincinnati, newspapers reported that Willis Brown spoke at the convention, was recognized as an expert on youth and his remarks were extensive and well received.

The Rotary Club of Reno was subsequently issued its charter on August 1, 1916 and the first official meeting of the club occurred on August 9, 1916 in the Riverside Hotel.



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