




THE FOUR-WAY TEST
OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO

1. IS IT THE TRUTH?
2. IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERN?
3. WILL IT BUILD GOOD WILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERN?

The Spoke Newsletter



Club 529 chartered March 16, 1925

Rotary
Club of Grass Valley



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jesse Wilson - President
Ed Pinto - President Elect
Heather Thorpe - Vice President
Sean Jackson - Immediate Past President
Tim McCall - Executive Secretary
Judy Bagley - Executive Treasurer

P. Scott Brown - Director Year 2
Judy Bagley - Director Year 2
Gina Will - Director Year 2
James Delcour - Director Year 1
Stephanie Fischer - Director Year 1
Jennifer Malone - Director Year 1

- Sergeant at Arms - Ed Pinto
- The Spoke Editor - Ryan Sykes
- Photographer - Fred Claessens



Spoke Notes were recorded by: James Delcour

President of Rotary International

[Francesco Arezzo](#)



Governor of District 5190

[Larry Harvey](#)

April 13, 2026

www.gvrotary.org

Volume 101, Issue 28

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Speaker was Eli, the Executive Director of [Sierra Harvest](#). Eli spoke about all of the good work Sierra Harvest is doing in our community.



"The beginnings of Sierra Harvest started in 2006 as grass-roots efforts emerged to improve the health and wellbeing of Nevada County. Take a scroll through time to see how we evolved to where we are today!"

They have an education component. They are teaching kids about gardening benefits. These include getting away from technology, getting outside, and enjoy the health benefits of eating what you grow. Eli told us how when one student got upset at school the teacher will let them go outside and put their hands in the dirt in the garden. This calms the child down and allows them to have a productive day.

UPCOMING EVENTS

District Training - Rotary Technology: Zoom	April 15
District 5190 Conference	May 1-3
Rechargeable Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling	May 30
Chicago Park 8th Grade Grad Breakfast	June 4
Gold Country Challenge	June 6
Rotary International Convention	June 13-17

UPCOMING PROJECTS - People of Action

Plastic Recycling Project	Ongoing
Alzheimer's Garden and Litton Trail: Upkeep and Maintenance	Ongoing
Rotary Magazines in Professional and Business Waiting Rooms	Ongoing
Chicago Park Middle School: Goodie Bag Project	Ongoing
Interfaith Food Ministries: Saturdays 2 to 4 times a year	TBD
Kare Crisis Nursery: Help Repairing a Fence	TBD
Grass Valley Charter School: Sign Repair	TBD
Wolf Creek Trail - Glenn Jones Park : Signage and Maintenance	TBD
Salvation Army: Build Planter Boxes and Chicken Coop	Spring '26
Western Sierra Medical Clinic: Planter Boxes	Spring '26

IMPORTANT MEMBER DATES IN APRIL

Birthdays		Rotary Anniversaries	
Shauneen Gracey	Apr 3	Dave Peeler	17 Yrs
Connie Stone	Apr 9	Kris Stepanian	26 Yrs
		Patti Ingram-Spencer	30 Yrs

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONFESSIONS

Steve will not be helping with the bike ride because he will be spending time with his wife as she will be out of town. He was a bell ringer so he made a payment to Polio Plus.

Pat took the train to Philadelphia. He also visited New York and Florida where he attended numerous spring training games. Then drove an RV with his son back to California.

Scott spoke in favor of Prop J, a School Bond for Union Hill where he is the superintendent. The bond will be used to build and repair facilities.

ROTARY MINUTE



THOUGHT OF THE DAY



Rotary Club of Grass Valley

P.O. Box 1213
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Meets @ the [Wild Eye Pub](#) on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Mon at 12:15 pm

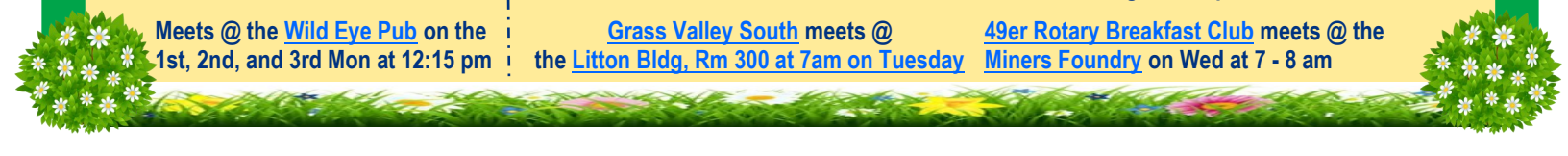
Area 4 Rotary Clubs

[Penn Valley Rotary](#) meets @ [Players Pizza](#) at 12 pm on every other Tues

[Grass Valley South](#) meets @ the [Litton Bldg, Rm 300](#) at 7am on Tuesday

[Nevada City Rotary](#) meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 5:30pm for our Social meetings
[Contact](#) them for the location that week
On the 1st and 3rd Thurs, meeting is 5:30 pm at [Round Table Pizza](#)

[49er Rotary Breakfast Club](#) meets @ the [Miners Foundry](#) on Wed at 7 - 8 am





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Plastic Recycling Project

Commercial Plastic Wrap is picked-up at the following locations:

- ◆ Nevada County Food Bank
- ◆ AJA Electronics
- ◆ Hills Flat Lumber

The plastic is then recycled and made into [TREX Benches](#)

Next bench will be dedicated to Larry Allen at WSMC Glasson!

Please contact [Bob](#) for more info!



Last year we collected just over 3,000 lbs of plastic. Let's exceed that number this year!

Good Luck, Rotarians!





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UNITE FOR GOOD

Far West Fest
May 1-3, 2026 - Grand Sierra Resort
Reno, Nevada

Welcome Rotarians
District 5130 - District 5170 - District 5190
District 5220 - District 5230

Rotary 



Far West Fest - 2026 Conference Registration

[REGISTRATION PAGE](#)

May 01, 2026 - May 03, 2026 [Pacific Daylight Time](#) 📅

Five-District Conference Keynote Speakers

The All-Star Lineup

		
Barry Posner	Roger Crawford	Christopher Breedlove
EMPOWERING LEADERSHIP <i>Co-author of "The Leaders Challenge"</i> SPEAKING SATURDAY LUNCH	TURN ADVERSITY INTO VICTORY <i>Award-winning inspirational speaker and paralympic athlete</i> SPEAKING SATURDAY DINNER	BURNERS WITHOUT BORDERS <i>Director of Burners Without Borders</i> SPEAKING SUNDAY BRUNCH

UNITE FOR GOOD 

Far West Fest
May 1-3, 2026
Grand Sierra Resort, Reno

Welcome Rotarians from Districts
5130 • 5170 • 5190 • 5220 • 5230




[Click the pic to watch a clip](#)



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Rechargeable Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling

Saturday May 30, 2026
9am-12noon

Peace Lutheran Church Parking Lot
828 West Main St, Grass Valley









Eligible items include cell phones, tablets, laptops, electric toothbrush handles, e-shavers, vapes, wireless headphones and earbuds, Bluetooth speakers, power tool batteries, e-bike batteries, video game controllers, etc.

Peace Lutheran does a regular CRV bottles/cans collection event, on Saturday May 30. The public can make it a one-stop recycling day at the church to drop off your CRV bottles and cans (along with plastic #1, 2, and 5) then leave all your Lithium Ion (rechargeable) devices and batteries with the Nevada City Rotary team.

Lithium-Ion batteries & devices

Do you have old rechargeable devices or lithium-ion batteries you no longer use? Less than 5% of these devices are recycled today. Bring them in to recycle with Redwood Materials.



 RECHARGEABLE TOOLS	 LOOSE LI-ION OR NICKEL METAL HYDRIDE BATTERIES	 ELECTRIC TOOTHBRUSHES	 WIRELESS HEADPHONES
 BLUETOOTH SPEAKERS	 SMARTWATCHES	 TABLETS	 CELLPHONES

www.NevadaCityRotary.org



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June 6th

Ride the beautiful and historic back country of Nevada County.

Nevada County was the heart of California's gold rush. Surrounding the charming mining era towns of Grass Valley and Nevada City, you'll ride through some of the most beautiful landscape California has to offer.

Discover why the [Amgen](#) has selected to ride through Nevada County on multiple occasions.

Benefits youth programs supported in part by the [Rotary Club of Grass Valley](#) and [Bright Futures for Youth](#).

Train here for the [Death Ride](#) on July 11th.

Visit www.rotarygoldcountrychallenge.com

Rides will be supported and well-marked

Rides will begin/end at Gate 1 of the Nevada County Fairgrounds





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Program Overview

- General Sessions will take place Sunday-Wednesday, 14-17 June 2026
- Breakout Sessions will take place Monday-Wednesday, 15-17 June 2026
- The House of Friendship will be open Saturday-Wednesday, 13-17 June 2026



Click [HERE](#) for more info