




**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

The Heart of the Gold Country  
  
Spoke Notes were recorded by: Andrew Withers

## President of Rotary International

Francesco Arezzo



## Governor of District 5190

Larry Harvey

April 20, 2026

[www.gvrotary.org](http://www.gvrotary.org)

Volume 101, Issue 29

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Heather was our acting President today and did a wonderful job! Terri joined us today. She is a Deacon at a nearby Church.

Today, our very own Bob spoke with us. Bob is a Board Member and also a member of [Wildfire Ready Coalition of Nevada County](#). During his speech, he covered many topics relating to the issue at hand. His key point was how to be prepared for our next fire event. That ranges from hardening your defensible spaces, to locating key documents, to always having gas in your car. He also shared a very thought provoking video with us:



We were honored to present Lyman Gilmore students with their Student Of The Month certificates. Great Work, Bombers!



We also welcomed two new Rotarians!



## ROTARY MINUTE



## UPCOMING EVENTS

<a href="#">District 5190 Conference - Far West Fest</a>	May 1-3
<a href="#">Pickleball Palooza – Rotary Club of Penn Valley</a>	May 9
<a href="#">Boots, Brews, and BBQ - Area 4 Social</a>	May 14
<a href="#">Rechargeable Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling</a>	May 30
<a href="#">Chicago Park 8th Grade Grad Breakfast</a>	June 4
<a href="#">Gold Country Challenge</a>	June 6
<a href="#">Rotary International Convention</a>	June 13-17

## UPCOMING PROJECTS - People of Action

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

## IMPORTANT MEMBER DATES IN APRIL

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

## 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

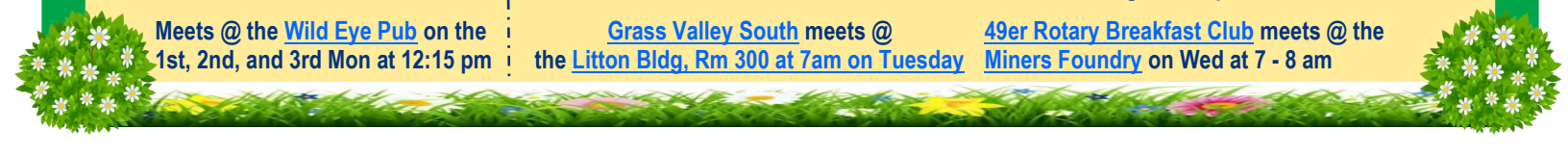
## Area 4 Rotary Clubs

[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



[REGISTRATION PAGE](#)

## Far West Fest - 2026 Conference Registration

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

*Five-District Conference Keynote Speakers*

# The All-Star Lineup

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



**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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Club of Grass Valley



**Rotary**  
Club of Penn Valley



## Pickleball Palooza

### Charity Tournament

**Saturday, May 9, 2026**

**Western Gateway Park Pickleball Courts**

**18560 Penn Valley Road, Penn Valley**

**Check-in & Warm-up**

**begins 8:15 AM**

**Tournament play**

**begins 9:00 AM**

**Rotary listens & responds to its community**  
**Fee Reduced to \$50 per player**  
**Come for the fun, the friends & to help your community**

**Round Robin - Mixer format**

**Bring your own paddle — Court shoes required**

**Non-sanctioned, Self-scoring games**

**(11 points +1 to win)**

**Beginning-Intermediate-Advanced brackets**

**Prize to top player in each bracket**

**Food trucks**

**50/50 raffle**

**REGISTER ONLINE USING QR CODE**

**Or sign-up @**

**www.PENNVALLEYROTARY.ORG**



Proceeds support local youth and families, Penn Valley schools, Thrive Store at Ready Springs School, local student scholarships & Western Gateway Park



# SignUpGenius



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# BOOTS, BREWS & BARBECUE

Rotary



Area 4 Rotary Social

Thursday May 14th

5:30pm to 8pm

Line Dancing at 6pm

Zalt & Co BBQ Food Truck

Free to attend, Line dancing \$15\*, no host food truck

Fun for the whole family!

  
**GOLD  
VIBE**  
HARD KOMBUCHA

Gold Vibe Kombuchary  
12615 Charles Drive,  
Grass Valley

\*Line dancing fee paid directly to the instructor  
cash or Venmo at the event



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## Rechargeable Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling

### 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.



Rotary  
Club of Nevada City











Rotary



ESRAG  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY  
ROTARY ACTION GROUP



REDWOOD  
MATERIALS

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

[www.NevadaCityRotary.org](http://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](http://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