



The Spoke Newsletter



Club 529 chartered March 16, 1925

Rotary
Club of Grass Valley

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ed Pinto - President
Heather Thorpe - President Elect
Jennifer Malone - Vice President
Jesse Wilson - Most Recent Past President
Tim McCall - Executive Secretary
Judy Bagley - Executive Treasurer

James Delcour - Director Year 2
Stephanie Fischer - Director Year 2
Sean Jackson - Director Year 2 (Nom)
Tom Stanley - Director Year 1
Cheri Hall - Director Year 1
Debra Plass - Director Year 1

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



Spoke Notes were
recorded by:
Helen Sands

[President of Rotary International](#)

[Olayinka Hakeem Babalola](#)



[Governor of District 5190](#)

[Kurt Raffetto](#)

August 10, 2026

www.gvrotary.org

Volume 101, Issue 39

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

We gathered for our club meeting this week to hear from Robin Galvan-Davies, Director of the [Greater Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce](#). During the presentation, she explained the history of chambers of commerce, what the chamber specifically does, as well as the importance of these chambers.

The Chamber of Commerce is incredibly important, as they propel the growth of small business and community economies. Chambers originally existed in order to organize a broader mission. They have always been enmeshed within the growth of the town! This organization shows in early agendas which included trade, industry, mining, forestry, manufacturing, agriculture, roads, and development. Furthermore, they instituted practical civic improvements like better sidewalks and roads, free mail delivery and stronger civic organization; while also welcoming a women's auxiliary. Today, the Chamber is most well known for: partnering in the state designated GV-NC cultural district, the Mill street plaza through gathering feedback and supporting community conversation around the permanent walk-street, participated in stakeholder work which helped make outdoor events during covid more workable, and was named as a key informant when shaping Nevada County's economic development action plan.



Robin Galvan-Davies

Today, they "Serve members by facilitating business development, promoting tourism and visitor direction, and presenting information that supports responsible business growth in our community".

This is mostly accomplished through:

- Board: Governs, sets direction, adopts policy, oversees finances, approves program of work.

- Committees and Volunteers: Amplify, bring member perspective, extend outreach, support events and programs, and builds community membership.

- Staff: Manages, runs day to day operations, implements broad direction, communicates and corrects, tracks delivery and follow-through.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONFESSIONS

A lot of fines were being issued today! Everything from a Baby Announcement to a successful Boy Scout Camping Trip to a trip to Idaho to see family.

There is also a Casino Night date change, changed to 2/27 due to the date conflicting with Mount St. Mary's activities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Club Meeting: Update on Hospitality House	Aug 17
Club Meeting: DARK / Board Mtg @ Glasson at 12	Aug 24
Pool Party and BBQ @ Ed's House...RSVP	Aug 27
Club Meeting: DARK	Aug 31
Club Meeting: DARK	Sep 7
Club Meeting @ Grass Valley Moose Lodge	Sep 14
Club Meeting @ Nevada County Media	Sep 21

UPCOMING PROJECTS - People of Action

Grange Breakfast: Rough and Ready	4th Saturday
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
Highway 49 Gateway Sign Rebuild	TBD
Volunteer at Fairground Foundation Station	Aug 12-16

IMPORTANT MEMBER DATES IN AUGUST

Birthdays		Rotary Anniversaries	
Steve Spiller	Aug 7	Alex Zalesky	1 Yr
Cheri Hall	Aug 8	Cheri Hall	1 Yr
David Zucca	Aug 13	Jennifer Breazeale	2 Yrs
Scott Browne	Aug 14	Shauneen Gracey	2 Yrs
Sandra Barrington	Aug 14	Karen Sartori	3 Yrs
Susan Fivelstad	Aug 16	Ed Pinto	5 Yrs
George Grayeb	Aug 18	Susan Fivelstad	17 Yrs
Marcia Salter	Aug 25	Steve Spiller	25 Yrs
Carol Elizondo	Aug 29	George Grayeb	33 Yrs

THOUGHTS OF THE DAY

Let not your rage or
malice destroy a life.

Leonardo da Vinci

Conquer anger by love, evil by
good; Conquer the miser with
liberality, and the liar with truth.

Buddha

[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



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?

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WILD EYE PUB

I forgot to mention in the previous email I want to REALLY ENCOURAGE you all to attend this Monday's meeting, at the Wild Eye Pub.

Why???

This will be our last meeting at the Wild Eye Pub, after holding meetings there since 2019, I believe. Let's be there to say bye for now, but hopefully not for long, to Beth, Dave and Laurel. You can also anticipate a great presentation by Hospitality House.

Lastly, please do your best to bring a guest to this meeting. That is how we will grow.

Thank you, kindly, and enjoy your weekend.

Ed

The original Empire House was built in 1851, before there was Grass Valley, in the historic Boston Ravine neighborhood.

After 167 years of history,
it became the Wild Eye Pub in 2018.

Enjoy our local & organic, scratch-made
menu, regional libations,
and nightly live events.

Seasonally, we host creekside dining
along our 100' shoreline of
free-flowing Wolf Creek.



Wild Eye Pub is located in Grass Valley, Nevada County, California.
Visit us for great farm-to-table food and entertainment,
and leave nourished in body and soul.

Wild Eye Pub's coming events calendar has been moved to the 'events and
calendar' tab. Go there to see all the great shows headed your way!



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Here are a few photos of members and volunteers of the Rotary Club Of Grass Valley supporting the Nevada County Fair Foundation during this year’s Fair:

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Club of Grass Valley



The Heart of the
Gold Country





THANK YOU TO EVERYONE INVOLVED!





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When: Saturday, August 22
Where: Ed and Randy Pinto's
Time: 2pm to 5pm
Style: Potluck
Sign up sheet to be distributed next meeting.

- FEATURES HOT DOGS AND HAMBURGERS; AND WHATEVER ELSE IS BROUGHT TO THE PARTY
- SCINTILLATING DISCUSSION WILL BE ON HAND.
- SWIMMING POOL FOR KIDDOS AND ADULTS.
- IF SANDRA REMEMBERS TO BRING IT, WE WILL HAVE 'CORN HOLE' GAME
- ETC...ETC...ETC...

Hi Everybody:

This will be a potluck, with everybody bringing something to the party. Drinks, hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided.

Please indicate if you plan to go and what you will bring. Children welcome.

I'll also have a sign up sheet at meetings.

PLEASE RSVP BY 8/15/26.

Please "Répondez s'il vous plait". That is your French word of the Day.
Yup, you guessed it. It's [RSVP](#).



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D5190 Foundation Dinner

Hosted by Area 8

6:00 p.m. - November 6, 2026
Atlantis Hotel Casino - Reno, Nevada



District 5190 Foundation Dinner

Nov. 06, 2026 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. [Pacific Standard Time](#)

“THE FUTURE IS NOW”

2026 Rotary District 5190 Foundation Dinner

Hosted by Area 8

Date: Friday, November 6th, 2026
Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, Reno, NV

Doors open at 6pm

Dinner at 7pm

Cost: \$60 per person

Keynote Speaker



Carson Costa

Author, Educator

4th Generation Rotarian



Join us as we celebrate

The Rotary
Foundation



[Register](#)

NOTE: Full table is eight guests.

Please contact the event organizer if you need to modify.



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Plastic Recycling Project

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

- ◆ Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital
- ◆ Nevada County Food Bank
- ◆ AJA Electronics
- ◆ Hills Flat Lumber

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



We have collected and recycled almost 2,000 pounds of commercial plastic this year.
We are well on our way to a goal of 4,000 lbs. in 2026

Good Luck, Rotarians!

