



The Spoke Newsletter



Club 529 chartered March 16, 1925

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: Kathy Egenes

President of Rotary International

Oluyinka Hakeem Babalola



Governor of District 5190

Kurt Raffetto

August 3, 2026

www.gvrotary.org

Volume 101, Issue 38

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

At today's meeting, there were no guests of Rotarians, nor were there any visiting Rotarians. Best guess, the heat wave is keeping everyone indoors! Ugh!

Mark Rodda was our Main Speaker today. He is the Mechanical Engineer, member of the 49er Rotary, and Chair of their Youth Exchange program. Mark took us on a journey through his life, from birth to education and numerous work experiences.



Mr. Rodda is a technical professional with extensive experience in Supply Chain Management, Product & Component Design, Technical Marketing, Information Technology, Networking, and Engineering Computing. An innovator able to analyze and improve processes, products, and organizations through a blend of engineering, market, and management experience. He is Motorola Lean Sigma trained and part of the first Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award team at Motorola with the ability to bridge the interface between technical professionals, customers, and executive management. Over the last 40 years, he has worked throughout the US, Europe, and Asia with extremely diverse organizations and products that have one thing in common: The need to provide a unique and effective solution to a customer's needs.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONFESSIONS

Bob announced dues will change from \$32 monthly to \$30. He also noted that prospective members will receive 2 free lunches. Bob also eagerly contributed \$50 to his fine level if President Ed promises never to sing "It's a Small World" again. Hopefully, you didn't miss song time!

Jen let us know this was National Community Health Week and Western Sierra Medical will be serving 120 meals at Hospitality House with the help of [Bill's Chuckwagon](#).

Monty kicked off the year's first pin-check, collecting \$1.00 from everyone who was not in compliance.

Jen's daughter played music at the Wild Eye Pub on Wednesday night. Several GV Rotarians came to cheer her on.

Kathy E happily became a bell ringer after she recently adopted a rescue pup.

Jen donated a bottle of organic apple brandy to our club auction. Heather was the high bidder, with the proceeds going to Polio Plus.

At the Sep 21 mtg, we need 1-3 members to video record a message in a 30-minute time slot.

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
Nevada County Justice Center: Assemble Playground	Aug 1
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

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

"WHEN YOU CAN'T CONTROL WHAT IS HAPPENING AROUND YOU, CHALLENGE YOURSELF TO CONTROL THE WAY IN WHICH YOU RESPOND."

THIS IS WHERE YOUR POWER LIES."



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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Rotary
Club of Grass Valley



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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.



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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!

