



### 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: Ed Pinto

### President of Rotary International

[Francesco Arezzo](#)



### Governor of District 5190

[Larry Harvey](#)

**January 12, 2026**

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

**Volume 101, Issue 19**

## MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

At this week's meeting, Lindsay, with Tri-County Bank joined us.

We are in the final stretch to the days leading up to one of Rotary Club of Grass Valley's largest fundraiser's...CASINO NIGHT! We covered a multitude of topics concerning this year's event in an attempt at making this year's event flow seamlessly for everyone.

We discussed everything that Casino Night would entail, ranging from Table Games, to Volunteer Duties, to Food and Drinks, to Raffle Items, to the Silent Auction.

Sandra passed out deck's of cards, and several of the table card games were played to help get everyone in the right mindset!

We do need more donations! Please review the donations/donors list provided by Kathy (dated last year) and hit the streets! If you need or want more leads, [email Kathy](mailto:kathy@rotary.org). All donated items should be delivered to [Heather's Office](#).

Please [contact Sean](#) if you have items to donate to the booze baskets or if you want to create and assemble a full basket yourself. He has lots of great basket ideas, too!

Larry presented Heather, Tim and Tom with Paul Harris Awards. President Jesse then presented Larry with a Paul Harris Award.

Congratulations to All and Thank You for your donations!



## CONFESSIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Jennifer with the Salvation Army thanked our club for participating in their Holiday Fund Drive. Our club volunteered ringing the bell at the red kettle drive and brought in over \$1K in donations! Thank You, Grass Valley for showing your generosity!
- Pat announced his plans to travel to the East Coast via train. We look forward to hearing all about this upon his return!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Club Meeting: DARK - MLK Day	January 19 2026
Club Meeting: DARK	January 26 2026
Board Meeting: Glasson @ 12-1	January 26 2026
Club Social: TBD	January 26 2026
<a href="#">Casino Night</a>	February 7 2026
<a href="#">District 5190 Conference</a>	May 1-3 2026
<a href="#">Gold Country Challenge</a>	June 6 2026
<a href="#">Rotary International Convention</a>	June 13-17 2026

## UPCOMING PROJECTS - People of Action

Union Hill: Meals for Families - Prep	January 26 2026
Union Hill: Meals for Families - Serving	January 27 2026
<a href="#">Plastic Recycling Project</a>	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	TBD
Western Sierra Medical Clinic: Planter Boxes	TBD

## IMPORTANT MEMBER DATES IN JANUARY

<a href="#">Birthdays</a>		<a href="#">Rotary Anniversaries</a>	
Dennis Burbridge	Jan 3	Tim McCall	26 Yrs
		Andrew Withers	5 Yrs
		Andrew Jackson	5 Yrs
		Debra Plass	1 Yr

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY



*"January is the quiet architect of the year — a month that whispers, 'Begin again,' and hands you a blank page to write your next chapter."*

### 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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**Online Auction**  
Donations Needed

**Beverage Basket Auction**  
Donations Needed

**Purchase Tickets HERE!**

**Rotary**  
Club of Grass Valley



**CASINO NIGHT**  
**THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS**  
**SAT 7 FEB 2026**  
Nevada County Fairgrounds  
[WWW.GVROTARY.ORG](http://WWW.GVROTARY.ORG)



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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](#) 🗓️

### Friday, May 1, 2026

- 2:00 PM - Registration Opens
- 5:00 PM - Poolside Welcome Reception and Conference Kick-Off
- Dinner on own at Grand Sierra Resort
- 8:00 PM - Showtime Grand Sierra - Tickets/Pricing TBD - Note: This is not an event organized by the District Conference Committee. Please check the information boards at the hotel to see if there is a show that you would like to see.)
- 9:00 PM - Strike Out Polio Bowling

### Saturday, May 2, 2025

- Mega House of Friendship and Project Fair
- **BREAKOUT/WORKSHOP SESSIONS**
  - D5190 Speech Contest - morning session starting at 9am (All are welcome to attend)
  - D5190 Music Contest - afternoon session (All are welcome to attend)
  - Burners Without Borders - Christopher Breedlove
  - One Degree of Separation - Brad Bonar Jr.
  - Human Trafficking- Awakening
  - Peace Building - Soldiers Song - DG Kristine Redko
  - Empowering Leadership - Barry Posner
- District Breakouts
- Major Donor Reception
- **SATURDAY LUNCH**
  - RYE Students Parade of Flags
  - D5190 Speech Contest Winner
  - D5230 Speech Contest Winner
  - Keynote Speaker Barry Posner - Empowering Leadership
- **SATURDAY DINNER**
  - D5190 Music Contest Winner
  - RYE Parade of Flags
  - Current Presidents & AG parade
  - Keynote Speaker - Brad Bonar Jr. - One Degree of Separation
- After Dinner: District Hospitality Suites



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

### Sunday, May 3, 2026

- Interfaith Service
- Gin Fizz/Bloody Mary Mingle - Breakfast
- Mega House of Friendship and Project Fair
- **SUNDAY BRUNCH**
  - President Elects & AG Parade
  - Keynote Speaker - Christopher Breedlove - Burners Without Borders
  - Passing of the DG Line pins/badges - all 5 Districts
- 12:00 PM - Conference Ends



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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.

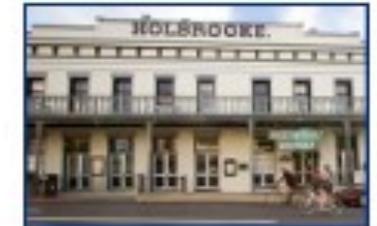
Benefits youth programs supported in part by the [Rotary Club of Grass Valley](#) and [Bright Futures for Youth](#).

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