

# Rotary Club of Grass Valley



## The Spoke



Chartered March 16, 1925

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The Heart of the  
Gold Country



Spoke Notes:  
Andrea  
Eggleton

President, Rotary International  
Mark Daniel Maloney

Rotary Theme 2019-2020 Theme  
Rotary Connects the World

Governor, District 5190  
Randy VanTassell

**May 18, 2020**

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

Volume 94, Issue 33

## May 11, 2020 Club News

The meeting began promptly at 12:15  
Visiting Rotarians included:  
Lindy Beatie – Penn Valley  
David Jones – Grass Valley South

### The Team

Greeter – Tim McCall  
Pledge - Don Daniels  
Spoke Notes – Andrea Eggleton  
Thought for the Day - Jonathan Walker

RYLA and REGL events have been canceled for 2020, the camp not allowed to open until the Fall  
RYE – youth exchange is still TBD. Some countries that are accepting students are moving forward with the program.

### Other Announcements and Confessions:

**Pat Ward** – Beale Fly Over was a very nice event at the hospital  
**Scott Browne** – Has accomplished much tree removal on his property for fire safety; Andrea and Christian took \$10 for Scott's accomplishments  
**Tim McCall** – Took a walk to town this morning and shops are starting to open up; \$10 for the good news  
**Bob Long** – Got the Square app issue resolved, so credit card payments can be accepted again  
**Kathy Egenes** – We have a contest going on to guess Tom Lathrop's middle name, starting with "B". Each guess will be worth \$5 to Polio Plus. A small bottle of hand sanitizer is a prize! There is still time to email your entry to President Marcia. The winner will be announced on May 18.  
**Dave Peeler** – is very happy to be doing weed whacking and splitting wood, and he's very happy about all of the work he's getting done - \$10

### Speaker:

**Carol Pandak** – Director of Polio Plus for Rotary International, gave an update on Polio Plus and COVID-19 Update. She was calling in via ZOOM from her home in downtown Chicago. She has been 10+ years in this position.

Rotary is a spearheading partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, started in the early 1980s, the other spearheading partners are WHO, Unicef, and the CDC. Additional groups that have joined the initiative are GAVI and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Backbone of Strategy: Strategy for Polio eradication is to immunize all children under the age of 5 years old multiple times per year; in between the actual immunization rounds, community organizers are working to educate parents in the community.

There are 146 laboratories worldwide that conduct testing of both stool samples from children observed with potential symptoms, as well as testing sewage (Polio virus can survive in sewage for a few days).

Polio Today: We only have Pakistan and Afghanistan reporting cases in 2019. Nigeria has not had cases in a few years and the continent of Africa is awaiting certification of being deemed polio-free.

COVID-19 Today: Looks similar to the way Polio looked at first.

The Polio infrastructure is being utilized in the COVID response.

- \* Coordinating outbreak response
- \* Educating communities on prevention (social distancing and hygiene) - also helps with polio as well
- \* Investigating cases
- \* Training health workers
- \* Tracing contacts

[District Newsletter](#)  
[May 2020](#)

## Upcoming Programs:

May 18



**WEEKLY ZOOM MEETING @ 12:15.**

President Marcia will send a link with an invitation to join the meeting. Look for it in your email.  
Speaker: Caleb Dardick, Projects Administrator with the County CEO office, will be talking about the Nevada County Community Relief Fund efforts.

## Dates to Remember:

May 20

May 25

June 20-26

June 22

**Board of Director's Meeting via ZOOM @ 5:30 pm**

**DARK for Memorial Day Holiday**

**Rotary International's FREE Virtual Event**

For more info as it becomes available visit: [www.riconvention.org](http://www.riconvention.org)

**Tentative year end Celebration at Condon Park**

### Examples – the Plus in Polio Plus

- \* A call center that has been established in Pakistan for Polio is also taking calls regarding COVID-19
- \* Community mobilizers are providing education regarding social distancing and hygiene in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nigeria, Cameroon, Angola, etc
- \* Vaccine carriers provided by Rotary are being used to transport COVID-19 specimens in Pakistan
- \* Rotary Polio Community Centers in Pakistan are being used for COVID-19 testing
- \* Food rations are being provided to needy families

### Polio Eradication in the midst of COVID-19

- \* Polio vaccination campaigns are paused for a short period of time in order to prevent spread to community mobilizers and vaccinators
- \* Surveillance continues
- \* Routine immunization continues (occurring at routine doctor visits)
- \* Providing additional basic services to polio-affected areas including providing soap, nutrition
- \* A group has been formed to plan catch-up vaccination plans once it is safe to do so

### Polio Work Continues

- \* Polio remains a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (of which COVID is now as well)
- \* Rotary's advocacy with donor governments continues
- \* Fundraisers for polio continue
- \* Media engagement on how polio eradication infrastructure is supporting COVID 19

### Bottom Line and Call to Action

- \* Rotarians should be proud of the polio eradication infrastructure that Rotary has help to build, which is being used in the COVID-19 pandemic and has been for other natural disasters, Ebola, yellow fever, SARS, avian flu, etc.
- \* COVID-19 pandemic reminds us of polio epidemics
- \* Want to ensure that we reach our \$50 million fundraising goal this year and fully leverage the Gates Foundation 2:1 match
- \* Need to begin immunizing children as soon as possible
- \* Call Carol as a resource for information [carol.pandak@rotary.org](mailto:carol.pandak@rotary.org)
- \* Encourage us to watch the Polio Panel of the Rotary International convention (online). A very senior member of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will be speaking

Questions: Will the Polio infrastructure be used to help with vaccinating for COVID-19? Depends on the type of vaccine that it is. Polio is oral, so it is easier to administer than an injectable vaccine.