



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: Scott Browne

President of Rotary International

[Francesco Arezzo](#)



Governor of District 5190

[Larry Harvey](#)

May 18, 2026

www.gvrotary.org

Volume 101, Issue 32

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Our presenter today was Nick, the President of [AJA Video Systems](#). "AJA manufactures cutting-edge technology for the broadcast, cinema, proAV, and post production markets. AJA partners with industry-leading companies, and also provides its unique technology to leading manufacturers and developers for integration into their product lineups. High-profile media companies around the globe, along with broadcasters, networks, post-production houses, mobile truck operators, cinematographers, film editors and more, rely on the reliability, flexibility and performance of AJA technologies."

At today's meeting, we had no Visiting Rotarians. We also had no Guests in attendance.

Congratulations to the Lyman Gilmore Students Of The Month!

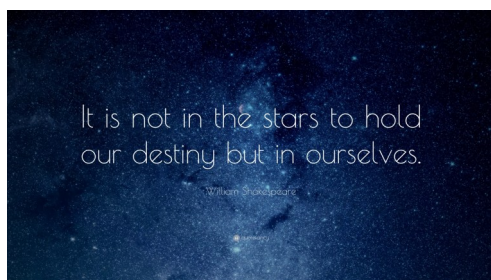
STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Students of the Months are chosen by the classroom teachers and should meet the following requirements:

- **Respectful** - The student treats classmates, teachers and staff with respect by valuing each as an individual, respecting differences, and valuing the work that others do.
- **Responsible** - The student embraces the responsibility required to maintain progress in their schoolwork and other personal goals.
- **Safe** - The student contributes to the success of the school by promoting a positive school climate through their actions and words following the school safety guidelines.
- **Ready to Learn** - The student strives for success in all they do and works to the best of their ability, coming with all of the tools they need to do so.



THOUGHT OF THE DAY



UPCOMING EVENTS

Club Meeting: DARK	May 25
Rechargeable Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling	May 30
Club Meeting: Comfort Keepers	June 1
Chicago Park 8th Grade Grad Breakfast	June 4
Gold Country Challenge	June 6
Club Meeting: Living Well	June 8
Board Meeting: Ed's House	June 11
Rotary International Convention	June 13-17
Club President Demotion Event	June 15
RYLA Camp at Grizzly Creek Ranch	June 14-19
	June 21-26
Club Meeting: DARK	June 22+29
Club Meeting: DARK	July 6
Club Meeting: TBD	July 13
Club Meeting: TBD	July 20
Club Meeting: DARK / Board Meeting: 12 @ WSMC	July 27

UPCOMING PROJECTS - People of Action

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
Salvation Army: Build Planter Boxes and Chicken Coop	Spring '26
Western Sierra Medical Clinic: Planter Boxes	Spring '26

IMPORTANT MEMBER DATES IN MAY

Birthdays		Rotary Anniversaries	
Andrew Withers	May 2	Jon Peek	44 Yrs
Seth Leishman	May 2	Scott P Browne	30 Yrs
Jennifer Malone	May 3	Carol Elizondo	24 Yrs
Anita Daniels	May 7	John Voter	24 Yrs
Tim McCall	May 9	Tom Stanley	19 Yrs
Fred Claessens	May 13	John Peplowski	18 Yrs
Bob Long	May 14	Marcia Salter	18 Yrs
Sean Jackson	May 19	Ryan Sykes	13 Yrs
Kris Stepanian	May 20	Seth Leishman	10 Yrs
Jon Peek	May 31	Jesse McKenna	2 Yrs

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONFESSIONS

- 100 riders have already registered for the Gold Country Challenge
- We have newly designed T-Shirts

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:

- ◆ 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 collected this year. We are well on our way to a goal of 4,000 lbs. in 2026

Good Luck, Rotarians!





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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



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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

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