





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

Rotary

Club of Grass Valley



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
Tom Stanley - Director Year 1
Cheri Hall - Director Year 1
Debra Plass - Director Year 1

- Sergeant at Arms - Don Daniels
- The Spoke Editor - Ryan Sykes
- Photographer - Fred Claessens



Spoke Notes were recorded by: Marcia Salter

President of Rotary International

[Olayinka Hakeem Babalola](#)



Governor of District 5190

[Kurt Raffetto](#)

October 19, 2026

www.gvrotary.org

Volume 101, Issue 44

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Our main speaker today was Robert Freeman, a fellow Rotarian and [TGUP](#)/ODFL Founder.



The One Dollar For Life project started as a challenge to high school student body that if each gave \$1, they could build a classroom in Africa for communities that had no such buildings. His school of 1700 students raised \$1800. He then took his challenge to the other area schools and they raised \$8000 and were able to fund the classroom. The local African community are required to help and they did so by making the bricks for the building. For one school that equated to 160,000 bricks. They have completed 740 projects in 26 countries since 2007.

In 2020, when all the schools shut down because of COVID, ODFL changed its name to The Global Uplift Project, or Tea-Gup (TGUP).

TGUP now has for program areas which are classrooms, simple water systems, [Save a Girl](#) kits (which are sewn locally), and [Science Lab in a Box](#). Amazing and inspiring life changing projects for just a few dollars.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Club Meeting: DARK: Board Meeting at Glasson @ 12	Oct 26
Club Social - BrewHaus @ 5	Oct 26
Club Meeting: Kurt Raffetto - Rotary District 5190 Governor	Nov 2
Club Meeting: Grass Valley Fire Department Update	Nov 9
Club Meeting: Club Foundation Drive	Nov 16
Movie Night: Miners Foundry @ 6:30 - Supports WSMC	Nov 21
Club Christmas Party @ 5:30	Dec 12

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
Rotary Clubs in Action 2026 @ Truckee Meadows CC	Nov 7
Assist NU Choir – Madrigal Event(s) @ Mt. St. Mary's	Dec 3-5
Casino Night	Feb 27 2027
Rotary District 5190 Conference in Tahoe	May 14-16 2027
Gold Country Challenge	Jun 5 2027
Rotary International Convention in Spain	Jun 26-30 2027
Viking River Cruise	Aug 18-25 2027
Assist with Food Distribution – NC Food Bank	TBD

IMPORTANT MEMBER DATES IN OCTOBER

Birthdays		Rotary Anniversaries	
Judy Wirkner	Oct 2	Jon Byerrum	37 Yrs
Wyn Spiller	Oct 14	Rod Fivelstad	27 Yrs
Pat Ward	Oct 15	Teresa Conger	3 Yrs
Andrew Jackson	Oct 18	Peter Van Houten	1 Yr
Lee Osnas	Oct 25		
Ed Pinto	Oct 30		

FOCUS OF THE MONTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CONFESSIONS

Derek and his Lisa spent time in San Francisco celebrating Fleet Week. They had a wonderful time watching the Navy ships, the Blue Angels and other sights

Sean spent time with his family in San Diego, which included a fishing trip. The fishing wasn't going very well at first and the fish finder started working overtime. They found themselves in a school of tuna. When all was said and done, they had landed 46 tuna!

OCTOBER IS



ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MONTH

"If we can make a difference in the life of one person in a community, it is a small yet significant step to empowering a whole community."
Loshini Naidoo

Rotary 

TAKE ACTION: Join Rotary, Get Involved

Rotary Club of Grass Valley

Meets @ the [Elks Event Center](#) on the 1st and 2nd Mon at 12:15 pm
AND
[Nevada County Media](#) on 3rd Mon at 5:30

P.O. Box 1213
Grass Valley, CA 95945

Area 4 Rotary Clubs

[Nevada City Rotary](#) meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday 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](#)

[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

[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
- ◆ Library
- ◆ Briar Patch



Since 2023, we've collected over 13,000 lbs of plastic. Let's keep the momentum going!

Good Luck, Rotarians!



Rotary "Service Above Self"

Bob Long
Tim McCall
Fred Claessens
Marcia/Tim Salter
Dave Zucca
Ed Pinto

Thank You!





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ROTARY CLUBS IN ACTION 2026

Where Service Meets IMPACT!

Saturday, November 7, 2026 | Truckee Meadows Community College
(TMCC)
7000 Dandini Blvd., Reno, Nevada

District 5190 Governor Kurt Raffetto and District Governor Elect Richard Forster invite you to **Rotary Clubs in Action** that is designed to be an exciting, fast-paced day of learning, sharing, connecting, and putting ideas into ACTION.

Check out the [link](#) to view a map of the campus, the itinerary, and to register!



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CLUB SOCIAL

MONDAY – OCTOBER 26
5PM

SPECIAL ATTRACTION

PRESIDENT ED WILL PERFORM
A FLIP CHART PRESENTATION ON:

THE HISTORY OF BEER
(DON'T MISS THIS)



Nevada City
300 SPRING STREET



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District 5190 Foundation Dinner Hosted by Area 8

6:00 pm - November 6, 2026
Atlantis Hotel Casino - Reno, Nevada

“The Future is Now”

Join Us
as We Celebrate

The
Rotary
Foundation



Keynote Speaker



Carson Costa

Author, Educator
4th Generation Rotarian

*“Expanding Our View of
the Foundation to Inspire a New
Generation of Rotarians”*

Doors open at 6pm
Dinner at 7pm

Cost: \$60 per person

Rotary
District 5190



Tickets Available at district5190.org

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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MAMMA MIA!

Movie Night

Give, Dance & Celebrate

with

Western Sierra Medical Clinic

Better Health Together

Saturday
NOVEMBER 21, 2026

THE MINERS FOUNDRY CULTURAL CENTER
325 Spring St
Nevada City, CA 95959

DOORS OPEN 6:30pm
Light Greek Bites and No-Host Bar
Please dine before the movie - no dinner will be served.
Raffle and Silent Auction

7:30pm
Welcome, Raffle Drawings and
Feature Film MAMMA MIA!

*Best MAMMA MIA!
Costume Wins!*

Limited Seating!
*Pre-purchase required
by November 20th.*
No tickets sold at the door.

GENERAL ADMISSION - Adults 18+ Event
\$30.00 for theatre style seating

VIP EXPERIENCE INCLUDES:
\$250.00

- Premium bistro table seating for four
- Includes 4 drink tickets (1) per guest, redeemable for a glass of house wine, beer or signature cocktail
- 20 raffle tickets to share with your table
- Assorted Mini Greek Treats served during movie

SCAN HERE TO PURCHASE TICKETS



ALL TICKET SALES ARE FINAL. NO REFUNDS.
THIS IS A FUNDRAISER SUPPORTING
WESTERN SIERRA MEDICAL CENTER
Funds raised will support the purchase of a new
Panoramic x-ray machine bringing this advanced
imaging technology to our clinic for the first time.

**QUESTIONS? CALL 530-292-3478 x 229
or EMAIL Donate@wsmcmed.org**

Western Sierra
Medical Clinic
Better Health Together

Buy Tickets [HERE](#)



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ROTARY CLUB OF GRASS VALLEY

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12TH, 5:30pm -?

Who's Invited: Fellow Rotarians and Guests

What to Bring: A potluck dish for 20

A "White Elephant" Exchange Item

What to Wear: Christmas Casual

What's the Entertainment: It's a surprise, BUT YOU'LL LOVE IT!

**What will it Cost: \$15 per person to cover the entrees,
Decorations, music, etc.**

What are the Entrées: Turkey and Ham provided by the club*

***We will need volunteers to cook the turkey and ham
that will be provided by the club; a sign-up sheet will be
circulated soon.**





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ROTARY DISTRICT 5190

OFF WE GO *into the*
WILD BLUE YONDER

2027 DISTRICT CONFERENCE

Early Bird Registration Ends December 31, 2026

MAY 14-16
2027
LAKE TAHOE

REGISTRATION



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ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
BARCELONA, SPAIN | 26-30 JUNE 2027
SAVE THE DATE

Rotary   **BARCELONA**
2027



 **REGISTRATION OPENS**
17 SEPTEMBER 2026

[REGISTER HERE](#)

 **SPECIAL DISCOUNT**
UP TO US\$300 OFF!
17-21 SEPTEMBER 2026 ONLY

From **17-21 September**, register for the 2027 Rotary International Convention at the **lowest available registration rate**.

Imagine thousands of Rotary members from around the world gathering in one extraordinary city—sharing ideas, building friendships, finding inspiration, and experiencing the energy that happens when Rotary comes together.

Your invitation to be a part of it is here: convention.rotary.org.

Registration opens **17 September at 12:01 a.m. (Chicago time)** at convention.rotary.org. Be sure to secure your place by **11:59 p.m. on 21 September (Chicago time)** to take advantage of the **special five-day rate**.

Barcelona. Rotary. The world together. Your convention starts here.



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Come cruise with us PARIS TO NORMANDY

Aug. 18–25, 2027
VIKING
Exploring the World in Comfort



This fabulous adventure includes:

- an 8-day cruise with a river-view stateroom;
- 6 guided tours;
- a visit to one UNESCO World Heritage Site;
- all onboard meals, including regional specialties;
- a Culture Curriculum (lectures on Joan of Arc and French Impressionists, learn to say a few words en français, learn how to make tarte au citron);
- beer, wine, and soft drinks with onboard lunches and dinners;
- free Wi-Fi (connection speed may vary); and
- port taxes and fees.

Pre- and post-tour options mean more days to explore and discover. Choose from three nights in Paris with a choice of three tour options or three nights in the English countryside exploring Oxford and Highclere Castle. *Some restrictions may apply.*

Average temperatures during our cruise:
Paris 77 high / 56 low
Rouen 72 high / 54 low

Set sail with your Rotary friends on a memorable Viking River Cruise, our third such adventure! We had a wonderful time in November 2025 with 36 Rotarians and their families and friends, so we've scheduled an 8-day Viking River cruise from Paris to the Heart of Normandy aboard a small longship with a 190-passenger capacity. If you've never sailed on a river cruise, you must give it a try. It's so different from ocean cruising, and there are no rough seas! **Please consider joining us, August 18–25, 2027.**



PARIS & THE HEART OF NORMANDY 8 DAYS • ROUNDTrip PARIS

ENJOY PARIS & NORMAN TREASURES. Dock in the heart of Paris, admiring views of the Eiffel Tower and a replica of the Statue of Liberty from your ship. Experience history firsthand at the Normandy beaches and delight in Rouen's Gothic architecture. Explore Giverny and the charming house and gardens where Claude Monet lived and worked, the setting inspiring many of his masterpieces. This voyage celebrates history, art, food and customs in France's most alluring urban and pastoral settings.

DAY	LOCATION	ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE	INCLUDED TOUR
1	Paris	Embark	Overnight	
2	Paris		Evening	Panoramic Paris
3	La Roche Guyon Vernon	Morning Afternoon	Afternoon Overnight	Monet Foundation Scenic Cruising
4	Seine River Rouen		Overnight	Rouen Walking Tour
5	Rouen		Overnight	Normandy Beaches
6	Les Andelys	Morning	Afternoon	Château Gaillard Walk
7	Le Pecq	Morning	Afternoon	Napoleon's Château Malmaison
	Paris	Evening	Overnight	
8	Paris		Disembark	

Call PDG Anita Daniels at 530.272.6036 for more details or to reserve your cabin.