
Here is my story and what I hope will inspire you to be part of the best social event of the Rotary year: our Fun in Tahoe all-club member party.

Years ago, I was working 60+ hour weeks as a litigator and rarely took time off. Most weekends were spent writing briefs, always with a deadline looming ahead. When I had free time, which was rare, I wanted to be on my bicycle, in the pool, or with my friends and family. As it was, I hardly had time to attend my Rotary club’s weekly meetings, much less participate in its service projects. And, then, it happened. My club President asked me to attend the District Conference. You see . . . no one else in the club would go. I suppose I was the last choice. After a week of pressure, I agreed, but I wasn’t happy about it. I didn’t have the time, money or interest. So, I made a deal with the President; I would go on condition that I only attend Saturday’s sessions and only stay over one night.

Governor’s Spin

Laguna Sunrise Club
President Terri Moule:
A Leader and True Rotarian

By Angela Spease

We lost a great leader and Rotarian on February 22, 2018. Terri Moule passed away unexpectedly, leaving friends, family and Rotarians mourning her loss. She was born in Berkeley on August 6, 1959, grew up in Auburn, and lived in Elk Grove at the time of her death.

Terri joined Rotary in May 2015 and within a year was asked to serve as the President of the Laguna Sunrise Rotary Club during the 2017-2018 Rotary year. She will be remembered by those who knew her as a very generous and giving person. In fact, she epitomized the principle of Service Above Self. She always was the first person to volunteer and to open her wallet. She wanted to learn more about Rotary and was committed to improving things and enjoying life. Youth Services was her passion.

In addition to co-owning Moule’s Elk Grove Glass, she was a realtor with Keller-Williams Realty and worked with the Salvation Army, Elk Grove Chamber of Commerce, and Chicks in Crisis.
District Events

**District Conference: Time of Your Life!**

District 5180 Rotarians are destined to have the best time ever at the 2018 District Conference, May 11–13, at the Hyatt Recency Hotel, Spa and Casino at Incline Village.

Party time starts early with Rotarians putting their toes in the sand at a Beach Party at 3 p.m. on Friday! You won’t want to get stuck at work!

Educational sessions feature key notes from trainer Sara Kooperman on leadership and polio survivor and tri-athlete Minda Dentler on achieving success.

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**Rotary International Conference**

June 23–27
Toronto, Canada

“Inspiration Around Every Corner”

Help Shape the Destiny for 35,000 clubs

There’s a world of opportunity waiting for you at the Toronto Convention

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**Fun in Tahoe**

5180 District Conference
May 11-13, 2018
Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe Resort

Register and book your hotel room
www.rotary5180.org

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**District 5180 Key Dates**

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<td>April 7</td>
<td>District Leadership Assembly - (NEW LOCATION) Natomas High School - 8 a.m.</td>
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<td>April 8</td>
<td>Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) International Culinary Event - Ramada Inn - 1-4 p.m.</td>
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<td>April 21</td>
<td>Rotarians at Work Day - Numerous Locations!</td>
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<td>May 11–13</td>
<td>District Conference - Hyatt, Incline Village</td>
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Look for complete information on the new-look District 5180 website.
Terri Moule (con’t.)

At her Celebration of Life on March 18, 2018, friends shared some of her favorite thoughts and activities, including “Love is a Verb” and shopping for “bling.” As we think of her, let’s remember her saying: "Do you realize how easy it is to uplift someone in your life and let them know how much you appreciate them? It’s amazing how much we impact each other’s lives on a daily basis."

Rest in peace, dear friend and Rotary President.

District Events

April 7—District 5180 Leadership Assembly
(Note: NEW LOCATION)

The annual District 5180 Leadership Assembly on April 7 now at Natomas High School continues to be the best value Rotary day of the year.

The concise, informative day will have everything Rotarians need to learn the latest in Rotary and the District.

Participants come away with increased knowledge and tools for their clubs. In the continuous improvement of Rotarians and Rotary Clubs, this year’s Leadership Assembly will focus on creating inclusive club environments, communicating service and value to local communities, adding to technological skills, and informing on new rewards programs.

And, you get to enjoy it all with peers and colleagues from around the District!

See the flyer & register online.

Membership

Tips For Growing a Club

By Axel Hannemann, Rotary Club of El Dorado Hills

Below are 10 ideas we have found helpful to grow our club. They aren’t necessarily original, but they have worked for us.

• Make the meetings fun and interactive. Mix it up with new ideas and activities. We dance, show videos, play games of chance, laugh and share. Start on time, end on time.

• Have interesting guest speakers that address pertinent topics and leave time for questions.

• Encourage members to invite guests and make them feel welcome upon arrival. Allow plenty of time for fellowship. Thank everyone for making the effort to attend these early morning meetings.

• Provide newer members opportunities to do a trade talk on their line of work. Get them involved in all club activities and events as soon as possible.

• Always provide time at each meeting to pause and reflect on how appreciative we are of past and present military and all public servants.

• Have a fine master with good positive energy and have the fines/happy bucks go toward very worthwhile causes. Encourage members to share what they are happy about.

• Invite Interact to share their club stories and what they are involved in at the high school.

• Have each fund raiser feel more like one big party and a celebration of all we have to be thankful for. Emphasize the “all hands needed on deck” concept.
Governor’s Spin (con’t.)

Saturday breakfast started at 8:00 a.m. Doors opened at 7:30 a.m. That meant I had to leave Sacramento about 5:30 a.m. after rising at 4:30 a.m. I wasn’t happy. During my two-hour drive to Reno, I kept asking myself why I was doing this and never came up with an answer other than I must support my President. As much as I liked the President, I still wasn’t convinced. But, I kept driving.

When I arrived and found the banquet room, I was dismayed. The room was filled with people, but I couldn’t find my President and didn’t know anyone. Worse yet, I couldn’t find an empty seat. Should I eat elsewhere or just go home? I finally spotted a chair but before I could sit down, I was told “that seat’s taken.” A couple of tables away was another open seat, or so I thought. Again I was shooed away because the seat was “taken.” Tears welled up in my eyes. I wanted to leave. I turned and headed to the door, destined for home and disappointed that Rotarians seemed so unfriendly. I actually thought about quitting Rotary.

Suddenly I heard a voice and everything changed. A man stood up, beckoned me over, and told me “join us; we have room at our table.”

Who’s Reading the Rotarian Magazine?

Apparently, your district Governor Sandi Sava and District 2018 Conference Chair Deb Thornton. Looks like they found time to read the Rotarian Magazine recently while doing a mandatory beach check for the May 11-13 District 5180 Conference at the Hyatt Incline Village in Lake Tahoe.

Yes. It looks like preparations are going well!

Membership (con’t.)

when planning events.

- Continually remind all members how much of a positive impact Rotary has locally and globally.

Surround yourself with skilled, caring people on your board. Raise money—and spend it wisely.

In sum: Be positive, be upbeat, be encouraging, be enthusiastic, & model effective leadership traits.

He and his table mates moved chairs and added a seat. They all introduced themselves, engaged me in conversation and were so friendly. The man told me “don’t worry; just go have the time of your life.” They had been to many conferences; this was my first. My new friends introduced me to other Rotarians, shepherded me to breakout sessions, taught me about Rotary, and showed me the wonderful hospitality suites. By Sunday, I had met Rotarians from many clubs, RYE students from several countries, keynote speakers and, yes, even the District Governor. I realized that Rotary was all about the people . . . the people we meet, the people we help and the people who help us.

I still am friends with the people I met at that first conference. In fact, I am excited to see them at club meetings, work projects and social events. But, I also am excited to get together with them just as friends do. I have attended many conferences since that first one. Each time, I meet new people and develop new friendships. Several of those friends now serve on the District Staff, and I am so happy to be working with them.

As I reflect back on my first District Conference, I have mixed emotions. I am disappointed that I had such a negative attitude at first. I am relieved that I did not leave and quit Rotary. I feel lucky to have met those very special Rotarians. I was eager to become more engaged in Rotary and meet more people.
Governor’s Spin (con’t.)

As I look forward to this year’s District Conference, I hope for three things. First, I hope my first conference friends will join me so that I can show them as good a time as they showed me. Second, I hope members who never have attended a conference will come, meet new people and make new friends, just like I did years ago. Third, I hope that all of you who attend have the Time of Your Life!

Rotary Poetry

No Longer Lost and Confused

By Alan Lowe

Once a little raindrop floated from the sky and landed in the middle of a gentle pond. It rested on its surface, at peace with the world. But then debris tossed from the shore and pollutants coming from all directions landed and vied for position, creating putrid smells and turmoil in this once tranquil body of water.

Shaken by this turn of events, the little raindrop quivered, and felt lost and confused. The sky blackened and rumbled, as if angered by the disorder below in the rippling waters. Distressed, the little raindrop spun in circles around a lily pad, and sought protection from the eerie presence above, while trying to avoid the pollution flowing, without mercy, about it.

Tortured by the situation, the little raindrop prayed for help and the return of tranquility to the water and land surrounding its new home. It wondered if people understood what their carelessness and insensitivity.

But then, a wisp of light filtered through the dark clouds, bringing hope and the possibility for change. Governments, leaders of private organizations, and service clubs, such as Rotary, made efforts to improve environmental conditions.
These entities promised aloud, “Clean water, a basic human right, would no longer be denied. By 2030, the United Nations goal, safe drinking water for everyone, would be achieved.”

Rotary members committed to reaching the water and sanitation goals through projects like building wells, installing rainwater harvesting systems, and teaching community members how to maintain the new infrastructure.

During March, “Rotary Water and Sanitation Month,” Rotarians celebrate the commitment to create healthier communities by supplying clean water and sanitation facilities to lessen pollution and to prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

And so, today, a new glow upon the water portends a brighter future. No longer lost and confused, the little raindrop breathed a sigh of relief and believed it would one day be at peace again.