



HISTORY OF THE CREATION OF DISTRICT 5180

In 1915 officers of Rotary International recognized the need for more efficient administration of the rapidly growing, geographically widespread number of clubs being chartered. A worldwide division into Rotary Districts resulted. District 13 was comprised of clubs from California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and Hawaii. In 1918 the designation of District 13 was changed to District 23. Chartering of new clubs was relatively slow in these early years because the central office believed a service area population of at least 30,000 was necessary for a club to exist and function successfully. Eventually, when RI removed this requirement, growth accelerated. In 1922 the designation changed again, from District 23 to District 2. This district was now made up of clubs from California, Nevada, Hawaii and Mexico. Now the chartering of new clubs exceeded all expectations, and as a result District 2 was split into five districts in 1937. Northern California and Nevada became District 105.

After 10 years, in 1947, it was time for another division of the district. District 109 was split from District 105 and boundaries were reduced. Although the District 109 designation lasted only two years, six new clubs were chartered during this period. Rotary International again changed designations in 1949 and former District 109 became District 164. The District 164 designation remained until 1957, when continued growth of the district necessitated division once more. The district was split with Northern California being divided. The new district, number 519, now included the northeastern part of California from Walnut Grove on the south to the Oregon border and all of Nevada except for the southern tip (Las Vegas). In 1957 District 519 was comprised of 51 clubs with a total of 3315 members. During the ensuing years, the chartering of new clubs in District 519 continued at a moderate pace. Also, a minor boundary change on the western edge of the district brought in two existing clubs, Gridley and West Sacramento.

In 1987, District 519 had 64 Rotary clubs and more clubs were being created each year. The District leadership and management were experiencing some major challenges. The requirement to visit all clubs in the first six months was just too physically demanding and the observable physical deterioration of the DGs was apparent. Besides those issues associated with geography and number of clubs, communication was becoming difficult. At that time typewriters and faxes were the norm (no cell phones or email service!) In addition, there became two of every training session; Pre-PETS, District Assembly, Membership and Foundation. It became apparent that addressing these challenges would probably require subdividing District 519 into more manageable components. Thus the idea of splitting District 519 into two districts came about.

The first proposal to redistrict was in 1988 (proposed by the DG at the time; Paul Nielson) but was not successful. The proposal dividing the district in two with 33 clubs in one (519) and 31 clubs in the other (future district 5180) was approved by Rotary International but rejected by the majority of the clubs. In early 1991, the RI Board of Directors changed the district numbering system from three digit designations to four; District 519 became District 5190. Later in 1991, a second redistricting proposal (proposed by the DG at the time; Jim Thompson) dividing District 5190 (now with 69 clubs) along the



Sierra Nevada ridge line was offered, placing 41 clubs with 2713 Rotarians west of the ridge and 28 clubs with 1639 Rotarians east of the ridge. However the problem with such a split was the manner of allocating the clubs left District 5190 with a substantial reduction of clubs resulting in a major negative impact to the revenue stream for District 5190. Again this proposal was not approved by the clubs in the district. In 1993, a District Split Committee chaired by the DG at the time; Jerry Hall, presented a third proposal to split District 5190 (now with 74 clubs). The proposal was better balanced in splitting the actual membership resulting in a more equitable revenue stream for both; 44 clubs with 2297 Rotarians would remain in District 5190 where 30 clubs with 2200 members would become the new District 5180. Geographically, the clubs in the Sacramento Valley comprised of the new district where those clubs in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and Nevada remained in District 5190. This third proposal identified another need, 'seed' money for each district because the equipment inventory had to be split and each district needed operating and contingency funds. This seed money would have to be generated by the existing 74 clubs. Thus the next hurdle was getting the majority of the existing 5190 Rotarians in California and Nevada to agree to the dues increase as well as bless the split of District 5190. That required prominent Rotarians from both states to begin visiting the clubs to get concurrence as to who would stay in District 5190 and who would be in the new district. Beginning in late 1991 thru June of 1992, PDG Jerry Hall from District 5190 and other notable Rotarians from new emerging District 5180 such as PDG Tom Harris and PDG Chick Alexander began visiting clubs in Nevada and California to solicit support for this third proposal. After much discussion and multiple presentations to club boards, the District leadership obtained approval from the clubs and submitted a petition to split District 5190 to Rotary International in September 1992. In a letter dated June 25, 1993 from RIP Cliff Dochterman, Rotary International granted conditional approval of the splitting of District 5190 (effective date to be July 1, 1995). The condition mandated in the letter was the creation of four new clubs in the proposed new district 5180. However in March 1994, Rotary International reduced the number from 4 to one. Even so, two clubs were chartered in 1994 (Oroville Sunrise & Sacramento Breakfast). A third club was chartered in June 1995 (Natomas) one month prior to the July 1, 1995 deadline. So in 1993–1994 and 1994-1995, the dues for all clubs in District 5190 were increased to allow the development of a budget surplus to aid in the splitting of the District. This resulted in \$4500 for both District 5190 and the future District 5180. In addition, each district got a share of the ending fund balance at June 30, 1995 whatever remained, including contingency, from the 1994-1995 year.

Thus beginning on July 1, 1995, Rod Ritchie, from the Rotary Club of Oroville, began serving as District 5180's first District Governor. Today, Rotary District 5180 comprises of clubs from Butte, Sutter, Placer, Yuba, Yolo, El Dorado, and Sacramento counties. The oldest club in the district is the Rotary Club of Sacramento (Club #92 per Rotary International). All the original 34 Rotary Clubs that split off to form District 5180 remain in District 5180 except for one. In 1997, the Rotary club of Penn Valley opted to return to being a club in District 5190.

Although the Rotary Districts typically operate autonomously, there is one project/program, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), where both District 5180 and 5190 participate together. Each District provides members to the RYLA Board of Directors as well as counselors. This program has grown over



the years to initially serving 100 students to the present day where 300 students are annually experiencing this leadership opportunity.

A table follows that provides some information on the individual clubs in District 5180.

Lastly, the author of this document wishes to recognize PDG Jerry Hall (PRID and RIVP) for his assistance is providing some historical facts noted herein.



Name	Year Chartered	RI Club Number
Arden Arcade	2/23/1955	518
Carmichael	6/10/1948	521
Citrus Heights	5/18/1964	522
Clarksburg	3/22/2017	88311
East Sacramento	9/9/1965	523
El Dorado Hills	10/24/1990	27596
Elk Grove	4/24/1962	524
Fair Oaks	1/28/1946	525
Folsom	9/2/1953	526
Folsom Lake	6/28/2010	83374
Foothill Highlands	3/12/1959	527
Gold River	Disbanded	75465
Granite Bay	5/15/1984	21843
Gridley	1/29/1925	531
Historic Folsom	4/28/2004	65500
Laguna Sunrise	3/28/1984	21717
Lincoln	11/12/1925	533
Loomis Sunset	2/23/2012	84289
Marysville	4/1/1920	535
Mather Perkins	See Rancho Cordova Sunrise	
Midtown Sacramento	11/1/1998	51539
Natomas	6/1/1995	30817
North Sacramento	11/28/1925	538
Orangevale	4/5/1960	539
Oroville	4/11/1924	540
Oroville Sunrise	7/4/1994	30297
Passport	3/20/2015	86527
Penn Valley	Returned to District 5190 in 1997	
Placer Valley Sunrise	2/17/1964	552
	Kept charter date of Rocklin	
	Loomis Basin	
Pocket Green haven	5/11/2007	76050
Point West	4/16/1985	22656
Rancho Cordova	1/27/1959	546
Rancho Cordova Sunrise	9/16/1980	541
Rancho Murietta	Disbanded	78311
Rocklin Loomis Basin	See Placer Valley Sunrise	
Roseville	3/21/1938	547
Roseville Sunrise	See Placer Valley Sunrise	



Sacramento	2/1/1914	548
		97 th club in Rotary
Sacramento Breakfast	9/22/1994	30378
South Placer	6/29/2005	69954
South Sacramento	3/24/1959	550
South Yuba County Sunrise	2/17/1975	551
Sutter Buttes Sunrise	Disbanded	
Twin Rivers	2/18/2016	87311
Valley Hi/Laguna	See Laguna Sunrise	
Walnut Grove	4/23/1948	557
West Sacramento	2/28/1949	558
West Sacramento Centennial	5/17/2005	69636
Yuba City	6/7/1954	560
Yuba Feather Rivers Sunrise	See South Yuba County Sunrise	