District Fire Update—Fire Victims

From District Governor Sandi Sava

Rotarians and members of our communities have been devastated by the fires in Northern California with loss of homes, schools and businesses, relocation, and, worse yet, death and injuries. We all are trying to figure out how, when, where and who to best help. I have been communicating regularly with the 41 Club Presidents in District 5180, our 8 Assistant Governors, our District Leadership, and a number of Rotarians. I also have been in close touch with Rotary International, our Zone Director John Matthews, and the District Governors in 4 neighboring Districts. Several plans are being developed and carried out at this time.

First, individual clubs and Rotarians are collecting and delivering personal hygiene and related items to evacuees and to victims of the fires in Yuba and Butte Counties in the Northern part of our District. They also are helping fire personnel and first responders. Our Assistant Governors are working with Club Presidents, Rotarians and members of our communities to proactively identify needs and provide assistance. While this is very important, the outpouring of donations has exceeded some needs. And, in some cases, the donated items cannot get to or through certain locations. Collection of personal hygiene items and new supplies still should be considered for victims who you specifically can identify, but donations of gift cards is preferred for many Napa and Sonoma victims at this time.

Second, our District has developed a funding platform to collect monetary contributions from donors who want to help financially. Specific details about use and disbursement of these funds will depend upon what information we obtain about needs and forms of assistance. Contributions can be made by check payable to “Rotary District 5180 Foundation” and mailed to District 5180 Foundation Chair, Robert Deering, 4917 Olympia Court, Carmichael, California 95608. We are not accepting electronic donations at this time.

Third, District 5180 is working with neighboring Districts to develop a regional fund with the help of and through Rotary International. As with the hurricanes and earthquakes, our fires make people from all over the world want to help directly, and a “Donor Advised Fund” through RI enables this. Although a DAF provides a platform to help with immediate help, it primarily provides opportunities for longer term assistance. We expect to have this in place within the next week.

The Lake Area Rotary Club Association [www.larca5130.org] is already set up to accept contributions and help those victims in Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino and Lake Counties. Our District will continue to work with the Presidents, Assistant Governors and other Rotarians as we navigate through this disaster. If you have specific information about how to help, please contact your Club President, AG or me. We are here to help too and will provide further updates in the future.
Meet Angela Spease

For Angela Spease, Rotary is a family affair! Not only is Angela a member of the Rotary Club of Laguna Sunrise, but so is her husband Kevin. Over the six plus years that Angela has been in Rotary, she has taken advantage of a variety of opportunities to serve. At the club level, Angela served as president in 2013-14. Prior to that, she was Public Image Chair and served on several grant-writing committees, often in conjunction with members of the Elk Grove Club. Her first venture into District leadership was on the Membership Committee. She also co-chaired the Save-Mart Golf Tournament for three years, and currently, she is serving as RYLA Chair and the Assistant Governor for Area 6.

Kevin and Angela have been married for 27 years. They met when she was 17 when he came home on leave from the Army to attend his sister’s wedding. He stopped by a Taco Bell to grab a meal and instead met Angela who was working there at the time, and the rest is history. Kevin and Angela also work together and have two family businesses: Information Systems Security Engineering (ISSE) and the Spease Bees Honey Company. ISSE deals with cybersecurity; their main client is the Department of Defense. Angela says, “We keep the bad guys out of computers.” The Spease Bees Honey Company is a family business in more ways than one; Kevin and Angela along with son Jeremy and her in-laws work for this reseller company.

(continued on Page 5, Col. 1)

Many years ago a District Governor asked a roomful of Rotarians: “What is the #1 Rule in Rotary?” And, before I figured it out, everyone shouted: “Have FUN!” Our members are having fun -- at their club and board meetings, social events, service projects, and fundraisers. Here is a look at what I experienced during September.

The Orangevale Club, under the leadership of President Tommy Peno, held a BBQ social at the home of PDG Dave Harris on September 9. Members brought their dessert specialties which were beyond spectacular. The idea was to have fun from the beginning to the end of the event with a presentation from me in between. Members had fun reflecting back, remembering other fun events and happenings in their Club, and inducting their newest (and probably youngest) member!

On September 11, I met with the Walnut Grove Club. If you haven’t visited it before, you should. President Emily Pappalardo, who will be the first woman in our District to give birth during her presidential term, encouraged fun throughout the meeting, including the showing of the infamous “Plunger.” Walnut Grove is a very close community and prides itself on being part of
Gov’s Spin (con’t)
and adding fun to its local events like the Pear Festival.

President Mike Grace of the Arden Arcade Club has a dry, and sometimes subtle, sense of humor but one that is not lost on the members. At the board and club meetings in September, if we weren’t laughing out loud, we were inside. Known in our District for being a very strong supporter of the Rotary Foundation, Arden Arcade is now leading another charge and having fun doing it. They have developed partnerships with a number of community organizations which help promote and support their fundraisers, raising over $100,000.

You learn something every day, and I learned on September 13 that the Citrus Heights Rotary Club does something every day to support the community. Says President Alex Turcotte: “Our motto is ‘Do Rotary Right’, and our focus is a great member experience.” The Club has expanded by creating a new form of membership—“civic membership”—which enables multiple employees of a single organization to join. With the diversity comes more fun.

Some time between June 30 and July 1, 2017, a phenomenon occurred in our District. The Roseville Sunrise and Rocklin-Loomis Basin Clubs merged into one and became the Placer Valley Sunrise Club. On September 21, we gathered at the new home of President Phil Sanborn and Past-President Marlene Sanborn (RLB Club) and enjoyed good food, great fellowship and a spectacular view off their back patio. They wanted to combine Rotary business and the DG visit with socialization and fun, and they succeeded. When can I come back?

I usually wear a business suit but not to the Sacramento Club meeting on September 26. In my cycle shorts and jersey, I rode my bike into the facility and proudly wore the new Sacramento Century Challenge jacket that was presented to me. Not to be outdone by me, President John Lemmon introduced me in a way that started and kept everyone laughing. You had to be there! Why so much biking attention? The Sacramento Club held its 4th annual 100-mile Century ride on October 7 which is something that attracts riders from California and other states, brings Rotarians and members of the community together in several towns along the Delta, and highlights the good work of Rotary. It is one of the best and far-reaching single-club events I ever have seen, and I am happy that it was founded by our oldest Rotary Club.

The South Yuba County Sunrise Club is the morning gem of Area 1. Small, but mighty, they get things done while promoting Rotary and their community. Just check out the book “A day in the life of Yuba-Sutter” and you’ll know why. They have captured the best while doing the best. Kudos to President Abbie Cesena and her members for the very fun and special culinary dinner on September 28 at Wheatland High School prepared by the students!

What Rotary Club in our District has an applause-o-meter to measure the fun level? West Sacramento. On September 29, I was the human meter and couldn’t stop laughing, even during my presentation. When you ask senior member, Dave Wilson, a Rotarian for 61 years, his thoughts about old and new changes, he gets everyone revved up, ready to talk and ready to laugh. Suffice it to say that many members had views about our new Flexibility rules, and the dialogue was eye-opening and fun. Thank you, President Jim Cahill for the open forum.

Rotarian Magazine

Where are They Reading Rotarian Magazine?

Maybe, where you least expect it. One of our sneaky photographers caught South Sacramento President Krysia Falltrick and fellow club member Jim Tracy reading the Rotary Magazine—in funny hats none-the-less! The occasion was the Rotary Club of South Sacramento’s Second Annual Bocce Ball Tournament at East Portal Park in Sacramento. Send photos to crea@calcima.org

Have you or someone you know been reading the Rotarian Magazine in public? With a friend? In an exotic local? If so, send us a photo at crea@calcima.org
What’s Happening in the District

Sac Century Bike Ride: Tunes, Suds & Fun

The Rotary Club of Sacramento hosted 850 bicyclists recently on the Sacramento Century ride. It started on Capitol Mall, went through the Sacramento River Delta wine region, and finished at a festival with music, beer, and food trucks.

The Sacramento Century signature event is expected to raise more than $50,000 in one day for two youth programs. Event chair Susan Sheridan said riders enjoyed perfect fall weather, a rest stop at a pumpkin patch, a ferry ride across the river and hundreds of sandwiches served in Isleton. The riders were seamlessly guided by hundreds of volunteers including Rotarians and many others.

West Coast Rotarians Host Sustainability, Peace Conference

In support of Rotary International President Ian Riseley’s focus on environmental sustainability this year, Rotary Zones 24, 25 and 26—the western U.S. and Canada—will host the Presidential Conference on Environmental Sustainability and Peacebuilding. It will be Feb. 9–11, 2018 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

The conference is founded on the central role that environmental sustainability plays in the long-term success of all that Rotary does. "Environmental Sustainability . . . is, and must be, everyone’s concern," said Ian Riseley.

The speakers will include Dr. Jonathan Patz, University of Wisconsin, Director of the Global Health Institute; Jess Housty, Heiltsuk First Nation; Paul Netzel, Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair; David Justice, University of BC Botanical Gardens; and Linda Low, Rotary Peace Fellow - Duke/UNC Peace Center.

To learn more about the conference and registration, go to https://environmentandpeace.com/venue/
Clubs

New & Old—Clarksburg & Sacramento—Team Up for Shelter Box

At the September 5 meeting of the Rotary Club of Sacramento, visiting Rotarian Katherine Turner of the new Clarksburg Rotary Club threw down the gauntlet to her hosts when she took the microphone and issued a challenge – that her club would purchase a $1,000 Shelter Box for Hurricane Harvey relief, if the Sacramento club would match the Clarksburg purchase.

The Rotary Club of Sacramento responded with gusto. Club members ponied up over $4,700 on the spot, and the tally eventually surpassed $6,000 – enough for six Shelter Box units to serve hurricane victims.

It was a great example of clubs working together, and great to see 5180’s newest club, Clarksburg, joining forces with the district’s very first club, Sacramento.

Spease Bees Honey grew out of project with Laguna Sunrise’s three Interact clubs joint gardening fundraiser project. (See the article under Rotary Connections!)

Angela’s passion is youth. In 2011 Angela became a counselor for Rotary Youth Leadership Awakening, R.Y.L.A., then moved on to become a co-director for 3 years and 5180 Registrar. Now Angela just started her 3 year term as executive director for 5180/5190 RYLA program. Angela has seen firsthand the difference the program makes in the lives of its youth participants.

Angela helped launch a project in Elk Grove with the late Millie Brink of Elk Grove Rotary that helped over 30 emancipated foster youth move into independent living. A fulfilling joint project that changes focus each year based on needs.

Angela also worked with the Elk Grove Kohl’s which supported the club with a $500 grant each year for several years. When her local contact moved to the regional office, he called Angela enlisting her help in developing a green project in the local area. As a result, the Laguna Sunrise Club participated in a clean-up day at Riverbend Park where they did general clean-up, trimming to prevent fires, and painting. The result was a $9,000 contribution from Kohl’s to the Laguna Sunrise Rotary Foundation.

Educationally, Angela has an undergraduate degree in psychology and a master’s degree in organizational management. When asked to share something most people didn’t know about her, she said that she was adopted before she was even born. In those days, there was a much longer waiting time, and Angela said that her parents waited three years to finalize the adoption that brought both her brother and her into the family.

Angela’s life is a busy one. In addition to family, 2 businesses, and Rotary as an assistant governor, she still finds the time to see a good movie here and there. Angela also enjoys running.

They also say the single biggest thing clubs can do is work with libraries and schools to get library cards for kids. This can literally open the door to more exposure to books, reading, and literacy!

Want another idea? Try inviting a local librarian to speak at your club. Or, ask Nancy or Lori.

They have a lot more ideas and would love to hear from your club. See the resources available to combat literacy on the District Literacy webpage.
Rotary Trends

The New Rotary? North Sacramento

The Rotary Club of North Sacramento has embraced Rotary’s new rules with enthusiasm and innovation. The Club now meets twice a month—the first Thursday for lunch and the third Thursday for dinner. And, at two different locations! In between, they schedule service projects and fellowship in between.

There were skeptical members at first and concern that it would be harder to attract new members; but it has worked. They’ve inducted three new members this year, with another scheduled to be inducted at the next meeting. Their overall attendance has improved because members make a point to attend meetings. The staggered meetings offer scheduling flexibility: if you can't leave work at lunch, surely you can make it to dinner once a month.

Finally, they are saving money! Fewer meetings means fewer meals to pay for and that reduces the cost of being a Rotarian.

Of course, the flexible schedule is not without challenges. It just takes planning and good communication. But even those members who were skeptical are now believers.

Implementing Rotary's new rules has made North Sacramento stronger and more vibrant. Your club may want to try, too. It may infuse excitement into your club, too!

Youth Services

Sac State Rotaract “Lends a Hand” to Puerto Rico

School has been in session for only one month; and already, the Sac State Rotaract Club has been busy!

To begin, they have had a couple of general meetings to recruit members and organize events. They participated in 23rd Annual California Brewers Festival—surprise, surprise!—at Discovery Park and brought along their World’s Longest Teeter Totter to raise funds for their community service projects this year. They have had a social outing to the Lake Natoma Aquatic Center.

Sounds fun? Well, they are also keenly alert to the needs of their community and the world. Upon hearing about the hurricane in Puerto Rico and all the humanitarian needs, the Club quickly organized an event to acquire personal hygiene items. It is called “Lend a Hand to Puerto Rico,” or “Puerto Rico Se Levanta.” It recognizes not only the suffering in Puerto Rico, but Sac State students with relatives there. They need everything from bottled water and can-openers to garbage bags and diapers. You can help here.

This year’s Rotaract President is Kyle MacLachlan.

Do you need to do a make-up? Or, just want to visit another club? Not sure where and when to go?

Well, there are over 40 clubs in District 5180, from Clarksburg to Oroville. They meet every day, for every meal, and in some crazy places.

Find a make-up location on the District 5180 web site. It has all the clubs, meeting days and times, locations, and contact names.

http://rotary5180.org/ClubDirectory

Rotary at the Kings

Dec. 10 at 12:30 P.M.
Sacramento Kings vs. Toronto Raptors
See the new Kings in action!
Order your tickets now!
**Polio**

**World Polio Day—Oct. 24**

For the fifth straight year, Rotary has a special day to celebrate the progress on polio eradication.

This year’s Oct. 24 [World Polio Day](https://www.rotary.org/en/world-polio-day) will be hosted by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. There will be a Livestream from Gates Foundation headquarters in Seattle. 50,000 viewers are expected. Global health experts and celebrities will tell about the progress.

Resources for the day include video about the people that fight polio, progress in [Afghanistan](https://www.rotary.org/en/afghanistan) and [Nigeria](https://www.rotary.org/en/nigeria), “this close” videos, and how to make a contribution to [End Polio Now](https://www.rotary.org/en/end-polio-now)! Share with your Club!

**RI Foundation**

**Netzel Keynotes Foundation Dinner**

District 5180’s annual [Rotary Foundation Dinner](https://www.rotary.org/en/districts/5180) will be **Saturday, October 28** at the Citrus Heights Community Center. The event features the many Foundation activities in the District and internationally, from the 5180 Human Trafficking Project to Polio.

Bringing it all together will be [RI Foundation Trustees Chair Paul Netzel](https://www.rotary.org/en/districts/5180) from the Rotary Club of Los Angeles! Music will be provided by the Have Mercy Band.

For reservations: [lreinero@yahoo.com](mailto:lreinero@yahoo.com)