



# Newsletter

District 5230 Newsletter February 2024 - Peace and Conflict Resolution

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## Give Peace a Chance: February is Peace and Conflict Resolution Month

By Debbie Hale



Rotary District 5230 Governor, 2023/24

When I first started to think about the February theme, I wondered, "Why is peace one of our areas of focus?" Isn't Rotary nonpolitical? Then I saw the headlines of war: diseases may kill more people than bombs, water shortages abound as pipelines are damaged, health crisis deepens for the chronically ill. It's not just those who are killed or injured by conflict who are affected: war spreads diseases among people and toxic materials around our environment; war also reduces the supply of clean water, damages health of a population and creates economic hardship. It is no coincidence that a country

with decades of conflict, Afghanistan, is one of the last strongholds of polio.

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## From Your District Communications Team, With Love!



We hope you are enjoying your newsletter! Please utilize our district website and toolkit, and update your email auto signatures to reflect the February 2024 Rotary International theme: **Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution**.

It is our hope you will take a moment to familiarize yourself with our district "elevator speech" about what Rotary is:

Rotary Creates Environments of Peace

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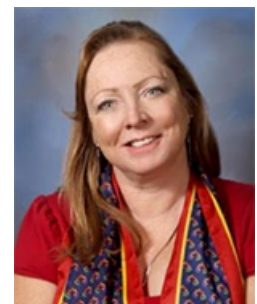
## Registration for the upcoming District Conference is open! Join us May 10th-12th in Monterey

By Renata Barnwell

District Conference Chair

We are thrilled to announce that registration is now open for the Rotary District 5230 Conference, scheduled to take place in beautiful Monterey at the Monterey Marriott from Friday, May 10 through Sunday, May 12th. Come for one day or the entire weekend.

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For more information about the newsletter issue or to submit an article, contact Nick Grim and Merritt Wiseman at [editor5230@gmail.com](mailto:editor5230@gmail.com).

Please note all articles or event info must be submitted by the 20th of each month to make next month's issue.

## District Conference Sponsorships Are Still Available - Many thanks to our current Sponsors!



By: Debbie Hale  
District Governor

On May 10 - 12, our Come Play by the Bay in Monterey District Conference will take place. One of the ways we are able to bring our conference to Monterey is through the generosity of our sponsors. It's unfortunately expensive to hold an event on the coast, so kudos to those clubs who have stepped up to sponsor the District Conference!

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## Rotary Leadership Institute at Amazon was Prime!

By Merritt D. Wiseman  
District 5230 Engagement Chair

In a commitment to fostering leadership excellence and community service, the Rotary Learning Institute (RLI) continues to be a beacon of knowledge, empowering individuals to make a positive impact in their communities. On February 3, Rotarians joined together at the Amazon Fulfillment Center in Visalia for a day of sharing, learning, and discussing.

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## Empowering Leaders: The Rotary Club Training Assembly (CTA)

Last month was District 5230's CTA (Club Training Assembly) at Justin Garza High School. The training was divided into several modules, and each module covered a specific topic related to the Rotary Club's membership, committees, and programs. The District 5230 Club Training Assembly plays a crucial role in shaping leaders within the Rotary community. This annual event serves as a dynamic platform where members come together to enhance their skills, exchange ideas, and gain valuable insights to better serve their communities. The assembly is a testament to Rotary International's commitment to fostering leadership and promoting positive change worldwide.

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## Feb 5 Rotary Presidents of Visalia Clubs Hold a Rockin' Fundraiser



To Benefit Visalia's Historic Fox Theatre

On January 27th, the Feb 5 Rotary Presidents of the five Visalia Rotary clubs joined together in helping to preserve and cherish the cultural heritage of the Visalia Fox Theatre with an Elton John tribute concert.

This historic gem, nestled in the heart of downtown Visalia, has stood the test of time, offering a captivating journey through decades of entertainment and community gatherings.

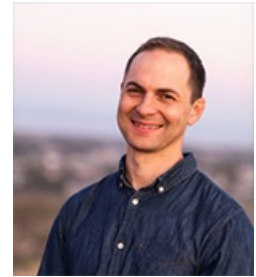
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## Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: The Rotary Club of Carmel Valley's PICS Program

By Mike Buffo

A remarkable program is shaping the future of philanthropy and community service in California. The Partners in Community Service (PICS) program, a brainchild of the Rotary Club of Carmel Valley and local schools, stands as a beacon of youth empowerment and civic responsibility. This article delves into the genesis of PICS, its profound impact on students, and the upcoming presentations by Carmel Middle School Leadership Classes.

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## Membership Momentum: Orientation vs. Onboarding

By Rebecca Moser



Immediate Past District Governor and Membership Chair

At our recent Club Training Assembly (CTA), one of the topics covered under the Membership Series was Orientation vs. Onboarding. Many of you seem to be struggling with this introduction to Rotary, so I'm sharing an overview of what was covered.

[Read More](#)

## Showing the Love in February for our new members in Rotary District 5230!

Join us in celebrating the love month with our new members in Rotary District 5230! Our community is growing stronger each day, and we want you to be part of it. By becoming a member, you'll have access to exciting activities, opportunities to serve your community, and form lasting connections. [Read More](#)

## Congratulations to the Rotarians of District 5230 Celebrating 25+ Years!

Congratulations to the Rotarians on Celebrating 25+ Years!

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## Happiness and A Life of Meaning

By Bruce Mackey

District Foundation Chair

I recently listened to an excellent TED Talk by Emily Esfahani Smith titled, *There's More to Life than Being Happy*. I wholeheartedly recommend the broadcast to all of you. After extensive study, she determined that happiness is a very ephemeral goal and a better goal is to seek meaning in life. After five more years of research, Ms. Smith found the four pillars of a meaningful life and, "we can each create lives of meaning by building some or all of these pillars in our lives." Listening to her, I realized how Rotary and support of the Rotary Foundation dovetails into her findings.

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## Make an Ongoing Difference: Join the Paul Harris Society!

By Joy Anderson



District Paul Harris Society Chair

We are pleased to welcome Haruno Ito Fukui with the Rotary Club of Monterey Cannery Row to the Paul Harris Society!

Haruno is a charter member of her club and currently serves as Club Treasurer. PDG Joy Anderson was pleased to present her with her Paul Harris Society pin, as well as her Paul Harris Fellow plus 5 pin.

[Read More](#)

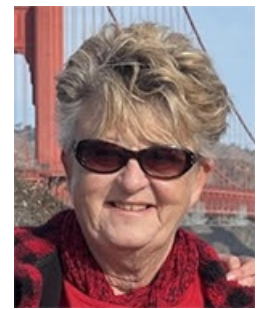
## The Rotary Club of Carmel Sunset Walks, Wines, and Whines for Polio Plus!

By Belinda Daguio

District Polio Plus Chair

I had the pleasure of attending Carmel Sunset's Rotary's 5th Annual Walk, Wine, and Whine event hosted by the Carmel Sunset Rotary Club was a resounding success, raising funds to support the Rotary International Foundation and Polio Plus. A heartfelt shout-out goes to Pam Thayer, their dedicated Foundation Chair, for her outstanding efforts in organizing and hosting the event at her lovely home in Pebble Beach. We also extend our gratitude to the Rotarians who attended and brought along their guests.

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## District 5230 Youth Exchange Update

By Leroy W. Blankenship



District Youth Exchange Coordinator

Youth Exchange students have passed their half-way mark during the year. Our seven outbound students spent the holidays traveling with host families and seeing the sights of Europe, South America, and Asia. Our ten inbound students were not to be outdone and traveled throughout California enjoying their first US Christmas and New Year's Eve. Several of the Youth Exchange Committee members also traveled to Europe to enjoy the holidays and to meet with some of our counterparts to share information and experiences.

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## Camp Royal is Off to the Races!

Camp Royal Chair

Our Rotary Youth Leadership Program, known as Camp ROYAL, is ready to take applicants! Now is the time for clubs to confirm or update their camper slots, start working with their schools to recruit student applicants, conduct interviews, and make their choices for candidates and alternates. **Camp ROYAL runs from Sunday June 9th through Friday June 14th.** Students should complete and turn in applications to clubs by March 1st. Clubs should interview and send me their selections by April 1st. The following link will give all the details and documents needed.

[Getting Started - Camp ROYAL Info For Clubs.](#)

[Read More](#)





## The Transformative Experience of Camp ROYAL

By: George Whinny

As we gear up for another great Camp ROYAL, on June 9 - 14, 2024, Chair Nic Giannandrea and his team are working hard to create another unforgettable leadership experience.

Every year, our Rotary District 5230 gathers an elite group of high school rising senior girls and boys who leave their daily lives behind for six days and take residence on the banks of Lake Sequoia to join in our Rotary Youth Leadership Assembly, known as Camp ROYAL. However, in 2020, COVID brought Camp ROYAL to a halt. For 3 years, students' lives were disrupted: social norms on hiatus, human interaction limited, and computer screens became the connection to the outside world. For those 3 years, the banks of Lake Sequoia were silent.

[Read More](#)

## A New Addition to the District 5230 Toolkit - Rotary Club Health Check



In our ongoing commitment to enhance your Rotary experience, we're thrilled to introduce the Rotary Club Health Check, a vital component of the District 5230 Club Toolkit. This tool is designed to empower club leaders and members by providing valuable insights into member satisfaction.

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## Events and Happenings in Rotary District 5230

Here is what is going on around the District! [Read More](#)