

February 2025: Peace and Conflict Resolution

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Leading with Love: Building a More Peaceful World Through Rotary

By Michael J. Rabara



5230 District Governor

February is **Rotary International's Peace and Conflict Resolution Month**, a time to reflect on our role in building a more peaceful world. With **Valentine's Day** also in February, I can't help but see the connection between love and peace. True peace isn't just the absence of conflict—it's the presence of **understanding, compassion, and a willingness to put love above power.**

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The Rotary Foundation: The Power of Love in Action

By Michael J. Rabara

5230 District Governor

As February reminds us to celebrate love, I find myself reflecting on how love is at the heart of everything we do in Rotary. Love is more than just a feeling—it's action, commitment, and the willingness to serve others selflessly.

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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.

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

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February Updates From Your 5230 Comms Team, With Love



Lynda Patrick - Communications Chair, Nick Grim - Webmaster & Newsletter, Alex Walker - Social Media, Merritt Wiseman - Newsletter Editor

It's February! The month of global love and peace (and conflict resolution)! When you are meeting people and have the opportunity to share the Rotary experience with them, let them know Rotary creates environments of peace. As a humanitarian organization, peace is a cornerstone of our mission. We believe when people work to create peace in their communities, that change can have a global effect.

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Congratulations to Deborah Volosin, Our 2027-2028 District Governor!

By Merritt D. Wiseman

5230 Newsletter Editor and Visalia County Center Rotary Club

It is with great excitement and pride that we congratulate **Deborah Volosin** from the **Visalia County Center Rotary Club** on her selection as **District Governor for the 2027-2028 term!**

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Valley Women's Empowerment Resource Fair: Connecting, Inspiring, and Uplifting Women

By Laura Dimmer



Co-Chair for the Valley Women's Empowerment Resource Fair

Rotary District 5230 and the Limitless Mentorship and Scholarship Program are excited to invite women and girls of all ages to an inspiring event designed to help them thrive in every area of life. Building on the successful format from the Coast side of our district, the **Women's Empowerment Resource Fair** will serve the communities of **Tulare, Kings, and Fresno Counties**, connecting women and children to vital resources and opportunities. This event is designed to provide **support, education, and empowerment** offering tools to help women and families thrive. This resource fair will showcase inspiring keynote speakers—local thought leaders who lead with compassion and a

commitment to service.

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Rotary Leadership Institute: Elevate Your Rotary Experience

By Susan Winey

DGN, 5230 Chief of Staff

Are you ready to take your Rotary journey to the next level? The **Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)** is your opportunity to deepen your understanding of Rotary while sharpening your leadership skills. District 5230 is offering this opportunity for **your club to send two members** to RLI, where they will expand their knowledge of Rotary while developing confidence in their leadership abilities.

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Reedley and Selma Rotary Clubs Unite for Women's Resource Fair

By Rodney Horton



Reedley Rotary Club, City of Reedley Community Development Director

The **Reedley and Selma Rotary Clubs** are joining forces to host a **Women's Resource Fair**—an event dedicated to renewing, inspiring, and transforming the lives of women of service. This special gathering is designed to help **women who dedicate their lives to serving others prioritize their own wellness**, ensuring they have the strength and support to continue making a difference in their communities.

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Honoring the Legacy of Governors Bob and Gerry

Rotary District 5230 extends its heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed past district governors, Bob Farmer and Gerry Roberts, for their unwavering dedication and service to Rotary. Their leadership and compassion have left an indelible mark on our community and beyond. May their legacy continue to inspire and uplift those whose lives they have touched. With deepest sympathy to their families, we offer our condolences and support during this difficult time. Your Rotary family will always cherish and honor your memory.

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Youth Exchange Selects Outbound Students for 2025-26

By Leroy W. Blankenship

5230 Youth Exchange Chair

Every year about this time, the District Youth Exchange Committee meets with excited high school teens and anxious parents to interview and select outbound students for the following year's youth exchange program. The interviews are the culmination of several months of advertising the program, meeting with high school language and leadership classes, chatting up students at Interact District Conferences, exchanging texts and emails, answering parents' questions, and receiving online applications.

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Become a Part of the Kennel Klub Polio Plus Society - Together, We Can End Polio, One Pet at a Time!

By Belinda I. Daguio

5230 Polio Plus Chair



Rotary District 5230 is taking a **creative and fun approach** to eradicating polio by launching the **Kennel Klub Polio Plus Society for Pets!** This exciting new fundraiser aims to raise **\$10,000 for Polio Plus** by encouraging **\$100 donations** from Rotary members and supporters.

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Spreading Love Through Service: Strengthening Rotary Membership in February

By Rebecca Moser

PDG, 5230 Membership Chair

February, the month of love, is a perfect time to reflect on the passion and commitment that drive our Rotary service. Just as love strengthens relationships, active engagement strengthens our Rotary family. When we invest our time, energy, and heart into service, fellowship, and growth, we create meaningful connections that inspire lasting change. Let this month be a reminder to rekindle our dedication—reach out to a fellow member, invite a friend to join, or find new ways to contribute.

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Peace Building and Conflict Resolution

By Bruce D. Mackey

PDG, 5230 Foundation Chair



As we enter the second month of this year, and the month we celebrate Rotary International's anniversary, (February 23), I think it's important for us to pause for a moment and consider how we might support one of our often forgotten programs, peace building and conflict resolution. While we tend to think of these programs as international in scope, and they certainly are, we should consider what we can do here in our own communities to resolve some of the chronic sources of conflict here at home.

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Exciting Events and Opportunities in Rotary District 5230!

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