

IMPACT! e-bulletin



December 10, 2024

District Governor Sue Krahe-Archibald

Healthcare: A Fundamental Right

By Sue Archibald

Rotarians believe that access to quality healthcare is a fundamental right. Yet, over 400 million people worldwide cannot afford or access basic healthcare services. Disease brings misery, pain, and poverty to millions, making the prevention and treatment of illness a vital part of our mission.

That's why we take action on both large and small scales. We establish temporary clinics, blood donation centers, and training facilities in underserved communities facing health crises and limited access to care. We also design and build infrastructure that empowers doctors, patients, and governments to collaborate more effectively.

Our members are on the frontline in the fight against diseases such as malaria, HIV/AIDS, Alzheimer's, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, and polio. Prevention is equally crucial, which is why we prioritize health education and ensure access to routine hearing, vision, and dental care. Together, we strive to create healthier communities and a healthier world.

[Read More](#)



Responding to the Gaza Polio Outbreak

A Message from RI Director Dan Himelspach



Rotary's December theme is Disease Prevention and Treatment. We can proudly report that Big West Clubs have historically and currently sponsored a wide variety of Disease Prevention and Treatment projects around the world.

Our initiative to eradicate the dreadful poliovirus is by far our largest and most profound disease prevention program. We have labeled it "Rotary's Number 1 Outside Priority."

In the last few months, we have received disturbing news about the fight to end polio. Cases have increased and we are experiencing challenges in high-risk areas like Afghanistan, Pakistan, and northern Nigeria where complex humanitarian crises hinder progress.

In September we responded to a polio outbreak in Gaza, with our first vaccination campaign reaching over **560,000 children**. Recently a second round vaccinated nearly **557,000 children** for polio and more than **448,000 children** received vitamin A. Polio immunization requires two shots about four weeks apart and vaccination of **approximately 90% of the people in a community**.

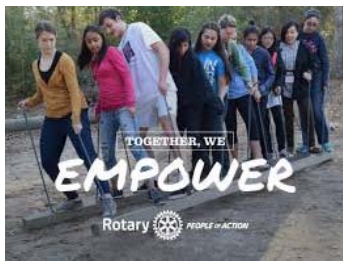
[Read More](#)

RYLA Deadline Extended!

RYLA is still looking for a few adult advisors. We need a total of 12 adults that are willing to spend a weekend with teenagers learning about leadership, and we're only about halfway there. If you are interested and available please consider applying [here](#). The dates are January 17-20, 2025.

Feel free to contact the admin team at ryladistrict5500@gmail.com with questions.

PLUS... there are still 20 spots open for student delegates! **The deadline has been extended to December 20th**, so please spread the word! Applications available [here](#).



[Read More](#)

Reminder: Club Membership Data Due to RI by January 1

This is a friendly reminder to update your club membership and officer information in the district database **by January 1, 2025**. This information will be used to generate your January 2025 club invoice.

It is important that your club's member information is up to date because Rotary cannot change the club invoice after it has been generated, or accept membership updates with your payment.

[Read More](#)



District 5500 Peacebuilders Network Zoom Meeting

Wednesday, December 11, 6:00 pm on Zoom
"The War That Never Ended"

Our December meeting features a presentation by Angel Pilato, Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.), PhD. Her story, "The War That Never Ended," will focus on UXO (Unexploded ordnance) in Laos that are still as deadly today as they were 50 years ago.

Even though there are millions of UXO still in Vietnam and Cambodia, Pilato selected Laos because it was the most heavily bombed country per capita in the world. On a more personal note, Angel reported that a lot of the pilots from her base were shot down and killed in Laos.

These unexploded UXO remain active after 50+ years and it may take 100 years to ever see the land totally free of them. It will be a fascinating story and Angel is fully committed to the removal of UXO in Laos that remain deadly, especially to children.

[Read More](#)



Tajikistan International Book Project



A big THANK YOU to those who have donated books to our project already. We are really appreciative.

The **Willcox Rotary Club** supports Tajikistan students learning English by supplying them with books. We've been doing this every year since 2016, and we could use your help.

We have a deadline of Monday, December 23rd to receive any books.

The books we provide equip students for crucial exams such as the IELTS, TOEFL, GRE, and GMAT. These opportunities transform students' lives, enabling them to study abroad, return home, land excellent jobs, and achieve career success.
[Read More](#)

It's Official! Rotary Club of Tucson Rainbow

Congratulations and welcome to the 30 charter members of the new Rotary Club of Tucson Rainbow, Arizona.

Chartered on November 26, 2024, Rotary Tucson Rainbow joins a network of over 1.4 million members and 34,000 clubs that are doing good in the world. By starting this new club, they are *People of Action!*



Speaker Recommendation for Your Club

Since 1996, the [Community Investment Corporation \(CIC\)](#), an economic development nonprofit, has been dedicated to empowering Pima County residents and the surrounding area. In 2024, CIC was named the region's "Vital Nonprofit" by the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona. **CIC Executive Director, Danny Knee**, will demonstrate how CIC ensures that more people in our community can buy homes and get the funding they need to start, sustain, and grow their small businesses.



[Read More](#)



Rotary District 5500-Wide Happy Hour

Every 3rd Friday, starting December 20th



All Rotarians are invited to join us for a District-wide Happy Hour, hosted by the **Rotary Club of Oro Valley**.

The Happy Hour will be held at the Westward Look Wyndham Grand Resort on 245 E Ina Rd, in the Palm Room from 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM, starting on Friday, December 20th.

This Happy Hour will be held at the same place and at the same time on the 3rd Friday of each month. Your guests can also be included.

Any Rotarian attending will also be given a 20% discount card for all current and future meals and drinks for + 9 guests at Westward Look!

Please join us!

TRF Weekly Message: What is Rotary Direct?

You can support The Rotary Foundation all year by making a recurring gift with Rotary Direct. Choose how much and how often to give, using this simple and secure tool to make a big impact.

Online credit card contributions can be made monthly, quarterly, or annually, with a \$10 minimum per transaction. You can enroll in [Rotary Direct online](#), use the Rotary Direct [enrollment form](#) or [The Rotary Foundation Contribution Form](#), or call the Support Center at +1-866-9ROTARY.

You can change or cancel your recurring gift at any time through My Rotary.

Rotary Direct is safe, secure, and easy. Sign up today!



Using RMDs to Make a Lasting Difference

ENDOWMENT FUND-SHARE



Many of our fellow Rotarians are receiving Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) from various tax-sheltered accounts (IRAs, TSAs (Tax Sheltered Annuities), etc.) at this time of year. They're looking for an avenue to leave a legacy to make a difference for others in need.

Major Gifts (those of \$10,000 or more) to the Endowment Fund/SHARE will return dividends to your District in perpetuity in the form of District Designated Funds ('DDF') which can be used to enhance your District Grants. Major Gifts may also be directed to one of the seven Areas of Focus or the Polio Plus fund. Our Foundation offers our Major Donors many choices in leaving their legacy of hope for generations to come.

[Read More](#)

Holiday Graphics and More!

Deck the halls with your club's Rotary messaging. Download these graphics and use them in your social media, newsletters, web pages and other promotional materials.



Mountain Empire Rotary - Chill & Grill

WIN! WIN! WIN!
[Click here](#) to enter

Chill & Grill



Freezer Full of Meat!

Win a varied selection of locally ranched meat.
One lucky winner will receive:

- Free standing, 5.0 cubic foot freezer
- More than 50 pounds of various cuts of meat
- At least one "grill" pack of beef steaks to be included

\$10

Donation

The Fine Print: Must be at least 21 years of age to purchase tickets. Total value approximately \$1,000. No more than 2,000 tickets will be sold. Winner need not be present to win. Winner responsible for prize pick up. Proceeds support Mountain Empire Rotary Club programs in our community. Drawing will be held Thursday, December 19, 2024.



Rotary
Mountain Empire Rotary Club



Rotary Club of Bisbee: Handbags for Hope

Bisbee Rotary Club and Friends are collecting donations for Handbags for Hope. Bags will be distributed in December to domestic violence shelters, homeless shelters and any other women's and men's group that has a need.

Locations for distribution: Bisbee, Douglas, Sierra Vista and beyond!

Handbag Assembly Event - Please join us:

DATE: December 19, 2024

TIME: 5:00 PM

VFW: Bisbee Off HWY 92

Thank you for your support and contributions. Please share.

NEEDED: New, clean, or gently used handbags, purses, totes, backpacks, shaving kits, travel totes, etc.

Plus items needed to fill the bags (read more).

[Read More](#)



Dove Mountain Rotary: A Night in Monte Carlo Fundraiser

Saturday, February 1, 2025 - 5:30-10:30pm

The Buttes at Reflections in Oro Valley

JOIN
THE DOVE MOUNTAIN ROTARY
FOR ITS SIGNATURE FUNDRAISING EVENT BENEFITING
CHILDREN, FAMILIES VETERANS, AND MORE.

ENJOY AN ELEGANT EVENING OF
CASINO GAMING, A PLATED DINNER,
MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT.

A NIGHT IN MONTE CARLO

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2025

5:30 PM - 10:30 PM

AT
OJO VALLEY'S
THE BUTTES AT REFLECTIONS

SCAN THE QR CODE OR
VISIT WWW.DOVEMOUNTAINROTARY.ORG
FOR TICKET AND SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION.



Casa Grande Rotary: Denim & Diamonds Fundraiser

Saturday, April 5, 2025

SAVE THE DATE!



DENIM & DIAMONDS

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

Pinal Fairgrounds & Event Center | Starting at 5 p.m.

Presented by the Casa Grande Rotary Foundation



LIVE MUSIC DINNER LIVE AUCTION SILENT AUCTION RAFFLES

Share Your Club's News!

Would you like to publish your club's upcoming events, projects or fundraisers in **IMPACT?**

Fill out [this form](#) with your information and send it to kasiarotary@gmail.com by Friday for the following week's newsletter. Include your photo or graphic as a separate attachment as a jpg or png file.

PLUS...SHOWCASE YOUR PAST PROJECTS & FUNDRAISERS! We'll feature them in our **Rotary in Action Quarterly**. Use [this form](#) and send it to kasiarotary@gmail.com. *Don't forget to include photos -- the more the merrier!*

