





February 4, 2025

District Governor Sue Krahe-Archibald

February Theme: Peace and Conflict Resolution

By Sue Archibald



February's Rotary theme, Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution, reminds us that true peace is more than the absence of war—it is the foundation for hope, opportunity, and a better future. Conflict fuels poverty, despair, and suffering, making even basic humanitarian efforts, like vaccinating children against polio,

and connections to become champions for peace. These Rotary Peace Fellows go on to heal divides, mediate conflicts, and create lasting change in communities

Rotary believes that peace begins with understanding. Through our Peace Centers, in partnership with top universities, we empower leaders with the skills, knowledge,

But peacebuilding isn't just for scholars—it's a mission for all of us. As Rotarians, we have a duty to listen, to learn, and to act. By supporting peace initiatives, mentoring young leaders, and standing up for solutions rooted in respect and collaboration, we embody Rotary's highest ideals.

We in District 5500 are installing peace poles, helping our RYLA youth understand the importance of conflict resolution, providing services to those in crisis, or supporting the efforts of others. The belief in Peace is a part of almost everything we do.

Together, we can turn conflict into cooperation and division into unity. Peace is not just a dream—it is something we build, one act at a time.

Rotary District 5500 LA County Disaster Relief Response

By Sue Archibald

District-Wide Service Project: Supporting Our Friends in LA

PROJECT UPDATES! Collection Deadline: February 4 Truck Loading: February 6 On the Road: February 7

In case you missed the earlier announcements, we are doing a District-wide service project to collect items requested by the Rotary Districts in LA. This initiative is intended to add value to the financial contributions many of you have already and will continue to make.

Our goal is to gather these essential items -- and fill a semi!

The collection deadline is February 4! Please identify a key person in your club to lead this initiative. Feel free to put boxes for donations around your local businesses, on your Facebook pages, email friends and family, develop an article in your local publications, etc.

Any monetary donations received will be sent in through the District. So, if you get checks, just send them to Rotary District 5500, P.O. Box 65716, Tucson, AZ 85728. Please indicate that the funds are for the LA Disaster Service Project.

Once the collection period ends, all items will need to be transported to Casa Grande. The Casa Grande Club will have a large truck ready to deliver the donations to LA. Truck loading will





take place on February 6 and hit the road the next day, February 7. On their way, they will make a stop in Yuma to collect donations from that area.

Please feel free to contact me as well with any questions at eggsuetrev@aol.com or 520-990-4648.

Continue reading for a list of Requested Items and Collection Areas.

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ShelterBox USA is Matching LA Relief Donations

ShelterBox USA is supporting the communities affected by the recent fires in LA County.

By working in partnership with the Rotary Districts (5280 and 5300) in the affected areas, ShelterBox USA will **match all donations to the fund up to \$100,000**.

Donations to this fund will be designated for the emergency relief and recovery efforts for the LA Wildfires and will be administered by Rotary Districts 5280 and 5300 in Rotary Zone 26.

Click here to donate.

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2025 District Conference of Rotarians and Friends

SAVE THESE DATES: September 26-27, 2025

It's not too early to start planning for District 5500's biggest event of the year.

The 2025 District Conference of Rotarians and Friends will be held at the wonderful Tubac Golf Resort & Spa.

Make your room reservations early! Click here, or call 1-800-848-7893 and mention group code ROTA25.





I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone in District 5500 for making this year's RYLA a tremendous success. For the first time in a couple of years, we not only filled all our delegate spots but even had a waiting list—what an incredible milestone!

A special thank you to the Rotarians and clubs who provided financial support, students, referred students, family members, friends, and youth-focused groups to join us. I encourage you to invite these young leaders to one of your meetings so they can share their experiences firsthand.

Our Junior Counselors played a crucial role in helping delegates put their leadership skills into practice, while our dedicated adult advisors provided invaluable guidance and support, ensuring every participant felt welcomed and empowered.

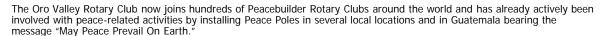
Finally, I want to recognize our outstanding admin team, led by **Jenn Wantz**, for putting together an exceptional curriculum that continues to inspire and develop our future leaders. Your hard work and dedication make all the difference!

Thank you all for your contributions—RYLA 5500 wouldn't be possible without you!

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Oro Valley Rotary Joins the Peacebuilders Network

We are excited to announce that the Rotary Club of Oro Valley recently became a Peacebuilders Club, demonstrating their strong commitment to Rotary's focus on Peace and Conflict Prevention.





Peacebuilder Clubs play a vital role in sparking passion and a direction for peace within their own Rotary club, district and communities. And the timing could not be better to become a Peacebuilder club since February is Rotary's designated month to emphasize peace and conflict prevention.

Peace is possible, peace is needed, and we thank Rotary Club of Oro Valley for taking action in becoming a Peacebuilder Club.

Rotary Youth Exchange SCRYE Conference

Our two exchange students, Kaoru and Javier, attended the SCRYE (South Central Rotary Youth Exchange) conference in Tulsa last month. The boys arrived on Friday and spent the night with several other exchange students and ate lots of Oklahoma barbecue. On Saturday, they joined around 100 other exchange students for the celebratory dinner and flag ceremony. The students parade into the dinner by country (think Olympic opening ceremony), and entertained the nearly 100 Rotarians with their own cultural dances.

We are now accepting applications for this summer's Short-Term Exchange Program. Students have the option to participate in a family-to-family exchange or enroll in one of many camps and tours. Please reach out to your local high schools for students who will grow, mature and be the next generation of leaders. There are ideal ambassadors in southern Arizona. Let's find them and give them an opportunity to "build peace one student at a time."

Applications for the summer 2025 short-term exchanges are on the District website (https://rotaryd5500.org/page/rotary-youth-exchange). Contact Cindy Dooling. youthexchangeofficer@rotaryd5500.org if you have any questions.

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Rotary's Response to U.S. Withdrawal from World Health Organization

by Rotary International

Rotary notes the recent announcement that the United States intends to withdraw from the World Health Organization (WHO), a partner in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI).

We remain resolute in our mission to eradicate polio. As a founding partner of the GPEI, Rotary has for decades worked closely with all the GPEI partners, the U.S. government, and other governments to end polio worldwide.

This effort has reduced the number of children paralyzed by polio by 99.9% since 1988. The global effort to eradicate polio has innovated many times over the years to come close to protecting every last child.

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TRF Weekly Message: What Are District and Global Grants?

Foundation grants, and two key options are district and global grants.

District grants fund small-scale, short-term activities that address needs in your community and communities abroad. Your district chooses what activities it will fund with these grants, such as humanitarian projects, scholarships, youth programs, or vocational training teams.

Global grants fund large, international activities with sustainable and measurable results in Rotary's areas of focus. These can include humanitarian projects, scholarships for graduate-level study, or vocational training teams.

Learn about another kind of grant next week!

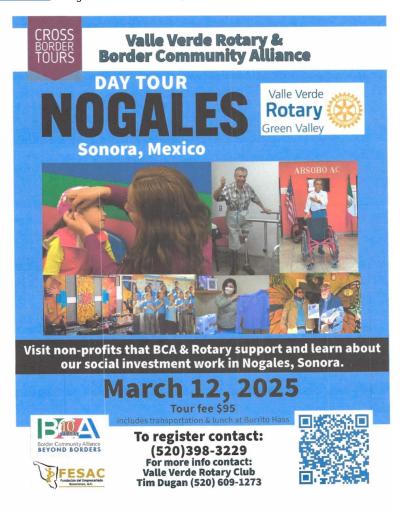


Valle Verde: Nogales Tour

Wednesday, March 12

You're invited to join Valle Verde Rotary for the last Rotary/Border Community Alliance tour of 2024-25. It's an opportunity to see where some of Rotary's money has been spent and how it has helped make the world a better place.

Click here to register. The tour fee is \$95.



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Oro Valley Rotary Club to Host Valencia Youth Soccer Camp

March 17-21, 2025 Naranja Park, Oro Valley

The Rotary Club of Oro Valley, in cooperation with the Town of Oro Valley, will be hosting a very special youth (boys and girls) soccer training camp conducted by members of the professional football club of Valencia, Spain.

The VCF Academy consists of five days of soccer training, taught by professional players and coaches from Spain following the team's methodology.

Register at www.vcfinternationalcamps.com. First 30 registrants will get a price discount!



Graphic Inspiration

These downloadable graphics are yours to use in your club's communications, social media posts, and promotional materials. Pro Tip: Download and save them in a folder on your computer. You'll have a great graphics reference library.







Catalina Rotary Needs Rodeo Volunteers

February 15-23, 2025

It's the 100th anniversary of the Tucson Rodeo - A CENTURY OF RODEO!

For more than a guarter century, the Catalina Rotary Club has been an active volunteer in helping the Tucson Rodeo serve the Tucson community through the sale of beer to rodeo spectators and earning a portion of funds doing so.

The funds raised are used to support local Tucson community groups such as: The Boys And Girls Clubs Youth On Their Own Integrative Touch Mariachi Rayos Del Sol The Tucson Salvation Army and others

We are looking for volunteers to make a one day (10 a.m. - 5 p.m.) commitment.

Please share this volunteer opportunity with loved ones, friends, or business associates. (Must be 19 and over to serve beer.) You will be partnered with like-minded volunteers in the sale of beer to thirsty Cowboys, Cowgirls, and spectators

It's not only beneficial to the community - it's fun! Sign up here.



Come join UA Rotaract volunteers in distributing the menstrual hygiene packs and adult diapers from their Period Poverty project and connecting with our neighbors at the Z Mansion Feeding Project in downtown Tucson.

Sign up here.

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Globe Rotary: 10th Annual Dominion Royale

Saturday, February 22 • 6pm Click here to purchase tickets



Valle Verde: Jazz in the Desert

Saturday, March 1, 2025

Two Shows! 1:00pm Matinee and 5:30pm Dinner Show

Jazz In the Desert 2025 will feature jazz bands from Sahuarita High School, Nogales High School, Rio Rico High School, Continental School, Sahuarita Middle School, Walden Grove High School, Wade Carpenter Middle School and Anza Trail School.

Click here to purchase tickets online, or by phone at 208-691-3761, or e-mail at jazz@vvrotaryfoundation.net

Matinee tickets are \$10. Dinner show tickets are \$60 and require advance purchase. Tickets are available online at

Over the years, Jazz in the Desert events have raised nearly \$300,000, benefitting the various schools' music programs, as well as local, national and international Rotary projects.





Yuma North End Bowling Fundraiser

Saturday, March 15 • 2-5pm





TASTE OF TUBAC

at the Tubac Golf Resort & Spa SUNDAY MARCH 23, 2025

Hosted by the Rotary Club of Tubac

A Celebration of Fine Wine and Savory Cuisine

Tickets on sale - \$80 per person

Reserve Tables seat 10 - \$900, call 360-477-7827

Tickets available at:

Donna's Salon | Jane's Attic | Tumacookery | Tubac Golf Resort Green Valley Chamber of Commerce * No credit cards please

Enjoy Great Music and Dancing with Anthony Taylor Jr. Band!

Rotary Club of Tubac, PO Box 4564, Tubac, AZ 85646 www.facebook.com/tubacrotary

Benson Rotary: Swing Into Spring Golf Tournament

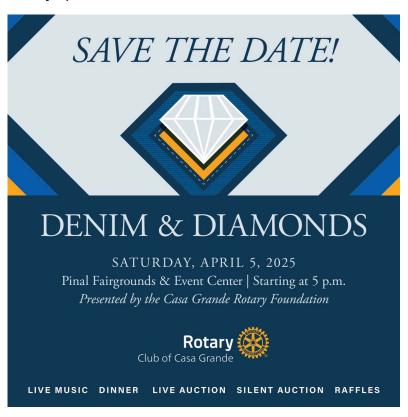
Saturday, March 29 Click here to register



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Casa Grande Rotary: Denim & Diamonds Fundraiser

Saturday, April 5, 2025



Sunday, April 6



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Rincon Rotary Taste of Chocolate

Rincon Rotary Taste of Chocolate Sunday, April 13, 2025

Save the date for this sweet fundraiser to benefit local educators and educational programs!





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!

