

IMPACT!

e-bulletin



January 14, 2025

District Governor Sue Krahe-Archibald

Rotary District 5500 LA County Disaster Relief Response

By Sue Archibald

District-Wide Service Project: Supporting Our Friends in LA

Collection Period January 18 – February 10

We are excited to announce 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 over the next 3–4 weeks -- *and fill a semi!*

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.**

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

[Read More](#)



On-the-Ground Report from the LA County Fires

by PDG Hank Huisking

Greetings from Altadena, California.

This is a situation that none of us ever expected to experience. The word "apocalyptic" is accurate, both in the images that you see in the media and what we are experiencing in our neighborhoods. But what they don't show is the human side: people whose homes and businesses are now gone and their lives changed forever. Let that sink in. Peter and I are currently in mandatory evacuation status at my daughter's home in Los Angeles.

I want you all to know how brave and amazing the First Responders have been during this difficult time. They and all the volunteers are working hard to help whenever and wherever they can.

My new Rotary District, D5300, is having a president's meeting to coordinate relief efforts, and my own Sierra Madre Rotary Club is meeting this morning (Jan 14) to support each other (one member lost her home and everything) and to help assess our local community needs.



Pictured above: Peter with a California Army National Guard soldier near our home on Saturday.

Many thanks to DG Sue for reaching out to DG Mike Driebe to work on this effort. This will be a long road but you are giving us strength for that journey.

With deep appreciation,
PDG Hank
D5300
Sierra Madre Rotary Club
Sierra Madre, California
Pasadenahank@gmail.com

Tucson Hope Factory

What's been happening around Tucson to provide transitional housing, in the form of micro shelters, for our unhoused neighbors?

Dave Gamrath, who has been involved with tiny house projects in the Seattle area, is now working on a similar project in Tucson. The project is a positive solution for the homeless, and many Rotarians are involved in construction in Seattle. Dave has given presentations to Valle Verde and Tubac Rotary Clubs.

He would be happy to speak at your club, or present to multiple clubs via Zoom, and would appreciate any help getting the word out about his presentation. Contact Dave at davegamrath@gmail.com or (206) 499-8767.

The hope factory is in the process of fundraising. www.tucsonhopefactory.org

This past June, the Tucson City Council and Mayor unanimously approved Tucson's first micro shelter village, the **Amphi Housing First Resource Center**, which will be located at old fire station 8, at 250 W King Rd. It was a year-long process to get zoning approval for the project. Current Tucson zoning does not include micro shelter villages, due to villages being new to the area. For that, a special zoning process, a "PAD," had to be conducted. This village will include 35 micro shelters on the property.

Here is a schematic of what the village could look like, completed by pro bono architects from Seattle.

The existing buildings will be refurbished into needed common areas, including a kitchen, bathrooms, showers, laundry, offices for social workers onsite, etc. The city indicated that an environmental impact study needed to be completed prior to sending out RFPs to potential suppliers of the micro shelters, and for a contractor to refurb the existing buildings.

[Read More](#)



Register for the ITHF Hosting Experience: A Journey Through Uganda

Friday, January 24, 7:00pm AZ Time
or
Saturday, January 25, 9:00am AZ Time

You're invited to join Rotary International Travel and Hosting Fellowship (ITHF) members Andy Ullman and Rosette Nabuuma for a Zoom presentation of their trip to Uganda. You'll discover:

- How they connected through ITHF
- The exciting adventure activities they experienced, including a visit to the source of the Nile River, chimpanzee tracking in the wild, and a thrilling safari
- The Rotary and other service projects that emerged directly from this hosting experience



Bonus: Find out what job Andy landed during his trip!

Two sessions are offered, with evening and daytime options. Please register in advance.

Register [here](#) for the Friday, January 24th session.
Register [here](#) for the Saturday, January 25th session.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

[Click here for a Time Converter Link](#)

Donors whose cumulative gifts total \$250,000 or more are recognized as members of the Arch Klumph Society. As a member, you're honored at an induction ceremony and have your picture and biography in the Leaders in Philanthropy interactive display at Rotary International World Headquarters. You'll receive invitations to special events, along with membership pins and crystals that commemorate your giving level. Since 2004, more than 700 people have joined the Arch Klumph Society.

Donors who promise a gift of \$1 million or more to the Endowment are invited to join the Legacy Society. As a member, you'll receive special tokens of appreciation and all the benefits provided to Bequest Society members. Legacy Society members are listed in Rotary's annual report and are also invited to special events.

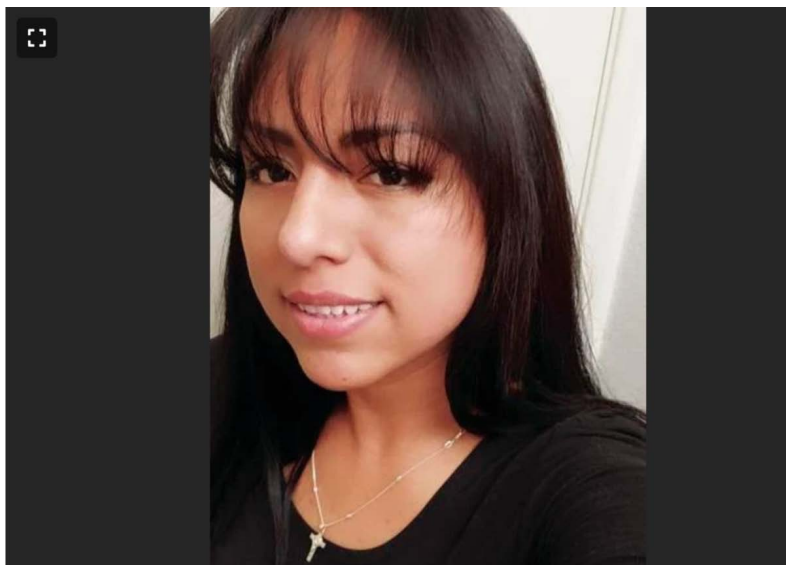


TRVFA Story Featured in the Explorer

The following article by **Rotary Club of Oro Valley's Jane Shurtleff** featuring The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona recently appeared in the Explorer, a Tucson publication.

Link to the online article [here](#).

Oro Valley Rotary gives students a helping hand



Claudia Coronado is getting her medical coding certificate thanks to a TRVFA grant.

The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) that assists students who want to further their vocational studies with financial grants.

Candidates who meet the eligibility requirements for attending a credited vocational school are identified and recommended to The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona by financial aid counselors in vocational education institutions and/or Rotarians and their clubs.

The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona also meets Arizona's Credit for Contributions to a Qualifying Charitable Organization requirement — The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona QCO Code is 20698.

Jeanie Morgan, a member of the Rotary Club of Mesa West and TRVFA board chair, said, "We need to aspire to greater levels of support with many more higher value grants so that TRVFA can make a forever difference in the lives of the increasing number of people who want to lift themselves and their dependents from a life of poverty."

[Read More](#)

Valencia Youth Soccer Camp Comes to Oro Valley

The Rotary Club of Oro Valley, in cooperation with the Town of Oro Valley, is hosting a very special youth soccer training camp in March. The camp will be conducted by members of the professional football club of Valencia, Spain at Naranja Park in Oro Valley on March 17-21, 2025. [Valencia Club Football](#) (VCF) has held these youth soccer training camps in Oklahoma, Florida, Illinois and other locations around the world for several years.

The [VCF Academy](#) consists of five days of soccer training, taught by professional players and coaches from Spain following the team's methodology. This professional system has created many great stars in world soccer. The opportunity to train at one of the best academies in the world with the same staff from the Training Center of Valencia in Spain is an unforgettable experience.

[Read More](#)



Feed My Starving Children Multi-Club Service Project

Thursday, February 6 • 5:30-10:00pm

Tucson Sunset Rotary is putting together this multi-club service project, which they've been participating in for the past four years. It's been a great experience for everyone involved.

This year's event will be held on **Thursday, February 6th at the Church of the Nazarene in Oro Valley.**

If you or members of your Rotary Club are interested in participating, please contact **PDG Joe Hengtes** at jihengtes41@gmail.com or 520-449-1298 for further details.

To participate, please provide the names, email addresses, and phone numbers and submit them to Joe.

Information: www.fmssc.org/impact-of-our-work



A Journey of Leadership, Cultural Exchange, and Dedication to Clean Water in Thailand

By Eugene W. Friesen

Join me for a journey to Thailand in March 2025.

In 1995, I was honored to lead a Rotary 5500 group to Northern Thailand's District 3360. Our goal was to visit local Rotary Clubs, learn about their culture, and attend the annual District Conference. During one visit, hosted by Dr. Suthep—a visionary who had built a modern hospital—we toured a small school that left a lasting impression.

The classroom was nearly bare, with no books and minimal furniture. The principal introduced us to a young boy, just entering his teenage years, whose life had been tragically altered. He had consumed polluted water during elementary school, resulting in severe brain damage. That moment changed everything for me—I resolved to focus future efforts on clean water initiatives.

Through Rotary and local grants, Thai Rotarians and our team worked together to bring clean water to schools. To date, an estimated 20,000 students now have access to safe drinking water. As we prepare for our next visit, we remain committed to expanding this mission and ensuring clean water access for even more communities.

Our Friendship Experience will include visits for 7 to 10 Rotary clubs in Northern Thailand. We will share dreams of how Rotary might deepen the way we work together to serve our communities here and there. This time together will also focus on deepening our personal ties to each other with a better understanding of our history and culture.

The current schedule has us leaving Los Angeles on March 24 and arriving in Bangkok on March 25. We plan to leave Bangkok on April 10.

For more information, please contact Eugene at EFRIESEN1@msn.com



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 quarter 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](#).

Changing the Lives of Young People in Need!
Help support local groups!! Volunteer to Sell Beer at the Tucson Rodeo!!

Sign up here:

Simply pick the date(s) and slot you are interested in. Or call Arturo Mógica (520) 990-0768

February 15 – 23, 2025
Over \$100,000 given to local groups...

Help put a smile on someone's face!

Will You Be Rotary Poet of 2025?

Feeling Poetic? Then try this...

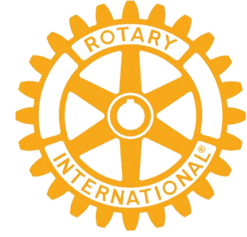
In association with Rotary International the e-club of Innovation presents *The Rotary Poet of the Year Awards*

This fantastic, exciting Rotary competition is open to every Rotarian, Rotaractor, Interactor, Rotakid, Rotary Club and friends of.

Everyone is welcome to become

Rotary
eClub of Innovation

Poet of the Year



Compose & Donate
Closing Date 30th April 2025

Everyone can enter, so put pen to paper or press those keys. Individual or club submissions are welcome.

Two categories to choose from: *The Magic of Rotary* or *Open topic*
Raise Rotary awareness. Share with your friends. Have a club poetry night.

DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2025

[Click here](#) to enter. [Read More](#)

Save The Date! District Dinner at Calgary Convention

If you're planning to attend the Rotary International Convention in Calgary, don't miss our District 5500 dinner on Tuesday, June 24.

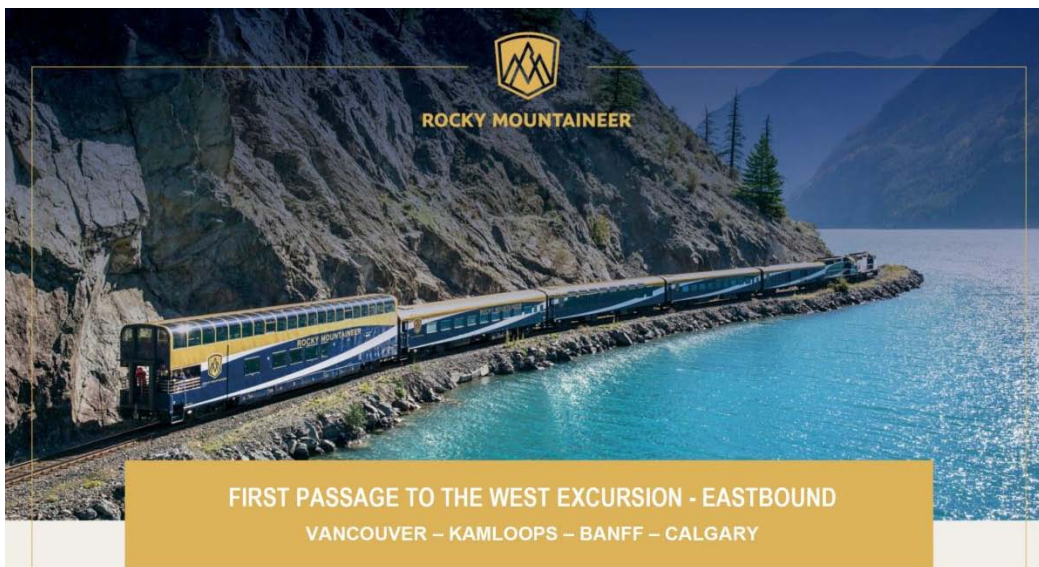
As of last week, 56 Rotarians have registered for the convention. When you register, please check to share your information, since we only have names for 50 of the 56 registrants.

The venue for the dinner should be confirmed in the next two weeks, at which time the information will be emailed to those registered.

If you have any questions, please contact Virginia 'Ginger' Leavitt, 520.971.6963 or vleavitt2336@gmail.com



Ride the Rails Through the Canadian Rockies



For those of you heading to the Rotary International Convention in Calgary in June, our friends in Districts 6440/6450 (Chicago area) have invited us to join their block aboard the Rocky Mountaineer train from Vancouver to Banff, then onward to Calgary.

The program starts in Vancouver on Saturday 6/14 with a two-night hotel stay and a day tour of the Vancouver area, then two days onboard the Goldleaf Rocky Mountaineer. The program includes hotel in Banff for two nights and a day tour of Banff/Lake Louise, and concludes with a transfer to downtown Calgary hotels on Thursday 6/19.

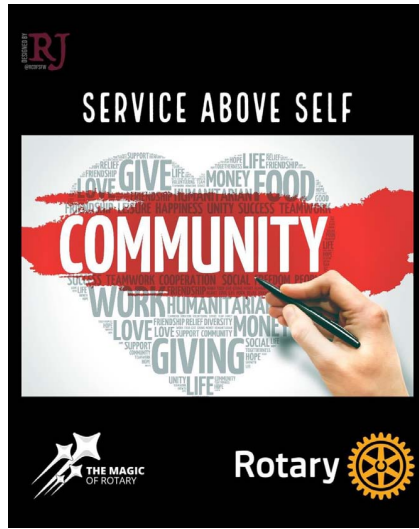
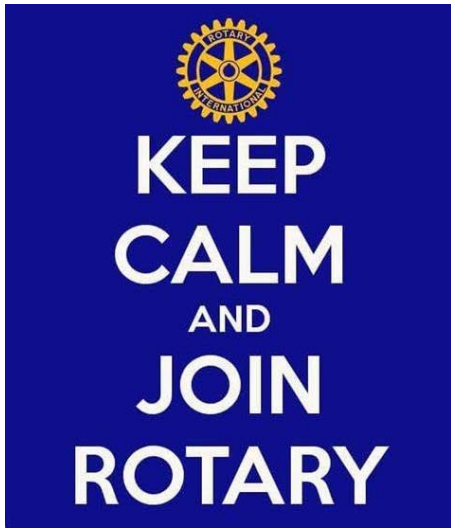
The package price for this special journey through the Canadian Rockies is \$4845 per person based on double occupancy or \$5926 per person based on single occupancy.

[Read More](#)

Need Some Graphic Punch?

These graphics are here to help your club spread the Rotary message. Feel free to download them and use in your social media, newsletters, event materials and

other promotional materials.



UA Rotaract - More Than a Bed Service Project

Saturday, February 1, 9am-12noon

[Sign up here](#) to help sort pajamas and clothes for kids, any other tasks to support the facility.

MORE THAN A BED

When: Saturday, February 1st from 9 AM- Noon


**Where: 3637 North 1st Avenue *rides provided
Help us sort through donations!**




Yuma Crossing: Around the World Gala

Saturday, January 18, 2025
Doors open at 6pm

ROTARY CLUB OF YUMA CROSSING
Presents
Around the
WORLD
Gala



Scan the QR code to buy tickets now!



8th Annual Dinner Gala Fundraiser
JANUARY 18, 2025
DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 P.M.
Paradise Casino Event Center
450 Quechan Drive, Yuma, AZ 85364
Tickets \$75 per person
For Sponsorship, Tickets, and Table Purchase contact 928-304-8550



Proceeds to benefit local charities

FORMAL ATTIRE

Tubac: Swing for the Kids Golf Tournament

Meet LPGA Pro Anna Berman and compete to win a trip to Kapalua!
Or try on two other par 3's to win \$10,000 in cash. Range balls, lunch, beverages included.
[Register here](#)

A promotional poster for the 'Swing for the Kids' golf tournament. The background is a vibrant, sunlit golf course with green grass and trees. The title 'Swing for the Kids' is written in a large, red, cursive font. Below it, 'FOR THE KIDS' is in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, followed by 'GOLF TOURNAMENT' in a larger, white, sans-serif font. The Tubac Rotary Club logo, featuring a yellow gear and the text 'TUBAC Rotary CLUB PEOPLE OF ACTION', is in the upper right. A tagline 'Helping Youth With Their Education and Basic Needs' is in red. Prizes and pricing are listed in white and blue text. A QR code and registration details are at the bottom left.

Formerly Carey Daniels Five Club Tournament

Swing
FOR THE
Kids

GOLF TOURNAMENT

Helping Youth
With Their
Education and
Basic Needs

Two \$10,000 Hole In One Prizes

Prizes for Longest Drive,
Closest to the Pin,
Putting Contest, Low Team
and High Team Scores

\$150 Per Person
\$95 Tubac Golf Members
Includes Cart, Range Balls
and after golf LUNCH

Click Here to Register:



TUBAC GOLF RESORT
JANUARY 20, 2025
0900 SHOTGUN START
Registration starts at 0700

<https://events.golfstatus.com/event/2025-swing-for-the-kids/details/registration-details>

[Read More](#)

Dove Mountain Rotary: A Night in Monte Carlo Fundraiser

Saturday, February 1, 2025 at 5:00pm

[Click here](#) to purchase your tickets. More details [here](#).



PRESENTS

A NIGHT IN MONTE CARLO

AN EVENING OF ELEGANCE
AT THE BUTTES AT REFLECTIONS IN ORO VALLEY

TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!

FEBRUARY 1, 2025 AT 5 PM



Join us for an unforgettable evening and enjoy casino games, live dj, raffle and auction items, a plated dinner, and full bar with signature drinks, evoking a night of glamour and fun for a good cause.

SCAN THE QR CODE OR ENTER THE FOLLOWING INTO YOUR BROWSER.

[HTTPS://REGISTRATIONS.DACDB.COM/REGISTER/INDEX.CFM?EVENTID=77799101](https://registrations.dacdb.com/register/index.cfm?eventid=77799101)



ROTARY CLUB OF DOVE MOUNTAIN

A 501C3 ORGANIZATION SERVING CHILDREN, FAMILIES & VETERANS

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@vrotaryfoundation.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.



Get Ready For **2025** **Valle Verde Rotary Club** **2025** **Saturday, March 1, 2025**

In the Desert In Partnership With **La Posada** **FREEPORT-McMORAN**

Quail Creek Madera Clubhouse

Matinee Show
featuring *Middle School Jazz Bands*
1:00 PM Tickets \$10 each

Dinner Show
featuring *High School Jazz Bands*
5:30 PM Tickets \$60 each

For more information call 208-691-3761
Or go to www.vvrotaryfoundation.net

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!

EAT CHOCOLATE



Taste of Chocolate

April 13th, 2025 • 2-4 PM

DoubleTree • Reid Park

TucsonTasteOfChocolate.org

Buy Tickets Here



DONATE

HELP TEACHERS

Benefits **RotaryLOCAL**

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!*

