



Trumpet

UNITE
FOR
GOOD



Weekly Newsletter of the Rotary Club of West Covina

Volume 72, Issue 08

Established in 1953

August 20, 2025

Wednesday, August 20, 2025

Susan Shiells,

Volunteer Engagement Coordinator, Region 01

School on Wheels



Susan Shiells brings over 30 years of experience in volunteer recruitment, engagement, and retention. Her journey in community service began with the Pasadena Jaycees in the late 1990s, where she notably drove the 100th Anniversary Jaycee Float down Colorado Boulevard in the 1994 Rose Parade.

Susan went on to serve more than a decade with the Boy Scouts of America, beginning with Exploring at the Greater Los Angeles Area Council. She later became the Activities and Training Director and Senior District Executive for the Lucky Baldwin and Golden Eagle Districts within the former San Gabriel Valley Council.

Her passion for service led her to Skid Row, where she coordinated volunteers at the Los Angeles Christian Health Centers, and then to CASA of Los Angeles, advocating for youth in the child welfare system. During the pandemic, she turned her attention to animal welfare, supporting South LA communities through her work with Stray Cat Alliance.

Now with **School on Wheels**, Susan has come full circle—back to helping children in need, ensuring students experiencing homelessness receive academic support and encouragement.

Susan has been married for 42 years and enjoys cooking, gardening, writing children's books, and spending time in her yard year-round.

Why volunteer with School on Wheels?
Refer a student for tutoring today!

Become a volunteer online tutor today!



school on wheels



“Service above Self”

The Four Way Test (+1)

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOOD WILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

(+1) **Is it FUN!**

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ROTARY CLUB OF WC MEETING LOCATION

Rotary Club of West Covina

Established in 1953

Meets in person, Wednesdays

12:15 PM

South Hills Country Club

2655 S. Citrus Ave.

West Covina, CA. 91791

Contact: Lorraine Cardenas, Secretary

Email: westcovinarotary@gmail.com

OFFICERS

President David Carmany
Vice President Juan Alarcon
Secretary Lorraine Cardenas
Treasurer Dennis Evans
Immediate Past President Ryan
..... McDonnell

DIRECTORS

Youth Services Meredith Parry
Rotary Foundation .. Valarie Jaramillo
Public Image/Relations Brian Jobst
Fellowship Monica Kelley
Club Administration .. Drexel L. Smith
Membership Jim Mandala
RCWC Foundation .. Dave Alfaro, DDS
..... Toni Villanueva

ROTARY INFORMATION

District 5300

P.O. Box 777908

Henderson, NV 89077

Phone: 702-279-2102

Email: office@district5300.org

Rotary International World

Headquarters

+1 866-976-8279 (toll free)

+1 847-866-3000

Rotary International

One Rotary Center

1560 Sherman Ave.

Evanston, IL 60201-3698, USA

ROTARY CLUB of WEST COVINA NEWS

SCHEDULE OF SPEAKERS

2025

8/27 Melba Minguillan, Asst VP Bank Manager BMO
9/03 Rotary District Governor's visit
9/10 WCUSD Superintendent Emy Flores
9/17 Tyler Wigglesworth - Update - Music Programs
for WCUSD
9/24 Dr. Kelly Fower - Mt Sac VP of Instruction
10/01 Angel Hospice & Palliative Care

UPCOMING EVENTS

9/01 Labor Day
9/23 RRR WCUSD status mtg.
10/25 Red Ribbon Rally

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **8/22-RRR Committee Mtg.**
- **Closure of West Covina Sunrise Club.**
- **West Covina Caused based Club becomes West Covina Sunset Club.**





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MEMBER'S MILESTONES

Birthday's	Rotary Anniv.
08/10 Valarie Jaramillo	08/02 Dennis Evans (2017)
08/12 Frank Morgan	

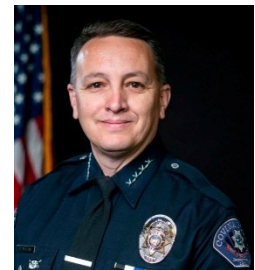
LOO KING
BACK...

LAST MEETING (8/13/25)

WCPD Chief Cortina & CPD Chief Walczak



WCPD Chief Cortina



CPD Chief Walczak

Well, I missed this meeting, however the reports that I received are that it was a big success. The chiefs spoke for over 45 minutes, taking many questions. It is a blessing that our local communities have such fine leaders.

You are both welcome back any time!





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RCMC Foundation

RED RIBBON RALLY (2025)

DEBRIEF/PLANNING

Rotary Red Ribbon Rally Agenda

August 22, 2025 12:45-1:45 PM



2025 *Red Ribbon Event* **SAVE THE DATE**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025

8:30AM - 11:30AM

WEST COVINA HIGH SCHOOL QUAD AREA

**30YRS OF EDUCATING OUR COMMUNITY ABOUT ISSUES OF
DRUG & ALCOHOL ABUSE AND THE CHALLENGES OF MENTAL
HEALTH**

[Link to Flyer \(PDF\)](#)





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Week of August 11, 2025 - Superintendent's Weekly News



Welcome back, WCUSD Families and Staff,

The first day of school is almost here, and our schools are ready to welcome our students with open arms. Classrooms are bright and inviting, playgrounds are waiting to be filled with laughter and play, and hallways are poised to burst with the energy of learning, curiosity, and connection. From our youngest TK and Kindergarten learners stepping into school learning and fun for the very first time to our experienced scholars ready to take on new challenges, we are prepared and excited for an extraordinary year ahead. ([Read More](#))

Warm regards,

Dr. Emy Flores,
Superintendent of Schools
West Covina Unified School District





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Around the Community



the
children's
advocacy
center

Save the Date for Our 11th Annual:

"BE A HERO FOR CHILDREN" GALA

*Please join us for a fun filled evening
raising money to provide child
victims a place to be heard and start
healing.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025

6PM-10 PM

GLENDORA COUNTRY CLUB

Visit our website to sponsor the event
or purchase tickets
Space is limited!

*Enjoy delicious food, dancing,
photobooth, and an amazing auction.*

*We are excited to announce that Suzie
Suh is our Event MC!*

<https://childrensadvocacyctr.org/>



SUZIE SUH

Event MC

**Co-anchor KCAL
News' primetime
shows**

[Link to PDF flyer for printing](#)





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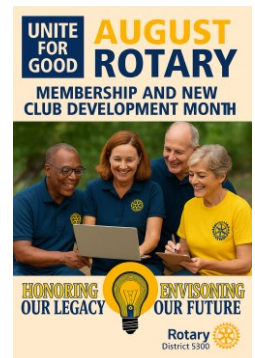
Gilda Moshir

District 5300 Governor

RY 2025-26



D5300 News



August 2025

EDITOR'S NOTE: As promised, this is the second edition of the Highlighter for August. It includes District programs and initiatives, club invitations, and reports of other club programs, activities and discoveries of interest. Linked at the left are calendar entries of note. Please consider entering your club's upcoming events in the DACdb calendar to be included in this list.

INSIDE THIS EDITION

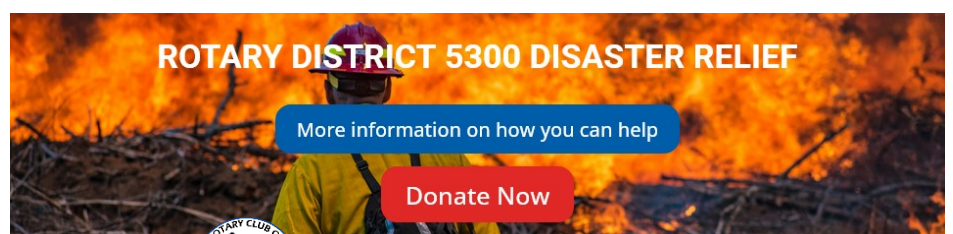
- **DISTRICT NOTICES**
 - Help Us Amplify Your Club Service Projects
 - Become a Paul Harris Fellow or PHF+ This Year
 - Peace is Fragile, But We Can Build It
 - The D5300 Rotaplast Project Needs You
 - Excitement Builds for the 2026 Rotary Rose Parade Float
- **INVITATIONS**
 - Boulder City Sunrise 30th Annual Wurst Festival
 - Mesquite Rotary Hosts 11th Annual MUDD Volleyball Fundraiser
- **CLUB HIGHLIGHTS**

DG GILDA MOSHIR

Governor Gilda Moshir

Dear Rotary Family,

This edition of the Highlighter will be unique as every article herein is related to membership. I'd like to thank our new District Membership Chair, **Zoot Velasco**, **Club Builder/New Channels and Inclusive Leadership Chair Gino Reyes**, **Rotaract and Rotary Community Corps Chair Edward Abad**, and **Attraction Chair Betty Bui** who have crafted articles to help your clubs **Envision Your Future**. Many of our clubs have asked the District - How do we grow? How can we engage? How can we retain? Thus far, I've visited nine clubs and I've shared with them the idea of "giving birth to clubs" – perhaps a Rotaract club (either College or Community Based), or to consider adding a Companion club. These are some of the ideas we want to share with you to grow your clubs not just by numbers, but in strength, diversity, and connection. ([more](#))





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NEW ROTAPLAST OPPORTUNITIES – NAGAMANGALA INDIA - KAMPALA, UGANDA




Drexel L. Smith,
Rotary District 5300
Cleft Lip/Palate Project
Committee Chair

The D5300 Cleft Lip Project Needs you...Schedule a speaker for your club meeting, make a donation or volunteer for a Mission....upcoming missions are:

- **Nagamangala, India - 2 Weeks - November 29th to December 14th, 2025 - Volunteer Positions Available**
- **Kampala, Uganda - 2 Weeks - June 06, 2026 - June 21, 2026 Several Non-Medical Volunteer Positions Available**

Contact any member of the Project Committee or the Chair: Drexel L. Smith @ dls@drexeleg.com

DISTRICT 5300'S - CLEFT LIP MISSION with ROTAPLAST - RY 2025/2026



Saving Smiles! Changing Lives

CHANGE - Nagamangala, India - 2 Weeks - November 29th to December 14th, 2025 - Volunteer Positions Available


Kampala, Uganda - 2 Weeks - June 06, 2026 - June 21, 2026 Several Non-Medical Volunteer Positions Available

CONTRIBUTIONS	VOLUNTEERS
<p>Help us fund this mission with club and individual contributions. Any amount is appreciated. Your donation will change children's lives.</p> <p>Donations should be made out to: Rotary District 5300</p> <p>Indicate: Cleft Lip Project, on the memo line.</p> <p>Send donations to: Rotary International District 5300 10624 S. Eastern Ave. Ste. A-16 Henderson, NV 89052</p> <p><small>PLEASE: JOHN CLEFT LIP PROJECT AND THE ROTARY</small></p>	<p>We have non-medical volunteer positions available for these missions (1st Priority to D5300). The cost Round-trip airfare with the group from San Francisco (SFO), Visa, insurance, and a background check.</p> <p>Applicants need to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Complete the Mission Interest Form2. Submit a short personal statement addressing: Why you might be interested in joining a Rotaplast team and what skills you would bring to the team.3. Review the Rotaplast website: www.rotaplast.org about various positions.4. Email the interest form and personal statement to: dls@drexeleg.com <p><small>August 04, 2025</small></p>

Questions or to schedule a club program contact:
Drexel L. Smith
District 5300 Cleft Lip Committee
551.202.2012
dls@drexeleg.com

[Flyer link to PDF](#)

CLEFT LIP MISSION - NON-MEDICAL VOLUNTEER INTEREST FORM



Volunteer for District 5300's CLEFT LIP 'Rotaplast' Mission

1) Nagamangala, India - 2 Weeks - December 6 – 21, 2025

2) Kampala, Uganda - 2 Weeks - June 7th, 2026 - June 21st, 2026

Rotarians/Rotectors from District 5300 are needed to fill the non-medical volunteer positions. Individuals interested in volunteering as non-medical volunteers should review the Rotaplast website: www.rotaplast.org about various positions, complete this form, and return it along with a personal statement by August 04, 2025, to Drexel L. Smith. The Committee will consider applications on a first-in basis. **(Please at this point do not complete the non-medical volunteer form on the Rotaplast website.)**

Name of Interested Volunteer:	Name of Rotary/Rotact Club:
Volunteer Address:	
Email:	Phone:

Non-medical volunteers must accompany this interest form with a short personal statement (no longer than 250 words) which addresses: Why they might be interested in joining a Mission team and what skills they would bring to the team. First priority is active District 5300 Rotarians/Rotectors. Selection will be based on team compatibility and skills needed for the mission. Those who have never been on a Cleft Lip Repair (Rotaplast) mission are encouraged to apply. Travel costs to and from San Francisco (SFO) to the Mission will be arranged through Rotaplast are the responsibility of the non-medical volunteer as well as insurance, Visa applications and a background check. Extended personal travel at the conclusion of the mission is possible on your own.

Non-medical volunteers should contact the D5300 Project Committee for questions.

Drexel L. Smith, Chair - dls@drexeleg.com 951.202.2012
John Chase - jchase5300@gmail.com 702.497.3328
Sandy Christensen - sjacks3@gmail.com 908.630.6121
Marilyn Diaz - mdiazwalker@cox.net 626.383.1328
Bonita Ramos - bramos@abilityfirst.org 909.561.5150
Robin Smith - redtiff2@yahoo.com 702.460.5080

[Volunteer Form Link](#)





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District 5300/Area 5 Club Info

- **Covina** –South Hills CC [Google map link](#)
 - 1st/3rd Thurs. 12:00 PM
 - Dirian, Donald, Pres.
 - www.covinarotary.org
- **Covina Sunrise** -District Field Event Center [Google map link](#)
 - Tues. at 7:15 AM
 - Espinoza, John, Pres
 - covinasunriserotary.com
- **Industry Hills** - Homestead Museum Gallery [Google map link](#)
 - Tuesdays 12:10 PM
 - Seal, Tim , Pres.
 - www.industryhillsrotary.org/
- **West Covina Sunset**-West Covina Christian Church [Google map link](#)
 - Sunday: 12PM-1PM
- Gabby Soliz, Pres.

Area 4 Club

- **Glendora** - Peppertree Café [Google map link](#)
 - Tuesday at 8-9AM
 - Clark, Kathleen A, Pres.
 - [Link to Newsletter](#)

Area 6 Club

- **Walnut Valley** - Holiday Inn Diamond Bar/Pomona [Google map link](#)
 - Tuesday at 8AM
 - Malonzo, Jovy , Pres.





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RI PRESIDENT

RY2025-26



Francesco Arezzo,
Rotary Club of Ragusa,
ITALY

District 5300 Gov



Gilda Moshir
gildarotary5300@gmail.com

District 5300 Gov. Elect.



Dennis Franklin
Area Governor Area 6



Roy Berry
rabarry@barryandbarrylaw.com

RCWC President



David Carmany
carmanydavid@gmail.com

Rotary International News



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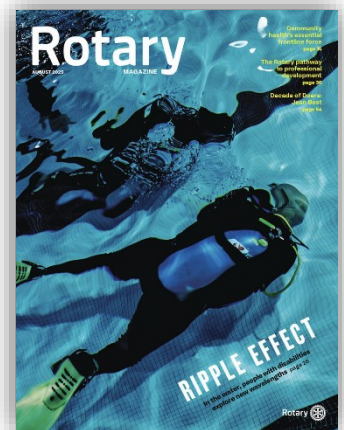
RI Calendar

August 2025

KEY ARTICLE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month and every month



August is Membership Month, but our commitment to growth and connection is year-round. When we focus on growing Rotary, we grow our ability to serve, to lead, and to bring lasting change.

Membership growth isn't just about numbers. It's about opening doors. It's about inviting more people who are ready to give their time, talents, and hearts to a cause greater than themselves. When we welcome new members, we bring in fresh ideas and new energy. We expand our impact, strengthen our clubs, and ensure that Rotary continues to evolve with the world around us.

[\(more\)](#)





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A gift today to our Foundation will help Rotary members do good in your community and around the world. Rotary members respond every day to challenges in communities around the world — work that is often supported by Rotary Foundation grants. These grants are possible because of contributions from members like you and Foundation supporters around the globe. But requests for funding are increasing, and we need your help to support more projects that make an impact.

When you donate to our Foundation's Annual Fund, you become part of a collective effort to support sustainable, life-changing Rotary projects. The Annual Fund includes SHARE, the World Fund, and funds for our areas of focus.

Our members and donors allow Rotary to accomplish amazing things. In the current Rotary year, we've already helped fund more than 478 district grants, 1,053 global grants, and 101 disaster response grants. As part of each one, Rotary members work with communities to address ongoing problems and find solutions to emerging issues.

Please support our Annual Fund today by making a gift online or sending a contribution by mail. Your donation will be transformed into projects by Rotary clubs around the world, including West Covina. Together, we can support members who are Doing Good in the World.

Sincerely,
The Rotary Foundation

[DONATE](#)





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Club Calendar

2025-26



JULY NEW ROTARY YEAR PROGRAMS LEAD: DREXEL SMITH		AUGUST MEMBERSHIP/NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS LEAD: DREXEL SMITH		SEPTEMBER BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY PROGRAMS LEAD: DREXEL SMITH	
1		1		1	
2	DARK for July 4th	2	Dennis Evans RA. (2017)	2	Labor Day
3		3		3	Mtg-Rotary District Governor's visit
4	Independence Day	4		4	
5		5		5	
6	Toni Villanueva RA (2005)	6	Mtg-West Covina City Manager - Intro new Manager & Update	6	
7		7		7	
8		8		8	Doran Barnes RA (2003)
9	Mtg Club Assembly Doran Barnes BD	9	Thomas/Brittany-WA	9	
10		10	Valarie Jaramillo-BD	10	Mtg - WCUSD Superintendent Emy Flores
11		11		11	
12		12	Frank Morgan-BD	12	
13		13	Mtg: West Covina & Covina PD - Chiefs - difference in policing	13	
14		14		14	
15		15	Interact Club Excellence Award nominations are due	15	
16	Mtg Mark Mariscal - Challenges of Altadena Fire/Rebuild Valarie & Daren Jaramillo WA	16		16	
17		17		17	Mtg-Tyler Wigglesworth - Update - Music Programs for WCUSD Forest/Miriam WA
18		18		18	
19	David & Stefanie Alfaro WA	19		19	
20		20	Mtg: School on Wheels - SGV - Susan Shiells	20	
21		21		21	
22		22		22	
23	Mtg Marilyn Diaz- New D5300 Human Trafficking Project	23		23	RRR WCUSD Status Mtg. 12:30PM @ WCHS
24		24		24	Mtg: Dr. Kelly Fower - Mt Sac VP of Instruction
25		25		25	
26		26		26	
27		27	Mtg: Melba Minguillan, Asst VP Bank Manager BMO	27	
28		28		28	
29		29		29	Yulanda Davis-Quarrie RA (1999)
30	Mtg D5300 International Chair - present update RI/District Invoice	30		30	
		31			

RCWC Mtg

RCWC Dinner

RCWC Event

Member Milestone

Holiday

D5300 Event

RI Event





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OCTOBER ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY Programs Lead: TBD			NOVEMBER FOUNDATION Programs Lead: TBD			DECEMBER DISEASE PREVENTION Programs Lead: TBD		
1	Mtg: Angel Hospice & Palliative Care		1	Phyllis McDonald RA (1988)		1	Arvind Lapsiwala RA. (1984)	
2	Vicky Abbott RA (2000)		2			2	Alicia Mardini RA (1992)	
3			3	Daylight Savings Time		3	Mtg- 2026/2027 RCWC Officers vote	
4			4			4		
5			5	Mtg-		5		
6			6			6	Thomas Allison's BD	RYLA
7			7			7	Doran & Cynthia Barnes WA	
8	Mtg-		8			8		
9			9			9		
10			10			10	Mtg- Tony Song's BD	
11			11	Veterans Day		11		
12			12	Mtg- Jose Gutierrez's BD		12		
13	Monica Kelley BD		13			13		
14			14			14		
15	Mtg-		15	Tony & Kelley Song WA		15		
16			16			16		
17	Frank/Betty WA		17			17	Mtg-DARK - HOLIDAY DINNER Jim Mandala's BD	
18			18			18		
19			19	Mtg-		19		
20			20			20		
21			21			21		
22	Mtg- RRR pre plan		22			22		
23			23			23		
24	World Polio Day		24			24	Mtg- DARK Dennis & Valerie Evans WA	
25	RRR		25			25	Christmas Day	
26			26	Mtg- Thanksgiving Baskets		26		
27			27	Thanksgiving Day Vicky Abbott BD		27		
28			28			28		
29	Mtg- Halloween???		29	Phyllis McDonald RA. 1988 Meredith Parry BD		29		
30			30			30		
31	Halloween RYLA Intent to Participate					31	Mtg- DARK New Year's Eve Toni & Ed Villanueva's WAe 4-WAY Intent to Participate	

RCWC Mtg

RCWC Dinner

RCWC Event

Member Milestone

Holiday

D5300 Event

RI Event

Public Google calendar [Link](#)

The Trumpet is published weekly and emailed to club members, fellow Rotarians, and friends. If you wish to add or remove your name to/from our mailing list just email us at westcovinarotary@gmail.com. All rights reserved.

