

**CREATE  
LASTING  
IMPACT**



Southwest  
PELS



## **PRESIDENTS ELECT LEARNING SEMINAR**

February 19-22, 2026

LAX Marriott Hotel

5855 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90045

*The largest and oldest multi-district Rotary PELS in the World!*



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# INDEX

## CREATE LASTING IMPACT

### Mission Statement

*Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.*

### OBJECT OF ROTARY

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

**FIRST:** The development of acquaintances as an opportunity for service.

**SECOND:** High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

**THIRD:** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life;

**FOURTH:** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

### THE FOUR-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the **truth**?
2. Is it **fair** to all concerned?
3. Will build **goodwill** and better friendships?
4. Will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?

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Southwest  
PELS



# Welcome to 2026 Southwest PELS!



Rotary International  
Zones 26 & 27

### Arizona

District 5495  
District 5500

### California

District 5240  
District 5280  
District 5320  
District 5330  
District 5340

### California/Nevada

District 5300

### Hawaii

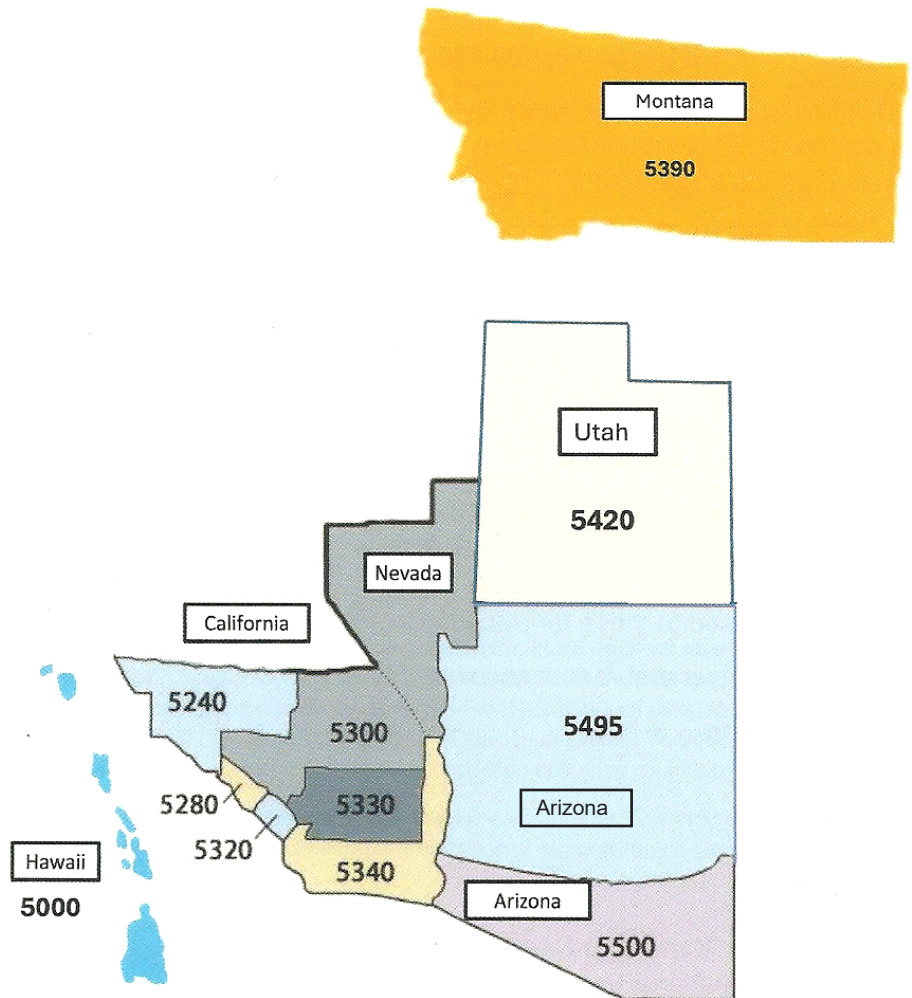
District 5000

### Montana

District 5390

### Utah

District 5420



## Did You Know?

Southwest Presidents-Elect Learning Seminars was the very FIRST multi-district presidents-elect training program established in Rotary International and today, is the largest multi-district training program in the world!

<https://southwestpels.org>

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## Notice to All Attendees

Southwest PELS is an official Rotary training event designed to provide educational and interactive opportunities for all Rotarians and club Presidents-Elect. Attendees are prohibited from using any personal or proprietary information pertaining to any individual Rotarian in attendance for any purpose other than in relation to normal Rotary business and interaction. We ask that all attendees respect the privacy and personal information of their fellow Rotarians attending this weekend's activities.



**ROTARY'S VISION STATEMENT**

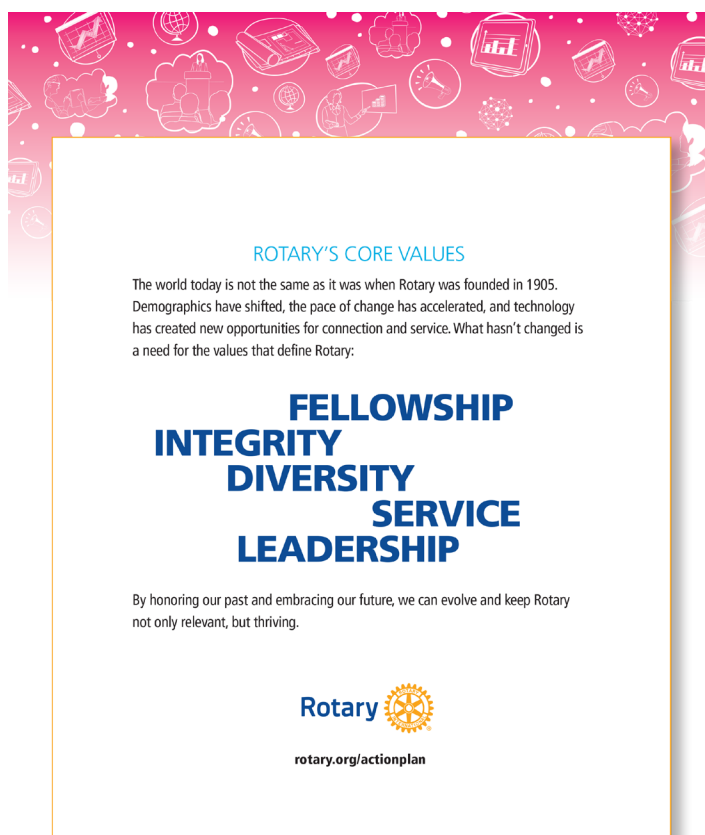
**TOGETHER** WE SEE A WORLD  
WHERE **PEOPLE** UNITE AND TAKE ACTION  
TO **CREATE** LASTING  
**CHANGE** ACROSS THE GLOBE  
**IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND IN OURSELVES**

As we stand on the cusp of eliminating polio, we find ourselves poised for our next challenge. The time is right to move toward realizing a new vision that brings more people together, increases our impact, and creates lasting change around the world.

To achieve the vision of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation, we have set four priorities that will direct our work over the next five years.

**ROTARY'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES**

<p><b>INCREASE OUR IMPACT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eradicate polio and leverage the legacy</li> <li>• Focus our programs and offerings</li> <li>• Improve our ability to achieve and measure impact</li> </ul>	<p><b>EXPAND OUR REACH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grow and diversify our membership and participation</li> <li>• Create new channels into Rotary</li> <li>• Increase Rotary's openness and appeal</li> <li>• Build awareness of our impact and brand</li> </ul>	<p><b>ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support clubs to better engage their members</li> <li>• Develop a participant-centered approach to deliver value</li> <li>• Offer new opportunities for personal and professional connection</li> <li>• Provide leadership development and skills training</li> </ul>	<p><b>INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO ADAPT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build a culture of research, innovation, and willingness to take risks</li> <li>• Streamline governance, structure, and processes</li> <li>• Review governance to foster more diverse perspectives in decision-making</li> </ul>
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**ROTARY'S CORE VALUES**

The world today is not the same as it was when Rotary was founded in 1905. Demographics have shifted, the pace of change has accelerated, and technology has created new opportunities for connection and service. What hasn't changed is a need for the values that define Rotary:

**FELLOWSHIP**  
**INTEGRITY**  
**DIVERSITY**  
**SERVICE**  
**LEADERSHIP**

By honoring our past and embracing our future, we can evolve and keep Rotary not only relevant, but thriving.

Rotary   
rotary.org/actionplan

## Southwest PELS welcomes RI President-Elect!

# Olayinka Hakeem Babalola

## Rotary International President-Elect



**President-Elect 2025-26**

Rotary Club  
of Trans Amadi  
Rivers State, Nigeria



**District Governor 2011-12**



**RI Board Director 2018-20**



**RI Board VP 2019-20**

Olayinka Hakeem Babalola will serve as Rotary International President in 2026-27.

Olayinka received a university degree in engineering in 1988. He worked for 25 years in the oil and gas industry, holding senior positions at Shell PLC.

He is the founder of two companies: Riviera Technical Services Ltd., an oil and gas infrastructure delivery company, and Lead and Change Consulting, an executive coaching and organizational performance advisory group.

Mr. Babalola's professional affiliations include the Nigerian Society of Engineers, the Institute of Safety Professionals of Nigeria, and the Association of Change Management Professionals. He is a member of Jericho Businessmen Club, an organization in his birth city of Ibadan that provides input to governments on economic and social policy.

A Rotaractor for 10 years, Mr. Babalola has been a member of the Rotary club of Trans Amadi since 1994 and served as District Governor in 2011-12.

He served on the RI Board of Directors (2018-20) and was vice president in 2019-20.

He has served on committees including the End Polio Now Countdown to History Campaign Committee (2017-23, vice chair 2017-20) and the Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee (2013-present, adviser 2016-present).

Mr. Babalola and his wife, Preba, live in the city of Port Harcourt. He supports The Rotary Foundation with a named endowment and as an Arch Klumph Society member. He volunteers as a trustee for ShelterBox UK.

He has received the Africa Centennial Heroes Award, the Regional Service Award for a Polio-Free World, the RI Service Above Self Award, and The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service.

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## Chairman's Welcome

**C**ongratulations to YOU, our next Rotary Leaders chosen by your clubs to serve as President in Rotary Year 2026-27. You are about to embark on one of the most challenging and rewarding chapters of your Rotary career. One of the greatest roles you will ever experience in Rotary is ahead of you as your Club's President.

President Elect Learning Seminars – better known as PELS – is a Rotary created program designed to provide incoming Club Presidents with the knowledge and skills needed to lead their clubs and enhance our organization's ability to impact our communities and the world. Southwest PELS was the first multi-district PELS program launched in the United States nearly 50 years ago. Today it is the largest with 11 Districts represented with over 600 Rotary Clubs.

Everything powerful about Rotary begins and ends with our Rotary Clubs. You, as Club President, are crucial to not only Rotary's current success, but critical to its future. Your responsibility as a Rotary Leader is to build a positive club culture, grow our organization and provide opportunities for your club members to impact the lives of others.

PELS is an educational experience and more! In addition to the great learning, you will have the opportunity to meet Rotary International Leadership, hear from outstanding speakers selected to inspire this weekend, spend time with your own District Leadership planning the next Rotary Year, as well as networking with your peers from throughout the Big West.

Your training doesn't stop on Sunday. Our enhanced Southwest PELS website includes pre-PELS curriculum, recommended classes from the RI Learning Center on many great topics to help you, as well as a Tool Kit of resources available year-round.

The mission of Southwest PELS is simple – to provide YOU a learning experience with the training, resources, and support so that you will be a GREAT ROTARY LEADER in 2026-27. We look forward to meeting and sharing with you this weekend. Thank you for accepting this leadership role in the organization we all love.



**Don Casper**

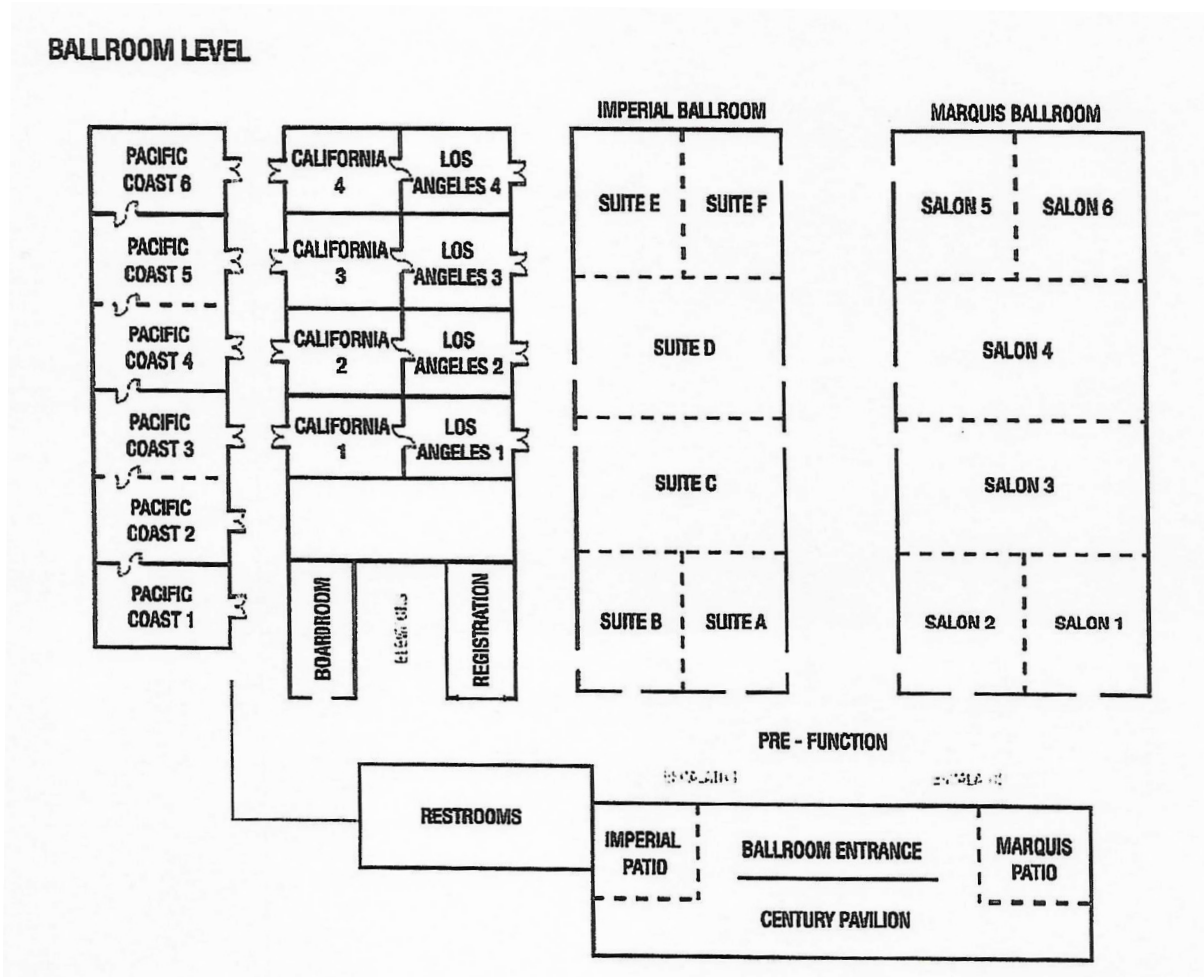
SW PELS Chair 2026  
D5330 Governor 2022-23  
Rotary Club of Indio, CA

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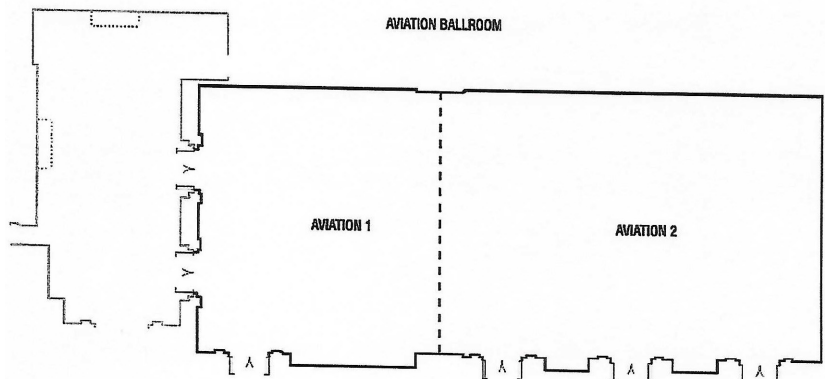
## Los Angeles Airport Marriott Meeting Rooms



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 Sales: +1 310-337-5331  
 Sales fax: +1 310-337-8084



## District Training Room Assignments

District	DGE	Room Name & Location
5000	Benson Medina	Imperial Suite A/B
5240	Margarida Eidson	Aviation 2
5280	Brady Connell	Imperial Suite D
5300	Dennis Franklin	Imperial Suite E/F
5320	Monica Peters	Aviation 1
5330	Richard Lemire	Pacific Coast 4/5
5340	Jeb Bakke	Imperial Suite C
5390	Kathy Schulte	Pacific Coast 6
5420	Peter Cardon	Pacific Coast 1
5495	Joe Sweeney	Pacific Coast 2
5500	Emma Carrillo	Pacific Coast 3

## District Hospitality Suites

District	DGE	Room Name & Location
<b>SW PELS Chair</b>	<b>Don Casper</b>	<b>Presidential Suite</b>
5000	Benson Medina	Suite 104
5240	Margarida Eidson	Suite 1746
5280	Brady Connell	16th Floor Lounge
5300	Dennis Franklin	Suite 110
5320	Monica Peters	Aviation Room
5330	Richard Lemire	Presidential
5340	Jeb Bakke	Aviation Room
5390	Kathy Schulte	Suite 1726
5420	Peter Cardon	Suite 1738
5495	Joe Sweeney	Aviation Room
5500	Emma Carrillo	Aviation Room

## Other Important Room Information

<b>Registration/Information Booth</b> .....	Marquis Ballroom Lobby -- Ballroom Level
<b>PE Bag Pickup</b> .....	Imperial E/F -- Thursday noon-5 p.m.
<b>Sergeant at Arms Office</b> .....	Satellite Room behind Registration Office
<b>Lost and Found</b> .....	Registration Booth
<b>Photographer</b> .....	Los Angeles Room 1 -- Ballroom Level
<b>Vendors/Exhibitors</b> .....	Marquis Ballroom Lobby -- Ballroom Level

# Program Schedule

When	What	Where/Who
<b>Thursday   February 19</b>		
8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.	Setup and Walk-Through	Marquis Ballroom
9 a.m.-5 p.m.	Presidents-Elect Bag Pickup	Imperial D/E
Noon-5 p.m.	Registration Open	Registration Booth/Ballroom Level
2-3 p.m.	PELS Committee Kick-Off Meeting	16th Floor Lounge
3:30-5:30 p.m.	Rehearsal/DGEs/Chairs	Marquis Ballroom
6-7 p.m.	Cocktail Reception	Marquis Ballroom Hallway
7-9 p.m.	Welcome Dinner	Imperial A/B/C
<b>Friday   February 20</b>		
7 a.m.	SAA Meeting	Registration Annex
7-11:45 a.m.	Registration Open	Registration Booth/Ballroom Level
7:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.	Hall of Friendship Open	Marquis Ballroom Foyer
8 a.m.-5 p.m.	Photographer Open	Los Angeles 1
8:30-9:30 a.m.	<u>DISTRICT TRAINING SESSIONS</u>	
	D5000 Benson Medina	Imperial A/B
	D5240 Margarida Eidson	Aviation 2
	D5280 Brady Connell	Imperial D
	D5300 Dennis Franklin	Imperial E/F
	D5320 Monica Peters	Aviation 1
	D5330 Richard Lemire	Pacific Coast 4/5
	D5340 Jeb Bakke	Imperial C
	D5390 Kathy Schulte	Pacific Coast 6
	D5420 Peter Cardon	Pacific Coast 1
	D5495 Joe Sweeney	Pacific Coast 2
	D5500 Emma Carrillo	Pacific Coast 3
9:30-9:45 a.m.	BREAK/TRANSITION	
9:45-10:30 a.m.	DGN Meeting	Imperial A/B   Randy Hart
9:45-10:30 a.m.	<u>ELECTIVE SESSION #1</u>	
	Fun-Fundraising Event & Planning	Pacific Coast 4/5   Benson Medina
	Meaningful Membership	Imperial D/C   John Chase, Angela Lopez
	Strategic Planning	California 3   Bill Chase
	Public Image	Imperial E/F   Judy Zulfqar, Ted Faigle
	Club Activator: Engage and Retain	Imperial A/B   Chris Jones
	Taking Your Club to the Next Level	Pacific Coast 2/3   Wade Nomura
	Club Runner: Learning	Los Angeles 4
	DACdb: Learning	California 4

# Program Schedule

When	What	Where/Who
<b>Friday   February 20 (continued)</b>		
10-10:30 a.m.	DGE Rose Parade Meeting	Presidential Suite
10 a.m.-11:45 a.m.	Partners Meet & Greet	California 1
10:30-10:45 a.m.	BREAK/TRANSITION	
10:45-11:30 a.m.	<u>ELECTIVE SESSION 2</u> (Same as Elective Session 1)	
11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Registration Closed	
11:40 a.m.-noon	VIP Doors Open	Marquis Ballroom
<b>NOON-1:30 P.M.</b>	<b>GENERAL SESSION 1 LUNCH</b>	<b>MARQUIS BALLROOM</b>
<i>Host: District 5500   DGE Benson Medina</i>		
11:45 a.m.-noon	Doors Open for all Rotarians	Marquis Ballroom
11:58 a.m.	Rotary Action Plan/Engagement video	
noon	Presidents-Elect Entry	
	Ring the Bell	DGE Benson Medina
	Emcee Scott Carr	
	National Anthem	
	Inspirational Message	DGE Benson Medina
	Welcome to 2026 PELS VIPs	Emcee Scott Carr
	LUNCH	
	2026 Rotary International Convention Video	
	Welcome to 2026 PELS	Chair Don Casper
	Keynote Speaker	RIPE Olayinka Hakeem Babalo
1:30 p.m.	Session Ends	
1:30-1:45 p.m.	BREAK/TRANSITION	
1:30-5 p.m.	Registration Open	Registration Booth
1:45-2:40 p.m.	<u>CORE SESSION 1: GETTING READY TO START YOUR YEAR</u>	
	Marta Golding Brown	Pacific Coast 1
	Dianne Crawford (lead)	Pacific Coast 2
	Sandy Matsui	Pacific Coast 3
	Michelle Holcomb	Pacific Coast 4
	Susan Archibald	Pacific Coast 5
	Heidi Larkin-Reed	Pacific Coast 6
	Alex Parajon	California 2
	Bill Chase	California 3
	Albert Hernandez	California 4
	Jim Schmidt	Los Angeles 2
	Raghada Khoury	Los Angeles 3
	Naomi Masuno	Los Angeles 4

# Program Schedule

When	What	Where/Who
<b>Friday   February 20 (continued)</b>		
1:45-2:40 p.m.	Encore Presidents Track Glenn Fong, Sandi Schwartz, Sydney King	Imperial A/B
2:30-4 p.m. 2:40-2:55	Partners Program BREAK/TRANSITION	California 1
2:55-3:50 p.m.	<u>CORE SESSION 2: YOUR CLUB ACTION PLAN</u> Angela Lopez (lead) Sandy Matsui Judy Zulfiqar Suzanne Leonelli John Chase (lead) Marta Golding Brown Alex Parajon Don Jorgensen Albert Hernandez Tonya Watson Raghada Khoury Naomi Masuno	Pacific Coast 2 Pacific Coast 3 Pacific Coast 4 Pacific Coast 5 Pacific Coast 6 Pacific Coast 1 California 2 California 3 California 4 Los Angeles 2 Los Angeles 3 Los Angeles 4
2:55-3:50 p.m.	Encore Presidents Track Glenn Fong, Sandi Schwartz	Imperial A/B
3:50-4:05	BREAK/TRANSITION	
4:05-5 p.m.	<u>CORE SESSION 3: CLUB CULTURE/CLUB EXPERIENCE</u> Susan Archibald (lead) Angela Lopez Kevin Pitts Don Jorgensen Suzanne Leonelli John Chase Nancy Cabral Judy Zulfiqar Michelle Holcomb Tonya Watson Gilda Moshir Jim Schmidt	Pacific Coast 1 Pacific Coast 2 Pacific Coast 3 Pacific Coast 4 Pacific Coast 5 Pacific Coast 6 California 2 California 3 California 4 Los Angeles 2 Los Angeles 3 Los Angeles 4
4:04-5 p.m.	Encore Presidents Track Glenn Fong, Sandi Schwartz	Imperial A/B

# Program Schedule

When	What	Where/Who
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## Friday | February 20 (continued)

5-6:30p.m.	Registration Closed	
5:05-5:45 p.m.	DGE, DGN Meeting with Wyn Spiller	California 1
5:40-6:30 p.m.	No-Host Reception	Marquis Ballroom/Imperial Foyer
6:10-6:30 p.m.	VIP Doors Open   General Session 2	Marquis Ballroom
6:15-6:30 p.m.	Doors open for all Rotarians	Marquis Ballroom

### **6:30-8 P.M. GENERAL SESSION 2 | DINNER MARQUIS BALLROOM**

*Host: District 5320 | DGE Monica Peters  
Host: District 5340 | DGE Jeb Bakke*

6:30 p.m.	Video: Growing Local Economies Presidents-Elect Entry Welcome Inspirational Message VIP Introductions/Announcements DINNER Video: Protecting the Environment Inspirational Message Keynote Speaker	Emcee Scott Carr D5340 DGE Jeb Bakke Emcee Scott Carr  D5320 DGE Monica Peters Erin Gruwell
8 p.m.	Session Ends	

### 8-10 p.m. HOSPITALITY SUITES (PRIVATE - DISTRICT MEMBERS ONLY)

D5000 Benson Medina	Suite 104
D5240 Margarida Eidson	Suite 1746
D5280 Brady Connell	16th Floor Lounge
D5300 Dennis Franklin	Suite 110
D5320 Monica Peters	Aviation Ballroom
D5330 Richard Lemire	Presidential Suite 1702
D5340 Jeb Bakke	Imperial C
D5390 Kathy Schulte	Suite 1726
D5420 Peter Cardon	Suite 1738
D5495 Joe Sweeney	Aviation Ballroom
D5500 Emma Carrillo	Aviation Ballroom
Chair Don Casper	Presidential Suite 1702

# Program Schedule

When	What	Where/Who
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## Saturday | February 21

7 a.m.	SAA Meeting	Registration Annex
6:30-7 a.m.	Registration Open	Registration Booth/Ballroom Level
6:40-6:45 a.m.	VIP Doors Open	Marquis Ballroom
6:45-6:58 a.m.	Doors open for all Rotarians	Marquis Ballroom
7-8:30 a.m.	Registration Closed	Registration Booth/Ballroom Level

### **6:58-8:30 A.M. GENERAL SESSION 3 | BREAKFAST MARQUIS BALLROOM**

*Host: District 5390 | DGE Kathy Schulte*

*Host: District 5420 | DGE Peter Cardon*

6:58 a.m.	Video: Supporting Education Presidents-Elect Entry Introduction Inspirational Message VIP Introductions/Announcements BREAKFAST Video: Promoting Peace Inspirational Message Panel Discussion	Emcee Scott Carr D5420 DGE Peter Cardon Emcee Scott Carr  D5390 DGE Kathy Schulte Elizabeth Mahoney, Moderator
8:28 a.m..	Session Ends	

7:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.	Hall of Friendship Open	Marquis Ballroom Foyer
7:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.	Photographer Open	Los Angeles 1
8:30-11:30 a.m.	Registration Opens	Registration Booth/Ballroom Level

8:28-8:45 a.m. BREAK

### **8:45-9:35 a.m. CORE SESSION 4: TEAM BUILDING**

Leads: Judy Zulfqar, Ted Faigle	
Don Jorgensen	Pacific Coast 1
Bill Chase	Pacific Coast 2
Angela Lopez	Pacific Coast 3
Ted Faigle	Pacific Coast 4
Gilda Moshir	Pacific Coast 5
Dianne Crawford	Pacific Coast 6
Marta Golding Brown	California 2
Suzanne Leonelli	California 3
Nancy Cabral	California 4
Raghada Khoury	Los Angeles 2
Judy Zulfqar	Los Angeles 3
Sandy Matsui	Los Angeles 4

# Program Schedule

When	What	Where/Who
<b>Saturday   February 21 (continued)</b>		
8:45-9:35 a.m.	Encore President's Track Glenn Fong, Lead   Sandi Schwartz	Imperial A/B
8:55-11:55 a.m.	Assistant Governor Training Track Albert Hernandez   Olivia Patterson	Aviation 1
9:35-9:50 a.m.	BREAK/TRANSITION	
9:50-10:40 a.m.	<u>CORE SESSION 5: COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS</u> Lead: CISCA STELLHORN	
	Cisca Stellhorn	Pacific Coast 1
	Bill Chase	Pacific Coast 2
	Kevin Pitts	Pacific Coast 3
	John Chase	Pacific Coast 4
	Sandi Matsui	Pacific Coast 5
	Susan Archibald	Pacific Coast 6
	Don Jorgensen	California 2
	Gilda Moshir	California 3
	Nancy Cabral	California 4
	Jim Schmidt	Los Angeles 2
	Elizabeth Mahoney	Los Angeles 3
	Michael Drake	Los Angeles 4
9:50-10:40 a.m.	Encore President's Track Glenn Fong, Lead   Sandi Schwartz	Imperial A & B
10:40-10:55 a.m.	BREAK/TRANSITION	
10:55-11:45 a.m.	<u>CORE SESSION 6: TRF: LEVERAGING OUR ROTARY</u> Lead: CISCA STELLHORN	
	Cisca Stellhorn	Pacific Coast 1
	Shirley Grace	Pacific Coast 2
	Kevin Pitts	Pacific Coast 3
	Marge Cole	Pacific Coast 4
	Geoff Cochran	Pacific Coast 5
	Michelle Holcomb	Pacific Coast 6
	Ted Faigle	California 2
	Alex Parajon	California 3
	Dianne Crawford	California 4
	Tonya Watson	Los Angeles 2
	Elizabeth Mahoney	Los Angeles 3
	Naomi Masuno	Los Angeles 4

# Program Schedule

When	What	Where/Who
<b>Saturday   February 21 (continued)</b>		
10:55-11:45 a.m.	Encore President's Track Glenn Fong, Lead   Sandi Schwartz	Imperial A/B
11:40-11:45 a.m.	VIP Doors Open	Marquis Ballroom
11:45-11:58 a.m.	Doors open for all Rotarians	Marquis Ballroom
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	Registration Closed	Registration Booth
<b>11:58 A.M.-1:30 P.M.</b>	<b>GENERAL SESSION 4   LUNCH</b>	<b>MARQUIS BALLROOM</b>
	<i>Host: District 5495   DGE Joe Sweeney</i>	
	<i>Host: District 5500   DGE Emma Carrillo</i>	
11:58 a.m.	Video: Expand Our Reach Presidents-Elect Entry Introduction Inspirational Message VIP Introductions/Announcements LUNCH Video: Clean Water & Sanitation Inspirational Message PELS Committee Thank You Keynote Speaker	Emcee Scott Carr D5495 DGE Joe Sweeney Emcee Scott Carr
1:30 p.m.	Session Ends	D5500 DGE Emma Carrillo Chair Don Casper TRF Trustee Vicki Puliz
1:30-5 p.m.	Registration Opens	Registration Booth
2-5 p.m.	<b>District Training Sessions</b> D5000 Benson Medina D5240 Margarida Eidson D5280 Brady Connell D5300 Dennis Franklin D5320 Monica Peters D5330 Richard Lemire D5340 Jeb Bakke D5390 Kathy Schulte D5420 Peter Cardon D5495 Joe Sweeney D5500 Emma Carrillo	Imperial A/B Aviation 2 Imperial D Imperial E/F Aviation 1 Pacific Coast 4/5 Imperial C Pacific Coast 6 Pacific Coast 1 Pacific Coast 2 Pacific Coast 3

# Program Schedule

When	What	Where/Who
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## Saturday | February 21 (continued)

5 p.m.-7:30 a.m.	Registration Closed	Registration Booth
5:30-6 p.m.	No Host Social	Marquis & Imperial Ballroom
5:40- 5:58 p.m.	VIP Doors Open	Marquis Ballroom
5:45-5:58 p.m.	Doors Open to all Rotarians	Marquis Ballroom

### **6-7:30 P.M. GENERAL SESSION 5 | DINNER MARQUIS BALLROOM**

*Host: District 5300 | Dennis Franklin  
Host: District 5330 | DGE Richard Lemire*

6 p.m.	Video: Increase Impact Presidents-Elect Entry Welcome Inspirational Message Announcements DINNER Video: Increase Our Ability to Adapt Inspirational Message Tribute to Jim Vandenburg Keynote Speaker	Emcee Scott Carr D5340 DGE Richard Lemire Emcee Scott Carr  D5300 DGE Dennis Franklin PDG Dan Ouweleen RI Director Wyn Spiller
7:30 p.m.	Session Ends	

### 7:30-10 p.m.. HOSPITALITY SUITES (OPEN TO EVERYONE)

D5000 Benson Medina	Suite 104
D5240 Margarida Eidson	Suite 1746
D5280 Brady Connell	16th Floor Lounge
D5300 Dennis Franklin	Suite 110
D5320 Monica Peters	Aviation Ballroom
D5330 Richard Lemire	Presidential Suite 1702
D5340 Jeb Bakke	Aviation Ballroom
D5390 Kathy Schulte	Suite 1726
D5420 Peter Cardon	Suite 1738
D5495 Joe Sweeney	Aviation Ballroom
D5500 Emma Carrillo	Aviation Ballroom
Chair Don Caspar	Presidential Suite 1702

# Program Schedule

When	What	Where/Who
<b>Sunday   February 22</b>		
7 a.m.	SAA Meeting	Registration Annex
7:30-10 a.m.	Registration Open	Registration Booth
7:30 a.m.	House of Friendship Open	Marquis Ballroom Foyer
8:30-11 a.m.	Photographer Open	Los Angeles 1
8-10 a.m.	<b>District Training Sessions</b>	
	D5000 Benson Medina	Imperial A/B
	D5240 Margarida Eidson	Aviation 2
	D5280 Brady Connell	Imperial D
	D5300 Dennis Franklin	Imperial E/F
	D5320 Monica Peters	Aviation 1
	D5330 Richard Lemire	Pacific Coast 4/5
	D5340 Jeb Bakke	Imperial C
	D5390 Kathy Schulte	Pacific Coast 6
	D5420 Peter Cardon	Pacific Coast 1
	D5495 Joe Sweeney	Pacific Coast 2
	D5500 Emma Carrillo	Pacific Coast 3
10-10:15 a.m.	Break/Transition	
10:15 a.m.	Registration Closed	
10-10:30 a.m.	VIP Doors Open	Marquis Ballroom
10:15-10:30 a.m.	Doors open for all Rotarians	Marquis Ballroom
<b>10:30 A.M.-1 P.M.</b>	<b>GENERAL SESSION 6   BRUNCH</b>	<b>MARQUIS BALLROOM</b>
	<i>Host: District 5240   DGE Margarida Eidson</i>	
	<i>Host: District 5280   DGE Brady Connell</i>	
10:30 a.m.	Fighting Disease video	
	Presidents-Elect Entry	
	Introduction	Emcee Scott Carr
	Inspirational Message	D5280 DGE Brady Connell
	Announcements	Emcee Scott Carr
	BRUNCH	
	Video: Saving Mothers & Children	
	Inspirational Message	D5240 DGE Margarida Eidson
	Keynote Speaker	Michael Angelo Caruso
	Closing Remarks	Chair Don Casper/Chair-Elect Randy Hart
1 p.m.	Session Ends	
1-2 p.m.	PELS Committee Wrap-Up Meeting	16th Floor Lounge

## Partners Program Schedule

Our Presidential Partners play a critical role in the success of our Presidents and the Clubs they lead. Being a Club President is challenging and can be time consuming, so our Presidents need all the support they can get!

To provide this support, we've created the Partners Program -- a unique initiative designed by and for partners. The program offers valuable opportunities to learn more about Rotary while interacting with fellow partners and Rotary leaders who can become great resources along the way.

***Behind every successful Rotary Club President is an incredibly valuable partner!***

When	What	Where/Who
<b>Friday   February 20   California 1</b>		
10 a.m.	<b>Welcome</b>	Michael Dreibe/Sylvia Mendoza
10:05 a.m.	Getting to Know You/Opening Activities	
10:30 a.m.	<b>Mad Lib</b>	
	■ Rotary Is ...	
	■ My Partner's Club is Known For ...	
	■ I'm Excited About ...	
10:45 a.m.	Video of Paul Harris Rap	
	1933 Rotary International Convention	Zoot Velasco
11:15 a.m.	Rotary Acronyms: Alphabet Soup	
11:30 a.m.	Enhancing Engagement & Belonging (DEI)	
<b>Noon</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Ballroom</b>
2:30 p.m.	Welcome Back	
2:35 p.m.	Rotary Foundation & Rotary Areas of Focus	
3 p.m.	The Rotary Foundation	Geoff Cochran
3:30 p.m.	My Personal Hero	Sylvia Mendoza
<b>Saturday   February 21   California 1</b>		
10 a.m.	Human Trafficking	Marilyn Diaz
10:30 a.m.	Human Trafficking Activity: Notes of Hope	
11 a.m.	RYLA Activity	
	■ Ethics Lab	Michael Driebe
<b>Noon</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Ballroom</b>
1:30 p.m.	The Partner's Role	John Chase
2 p.m.	Rotary: An International Perspective	
2:30 p.m.	Rotary Jeopardy Game Show	
3 p.m.	Break	
3:15 p.m.	Rotary Commercial with Chat GPT	
4:30 p.m.	Sessions Ends	

# Emcee: Scott Carr

Past District Governor | District 5340

2026 General Session | Master of Ceremonies



Rotary Club  
of Downtown San Diego  
◆◆◆  
District 5340 Governor  
2017-18

Scott C. Carr is the Executive Director of the San Diego County Bar Association. The Bar is one of the largest and oldest legal organizations in the region, with 7,000 members across multiple counties.

Previously, he spent nearly two decades serving as Director of Marketing and Community Relations for a business-focused law firm with seven offices across the western United States. He also was CEO of a digital marketing agency that developed and maintained web properties, as well as marketing and public relations campaigns. An accomplished speaker, he also regularly trains attorneys, business owners, managers, volunteers, and non-profit executives on effective web marketing and social media.

A Major Donor and member of the Paul Harris Society, Scott served as District Governor for District 5340 in 2017-18. He then served as Chair of Southwest PELS (previously Southwest PETS) in 2020-21. At the Zone level, Scott chaired Rotary Zone 26/27 Institute in 2023, and served as Zone Communications Officer for Past RI Directors Brad Howard and Dan Himelspace. He also served as Emcee at numerous events across the Zone, and is still surprised that they keep inviting him back.

Scott had his first experience in Rotary as part of Rotaract. “Rotaract was connecting young professionals together long before social networks even existed, and continues to be an incredible resource in our community,” added Scott.

Through Rotaract, he helped launch programs to support foster youth, as well as homeless and low-income seniors in downtown San Diego. It is also the place where he met his wife, Heather Rosing, a respected ethics lawyer who is founding partner of Rosing Pott & Strohhahn LLP. She previously served on the State Bar of California Board of Trustees, and was inaugural President of the California Lawyers Association. Scott and Heather have three kids, a 14-year-old son and 12-year-old twin daughters, and each of them is a Paul Harris Fellow.

## 2026 General Session Speakers | Friday Lunch

# Olayinka Hakeem Babalola

## Rotary International President-Elect



**President-Elect 2025-26**

Rotary Club  
of Trans Amadi  
Rivers State, Nigeria



District Governor 2011-12



RI Board Director 2018-20



RI Board VP 2019-20

Olayinka Hakeem Babalola will serve as Rotary International President in 2026-27.

Olayinka received a university degree in engineering in 1988. He worked for 25 years in the oil and gas industry, holding senior positions at Shell PLC.

He is the founder of two companies: Riviera Technical Services Ltd., an oil and gas infrastructure delivery company, and Lead and Change Consulting, an executive coaching and organizational performance advisory group.

Mr. Babalola's professional affiliations include the Nigerian Society of Engineers, the Institute of Safety Professionals of Nigeria, and the Association of Change Management Professionals. He is a member of Jericho Businessmen Club, an organization in his birth city of Ibadan that provides input to governments on economic and social policy.

A Rotaractor for 10 years, Mr. Babalola has been a member of the Rotary club of Trans Amadi since 1994 and served as District Governor in 2011-12.

He served on the RI Board of Directors (2018-20) and was vice president in 2019-20.

He has served on committees including the End Polio Now Countdown to History Campaign Committee (2017-23, vice chair 2017-20) and the Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee (2013-present, adviser 2016-present).

Mr. Babalola and his wife, Preba, live in the city of Port Harcourt. He supports The Rotary Foundation with a named endowment and as an Arch Klumph Society member. He volunteers as a trustee for ShelterBox UK.

He has received the Africa Centennial Heroes Award, the Regional Service Award for a Polio-Free World, the RI Service Above Self Award, and The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service.

**CREATE  
LASTING  
IMPACT**



## 2026 General Session Speakers | Friday Dinner

# Erin Gruwell

## Freedom Writers Foundation



Founder of Freedom Writers Foundation



Author of several books, including "The Freedom Writers Diary Teacher's Guide"



The film, "The Freedom Writers," starring Hilary Swank, based on Erin and her 150 high school students who dubbed themselves The Freedom Writers in homage to the Freedom Riders of the Civil Rights Movement

Erin Gruwell has earned an award-winning reputation for her steadfast commitment to the future of education. Her impact as a teacher attracted Hollywood's attention, and in 2007, Paramount Pictures released "Freedom Writers," starring two-time Academy Award winner Hilary Swank as Erin. The film is based on "The Freedom Writers Diary," the *New York Times* Bestseller that chronicles Erin's extraordinary journey with her 150 high school students who dubbed themselves the "Freedom Writers" in homage to the Freedom Riders of the Civil Rights Movement.

By fostering an educational philosophy that values and promotes diversity, Erin transformed her students' lives. She encouraged them to re-think rigid beliefs about themselves and others, reconsider their own daily decisions, and ultimately, re-chart their future. With Erin's support, they chose to forego teenage pregnancy, drugs, and violence in order to become aspiring college students, published authors, and catalysts for change.

Erin founded the Freedom Writers Foundation where she currently teaches educators around the world how to implement her innovative lesson plans into their own classrooms. Erin's teaching methods from her time in Room 203 have been published in her powerful call to arms "Teach With Your Heart," as well as "The Freedom Writers Diary Teacher's Guide."

Erin and teachers she has trained known as "Freedom Writer Teachers" collaborated to write "Teaching Hope," a book in which stories "from the front lines of education take [the reader] from the anticipation of the first day to the disillusionment, challenges, and triumphs of the school year."

Erin and her students have appeared on numerous television shows, including Oprah, Prime Time Live with Connie Chung, Barbara Walters' The View, and Good Morning America. Their story has earned them dozens of awards, most notably the Spirit of Anne Frank Award. Erin Gruwell and the Freedom Writer Teachers also collaborated with Scholastic to create On the Record, an innovative reading and writing program. On the Record uses the Freedom Writers Methodology to improve students' reading and writing skills, as well as the quality of their lives.

## 2026 General Session Speakers | Saturday Breakfast

### Panel Discussion led by **Elizabeth Mahoney**

**E**lizabeth serves as the Zone 26 Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator.

She previously led the AG Resources and Network Group and served as the Zone 26 Empowering Girls Ambassador, helping elevate club impact and leadership across the zone.

A Past District Governor of District 5495 (2020–2021), Elizabeth has held numerous roles including Club President, District Chief of Staff, District Rotary Foundation Chair, Leadership Development and Education Chair, and a member of the Youth Exchange Committee.

A devoted “host mom” to many exchange students, her own son also participated in RYE, traveling to Italy and RYLA.

Elizabeth helped launch District 5495’s first statewide Rotaract District Council and led two Interact teams to Kenya with Crutches 4 Africa.

She is passionate about The Rotary Foundation and enjoys helping clubs design and implement high-impact projects.



The mission of The Rotary Foundation is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

The Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into projects that change lives both close to home and around the world. As the charitable arm of Rotary, we tap into a global network of Rotarians who invest their time, money, and expertise into our priorities, such as eradicating polio and promoting peace.

Foundation grants empower Rotarians to approach challenges such as poverty, illiteracy, and malnutrition with sustainable solutions that leave a lasting impact.

Strong financial oversight, a stellar charity rating, and a unique funding model mean that we make the very most of your contribution. Give and become a part of Rotary’s life-changing work!



**Regional Rotary  
Foundation Coordinator**



Rotary Club  
of Sun City, AZ



District 5495 Governor  
2020-21



Zone 26 Empowering  
Girls Ambassador

## 2026 General Session Speakers | Saturday Lunch

# Vicki Puliz

## The Rotary Foundation Trustee 2025-29



Vicki serves as a Trustee of our Rotary Foundation and is currently a member of the TRF Finance Committee, Investment Committee and International Polio Plus Committee. She is a past Rotary International Director and past Vice Chair of the Rotary Peace Centers Committee among other roles. She has been a proud member of the Rotary Club of Sparks, Nevada, USA since 1992.

Of particular focus for Vicki is leadership development, programs for young leaders, polio eradication, and building peace in our communities and world. She is a Positive Peace Activator, trained through the partnership of Rotary with the Institute for Economics and Peace.

Vicki graduated from the University of Utah with a Marketing degree and Master of Business Administration and owned a commercial electrical contracting firm in northern Nevada for 19 years before merging it into a public traded entity.

Vicki and her husband, Tim, live in Reno, Nevada, at the base of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Their blended family includes seven adult children, twelve grandchildren, and three Rotary Youth Exchange daughters.

Their interests include outdoor activities and general aviation. Vicki and Pilot Tim are members of the International Fellowship of Flying Rotarians. They support Our Rotary Foundation as members of the Arch Klumph Society, the Paul Harris Society, Polio Plus Society, and the Bequest Society.

Rotary Club  
of Sparks, Nev.



District 5190 Governor  
2013-14



RI Board Director 2021-23



TRF Trustee 2025-29



## 2026 General Session Speakers | Saturday Dinner

# Wyn Spiller

## Rotary International Director 2025-27



Rotary Club  
of Grass Valley, CA



District 5190 Governor  
2008-09



RI Board Director 2025-27



**W**yn Spiller is a proud member of the Rotary Club of Grass Valley CA. Since joining in 1994, she has served in a variety of club, district, zone and RI roles including District 5190 Governor 2008-09. She is the immediate past Zone 27 Endowment/Major Gifts Adviser, past Zone 27 Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator and past District Rotary Foundation Committee Chair. She also serves on the D5190 Community Fund Board and chairs the District's Visioning Committee.

Wyn was honored to serve as the Rotary International 2022 Council on Legislation Trainer, the first Council to be presented both in-person and virtually. With a long-standing interest in education and leadership development, she has served as an International Assembly learning facilitator, facilitator for Regional Leaders Global Institutes, and faculty for President-Elect Training (PETS) for a number of years. She assisted in bringing both Visioning and Rotary Leadership Institute to D5190 and has served at the District and regional levels of each. She is a long-time supporter and past chair of Rotary Youth Exchange.

Wyn and her husband Steve share a deep commitment to our Rotary Foundation and its humanitarian work, with a special interest in the Rotary Peace Centers, peace-building programs and polio eradication. They are fortunate to have had the opportunity to experience a National Immunization trip to India and humanitarian projects in Uganda and Mexico, each one life changing. They are Major Donors as well as members of Triple Crown, Paul Harris, PolioPlus and Bequest Societies. Wyn is the proud recipient of The Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service.

Wyn retired as Chairman/CEO of Nevada City Winery in 2014. During her tenure, the winery renovated and expanded their historic building in downtown Nevada City, receiving the Best New Construction Award for building expansion in the historic downtown. She is a past chair of Sierra Nevada Memorial hospital Foundation, Nevada County Economic Resource Council, Miners Foundry Cultural Preservation Trust and currently serves as Treasurer of the North Star Historic Conservancy. She and Steve make their home in the small Gold Rush town of Nevada City CA. They have three grown children, two grandchildren and two Rotary Youth Exchange grown children and grandchildren.

Wyn is very honored to serve as RI Director 2025-2027 representing the 30 districts here in the Big West.

## 2026 General Session Speakers | Sunday Brunch

# Michael Angelo Caruso

## Founder/President of Edison House



Rotary Club of Troy, Mich.



President, Rotary Club  
of Troy 2013-14



District 6380 Governor  
2016-17



Joined Rotary via the old  
Group Study Exchange  
program. Attended a week-  
end retreat with 10 other  
non-Rotarians in 1995 and  
was fortunate to be one of  
four selected to go to South  
Africa for five weeks.

Contact: 248-224-9667 or  
Michael@MichaelAngeloCa-  
ruso.com

Subscribe to Michael's  
Friday5 tip sheet [here](#)

**M**ichael Angelo Caruso teaches people how to be better speakers and presenters so they can help more people and amp up their careers.

He utilizes his unique background in the technology sector and a separate career in the entertainment business to deliver keynote speeches that feel like a combination of your best teacher and your favorite comedian.

Michael delivers about 70 presentations and keynote speeches a year. He has spoken on six continents and in 49 of the 50 states.

Michael is known for getting extremely fast results with his clients. He can make anyone a better communicator and regularly demonstrates his effective communication strategies by helping audience members improve during his presentation.

Mr. Caruso is founder and President of Edison House, an international consulting firm specializing in corporate and personal improvement. Edison House clients include Hallmark, Bank of America, Verizon Wireless, Rayovac, Citgo, Nissan, and the United States Navy.

Michael has authored "[Work Hacks](#)" and the audiobook, "Dear Michael Angelo -- A Father's Life Letters to His Son," and "Hmmm: Little Ideas With Big Results." He also has a highly-rated online speaker coaching masterclass titled, "Present Like a Pro." Michael is a two-time TEDx speaker.

He loves giving back. A lifetime Rotarian, his seminar fundraiser for Rotary Clubs has raised over a quarter of a million dollars for Rotary Clubs all over North America.

Ask him about it after his talk!

MAC enjoys exercise, movies, non-fiction books and travel. Ladies and gentleman -- from Rochester, Mich., I give you Michael!



# ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

**TAIPEI, TAIWAN | 13-17 JUNE 2026**

Rotary



**TAIPEI  
2026**

**#Rotary26**

**Visit our Booth at SWPELS to find out more and register for this years Convention**

## 2026 Southwest PELS Committee (voting members)



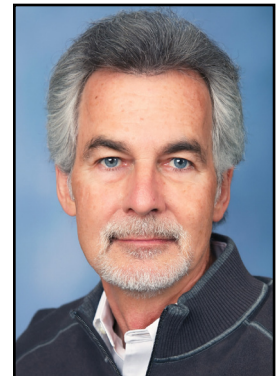
**Don Casper**  
SW PELS Chair 2026  
D5330 Governor  
2022-23  
Rotary Club of Indio, CA



**Randy Hart**  
SW PELS Chair 2027  
D5000 Governor  
2022-23  
Rotary Club of Hilo, HI



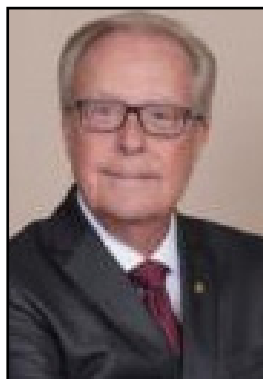
**Scott Phillips**  
SW PELS Chair 2028  
D5240 Governor  
2022-23  
Rotary Club of Goleta  
Noontime, CA



**Bret McKeand**  
Immediate Past Chair  
D5495 Governor  
2021-22  
Rotary Club of Peoria  
North, Arizona



**Jamie Zinn**  
SW PELS Treasurer  
D5330 Governor  
2023-24  
Rotary Club  
of Murrieta, CA



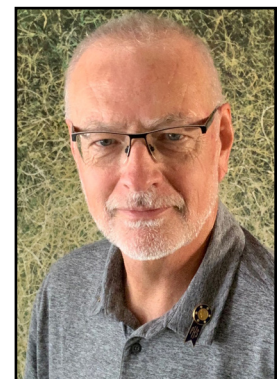
**William R. Chase**  
SW PELS Secretary  
D5330 Governor  
1989-90  
Rotary Club of  
Palm Springs, CA



**Olivia  
Patterson-Ryans**  
Nominated Director  
D5280 Governor  
2022-23  
Rotary Club of Inglewood, CA



**Steve Weitzen**  
Nominated Director  
D5340 Governor  
2020-21  
Rotary Club of Del Mar-  
Solana Beach Sunrise



**David Simmer**  
Nominated Director  
D5495 Governor  
2019-20  
Rotary Club of  
Sedona, AZ



**Diane  
Ventura-Goodyear**  
Nominated Director  
D5500 Governor  
2020-21  
RC of Tucson Sunset, AZ



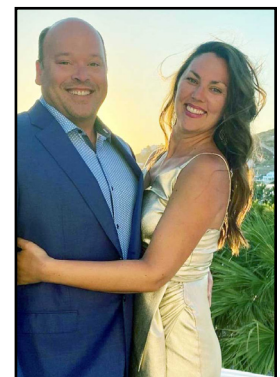
**Roger Gutierrez**  
Nominated Director  
D5300 Governor  
2022-23  
Rotary Club of Azusa,  
CA



**Dan Ouweleen**  
Nominated Director  
D5320 Governor  
2022-23  
Rotary Club  
of Fullerton, Ca



**Barry Valdez**  
Nominated Director  
D5330 Governor  
2020-21  
Rotary Club of  
Rialto, CA



**Barrie Matthews**  
Nominated Director  
D5390 Governor  
2022-23  
Rotary Club of  
Miles City, MT

# 2026 Southwest PELS Committee (voting members)



**Sandra Schwartz**  
Nominated Director  
D5420 Governor  
2018-19  
Rotary Club of  
St. George Sunrise, UT



**Ted Faigle**  
IPDG  
D5000 Governor  
2024-25  
Rotary Club of  
Sedona, AZ



**Sherry  
Sim Peckhoon**  
IPDG  
D5240 Governor  
2024-25  
RC of Cayucos, CA



**Albert Hernandez**  
IPDG  
D5280 Governor  
2024-25  
Rotary Club of  
Burbank Noon, CA



**Michael Driebe**  
IPDG  
D5300 Governor  
2024-25  
Rotary Club of  
San Marino, CA



**Christopher  
Skorina**  
IPDG  
D5320 Governor  
2024-25  
RC of Mission Viejo, CA



**Judy Zulfqar**  
IPDG  
D5330 Governor  
2024-25  
Rotary Club  
of Temecula, CA



**Dianne Crawford**  
IPDG  
D5340 Governor  
2024-25  
RC of Southeast  
San Diego, CA



**Todd Boyer**  
IPDG  
D5420 Governor  
2024-25  
Rotary Club  
of Cedar City, UT



**Shawna  
Secker-Kazanow**  
IPDG  
D5390 Governor  
2024-25  
RC of Billings, CO



**Michelle Holcomb**  
IPDG  
D5495 Governor  
2024-25  
Rotary Club  
of Fountain Hills, AZ



**Sue Archibald**  
IPDG  
D5500 Governor  
2024-25  
RC of Mountain  
Empire-Sonoita, AZ



## 2026 SW PELS Committee (non-voting members)



**Cisca Stellhorn**  
Appointed Director  
D5320 Governor  
2021-22  
Rotary Club  
of Irvine, CA



**Dan Goodrich**  
Appointed Director  
D5330 Governor  
2021-22  
Rotary Club  
of Hemet, CA



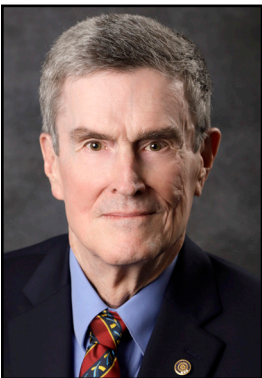
**Bob Duistermars**  
Appointed Director  
D5330 Governor  
2016-17  
Rotary Club  
of Hemet, CA



**Wade Nomura**  
Appointed Director  
D5240 Governor  
2011-12  
Rotary Club of  
Carpinteria Morning, CA



**Sylvana Meeks**  
Appointed Director  
District 5340  
Rotary Club  
of Borrego Springs



**Michael Soden**  
Appointed Director  
D5300 Governor  
2023-24  
Rotary Club  
of Green Valley, NV

### Southwest PELS Committee also includes, as non-voting members:

- \* **Current District Governors**
- \* **Governor Elects**
- \* **Governor Nominees**

**See following pages  
for class descriptions.**

## 2026 Southwest PELS Sergeant at Arms

Thank you to this year's Sergeant at Arms team! Be sure to look for Rotarians in the yellow vests for any assistance you may need during this weekend's event.

**PDG Susan Archibald**  
District 5500 (Chair)

**Beverly Heikes, D5000**

**Barry Vanderkelen, D5240**

**Leon Nixon, D5280**

**David Thorson, D5300**

**Donald Clinebell, D5320**

**Chuck Weisbart, D5330**

**Michael Pucket, D5340**

**Jackie Vick, D5390**

**Egor Shilman, D5420**

**Teresa Haire, D5495**

**Sherri Morgan, D5500**

## District Governors 2025-2026



**Nancy Cabral**  
D5000 Governor  
2025-26  
Rotary Club  
of Hilo, HI



**Michael Dutra**  
D5240 Governor  
2025-26  
Rotary Club of  
Westlake Village, CA



**Alex Parajon**  
D5280 Governor  
2025-26  
Rotary Club of  
Glendale Sunrise, CA



**Gilda Moshir**  
D5300 Governor  
2025-26  
Rotary Club  
of San Marino, CA



**Craig Livingston**  
D5320 Governor  
2025-26  
Rotary Club  
of Brea, CA



**Nyron McLean**  
D5330 Governor  
2025-26  
Rotary Club of  
Riverside Sunrise, CA



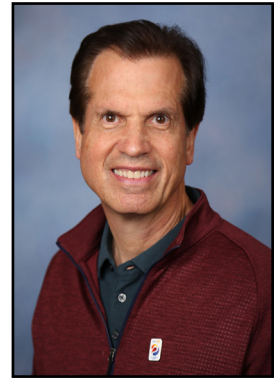
**Luis Carranza**  
D5340 Governor  
2025-26  
Rotary Club of  
Rancho Santa Fe, CA



**Lucy Smith**  
D5390 Governor  
2025-26  
Rotary Club  
of Kalispell, MT



**Suzanne  
Leonelli-Wilhelm**  
D5420 Governor  
2025-26  
Rotary Club of  
St. George Sunrise, UT



**Jim Schmidt**  
D5495 Governor  
2025-26  
Rotary Club of  
Mesa West, AZ

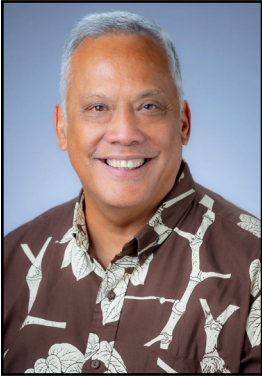


**Bruce Monroe**  
D5500 Governor  
2025-26  
Rotary Club  
of Tubac, AZ

Governor-Elect  
Training 2024  
Big West Institute  
Spokane, WA  
◆◆◆  
Big West  
2025-26  
Governor Class



## District Governors-Elect (2026-2027)



**Benson Medina**  
D5000 Governor  
2026-27  
Rotary Club  
of South Hilo, HI



**Margarida Eidson**  
D5240 Governor  
2026-27  
Rotary Club of  
Ventura-East, CA



**Brady Connell**  
D5280 Governor  
2026-27  
Rotary Club of  
Playa Venice Sunrise,  
CA



**Dennis Franklin**  
D5300 Governor  
2026-27  
Rotary Club  
of Glendora, CA



**Monica Peters**  
D5320 Governor  
2026-27  
Rotary Club  
of Whittier, CA



**Richard Lemire**  
D5330 Governor  
2026-27  
Rotary Club of  
Riverside East, CA



**Jeb Bakke**  
D5340 Governor  
2026-27  
Rotary Club of  
Rancho Bernardo  
Sunrise, CA



**Kathy Schulte**  
D5390 Governor  
2026-27  
Rotary Club  
of Missoula, MT



**Peter Cardon**  
D5420 Governor  
2026-27  
Rotary Club of  
West Jordan, UT



**Joe Sweeney**  
D5495 Governor  
2026-27  
Rotary Club of  
Prescott, AZ



**Emma Carrillo**  
D5500 Governor  
2026-27  
Rotary Club  
of Tucson Kino, AZ

Governor-Elect  
Training 2025  
Big West Institute  
Albuquerque, NM  
◆◆◆  
Big West  
2026-27  
Governors-Elect  
Class



## District Governors-Nominee (2027-28)



**Richard Proctor**  
D5000 Governor  
2027-28  
Rotary Club  
of Honolulu, HI



**Scott Astrosky**  
D5240 Governor  
2027-28  
Rotary Club of  
Pismo Beach, CA



**Janice Lowers**  
D5280 Governor  
2027-28  
Rotary Club of  
Burbank Sunrise, CA



**Kari Anderson**  
D5300 Governor  
2027-28  
Rotary Club of  
Claremont Sunrise, CA



**Heidi Larkin-Reed**  
D5320 Governor  
2027-28  
Rotary Club  
of Mission Viejo, CA



**Brian Pellis**  
D5330 Governor  
2027-28  
Rotary Club of  
San Bernardino, CA



**Michael Brunker**  
D5340 Governor  
2027-28  
Rotary Club  
of San Diego, CA



**Jeff Langlains**  
D5390 Governor  
2027-28  
Rotary Club  
of Townsend, MT



**Sydney King**  
D5420 Governor  
2027-28  
Rotary Club of  
Bountiful, UT



**Colleen Coons**  
D5495 Governor  
2027-28  
Rotary Club of  
Mesa West, AZ



**Leo Lawrenson**  
D5500 Governor  
2027-28  
Rotary Club  
of Oro Valley, AZ

Governor-Elect  
Training 2025  
Big West Institute  
Albuquerque, NM  
◆◆◆  
Big West  
2027-28  
Governors-Nomi-  
nee Class



# 2026-27 Southwest PELS Committee Assignments

## General Chair 2026

Don Casper

## Immediate Past Chair

Bret McKeand

## Chair-Elect

Randy Hart

## Chair-Elect Nominee

Scott Phillips

## Treasurer

Jamie Zinn

## Secretary

Bill Chase

## Registration Committee

Dan Goodrich, Chair

Michael Soden

Sylvana Meeks

Susan Archibald

Michelle Holcomb

Marta Golding Brown

## Thursday Night Event Committee

Christopher Skorina, Chair

Dan Ouweleen

Diane Ventura-Goodyear

## Education Committee

Cisca Stellhorn, Chair

Judy Zulfqar

Ted Faigle

Sandi Schwartz

Roger Gutierrez

Dianne Crawford

## Continuity Project

Scott Phillips, Chair

## Assistant Governor Training

Olivia Patterson-Ryans

Albert Hernandez

## Spouses & Partners Program

Michael Dreibe, Chair

Sylvia Mendoza

## General Sessions & Rehearsals

David Simmer, Chair

Scott Phillips

## VIPs & Seating

Roger Gutierrez

## Centerpieces

Margarida Edison

Michelle Holcomb

## Logistics/Classroom A-V Team

Barry Valdez, Chair

Drew Heim

Dan Cortese

Steve Sumlar

Rock Valdez

## Vendors & Exhibitors

Sherry Peckhoon Sim, Chair

## Digital Event Program

Bret McKeand, Editor

## Sponsorship Committee

Michael Dreibe, Chair

Bret McKeand

Albert Hernandez

Dan Ouweleen

Judy Zulfqar

Sherry Peckhoon Sim

Dianne Crawford

Shawna Secker-Kazanow

## Event Schedule

Bob Duistermars

## Website/Social Media/ My Event App/ Evaluations

Michael Soden

## Bylaws Committee

Bob Duistermars, Chair

Barry Valdez

Scott Phillips

Sandi Schwartz

Michael Soden

## Photographer

Wade Nomura

## General Sessions Audio-Visual & Production

Alan Havar, Director

Stefanie Huynh

Danny Brant

Tyler Siegrest



## 2025-26 Rotary International Contacts



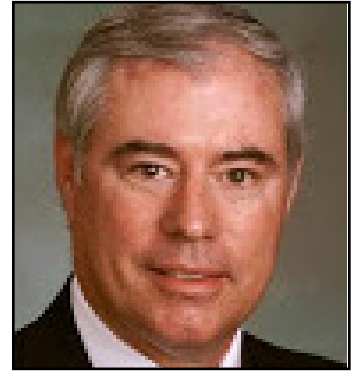
**Francesco Arezzo**  
RI President



**Wyn Spiller**  
Zone 26/27 RI Director  
wyn.spiller@gmail.com



**Holger Knaack**  
TRF Chair



**Greg Podd**  
Assigned Trustee  
trustee@zone2627.org

### Membership Growth & Experience

(RI Support to Clubs)

**Angela Lopez**

**Zone 26/27 Supervisor of Membership  
Growth & Engagement**  
angelalopez@rotary.org  
847-425-5688

**Haris Sofradzija**

**Zone 26/27 Membership Growth Officer**  
haris.sofradzija@rotary.org

### Financial Representative

**William Mendez**

william.mendez@rotary.org  
847-866-3183

### Insurance & Risk Management

**Website**

<https://rotary@hylant.com>  
Password: Rotary 1905

**Risk Management Team**

Julita Brzozowska  
insurance@rotary.org  
847-424-5394

### Polio Plus

polioplus@rotary.org

### Rotary Support Center

Start here with any RI or TRF question  
Toll Free 847-866-4600  
1-866-9ROTARY  
rotarysupportcenter@rotary.org

### Rotary Direct

rotarydirect@rotary.org

### Annual Giving

Zones 26 & 27: **Geoff Cochran**  
geoffrey.cochran@rotary.org

### Major Gift Officers

**Zones 26-27**

**Tabitha Sparks**

tabitha.sparks@rotary.org  
847-866-3288

**Eric Thompson**

eric.thompson@rotary.org  
847-866-3190

### MDP Alliance

A consortium of multi-district  
presidents-elect learning events  
**Wade Nomura**, Executive Director  
<https://www.petsalliance.org/>

**[Rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org/)**

## 2026-27 Southwest PELS Facilitators



Cisca Stellhorn  
Education Chair



Susan Archibald  
IPDG District 5300



Marta Golding  
Brown  
IPDG District 5240



Nancy Cabral  
DG District 5000



John Chase  
PDG D5300  
RI Director-Elect



William Chase  
PDG District 5330



Geoff Cochran  
Rotary International  
Annual Giving



Marge Cole  
PDG District 5340



Diane Crawford  
IPDG District 5340



Michael Drake  
PDG District 5500



Ted Faigle  
IPDG District 5000



Glenn Fong  
PDG District 5180



Roger Gutierrez  
PDG District 5300



Albert Hernandez  
PDG District 5280



Michelle Holcomb  
PDG District 5495



Chris Jones, CEO  
Member Minder Pro



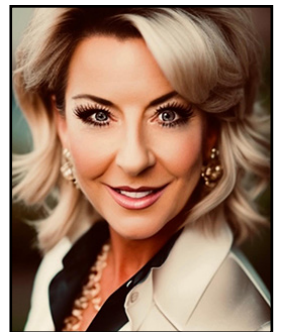
Don Jorgensen  
PDG District 5500



Raghada Khoury  
PDG District 5080



Heidi Larkin-Reed  
DGN District 5320



Suzanne Leonelli  
DG District 5420

## 2026-27 Southwest PELS Facilitators



Angela Lopez  
RI Membership



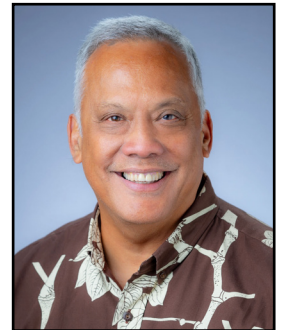
Elizabeth Mahoney  
PDG District 5495



Naomi Masuno  
PDG District 5000



Sandy Matsui  
PDG District 5000



Benson Medina  
PDG District 5000



Gilda Riazi Moshir  
DG District 5300



Wade Nomura  
PDG District 5240



Alex Parajon  
DG District 5280



Kevin Pitts  
PDG District 5495



Marilyn Sanderson-  
DG District 5330



Jim Schmidt  
DG District 5495



Sandra Schwartz  
PDG District 5420



Lucy Smith  
DG District 5390



Tonya Watson  
PDG District 5495



Judy Zulficar  
PDG District 5330

Rotary



Southwest  
PELS



INFORM  
INSPIRE  
EMPOWER

## Hall of Friendship Exhibitors/Vendors

Be sure this week to visit our exhibitors and vendors in our Southwest PELS Hall of Friendship located throughout the Marquis Ballroom Foyer. Thank you to all our exhibitors and vendors for their support!

- ◆ [Agents of Influence](#)
  - ◆ [Baja Bridges](#)
- ◆ [Michael Angel Caruso](#)
- ◆ [California Youth Services](#)
  - ◆ [Rosalyn D. Cooper](#)
- ◆ [Corazon Organization](#)
  - ◆ [Charity Giveaways](#)
- ◆ [Cherished Memories Photography](#)
  - ◆ [Clubrunner](#)
- ◆ [Destiny Hands International](#)
  - ◆ [District 5300](#)
  - ◆ [District 5330](#)
  - ◆ [District 5340](#)
- ◆ [Doing Good in the World](#)
- ◆ [End Polio Now Iron Lung](#)
  - ◆ [Epic Day of Service](#)
  - ◆ [Erin Gruwell \(author\)](#)
- ◆ [Member Minder Pro \(DacDB\)](#)
  - ◆ [My Custom Tailor](#)
  - ◆ [Outreach Program](#)
  - ◆ [Pearls With Purpose](#)
- ◆ [Perry's Creative Promotions](#)
- ◆ [Rose Parade Float Committee](#)
- ◆ [Rotaplast International](#)
- ◆ [Rotary Action Group: Addiction Prevention](#)
- ◆ [Rotary Action Group: Community Economic Development](#)
- ◆ [Rotary Action Group Against Slavery](#)
- ◆ [Rotary Action Group: Environmental Sustainability \(ESRAG\)](#)
  - ◆ [Russell-Hampton](#)
  - ◆ [Shelter Box](#)
  - ◆ [Shirley Grace](#)
- ◆ [Tacoma Sunrise Rotary Club District 5020](#)
  - ◆ [The Dictionary Project](#)
  - ◆ [The Rotary Foundation](#)
- ◆ [Thousand Smiles Foundation](#)
  - ◆ [Unite to Light](#)
  - ◆ [Zone 26/27](#)
- ◆ [Zone 26/27 Public Image](#)
- ◆ [Zone 26/27 Yellow Pages/ Ledge Media](#)





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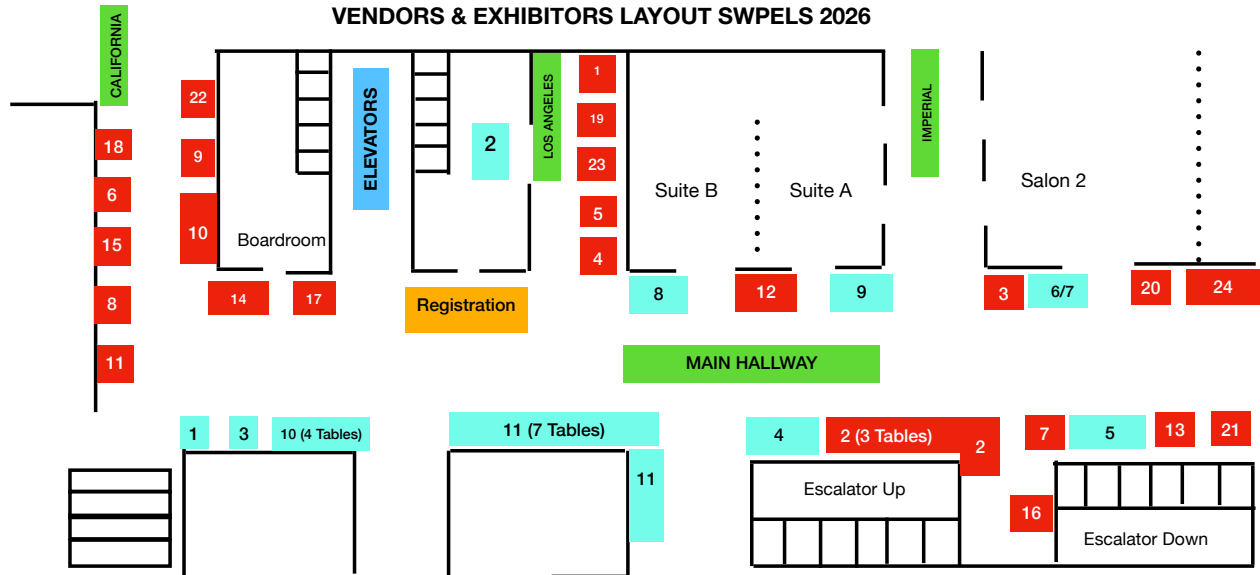
*Where Rotary International Meets Exceptional Tailoring.*

# NO ONE WITHOUT SHELTER AFTER DISASTER

ShelterBox Rotary 

*ShelterBox and the ShelterBox USA affiliate are registered not-for-profit organizations, independent of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation.*

# Hall of Friendship Exhibitors/Vendors



**VENDORS**

1	Ability Tri-Modal Transportation
2	Cherished Memories Photography
3	Corazón (E)
4	ClubRunner (E)
5	DACdb (E)
6	Erin Gruwell, Freedom Writers Foundation
7	Michael Angelo Caruso PDG D6380
8	My Custom Tailor (E)
9	Pearls With Purpose Foundation
10	Perry's Creative Promotions
11	Russell Hampton Company

**EXHIBITORS**

1	Agents of Influence	15	Rotary International
2	Baja Bridges	14	Rotary Rose Parade Float Committee
3	California Youth Services	15	Shab-Doing Good in the World
4	Charity Getaways (E)	16	ShelterBox USA (E)
5	Destiny Hands International Inc	17	Shirley Grace - Jeffery Jackson
6	D5500, 5550, 5540 Environment	18	Tacoma Sunrise Rotary/COFIA (E)
7	EPIC Day of Service (E)	19	The Dictionary Project
8	ESRAG	20	The Outreach Program
9	Rotaplast International	21	The Rotary Foundation
10	RAG Against Addition Prevention (E)	22	Thousand Smiles Foundation (E)
11	RAG Against Slavery	25	Unite to Light
12	Rotary End Polio Now	24	Zone 26/27 Public Image



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# Hall of Friendship Exhibitors/Vendors

Rotary  
Zone 26/27



Yellow Pages



Published by  
[thepublishingfoundation.org](http://thepublishingfoundation.org)  
and [Ledge Media.net](http://Ledge Media.net)  
Contact Daphne Fletcher  
daphne@ledgemedi.net

# END POLIO NOW

**P**earls With Purpose is celebrating 24 years of helping hundreds of women know the beautiful dignity of self-reliance. You can help support them by buying their gorgeous jewelry, knowing that 64% goes back to them. And each purchase this weekend comes with a free set of mini-stud pearl earrings! Please come see us at the House of Friendship.



Rotary  
Zones 26 & 27



**PDG Bret McKeand**

Zone 26/27  
Regional Public Image Coordinator  
602.478.2835  
scibret@aol.com



# FEED HOPE FEED LOCAL



## MEAL PACKAGING PROJECTS



Celebrating over **20 years** of bringing groups together to provide over **900 million meals** to local feeding organizations!

We partner with clubs for service projects, a hands-on way to make a positive impact on **food insecurity**.



With ten **plant-based protein** meal options, you can support your food bank with nutrient-rich options for local families.

Bring your club together to engage your Interact, **attract new members** and invite the community to see what Rotary is all about.



Book your next event now to help us package and donate over **one million meals** in 2026!



**Chris Romero**  
Regional Events Director, West Coast  
[chriseoutreachprogram.org](http://chriseoutreachprogram.org)  
Mission Valley Evening Rotary (5340)



**TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

# Hall of Friendship Exhibitors/Vendors



Expanding Rotary's Reach Since 1980

We are Rotary's largest public image campaign with over 40 million viewers yearly! Visit us at [rotaryfloat.org](http://rotaryfloat.org) and learn how you or your club can join us in promoting Rotary to the World!



# Rotaplast

Saving smiles, changing lives.



## Need an international project?

### House of Friendship Sponsors



**THINK**  
Is it True?  
Helpful?  
Inspiring?  
Necessary?  
Kind?



Creating a more peaceful Earth.

Bricia ElAwar Rio Grande Keeper E-Club Save Our Planet D5330  
PDG Chehab ElAwar Global Grants RC Las Vegas Won D5300

<https://chehabelawar.com/>

### \* DOING GOOD IN THE WORLD \*

Zone House of Friendship & Live on Zoom Turn Your Big Idea Into a Funded Project!

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- The chance to pledge any amount and use your DDF to get your clubs involved.
- A live webpage to make your pledge instantly.



Bricia ElAwar Rio Grande Keeper



chehabelawar.com

We'll even share the secret to transforming your boldest world-saving dream into a fully funded reality! Plus you'll hear the amazing story of two married Rotarians who stumbled into grant-writing success and along the way saved rivers, sponsored peace fellows, and turned environmental Clean-up into the world's best date night.

ZONES 26 & 27



LET'S BUILD SOMETHING LIFE-CHANGING.



## Rotary Action Group Community Economic Development

[www.ragced.org](http://www.ragced.org)



# AGENTS OF INFLUENCE

A VIDEO GAME TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS

## LIGHT. POWER. SERVICE ABOVE SELF.

# unite to light

Scan to see how Rotary Clubs are taking action



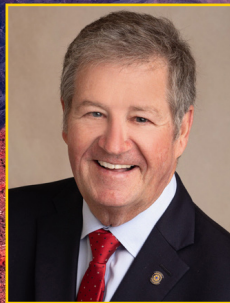
ROTARY CLUBS PARTNER WITH UNITE TO LIGHT TO DELIVER SAFE, SOLAR LIGHT AND RELIABLE POWER TO HEALTH CLINICS, SCHOOLS, AND FAMILIES WORLDWIDE.

# Congratulations!

## District 5495 Club Presidents 2026-2027



**Jim Schmidt**  
DB 2025-26



**Joe Sweeney**  
DBF 2026-27



**Colleen Coons**  
DBN 2027-28



**Teresa Haire**  
DBND 2028-29

Photo by Rebecca Wilks/Skyline Images

**“Whatever Rotary may mean to us, to the world it will be known by the results it achieves.”**

**Paul Harris, Founder of Rotary**

**Thank you for your leadership!**

- ◆ Anthem ◆ Arizona State University Rotaract
- ◆ Benedictine University Rotaract ◆ Buckeye
- ◆ Bullhead City ◆ Camelback Crossroads
- ◆ Chandler ◆ Chandler Horizon
- ◆ East Valley Rotaract at Rio Salado
- ◆ E-Club of the SW ◆ Embry Riddle Rotaract
- ◆ Estrella (Goodyear) ◆ Flagstaff
- ◆ Fountain Hills ◆ Four Peaks ◆ Gilbert
- ◆ Glendale ◆ Goodyear Pebblecreek
- ◆ Kingman ◆ Kingman Route 66 ◆ Kyrene
- ◆ Lake Havasu City ◆ Lake Havasu Sunrise
- ◆ Laughlin ◆ London Bridge ◆ Mesa
- ◆ Mesa Sunrise ◆ Mesa West
- ◆ Mohave Sunrise ◆ Paradise Valley
- ◆ Parker ◆ Peoria North ◆ Phoenix Arcadia
- ◆ Phoenix 100 ◆ Phoenix Rotaract
- ◆ Phoenix West ◆ Poston ◆ Prescott
- ◆ Prescott Frontier ◆ Prescott Sunup
- ◆ Prescott Valley ◆ Queen Creek
- ◆ Rim Country-Payson ◆ Scottsdale
- ◆ Scottsdale North ◆ Scottsdale-Paradise Valley
- ◆ Scottsdale Sunrise ◆ Sedona
- ◆ Sedona Red Rocks ◆ Sedona Village
- ◆ Silver Creek ◆ Sun City
- ◆ Sun Lakes ◆ Superstition Mountain
- ◆ Surprise/Sun City West ◆ Tempe South
- ◆ Valley of the Sun Passport ◆ The Verdes
- ◆ Verde Valley (Cottonwood) ◆ Verrado
- ◆ West Valley Rotaract ◆ Wickenburg
- ◆ Winslow

District 5495  
**Rotary**  
Arizona



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# CONGRATULATIONS!

District 5500 Presidents Elect



*Rotary International Vision Statement:*

*"Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves."*



**Emma Carrillo**  
Governor 26-27



**Bruce Munro**  
Governor 25-26



**Leo Lawrenson**  
Governor 27-28



**Sherrie Morgan**  
Governor 28-29



High school students in Foya, Liberia learning computer science. In March 2024, Destiny Hands and partners setup the 1<sup>st</sup> computer lab & digital library in Foya, Lofa County, Republic of Liberia.



WHO:



Destiny Hands International is a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded by Benjamin Kettor, a native of Liberia, with a mission to ensure children everywhere have access to education and digital opportunities. Inspired by a life-changing one-dollar donation that enabled the founder to receive computer training, the organization partners with groups such as Every Kid Plays Foundation and Rotary to equip schools with technology, digital resources, and training. Through sustainable, community-centered solutions, Destiny Hands International empowers students and teachers to build brighter, more equitable futures in underserved regions.

## Empowering Digital Learning Anywhere

**BACKGROUND/NEED:** Liberia embodies resilience yet continues to face significant educational challenges following 14 years of civil war (1989–2003). Extreme poverty and limited infrastructure mean that many students graduate from high school without ever having used a computer. Schools often lack basic educational resources such as textbooks, digital tools, and reliable electricity, leaving both students and teachers without the means to fully engage in modern learning. This digital gap limits academic achievement, workforce readiness, and long-term earning potential for Liberia's youth.

**SOLUTION: BENDIS Project (Building Education thru New Digital Innovative Solutions)** led by **Destiny Hands International**, is a transformative initiative designed to bring modern, high-quality education to underserved and remote communities. Powered by reliable solar energy and equipped with offline digital learning tools, the project converts virtually any environment into a fully functional learning center. This innovative digital education ecosystem delivers consistent access to technology, educational content, and skills training - empowering students and educators to thrive regardless of location or internet availability. It includes:



### Minicomputer Lab

- Compact and durable computer devices with storage and charging station
- Preloaded educational software and resources
- Suitable for students and teachers



### Digital Library

- Thousands of eBooks, tutorials, and learning resources such as Khan Academy, Wikipedia, encyclopedias, and many more that can connect with any Wi-Fi connectable device
- Works with or without internet access
- Supports self-paced and group learning



### Solar-Powered Infrastructure

- Reliable power source for off-grid communities
- Ensures continuous access to digital tools
- Compatible with school, community, or mobile classroom setups



### Why BENDIS?

- **Bridges the digital divide** in underserved regions
- **Enhances classroom teaching** with interactive content
- **Supports independent learning** through offline resources
- **Operates seamlessly even without internet**
- **Scalable** for schools and community centers



**Mission Impact:** Destiny Hands International is committed to transforming education by delivering

technology that is:

- **Accessible**
- **Sustainable**
- **Empowering**
- **Community-focused**



BENDIS project enables students and teachers to experience the benefits of 21<sup>st</sup>-century learning—anywhere, anytime!

### WHAT:

Mini-computer Lab & Digital Library for students & teachers

### WHERE:

Republic of Liberia

### WHEN:

July – June (Yearly)

### HOW MUCH?

Contact Info:

**Benjamin Kettor**  
President/CEO

Cell Phone No: +1 619-495-9798  
Email: [destinyhands21@gmail.com](mailto:destinyhands21@gmail.com)

Website: [www.destinyhands.org](http://www.destinyhands.org)

### SHIPMENT/TRANSPORT/TRAINING

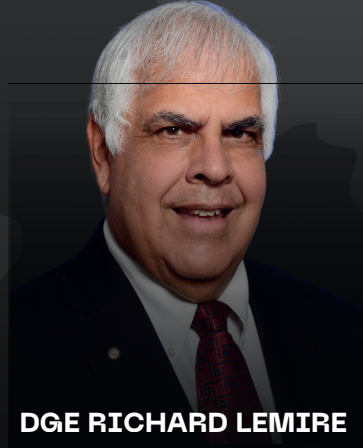
When purchased and/or assembled, project leader takes delivery of the package by flight to its destination. It fits into two pieces of luggage in keeping with TSA & Airlines travel requirements. Upon arrival, the equipment gets setup at a designated school for students and teachers alike. Destiny Hands also conducts training sessions with teachers on how to use the technology.

# CONGRATULATIONS DISTRICT 5330

*Presidents-elect*



DG NYRON MCLEAN



DGE RICHARD LEMIRE



DGN BRIAN PELLIS



DGN D DESS BENEDETTO

**FROM YOUR GOVERNOR LINE**

Rotary  
District 5330



[www.rotary5330.org](http://www.rotary5330.org)

Congratulations to DGE Monica Peters and the Presidents-Elect of District 5320. We look forward to a year of inspiring leadership, bold vision, meaningful impact, and service above self. Your District family is beyond proud.



Happy learning and best wishes to you all for a great year!

*DG Craig Livingston*

*DGN Heidi Larkin-Reed*

*DGND Donald Clinebell*

*Rotary District 5240 wishes District Governor-Elect Margarida Eidson and all President-Elects a productive, informative, and enjoyable 2026 SWPELS experience.*

*Together, let's Inspire Action and Create Lasting Impact in 2026–2027.*



**Rotary**  
District 5240





Do your club leaders look like this?



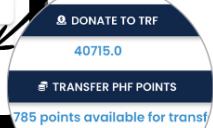
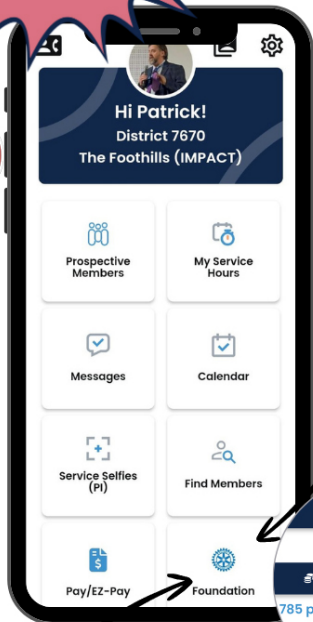
## Solutions for Club Management

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**Rotary**  
District 5280



*Congratulations*

**ROTARY DISTRICT 5280**

**PRESIDENTS-ELECT**

*Thank you for your leadership!*



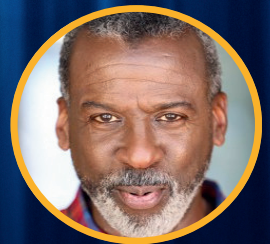
**ALEX PARAJON**  
DG 2025-26



**BRADY CONNELL**  
DG 2026-27



**JANICE LOWERS**  
DG 2027-28



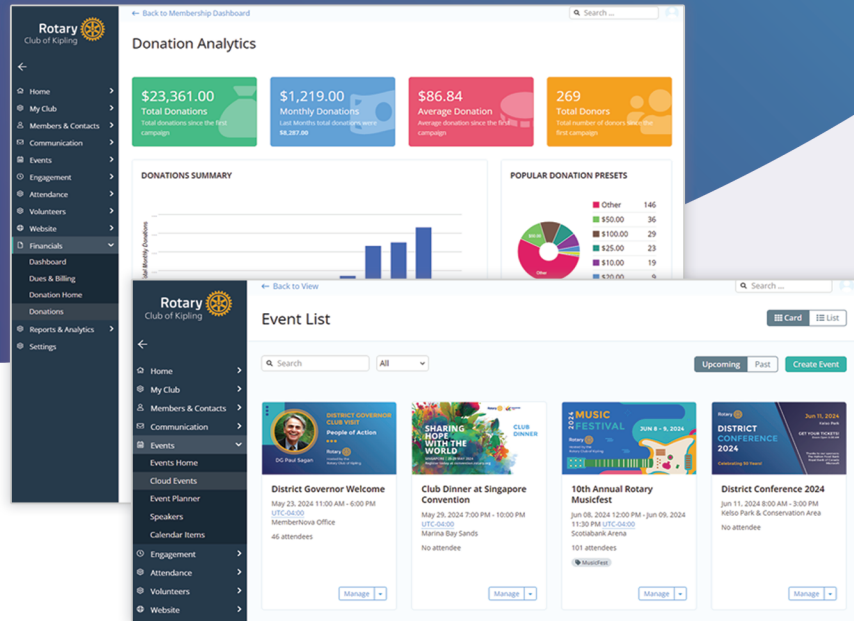
**LEON NIXON**  
DG 2028-29

**Rotary**  
District 5280









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Making aloha out of chaos is what Rotary does.

Mahalo nui (thank you very much) for your leadership and congratulations on becoming a club President for 2026-2027!


The District 5000 DG Line:

- Nancy Cabral
- Benson Medina
- Rich Proctor
- Beverly Heikes





TOGETHER, WE  
**END POLIO**

Rotary  PEOPLE OF ACTION



**Thousand Smiles**  
Foundation

**GET INVOLVED**



**THOUSANDSMILES.ORG**

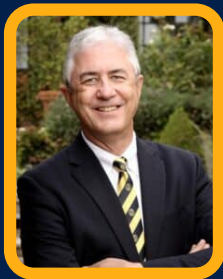
A cross-border, community nonprofit providing comprehensive cleft lip, palate, dental, and hearing care through a permanent clinic in Mexico founded by Rotarians.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PRESIDENTS ELECT

### Class of 2026 - 2027

From the picturesque streets of Pasadena to the Antelope Valley and the rugged terrains of the High Desert extending to the dynamic Las Vegas Valley, our mission is to positively impact lives and communities. We empower those we serve, fostering collaboration.



**Dennis Franklin**  
District Governor  
Elect



**Gilda Moshir**  
District Governor

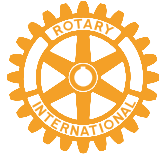
**Kari Anderson**  
District Governor  
Nominee



**Dave Thorson**  
District Governor  
Nominee Designate



# Rotary District 5340



## Congratulations!

### Rotary District 5340 Governors and Incoming 2026/27 Club Presidents!



**Luis Carranza**  
District Governor 25/26  
Rancho Santa Fe



**Jeb Bakke**  
District Governor 26/27  
Rancho Bernardo Sunrise



**Michael Brunker**  
District Governor 27/28  
San Diego



**Mora de Murguía**  
District Governor 28/29  
Chula Vista

Blythe  
**Jake Wiley**  
Bonsall  
**Dave Madsen & Sylvana Meeks**  
Borrego Springs  
**Karen Montano**  
Brawley  
**Mario Conde**  
Calexico  
**Brian Crumbaker**  
Carlsbad  
**Kori Dolkas**  
Carlsbad Hi-Noon  
**Rasha Roshdy**  
Chula Vista  
**Miriam Gonzalez**  
Chula Vista/Eastlake  
**Jeff Dasch**  
Coastal Encinitas  
**Karol McClelland**  
Coronado  
**Patricia Marganski**  
Coronado Binacional  
**Steve McDowell**  
Del Mar  
**Molly Fleming**  
Del Mar/Solana Beach  
**Yoana Lozano-Bautista**  
E Club of San Diego Global  
**Joe Mackey**  
El Cajon  
**Esther Musau**  
El Cajon Sunset

**Mike Brennan & Marie Gallagher**  
El Camino Real (Oceanside)  
**Brandon Lee**  
El Centro  
**Brian Driscoll**  
Encinitas  
**Al Owens**  
Escondido After 5  
**Glen Burford**  
Escondido East  
**Kendra Koed**  
Escondido Sunrise  
**James Wright**  
Escondido  
**Dale Mitchell**  
Fallbrook  
**Maritza Gonzalez**  
Fallbrook Village  
Holtville  
**Mark Gran**  
Imperial Valley (Breakfast)  
**Yingkang Lu**  
Kearny Mesa  
**Denise McGuire**  
La Jolla  
**Tim Fronczek**  
La Jolla Golden Triangle  
**Jose Aroeste**  
La Jolla Sunrise  
**Gabriela Contreras-Misirlioglu**  
La Mesa  
**Camille Chinoweth Moyer**  
La Mesa Sunrise

**Christopher Romero**  
Mission Valley Evening  
**Thomas Browning**  
National City  
**Renee Richardson**  
Oceanside  
**Cesar Cervantes**  
Old Mission  
**Christie Romano**  
Point Loma  
**Kristin Rayder**  
Poway-Scripps  
**Traci Jones**  
Ramona  
**Terri Hunter**  
Rancho Bernardo  
**Jean M. Larsen**  
Rancho Bernardo Sunrise  
**Suzan Holcomb**  
Rancho Santa Fe  
Route 78  
**Will Hage**  
San Diego  
**Carlos Carillo**  
San Diego Coastal  
**Mary Engles**  
San Diego Downtown  
**Lourdes Valdez**  
San Diego Downtown Evening  
**Manny Abenoja**  
San Diego Paradise Valley  
**Alan Geraci**  
San Marcos

**Irma Olachea**  
San Ysidro International  
**Eric Saretsky**  
Santee-Lakeside  
**Alisa Morrison & Jenny Parker, M.D.**  
Solana Beach Eco  
**Dora Maher**  
Southeast San Diego  
**Rosario Mallari**  
Sweetwater San Diego  
**Merritt Hougen**  
Torrey Pines  
**Amber Plascencia**  
Rotaract Chula Vista  
**Maryhanna Leeraas**  
Rotaract City Heights  
**Maxwell Hutchinson**  
Rotaract Escondido  
**Jimmy Irwin**  
Rotaract Pacific Beach  
Rotaract SDSU  
**Fiona Janik**  
Rotaract UCSD  
**Almedina Hozdic**  
Rotaract USD

**LEARN MORE ABOUT**  
District 5340  
clubs and projects  
serving San Diego and  
Imperial Valley.  
Visit us at [Rotary5340.org](http://Rotary5340.org).

# The ROTARY ACTION PLAN



**TOGETHER** WE SEE A WORLD  
 WHERE **PEOPLE** UNITE AND TAKE ACTION  
 TO **CREATE** LASTING  
**CHANGE** ACROSS THE GLOBE  
 IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND IN OURSELVES

As we work together to build a stronger world, **Rotary’s Action Plan — our strategic plan — is leading our organization to form more meaningful connections and make a more sustainable difference through service.** Using the plan’s four priorities as a guide, we’re fulfilling the vision of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation: creating healthy clubs, providing engaging experiences for all, and uniting people to take action with us to create lasting change.



## INCREASE OUR IMPACT

- Eradicate polio and leverage the legacy
- Focus our programs and offerings
- Improve our ability to achieve and measure impact

## EXPAND OUR REACH

- Grow and diversify our membership and participation
- Create new ways for participants to experience Rotary
- Increase club flexibility and appeal
- Build understanding of our impact and brand

## ENHANCE PARTICIPANT ENGAGEMENT

- Support clubs to better engage their members
- Improve understanding and support for individual participants
- Offer new opportunities for personal and professional connection
- Provide learning opportunities for leadership development and skill building

## INCREASE OUR ABILITY TO ADAPT

- Build a culture of research, innovation, and willingness to take risks
- Streamline governance, structure, and processes
- Foster more diverse perspectives in decision making



ROTARY CLUB CENTRAL

# TRUE OR FALSE

ROTARY'S MOST SUCCESSFUL CLUBS SET GOALS — AND NOT JUST FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR.

**TRUE.**

When club leaders think about the future and plan beyond their year, they set their club up for long-term success.

CLUB GOALS ARE ONLY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CLUB LEADERS.

**FALSE.**

Every club member is responsible for their club's success. And as a Rotary member, you too can use Rotary Club Central to view your club's short- and long-term goals.

## NEED HELP?

Head to the Rotary Learning Center and take the Rotary Club Central Resources course!

ROTARACTORS CAN'T USE ROTARY CLUB CENTRAL.

**FALSE.**

Rotaractors can access it and track goals, too! All you need is a My Rotary account to start planning your future.

MORE THAN HALF OF ROTARY CLUBS USE ROTARY CLUB CENTRAL TO TRACK THEIR GOALS.

**TRUE.**

Club leaders use this free tool to set goals and record accomplishments, while tracking goals like membership growth, service activities, and Foundation giving.

Start setting and tracking your club's goals now:





# CAMP BIG WEST

ROTARY ZONES 26 & 27  
2026 INSTITUTE



## THE WIGWAM RESORT

**Celebrating Today's Excellence  
Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders**



September  
**3-6**  
2026

*GUEST SUITES - POOLS - SPA - FINE DINING*

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR  
WYN SPILLER, CONVENER

LITCHFIELD PARK, ARIZONA (GREATER PHOENIX AREA)

Rotary   
Zones 26 & 27



SCAN QR CODE  
TO REGISTER





## STAY CONNECTED



**Follow us on Instagram**  
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**Follow us on Facebook**  
[facebook.com/SWRotaryPELS](https://www.facebook.com/SWRotaryPELS)



**Visit [southwestpels.org](http://southwestpels.org)**  
[www.southwestpels.org](http://www.southwestpels.org)

Share your experience using  
**#SWPELS2026**

**2027 Southwest PELS Date: February 17-21, 2027**