



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

July 10, 2025

John Katsilometes

Kats! Columnist



John Katsilometes is the man-about-town columnist for the Las Vegas Review-Journal and in Neon magazine. His Kats! column appears daily on page 3A and is updated regularly on the R-J's website, under the tab "KATS!". His Neon column runs every Friday in the magazine. He is a regular contributor to the RJ's "7@7" twice-daily online news program and appears weekly on KSNV Channel 3.

Prior to moving to the R-J in August 2016, Katsilometes was a columnist and magazine writer for the Las Vegas Sun and Las Vegas Weekly and editor-at-large for Greenspun Media Group. He has won numerous state and regional awards, including the 2013 Nevada Press Association's Journalist of the Year honor, and has been awarded four times for column writing by the Best of the West contest. He has been awarded with Nevada Press Foundation's best local column statewide four times, and in 2024 as awarded Best Podcast for the R-J series "Mobbed Up."

In March 2019, Katsilometes was inducted into the UNLV College of Fine Arts Hall of Fame for coverage of the city's arts and entertainment scene. In January 2024, he was honored by Nevada School of the Arts for his ongoing arts-and-entertainment coverage.

Katsilometes has lived in Las Vegas since 1996, having moved to the city the day the Stratosphere opened. Prior to moving to Las Vegas, Katsilometes was a sportswriter for the Chico Enterprise Record and Redding Record Searchlight in Northern California. Katsilometes is originally from Pocatello, Idaho, and most of his family lives there and in Boise. He says his hometowns share the same strong sense of community he has discovered in Las Vegas.

Upcoming Speakers

Growth – Vegas, The Future is Bright

07/10	John Katsilometes	Entertainment Journalist
07/17	Jeremy Walters	Community Engagement Director
07/24	Carol Frey	TIP Volunteer for 16 Years
07/31	Steve Escalante	Director Business Development (AI Hotel)

Membership Impact

08/07	PDG John Chase	Past District Governor
08/14	Rick Upchurch	Former NFL Player
08/21	DG Gilda Moshir	District 5300 Governor
08/28	Francesco Arezzo	Video from new RI President
08/28	Pam Lang	Pamela Lang Consulting

Our Club's Accomplishments

Good People, Doing Good Things, for People in Need.

- \$5,000.00 presented to Tyler Robinson Foundation on behalf of Howard and Howard and the Las Vegas Rotary Foundation. June 2025.
- \$4,000.00 was presented to McCall ES and \$6,900.00 was presented to Laura Dearing ES on behalf of PP Tom Thomas for Green our Planet programs and curriculum. June 2025.
- The Las Vegas Rotary Club secured a donation of backpacks through Amazon to benefit our school partners. July 2025.

Announcements

READY, SET, GO! The Annual Canned Food Drive under the direction of the 25 Club is open for donations. For 71 years the Las Vegas Rotary Club and the Kiwanis Club have had a healthy competition raising funds and collecting cans of food for the Holiday Season. Of course, there are bragging rights and a monster trophy on the line but more importantly, the meals we provide make a difference to so many.

WHAT IS ROTARY?

2024 - 2025
Rotary International President
Francesco Arezzo
District 5300 Governor
Gilda Moshir

Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves.

THE LAS VEGAS ROTARY CLUB'S MISSION:

Teaching Youth to Succeed through Literacy, Education & Life Skills Development

LAS VEGAS ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS 2025-2026

President

Janice Lencke

President Elect

Greg Maguire

Immediate Past President

Kirk Alexander

Secretary

Melanie Muldowney

Treasurer

Rita Burton

Elected Directors

Nancy Anderson

Niki Brunetti

Larry Cohn

Don Holland

David Jones

Antoinette Monroe

Melanie Muldowney

Brian Riley

Sarah Thornton

Susan Ziobro

Past

President Representative

Tom Krob

President's Message



As Las Vegas continues to experience rapid transformation, I thought it only fitting that our speaker theme for the month of July focuses on Vegas; the future is bright.

It is so exciting to live in a city that offers an innovative spirit and to experience continued growth and prosperity. It was amazing to read the news highlights such as the Vegas Loop expansion, College Football Playoff National Championships coming in 2027, Allegiant Stadium being awarded the top stadium in the country, the mega tradeshow that continue to boost our economy year after year, continued thriving entertainment, and the list goes on!

While Las Vegas presents opportunities for growth and development in an ever-evolving landscape, our club members continue to come together to create lasting changes, benefiting disadvantaged children, promoting education, and contributing to community development.

I am proud to be your President for the 2025-2026 year, and together we will continue to be focused on community service projects and working to make a positive impact towards our club initiatives.

Janice

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Volunteer Opportunities

Community Service is the heartbeat of the Las Vegas Rotary Club. Volunteer opportunities are listed here.
Join hands and make a difference!



Rotary Superhero's:
President Janice Lencke
& PE Greg Maguire

07/12	8:00am	Highway Clean-up & Brunch	Bonnie Springs Entrance
10/04	9:00am	Highway Clean-up & Brunch	Bonnie Springs Entrance
10/16	7:00am	Green Our Planet: Fall Giant Student's Farmers Market	Clark County Government Building
10/18	8:00am - 3:00pm	Rotary Park Clean-up	901 Hinson Street
11/27	12:00pm - 1:30pm	Canned Food Drive Presentation	Lawry's, The Prime Rib
12/04	7:30am - 10:00am	Santa Clothes	Local JC Penney Stores
01/10	9:00am	Highway Clean-up & Brunch	Bonnie Springs Entrance
04/11	9:00am	Highway Clean-up & Brunch	Bonnie Springs Entrance

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Social and Special Events

07/10	2:30pm	Wetzel Awards at Nellis Air Force Base
07/19	8:00am	Alpine Hike at Tom Thomas' Cabin
07/19	10:30am	Alpine Picnic following the hike
08/23	TBD	Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)
09/11	12:15pm	Guest of the Club: Elementary School Partners
09/15	8:30am	SOAR - Clark County Chambers at Government Center
10/03	5:30pm	Putting Tournament at Angel Park
10/09	12:15pm	Guest of the Club: Elementary School Partners
10/28	2:00pm - 4:00pm	VIP Tour - Mabel Hoggard Math & Science Magnet ES
11/13	12:15pm	Guest of the Club: Elementary School Partners

25 Club's Alpine Picnic & Hike

July 19, 2025
8:00 AM, Hike
10:30 AM, Picnic

\$10 per person; \$5 for children
Sign up in the Green Book

HOT DOGS & HAMBURGERS
ARE PROVIDED. PLEASE
BRING A DISH TO SHARE.



DID YOU KNOW!

As President Janice Lencke accepts the gavel in 2025, she is the 103rd President of the Las Vegas Rotary Club and the tenth female to hold the position for our club.

Rotary Event Virtual Clipboard



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▶ <http://fifthwheel.vrrotary.us/qr4android.apk>

Signups also on your home computer at
<http://fifthwheel.vrrotary.us>

July Rotarian Birthdays

Aris Lazarou..... July 6
Bob Potter..... July 12
Dan Adamson..... July 18
Lisa Motley..... July 15
Michael Cudiamat..... July 19
Mijung Lombardi..... July 30

Paul Maffey..... July 9
Robert DiGangi..... July 9
Sharon J. McNair..... July 21
Stephen Linder..... July 25
Tobias Kleff..... July 31



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Rotary History

Wetzel Awards | Emory Scott (Scotty) Wetzel | 1931-2003

In 2002-2003 under the leadership of President Jim Tucker, the Wetzel Awards were established in memory of Scotty Wetzel, a long time Rotarian and career Air Force Fighter Pilot.



As the story goes, while on a tour of Nellis Air Force Base, Scotty asked one of the commanders how the Club could support our military personnel. The commander replied that officers and senior enlisted members had existing opportunities for recognition, but that the junior people could really use another program. Out of that conversation, the idea of a regular program recognizing junior troops was born. Following Scotty's passing, it seemed only fitting to name the awards in his honor so that the program could serve as a living memorial to a great pilot, great officer, and great Rotarian.

Each quarter, the Las Vegas Rotary Club recognizes 5 service members from Nellis Air Force Based and Creech Air Force Base. The winners are nominated through their chain of command based on demonstrated job expertise, personal development efforts and community involvement.

Winners are recognized during a ceremony at Nellis Air Force base and are also hosted at a Las Vegas Rotary Club luncheon. Through the generosity of the Club and several community partners including Indigo, Lawry's the Prime Rib, and Station Casino's, the recipients receive a package of show tickets and dining certificates to afford them the chance for some nights on the town in Las Vegas.

Please join us today, July 10, for the first Wetzel Awards of the new Rotary Year at Nellis Airforce Base. We will meet in the parking lot off E. Craig Road and Las Vegas Blvd at 2:30 PM. Real NV ID or Military Badge required to enter the Base. Sign up in the green book or let Shawn know if you can attend.

Scribe Notes

President Kirk called to order the last meeting of the Rotary Year at 12:19pm.

Brian Riley shared his appreciation for Rotary's compounding effect on funds and experience with PDG **Dr Rampur Viswanath** in a Rotary Friendship Exchange to India for 3 weeks where he was able to find a solution to provide electricity and internet to a "hill station" school.

President Kirk introduced our speaker David Crete. He also recognized Rotarian of the Year **Kimberly McMahon** for all she does as District Chair of Rotary Youth Exchange.

Announcements included the Wetzel Awards at Nellis AFB on July 10, a recap on the USO event at the Aviators game at the Las Vegas Ballpark, and the Alpine Picnic on July 19. LVRF President **Jim Kohl** announced Summer Santa Clothes. **PP Jim Hunt** debriefed the Debunking at the home of **Jerry Engle**, with special thanks to his son for providing Encore A/V equipment assisted by **David Jones**.

Inducting our newest two members was **Melanie Muldowney**. **Larry Cohn** introduced **Kimik "Kay" Raheem**, and **PP Randy Donald** introduced **Branton Blount**.

In the raffle, **Lin Ng** drew the 6♥. **David Jones** won Lawry's Bucks.

ARIS LAZAROU

Pictures



Susan Ziobro helping us wish Tucker Sappington well on his new adventure!



Brian Riley, Nikki Junium and Melanie Muldowney



PP Richard Jost, Branton Blount and PP Randy Donald



Michael Williams, Jerry Engel, Bert Reiner and Mike Cudiamat



Gewn Hall & Larry Goldstein



Guest Speaker Dave Crete and Bill Stieren



Larry Cohn with guest Martha



Welcome new members Kimik Raheem and Branton Blount!



Lin Eng did not pull the Joker!



David Jones won the Lawry's Bucks



John Seibel, Debra Howard, Kimberly McMahon and Kimik Raheem



Kimberly McMahon was recognized as the Rotarian of the Year!

BRANTON BLOUNT



Michael Cudiamat RN, HCS-D
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Steve & Cindy Linder

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Weekly Showcase

NEW ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



Congratulations to **Francesco Arezzo**, Rotary International's President for 2025-2026! He is a proud member of the Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy, an orthodontist in private practice since 1980 and owns a farm that produces extra virgin olive oil. He and his wife, Anna Maria, are fans of art and music. He founded the Ragusa chapter of Fondo Ambiente Italiano (the National Trust for Italy), which focuses on the preservation of art and the environment. A Rotarian since 1988, he has served in many positions including Chair of an International Convention Committee and president of the editorial board of "Rotary Italia," in 2009-10. Both he and his wife are Benefactors and Major Donors to **#TheRotaryFoundation**.



DISTRICT 5300 DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Congratulations to **Gilda Moshir**, Rotary District 5300's new District Governor. **Gilda** is a proud Persian American immigrating to the US after the 1979 Revolution in Iran. **Gilda** was inducted into San Marino Rotary in 2012 and hit the ground running. She served the club as its Membership Chair, Community Grants Chair, RYLA Chair, Mini Grants Chair, Barth Scholarships Chair and as a member of the club board and the Charities Board becoming club president in 2016-2017. She has since served on many District positions, and her Rotary passion has been membership and inclusion. **Gilda's** "mode of operation" is to connect people who can benefit from each other's skills and talents to better the community. She is committed to serving people through Rotary, her profession, and the community programs she belongs to. We look forward to her visit to our Club this year.



LAS VEGAS ROTARY'S CENTENNIAL PROJECT

In 2023, in honor of its centennial anniversary, the Las Vegas Rotary Club donated \$104,000 to The Smith Center, extending its educational efforts in support of local youth across five programs over two years. Chris Hayes one of the young students that participated in the program has gone on and earned Best performance by an Actor at the 2025 Jimmy Awards® after a charismatic performance of Gaston in Beauty and the Beast. He earned the coveted trophy and a \$25,000 scholarship. Chris is going to the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music for Musical Theater in the fall. He performed as Gaston from Beauty and the Beast and sang from She Loves Me for his final performance. Thank you to **PP Caty Crockett** for her vision in guiding us to participate in this rewarding project.

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Rotarians In Action

Engage, Educate, Inspire



RI Convention – President Janice Lencke with Sylvia Whitlock



RI Convention – Giant Rotary Wheel



RI Convention – Our very own "Canadian" Murray



New 25 Club strategy meeting



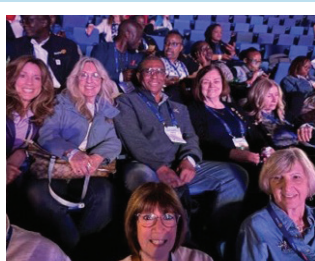
RI Convention – RYE Students



Aviator night team lead by PE Greg Maguire



RI Convention – Host hospitality night



RI Convention – LVRC waiting together for opening session



RI Convention – President Janice captured in flag exchange



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See Shawn Noorda to purchase yours!



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25 CLUB OFFICERS

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Las Vegas
Rotary
Club



Happy Rotary New Year!

Congratulations and Welcome Aboard!

Janice Lencke
Club President

Rosalee Hedrick
Foundation President

We are looking forward to an
AWESOME year
of Rotarians in Action!

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Wheel Creative and Print: Heather Saunders, PDQ of Las Vegas LLC

Wheel Content and Editor: Tina Bishop

Pictures and Scribe: 25 Club

Rotary Web Sites

Rotary.org – Rotary International

District5300.org - District 5300 Site

www.dacdb.com – District/Club Data Base



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