



UNITE FOR GOOD

April 23, 2026

2026 VALEDICTORIAN LUNCHEON

Today we proudly welcome Valedictorians from our local high schools —the best and brightest— whose achievement and resilience signal a future worth watching.

DIERDRE WOLOWNICK

Author, Educator & Trailblazer



WOLOWNICK'S award-winning writing is published worldwide, and her books have won 17 awards. For 44 years, she taught 5 foreign languages on 3 continents, and has been an independent publisher, international speaker (in 4 languages), tour guide, marathoner, rock climber, artist (painter), airline personnel (Air France) and more. She founded and created the West Sacramento Community Orchestra, which she conducted for 4 years, and through it all, has been a performing musician (piano, flute, others). She is the mother of 2 extreme athletes, one of whom is Alex Honnold, of the Oscar-winning film Free Solo. In 2017, she became the oldest woman to scale Yosemite's El Capitan, and the first feature-length documentary about her, Climbing Into Life,

won 13 awards at film festivals across the U.S. and will soon be available to the public. The second documentary feature about her, Au Pied du Mur / Inner Walls, was just released in Montréal. Her memoir, The Sharp End of Life, is now published in 5 languages, and her latest book, Success in 7 Steps, which has won 3 awards, distills all her successes into a simple, how-to method that anyone of any age or gender can follow, to finally achieve their dream goal.

Upcoming Speakers

People In Action

04/30 Todd Walter Scout Executive/CEO, Las Vegas Area Council

Small Business Recognition

05/07 Heather Brown Small Business Growth for NV – GOED

05/14 Juanny Romero Mothership Coffee

05/21 David Eclips Las Vegas Airport

05/28 Vanessa Barreat La Vecindad Cantina

Hospitality Industry

06/04 Ryan Comstock COO Ainsworth Gaming Technology

06/11 Stephanie Glanzer Chief Sales Officer & Senior Vice President at MGM Resorts International

06/18 David Strow VP Corporate Gaming, Boyd Gaming

Our Club's Accomplishments

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

- This year, our Club proudly hosted four quarterly Wetzel Awards, recognizing five outstanding active-duty Air Force members each quarter. These honorees represent the very best—demonstrating excellence in their careers, commitment to personal growth, and a strong dedication to serving others in their communities.
- A successful general assembly for 2025-2026 was conducted. It was designed to motivate and provide educational content for members.
- 20 volunteers came out for Highway Clean up.
- 3 Clubs joined forces to volunteer at the 2026 Touch A Truck. Representing the Las Vegas Rotary Club was Nancy Anderson, Karen and Randy Campanale, Suzette Wheeler, Toni Kern and Antoinette Monroe.

Check It Out!

Be part of the impact—volunteer, sponsor, or spread the word! Our annual fundraiser is May 16 at Springs Preserve, powering everything we do.

WHAT IS ROTARY?

2025 - 2026
Rotary International President
Francesco Arezzo
District 5300 Governor
Gilda Moshir

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders who work to address critical issues like promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water, supporting education, and growing local economies.

Rotary clubs around the world foster fellowship, encourage high ethical standards, and work to advance goodwill and peace.

THE LAS VEGAS ROTARY CLUB'S MISSION:

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

President's Message



This month's theme, People of Action, is a powerful reminder of why we joined Rotary.

Our Club's theme of "People of Action" celebrates members as proactive volunteers who turn ideas into meaningful change—locally and around the world. It reflects a shared commitment to service, collaboration, and creating sustainable solutions through club initiatives, district projects, and global partnerships.

What It Means to Be a "Person of Action" -

Making an Impact | Rotarians are driven by results. Whether it's expanding access to clean water, supporting education, or working to eradicate Polio, their projects are designed to create lasting, measurable changes in communities.

Showing Up | Service is more than intention—it's action. Members dedicate their time, skills, and energy to hands-on efforts that make a difference both locally and globally, strengthening communities through consistent involvement.

Building Connections | Collaboration is at the heart of Rotary. By forming partnerships with organizations, leaders, and community members, Rotarians promote peace, advance economic development, and support conflict resolution efforts worldwide.

Together, we are People of Action.

Janice

LAS VEGAS ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS 2025-2026

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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

David Jones

Antoinette Monroe

Melanie Muldowney

Shawn Sennett

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Todd Walter

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Past President Representative

Tom Krob

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Rotary Etiquette Essentials

The Art of Leadership

Every strong Rotary project has a secret ingredient—and it's not one heroic person doing everything. It's a Committee Chair, or Board Director who brings people in. A great leader doesn't hoard tasks; they share ownership, set the vision, and trust others to deliver. Not because they can't do it all—but because they shouldn't. Rotary thrives on shared effort, fresh ideas, and the energy that comes from everyone having a role.

Think of the best Chairs you've seen. They ask, "Who wants this?" instead of "I'll handle it." They follow up without hovering, give credit freely, and fix issues quietly. The result? Better outcomes and a team that comes back. Because in Rotary, leadership isn't doing it all—it's making sure it all gets done, together.



Rosalee Hedrick

Vice President
Business Development Officer
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Social and Special Events

April

- 04/13-05/07 Duration WestCare Nevada Suit Drive
- 04/24-04/26 All Weekend Multi District – District Conference at the Gaylord Resort

May

- 04/13-05/07 Duration WestCare Nevada Suit Drive
- 04/30-05/03 All Weekend Las Vegas Youth Exchange Weekend
- 05/02 5:30am Super Build - Chula Vista to Mexico
- 05/12 6:00pm Walter Bracken Dedication - by invitation only
- 05/14 12:15pm Guest of the Club: Elementary School Partners
- 05/16 7:00am-12:00pm Club Fundraiser at Springs Preserve
- 05/23 10:00am-4:00pm District Assembly at Granit Hills HS, Apple Valley

June

- 06/13-06/17 All Week Rotary International Convention in Taipei
- 06/25 6:00pm Debunking Party

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DID YOU KNOW!

Children's literacy is central to our mission—why? Because 1 billion people worldwide can't read, 25 million more fall behind each year, and one in four Americans is functionally illiterate.



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April Rotarian Birthdays

Patrick Ballinger	4/4	David Thorson	4/22
Erik Astramecki	4/6	Rosalee Hedrick	4/24
Annee Nounna	4/18	Aaron Campillo	4/25
Steven Kwon	4/22	Sarah Elizabeth Rothwell	4/27



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Rotary History

THE UNITED NATIONS – SHAPED BY ROTARIANS



In **April 1945**, as World War II was coming to an end, leaders from 50 nations gathered in San Francisco to build a path toward peace. Among them were dozens of Rotarians—people who believed that service, integrity, and collaboration could shape a better world.

Two Rotarians stood out. **Cordell Hull** helped lay the foundation for what would become the United Nations, guided by his belief in cooperation and open dialogue.

Herbert Hoover brought his humanitarian experience and global perspective to the effort. In all, 49 Rotarians served as delegates, advisors, or consultants—quietly influencing the outcome.

On June 26, 1945, the Charter was signed. By October, the United Nations was officially established. Rotary didn't found it—but the values of Rotary helped shape it. That's the art of being a Rotarian: showing up, serving with purpose, and leaving a mark—sometimes without ever taking the credit. **Pictured is Rotarian Cordell Hull signing the UN Charter.**

Scribe Notes

April 16, 2026 – **President Janice** opened the meeting at 12:10. **PP Brock Fraser** gave the Invocation; **Shawn Sennett** led us in song; and **PP Tom Krob** as Sergeant-at-Arms led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **President Janice** thanked those performing the duties for today's meeting and introduced those seated at the President's Table.



The Club welcomed Visiting Rotarian **Murray Flegel** of Calgary; and visiting Rotarian **Joe Sweeney** of the Prescott Valley Rotary Club, District-Governor-Elect for District 5495. **Brian Sorrentino** and **PP Toni Kern** introduced their guests; and **Larry Cohn** introduced three guests of the Club.

Larry Cohn and **PP Toni Kern** introduced two new members inducted today, **Harrison Fried** and **Allister Dias**, at 22 years of age, the youngest inductee in the Club's history. **PP David Thorson** performed the induction ceremony. **PP David Thorson** then welcomed the honorees and guests of this quarter's Wetzel Awards, recognizing Carol Wetzel, daughter of Scotty Wetzel.

In the announcements: **PP Toni Kern** recalled last week's Touch-a-Truck event and called for volunteers for next week's Green Our Planet Farmer's Market. **Gwen Hall** reminded of the Breakfast with Books events on Tuesday April 21. **Deb Howard** reminded of the Wine to Water event on April 17. **Randall Brody** called for volunteers to host and support the Rotarians from India under the Friendship Exchange from May 29-June 4. **Kimberly McMahon** called for volunteers to host and accompany participants in the International Youth Exchange Program visiting Las Vegas between April 30-May 2. **President-Elect Greg Maguire** held a moment of silence to honor a deceased Rotarian, the former Mayor of Adrian; and called for more engagement in the Fundraiser - The First Annual Las Vegas Rotary Fun Run and Pancake Breakfast at Springs Reserve on May 16. **Larry Goldstein** noted that the winner of our Four Way Speech Contest, competes this Saturday in the Southern Nevada Regional Contest. **David Jones** noted that the Dan Stover Music Competition takes place Friday afternoon at 2:00pm. **Rosalee Hedrick** announced the WestCare Suit Drive, calling for donations of lightly used men's and women's until May 7.

President Janice announced that **Liz Rothwell** solved the riddle to win this week's Surprise and Delight. **Rampur Viswanath** was highlighted in the Member Spotlight of this week's Wheel, which also extended a Club welcome to **Kris Darnell**. **Nareg Aghjayan** won the raffle, but not the Jackpot; and **Larry Rouse** took home the Lawry Bucks.

The rest of the meeting was devoted to a comprehensive presentation of the Las Vegas Rotary Club Foundation by **PP Steve Casey**. **President Janice** closed the meeting at 1:30pm.

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Pictures



PP/DGND Dave Thorson & President Janice with Wetzel Award winners



New Member Induction: Harrison Fried



New Member Induction: Allister Dias



President Janice and Speaker PP Steve Casey



Head Table: Carol Wetzel, Gina Gentleman, PP Tom Thomas, Linda Casey, PP Steve Casey, & Rosalee Hedrick



New Member Induction: Allister Dias, PP Toni Kern, Harrison Fried, Antoinette Monroe, Larry Cohn, PP/DGND Dave Thorson & President Janice Lencke

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ROTARY'S
AREAS OF
FOCUS

Weekly Showcase

WESTCARE ANNUAL SUIT DRIVE



Dress for the Life You're Building - We're suiting up for impact—again. In partnership with WestCare Nevada, LVRC launches the 3rd Annual Suit Drive in honor of Mother's Day, culminating May 7. Donate lightly used men's or women's suits (on hangers) at upcoming meetings or drop directly at WestCare Nevada. Each suit carries more than style—attach a handwritten note of encouragement (provided) to pass along confidence and hope.

The impact is real: last year, recipients shared pride, renewed confidence, and 21 of 40 secured jobs. That's dignity in action. **Questions? Connect with Rosalee or Toni.**

One suit. One note. One life stepping forward.

ROTARY FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE

An exciting Friendship Exchange opportunity awaits Las Vegas Rotary clubs! From May 29 to June 4, 2026, we will host seven Rotarians from District 3040, India, three couples and one single, who are



eager to experience our American way of life, Rotary service, and the best of Las Vegas. We need three primary host families or individuals to provide accommodations, breakfast, and local transportation support. Additional backup hosts and volunteers are needed for transportation, shared meals, activities, and guided tours. Note that guests prefer no pork or beef dishes, with several being vegetarian. Those who host or volunteer will receive priority for upcoming outbound Friendship Exchanges. **Contact Randall Brody immediately at Randall.Brody@taxsamaritan.com if you can assist.**

Member Spotlight

Liz Rothwell

Liz Rothwell has been part of the Las Vegas Rotary Club since 2023, bringing with her a spirit of curiosity and a passport always ready for the next adventure. Originally from Virginia and shaped by years in California, she made Las Vegas home in 2021—trading coastlines for desert skies without missing a beat.



A true lifelong learner, Liz has reinvented herself more than once, earning degrees in computer science, education, and construction management—each chapter adding a new layer to her perspective. She also holds a real estate license and is a certified travel advisor, ultimately turning her passion into purpose with her own agency, Adaptable Travels. For Liz, travel isn't just about destinations—it's about discovery.

When she's not planning journeys for others, you'll find her exploring the arts, hiking scenic trails, or hitting the open road with her partner, Rodney Tucker. She appreciates the quiet beauty of the northwest valley—and has zero patience for abandoned shopping carts or fake service animals.

Fun Fact: Liz never misses a chance to try a new potato chip flavor—her travel adventures might just be fueled by crunch.



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Las Vegas
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Celebrate America 250

A Community Day In The Park Springs Preserve

Saturday, May 16
7:00 to 4:00 pm



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information and to buy tickets.

All Hands On Deck:

- Finding Sponsors
- Finding Vendors
- Invite your friends, family, coworkers and community supporters to attend the event
- Volunteers leading up to and during the event



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Rotary Web Sites

Rotary.org – Rotary International

District5300.org - District 5300 Site

www.dacdb.com – District/Club Data Base



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