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GOOD**

May 28, 2026

## VANESSA BARREAT

*La Vecindad*



My name is Vanessa Barreat, and I am the co-founder of La Vecindad alongside my husband and business partner, Raúl Martínez. Originally from Venezuela, I came to the United States with a dream of building something meaningful for my family and community through entrepreneurship and hospitality.

What started as a small family venture eventually grew into La Vecindad Family Restaurant and La Vecindad Cantina in Las Vegas. Our goal has always been to create more than just a restaurant experience, we wanted to build a place where people could feel nostalgia, culture, music, family, and connection the moment they walked through the doors.

Over the years, our business has received multiple “Best of Las Vegas” recognitions, was featured on the Cooking Channel’s Food Paradise, and in 2025 our company was honored by the U.S. Small Business Administration as the Family-Owned Small Business of the Year. My husband and I were also recognized as East Las Vegas Community Heroes for our community involvement and support initiatives throughout Southern Nevada.

Beyond business growth, I am passionate about supporting and advocating for small businesses, mentoring entrepreneurs, and giving back to the community that has supported our journey. I have participated in entrepreneurship and advocacy discussions in Washington, D.C. and continue working on expanding the La Vecindad brand through future concepts focused on family, culture, and community. I am grateful for the opportunity to share our story and experiences with the Las Vegas Rotary Club.

## Our Club’s Accomplishments

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

- *The Wine to Water Auction and event raised \$3,478.45 for One Drop.*
- *The May 16th Celebrate America 250 fundraiser celebrated 258 tickets sold and \$21,000 net profit that will be used in the future on projects primarily for children, military outreach, and assisting those less fortunate in the community.*
- *On May 2, 2026, Rotary Clubs throughout District 5300 came together for the annual SuperBuild, a remarkable service project in which volunteers build a home in Mexico for a family in need—all in a single day.*
- *Five enthusiastic Kideract students from Bracken Elementary School joined us last week, bringing great energy and curiosity as they participated in Las Vegas Rotary Club meeting activities.*

## Check It Out!

Only three meetings remain before we “go dark” and hilariously debunk President Janice Lencke—queen of Surprise & Delight, fines, and an unforgettable well-planned year—June 25!

## 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.*

## Upcoming Speakers

### 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
06/25	DARK	President’s Debunking

## THE LAS VEGAS ROTARY CLUB’S MISSION:

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

**LAS VEGAS ROTARY  
CLUB OFFICERS 2025-2026**

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**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

Sarah Thornton

Todd Walter

Susan Ziobro

**Past President**

**Representative**

Tom Krob



**President's Message**

To wrap up our May theme recognizing small businesses, I hope you enjoyed hearing from our speakers and have gained a deeper understanding of the impact small businesses have on our city. Their contributions are essential to our local economy, our communities, and the vibrancy of Las Vegas.

Supporting small businesses in Las Vegas also means knowing and utilizing the resources available to help them grow and thrive. Key support organizations include the Nevada SBDC, the Vegas Chamber's Small Business Resource Center, and the City of North Las Vegas Small Business Connector—each offering valuable tools, guidance, and opportunities for entrepreneurs.

We can also make a meaningful impact by intentionally supporting our local districts and business corridors. Exploring the 18b Arts District, dining in the Fremont East Entertainment District, or visiting the unique boutiques at Downtown Container Park are simple yet powerful ways to invest in our community. Engaging with local vendors in these vibrant neighborhoods, especially during events like Friday, directly strengthens our local economy and celebrates the creativity of Las Vegas.

*Janice*

**Say Hello!**

**Markus Bohi**

Please help welcome back returning member **Markus Bohi** to the Las Vegas Rotary Club. A Swiss-American entrepreneur, author, and advocate for alternative education, Markus brings a global perspective shaped by leadership roles across the United States, Canada, Hong Kong, and Switzerland. Throughout his career as a CEO, consultant, and board member, he has specialized in brand management, international business, and strategic growth.



Inspired by his Swiss roots and nontraditional academic journey, Markus is passionate about vocational education, apprenticeships, and lifelong learning. Through consulting, writing, mentoring, and real estate work in California and Nevada, he encourages others to turn practical skills and personal passions into meaningful careers.

Rotary service is also part of **Markus's** family tradition. His father is a founding member of Rotary Club Frauenfeld, founded in 1961. Outside of work, **Markus** enjoys traveling with his wife Sandy, skiing, snowboarding, running, biking, and competing in distance races. We are delighted to welcome Markus back to Rotary and look forward to his fellowship, insights, and international perspective.

**Rotary Etiquette Essentials**

**The Art of Retention**

One of the best measures of a healthy Rotary club is not how many members join, but how many choose to stay. Retention reflects a club's culture — whether members feel welcomed, valued, included, and connected. Every Rotarian helps shape that experience. A greeting by name, an invitation to lunch, introducing newer members to others, or explaining club traditions can make a lasting difference. Many members decide within their first year whether they truly belong. Retention also grows through meaningful service, fellowship, and involvement.

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# Social and Special Events

## May

05/29-06-04 All Week Rotary Friendship Exchange

## June

05/29-06/04 All Week Rotary Friendship Exchange

06/05 5:15pm USO - Aviators Night at the Ballpark

06/13-06/17 All Week Rotary International Convention in Taipei

06/25 6:00pm Debunking Party



Rotary International Convention



13-17 JUNE 2026

### DID YOU KNOW!

Caty Crockett was LVRC's first female president — and remains the club's only two-time president, serving in 1995–96 and again during 2022–23's Centennial year.

Rotary Event Virtual Clipboard

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- ▶ Use your phone's QR code App
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Signups also on your home computer at <http://fifthwheel.lvrotary.us>

## May Rotarian Birthdays

Gregory Maguire..... 5/1  
 Randall Brody..... 5/5  
 Lia Roberts..... 5/7  
 Taylor Neu ..... 5/8  
 Randall Campanale ..... 5/9  
 Christopher Emanuel ..... 5/9  
 Carey Grohs..... 5/11  
 Suzette Wheeler..... 5/12

Branton Blount..... 5/19  
 Lawrence Cohn..... 5/22  
 David Squier ..... 5/24  
 Lawrence Rouse ..... 5/26  
 Eric Schimmoller..... 5/26  
 Rene Gamero Jr. .... 5/29  
 Norbert Reiner..... 5/30

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# Rotary History

## 1940 Time Capsule

Preserved inside a "time capsule" in a cornerstone of the Union Pacific Railroad station in 1940, this photograph captures an early moment in early Las Vegas Rotary history — remaining hidden for nearly 30 years until the station's demolition around 1970.



The photograph captures a festive Las Vegas Rotary Club Christmas celebration in front of the historic Hotel Apache on Fremont Street. Beginning in 1938, the club held its weekly meetings in the Kiva Club, located in the hotel's basement, making the Apache an important gathering place during Rotary's early years. The hotel also served as the setting for that year's Christmas party.

Although many of the Rotarians in the photograph have been lost to history, several familiar names remain. Seated beside a waving Santa Claus in an automobile marked "Rotary Xmas Party" is club president **Archie "A.C." Grant**, who led the Las Vegas Rotary Club during 1939–40. Nearby sits club secretary **Bryan L. Bunker**, who would later serve as president in 1941–42. Bunker was also well known in the community as the operator of the local Ford dealership for nearly three decades.



# Scribe Notes

**May 21, 2026 – President Janice Lencke** opened the meeting at 12:10 pm. This month the Las Vegas Rotary Club celebrated Small Business Recognition Month, and the continued impact local businesses have on strengthening our community. Members were reminded to check their emails for updated pledge forms, committee sign-ups, and information regarding the upcoming Rotary year. The Invocation and Song were lead by **Don Holland** and the Pledge of Allegiance by the Sargeant at Arms, **PP Karen Whisenhunt**. Guests of the Club, visiting Rotarians and Member's guests were announced including an update on the health of Murray Flegel, Rotarian from Calgary that winters with the Las Vegas Rotary Club.

Announcements: **PE Greg Maguire** thanked everyone who participated, sponsored, or volunteered for the inaugural event. 258 tickets were sold and approximately \$21,000 net was raised for the LV Rotary Foundation. **Deb Howard** announced that the Wine to Water event raised just over \$3,000 benefiting One Drop. **PP Kirk Alexander** reminded us about the upcoming President's debunking party and promised more information to follow. **Susan Ziobro** asked for Volunteers for the annual Aviator's Night Out in partnership with the USO. **Martha Garcia** talked about her experience at SuperBuild, as a first-time experience. **Randall Brody** gave an update on the Rotary Friendship exchange with visitors from India due here next week. **Kathy Govoreau** talked about the upcoming 25 Club graduation and social.

Presentations: **PP Dave Thorson** conducted an Induction ceremony for returning member of this club, **Markus Bohi**. **Antoinette Monroe** represented the Membership Committee and **Bob Werner** introduced him and is his sponsor. The proceeds of \$3,478.45 from our Wine to Water fundraiser was presented to Julie Murray from the Moonridge Group for One Drop. Members of the committee were recognized: **Debi Howard, Liz Rothwell, Melanie Muldowney and PP Randy Donald**. **Dr. Kathy Mahon** presented a gift to **Executive Director Shawn Noorda** for her valuable help in organizing the highly successful Valedictorian Luncheon. Surprise and Delight was won by **Anil Melnick**. **Larry Goldstein** won the Lawry Bucks and **Susan Ziobro** got a chance at the raffle pot.

**Branton Blount** introduced the speaker Christopher Fenton, Managing Director of the Planning Division for the Clark County Department of Aviation, shared updates on the future growth and modernization of Harry Reid International Airport. **President Janice** closed the meeting at 1:30pm by sharing appreciation for the continued dedication of Rotary members and community partners working together to strengthen Southern Nevada through leadership and service.

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# Pictures



*New Member Induction: Markus Bohi, Bob Werner, Antoinette Monroe, & PP/DGND/PP Dave Thorson*



*PP Toni Kern with guests of President Janice*



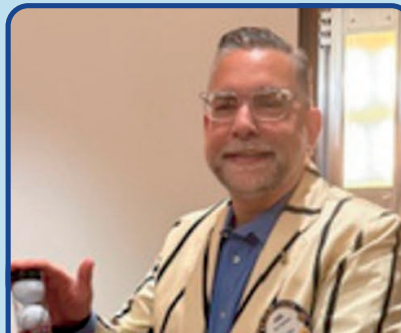
*Innovation: Don Holland*



*Head Table: PP Steve Casey, 2 guests of the speaker, Branton Blount and Speaker Christopher Fenton*



*Speaker Christopher Fenton*



*Surprise & Delight: Anil Melnick*



*Larry Goldstein*



*Dr. Kathy Mahon presented a gift to Executive Director Shawn Noorda for her Valedictorian Luncheon assistance*



*Wine to Water Donation: Julie Murray, Moonridge Group for One Drop, President Janice & PE Greg Maguire*



*Greeters: Suzette Wheeler and Harrison Fried*

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ROTARY'S  
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# Weekly Showcase

## Celebrate America 250 - Recap



The Las Vegas Rotary Club's Celebrate America 250: A Community Day in the Park at the Springs Preserve was both a meaningful community celebration and a successful fundraiser. The event was held May 16, 2026, and the event brought together sponsors, vendors, volunteers, families, Scouts, youth involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters, and community partners for a day focused on patriotism, service, fellowship, and community connection.

Highlights included a fun run/walk to Boomtown through the Springs Preserve grounds, a pancake breakfast catered by Curator Catering, vendor booths,

LVRC craft tables, community exhibits, and family-friendly activities. Community support was exceptional, with 32 sponsors, 12 vendor and craft tables, more than 50 volunteers, and over 1,000 volunteer hours contributing to the event's success. Attendance was strong, with 258 sponsor and purchased tickets sold.

A major focus of the event was inclusion and outreach. Through 52 donated tickets and additional private support, local Scouts, youth involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters, and other guests were able to attend at no cost. Financially, the fundraiser exceeded expectations, generating approximately \$35,700 in gross income, nearly \$9,500 in in-kind donations, and an estimated net income of \$21,000. The event also established a strong foundation for what could become an annual fundraiser for the club in future years.

The fundraiser was planned and executed under the leadership of President-Elect Greg Maguire and Past President Karen Whisenhunt. From initial planning and event setup to the coordination and execution of the many moving parts throughout the day, the event was widely regarded as both seamless and highly successful by every measurement. Proceeds support Las Vegas Rotary Club projects focused primarily on children, military outreach, and assisting those less fortunate in the community.

## Member Spotlight

### "Postcards" from Traveling Rotarians

Sharing a few travel highlights from members enjoying journeys near and far.

**Susan** and **"Z" Ziobro** recently enjoyed time in the Florida Keys, taking in a breathtaking sunset at Morada Bay in Islamorada. The trip was made even more meaningful as they reunited with fellow Marines and their wives, sharing memories, laughter, and friendship forged through years of service together.



**Larry Cohn** and **Mary Cohn** are pictured at the iconic Trevi Fountain while enjoying the adventure of traveling — and dining — their way through Italy, one unforgettable meal and destination at a time.



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# Rotarians in Action America 250 Highlights



PE & DJ Greg Maguire



President Janice



President Janice & the Boy Scouts



Jane Krob and Pam Samuolis



WestCare Booth



Kathy Govoreau, Nancy Anderson, Rita Burton, President Janice & Annee Nounna



District Assembly: Susan Ziobro, Andrew Thurlow, PE Greg Maguire, PP Toni Kern, Shawn Noorda, Rita Burton, PP Karen Whisenhunt, PEE Mike Cudiamat, President Janice Lencke and Nancy Anderson



Gwen Hall, Nancy Anderson, Tina Bishop

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Email: [admin@lasvegasrotary.com](mailto:admin@lasvegasrotary.com)  
Fifth Wheel: [fifthwheel.lvrotary.us](http://fifthwheel.lvrotary.us)  
Executive Director: Shawn Noorda

## LAS VEGAS ROTARY FOUNDATION 2025 - 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Rosalee Hedrick

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Pete Samuolis

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David Thorson

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David Thorson

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Thomas Thomas  
Gary Vause

## 25 CLUB OFFICERS

### President:

Elliott Harris

### Secretary:

Kathy Govoreau



**Celebrate America 250**  
**A Community Day In The Park**  
**Springs Preserve**  
**Saturday, May 16, 2026**

**What a Fun and Successful Event!**

**A heartfelt THANK YOU to all our Sponsors, Vendors, Attendees and Volunteers for making it such a memorable day!**

- Sponsors = **32**
- Vendors and LVRC craft tables = **12**
- Volunteers, approximately **51** including Rotarians, family and Scouts
- Sponsors tickets and purchased tickets = **258**
- 52 donated tickets, in addition to privately purchased tickets, helped provide free admission for about 20 Scouts, 21 participants from Big Brothers Big Sisters, an additional 20 guests from the park, and others.
- In-Kind Donations = **\$9,500** (approximate)
- Gross Income = **\$35,700** (approximately)
- **Net Income = \$21,000 (approximately)**



**Security101**

**TEAM101**

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](http://Rotary.org) – Rotary International

[District5300.org](http://District5300.org) - District 5300 Site

[www.dacdb.com](http://www.dacdb.com) – District/Club Data Base



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