



Las Vegas
Rotary
Club



**CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT**

September 10, 2026

CHIEF CARLITO RAYOS **DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF, CLARK COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT**



Chief Carlito Rayos serves as Deputy Fire Chief for the Clark County Fire Department, following his promotion on March 31, 2025. He helps plan, organize, and administer a countywide fire protection and prevention system serving both urban areas and Laughlin.

His oversight includes fire investigation, public information and education, hazardous materials, training, technical rescue, and specialized teams and programs led by subordinate chiefs and coordinators, bringing broad operational and administrative perspective to emergency services leadership.

A second-generation Las Vegas native, Chief Rayos brings nearly two decades of experience in public safety, emergency management, homeland security, criminal investigations, and public policy. Before becoming Deputy Fire Chief, he served as Assistant Fire Chief for the Investigation Division and

as Hazardous Materials and Critical Infrastructure Coordinator.

Prior to joining CCFD, he served with the Moapa Tribal Police Department and the City of North Las Vegas, where he supported fire investigations and represented the city on the Southern Nevada Arson Group and Southern Nevada Joint Terrorism Task Force.

Chief Rayos also served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Army, with experience in military police, psychological operations, maritime law enforcement, and weapons-of-mass-destruction response support. He completed three command tours and served as operations officer for the 92nd Civil Support Team-Weapons of Mass Destruction. Earlier, he served as a criminal investigator and city council liaison for the City of Las Vegas, and continued community service as a reserve Las Vegas marshal, CCFD Rural Division volunteer firefighter, and part-time firefighter/EMT with Mesquite Fire and Rescue.

He holds certifications as a Hazmat Specialist, Firefighter II, Fire Instructor II, Fire Officer II, EMT, Fire and Explosives Investigator, Fire Investigation Technician, and Certified Emergency Manager, along with advanced degrees in Public Administration and Crisis and Emergency Management.

Upcoming Speakers

09/17	Josef Diaz, Nevada State Museum
09/24	Josh Pastner, UNLV Men's Basketball
10/01	Dina Babsky, Las Vegas Economic & Urban Development
10/08	Mauricia Baca, NV State Director, Nature Conservancy
10/15	Ken Winana, Winans Investment, Las Vegas Western Wall street
10/22	Art Zargaryan, Pegasus Development, Mayor's Fund, Community Schools
10/29	Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, Nevada Senator

Our Club's Accomplishments

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

- Six members stuffed 100 backpacks with school supplies, donated by Amazon, and delivered them to our six sponsored schools on 08/21.
- Rotarians joined 28 RYE students from 17 counties for a weekend orientation in Running Springs, with students hosted by Rotary clubs in Southern CA, NV, UT, AZ and Hawaii. Four are from our district, including two hosted by our club. 08-22-23.
- 25 Club hosted a successful Alpine Picnic with 86 registered members and guests on 8/29.
- On 9/3 a community grant for \$2,500 was presented to the LVMPD Foundation DREAM program, a 12-week youth mentoring and outreach initiative targeting youth ages 10-18.

Check It Out!

Help us continue to **Celebrate America 250** by joining us for our **Annual Golf Putting Tournament & BBQ** on Thursday, October 8 at 5:30 PM at Angel Park Golf Club! Bring the kids, your family, friends and business associates for an evening of fun, food, fellowship and friendly competition!

WHAT IS ROTARY? 2026 - 2027

Rotary International President
Olayinka Hakeem Babalola
Rotary Club of Trans Amadi, Nigeria

District 5300 Governor
Dennis Franklin
Rotary Club of Glendora

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

LAS VEGAS ROTARY CLUB OFFICERS 2026-2027

President

Greg Maguire

President Elect

Michael Cudiamat

Immediate Past President

Janice Lencke

Secretary

Susan Ziobro

Treasurer

Rita Burton

Elected Directors

Nancy Anderson

Larry Cohn

Debra Howard

Antoinette Monroe

Eric Schimmoeller

Shawn Sennett

Sarah Thornton

Andrew Thurlow

Todd Walter

Susan Ziobro

Past President

Representative

Karen Whisenhunt

President's Message



Where Were You on September 11?

This week marks the 25th anniversary of September 11, 2001, a day none of us should ever forget. I was on active duty in the U.S. Navy, stationed in Jacksonville, Florida. I had returned from deployment the night before and was speaking with my dad that morning while watching Mark Haines on CNBC. The broadcast suddenly cut into images of a plane striking the World Trade Center. Then the second plane hit, and the impossible became unmistakable. America was under attack.

Within minutes, I was heading to Mayport Naval Station. Within an hour, I was airborne, flying air patrol missions over Jacksonville. We did not know whether more attacks were coming. We knew only that our country had been attacked, and that we had a duty to respond. The day became personal when we heard we lost our former squadron mate, Lieutenant Commander Eric Cranford, at the Pentagon. His name is inscribed on the 9/11 Memorial at the Pentagon, as well as on the National September 11 Memorial in New York City. Nearly 3,000 people were killed, including first responders, military personnel, office workers, travelers, and visitors. Their families and communities continue to carry that loss.

Among the victims were Rotarians, people committed to "Service Above Self." Their lives remind us that Rotary is part of the communities we serve, and when those communities suffer, we suffer with them.

The USS NEW YORK also stands as a powerful symbol of remembrance and resilience. Built with steel recovered from the World Trade Center, the ship carries a piece of that tragedy forward in service to our nation. Its very existence reflects how something broken can be transformed into strength, purpose, and hope.

In much the same way, the lives of those we serve can be rebuilt with what I think of as "Rotarian steel", the compassion, commitment, courage, and practical support that Rotarians bring to people facing hardship. Through our service, we help others regain their footing, sail forward into new futures, and discover promises of rebuilding after loss.

Greg Maguire

Greg Maguire

President, Las Vegas Rotary Club 2026-2027

Member Spotlight

John "JR" Richard



Say hello to John "JR" Richard, one of the newest members of the Las Vegas Rotary Club. JR started his career in finance as a financial advisor before spending fifteen years building and leading revenue organizations across recruitment, events, healthcare, and technology. Today he leads revenue operations at Stimulus Technologies, the Las Vegas IT and managed services firm that keeps valley businesses from ever getting the 2 a.m. network emergency call, and JR's job is making sure the people answering it can keep doing so.

Earlier in his career, he helped scale Fortem International from zero to twenty million dollars in annual recurring revenue across seven flagship trade shows, including White Label Expo, and led healthcare recruitment for the Qatar 2022 FIFA World Cup through

Young Health Recruitment. JR holds a BS (Honours) in Health, Wellbeing and Social Care from the University of Bradford in the UK.

Outside of work he is the very proud father of an eighteen month old daughter and her newborn baby brother, which makes him a leading current authority on functioning cheerfully on very little sleep. He is a serious godfather to several small people who will one day realize they cannot get away with much, and a firm believer that a good cup of tea and a good stick solve most problems a good deal cannot.

JR found the club online, liked what he saw, and the rest is history. Pull up a chair at a Thursday lunch and welcome him properly. Just do not challenge him on tea. He has credentials.

September Rotarian Birthdays

Kimberly McMahon.....9/3	Jerry Sennes.....9/12	Todd Walter.....9/19
Janet Ravin.....9/9	Ned Phillips.....9/15	Debi Howard.....9/22
Caty Crockett.....9/12	Rampur Viswanath.....9/16	Richard Jost.....9/25

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Social and Special Events

September

Basic Education and Literacy Month

Thursdays 12:15 pm Weekly meeting, Lawry's the Prime Rib

Unless stated below, weekly meetings will be on Thursdays

09/12	01:00 pm	Hands-on at Salvation Army Owens Campus "One Meal at a Time-Create Lasting Impact"
09/17	01:35 pm	Board of Directors meeting
09/21	08:00 am	S.O.A. R. - Safety Officer Awards Recognition
09/22	09:30 am	Breakfast/Snack Time with Books at Hollingsworth ES
09/24	11:30 am	Education Committee Meeting before general meeting
09/29	07:30 am	Breakfast/Snack Time with Books at Beckley ES
09/29	11:00 am	Discover Rotary Membership Event

Weekly Showcase

Rotary Recognizes Clark County Safety Officers

Each year, Southern Nevada Rotary clubs come together to recognize the dedicated men and women who serve and protect Clark County through the **Safety Officer Award Recognition (SOAR)** program. The awards celebrate local "everyday heroes" whose courage, professionalism, and commitment make a lasting difference in the community.

The program recognizes individuals from a variety of public-safety agencies, including law enforcement, fire departments, emergency services, military organizations, and school police. Recipients are honored for acts of bravery, outstanding service, leadership, and their dedication to helping others.

For Rotary, the recognition reflects its long-standing motto, "Service Above Self." The awards provide an opportunity for community leaders, fellow officers, families, and Rotarians to publicly express their appreciation for those who put the needs and safety of others first. SOAR 2026 is Monday, September 21, 2026 at 8 a.m. at Las Vegas City Hall. Everyone is welcome to come.

The SOAR program is more than an awards ceremony—it is a celebration of the people who quietly serve Clark County every day. By recognizing their contributions, Rotary reminds the community of the importance of courage, compassion, leadership, and service.



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Rotarians in Action



Randall and Connie in
Wally World



Happy Birthday Lin



Welcome to the Birthday Table



PP Jim living the life on a layover in Hawaii



Randall visits RI Headquarters



Wishing our Rotarian Pete a speedy recovery from
his broken ankle

Scribe Notes

September 3, 2026 –President Greg opened the meeting at 12:15pm. **Tom Fumarelli** gave the Invocation; **PP Richard Jost** led us in song; and **Larry Cohn** led the Pledge of Allegiance as Sergeant-at-Arms. **President Greg** thanked those covering the luncheon duties and introduced the President's Table.

The Club welcomed a visiting Rotarian from the Boulder City Rotary Club; **Major Kyle Smith**, **Eric Schimmoeller**, and **Linda Petersen** each welcomed personal guests; and **Erika Brandeberry** introduced a guest of the club. **Sarah Thornton** and **President Greg** welcomed guests from the Las Vegas Metro Police Foundation.

President Greg drew attention to The Wheel's Member Spotlight on **Todd Walter**; and the Rotary Across the Nation and Across the World spotlights on the Rotary Club of Annapolis, MD, and the Rotary Club of Kingston, Jamaica.

We congratulated the Rotarian's celebrating birthdays this month and **David Jones** led us in singing *Happy Birthday*.

Announcements: President Greg encouraged all club members to complete the *Rotary Youth Protection Training Program*; reminded us of the Cook Meals event at the Ronald McDonald House on September 8; and drew attention to the *Mentorship Program* led by **Kimberley McMahon** and **PP Randy Donald**, and of the Club's \$8,000 request for a *District Grant* to support the Nevada Partners for Homeless Youth. He also announced that registration for next year's Rotary International Convention will open on Sept 17.

Sarah Thornton reminded us to vote for our club in the Best of Las Vegas contest. **Solea Rea** described the Alpine Picnic last Saturday and today's 25 Club meeting; and mentioned the upcoming *Canned Food Drive*. **President-Elect Mike Cudiamat** reminded us of the medical mission to the Philippines on October 23-26, calling for donations for Care Kits for Kids for this trip. He also asked for a volunteer to drive our RYE students to an event in Huntington Beach on Sept 19. **Major Kyle Smith** reminded us of the Salvation Army event on September 12. **Erika Brandeberry** spoke of the *Discover Rotary Membership* Event and lunch on Sept 29, and **Rene Gomero** informed us of the S.O.A.R. event honoring First Responders on Sept 21. **Larry Cohn** announced the next edition of the *Pickleball Fellowship* on Sept 22.

President Greg presented a Community Grant of \$2,500 to the Las Vegas Metro Police Foundation in support of their *DREAM Program*, a 12-week mentoring and outreach initiative for at-risk youth.

In 'Happy Bucks News', **Bob Werner** announced the publication of his book *The Florist to the Stars*; **Annee Nounna** described her month-long trip through Vietnam with her grand- and great-grandchildren; and **Erika Brandeberry** informed us of her election as President of the Business Network Organization.

Carolyn Sparks won the raffle, but did not find the Joker; and **Jorina** took home the Lawry Bucks.

Our Speaker, Karen Ambrose, COO of the Sunrise Children's Hospital, described the multi-faceted pediatric care the facility provides. Several club members gave moving testimonials of their personal experiences with the Hospital.

President Greg closed the meeting at 1:30pm.



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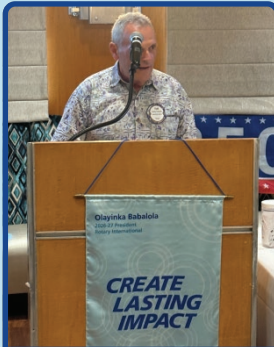
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Photos



PP Richard leads us in song on steroids, voted best presentation of the year!



Rotarian Tom Fumarelli on inspirational invocation



I pledge Allegiance to the flag...



President Greg and guest speaker Karen Ambrose, COO, Sunrise Children's Hospital



Pres Greg and Jorina wins the Lawry Bucks



Rita filling in for Shawn with Solea selling raffle tickets



Rotarians greeters



Head Table



Deb and Birthday Girl Kimberly



Rotarian Bill with visiting Rotarian from Boulder City



LVMPD Foundation receives a check for \$2,500 for the DREAM Program, at risk youth program



LVMPD Guests



Major Kyle with guest



Rotarian Eric and guest



Erika and guest



Linda and guest



Rotarian Carolyn wins the consolation prize for not drawing the joker

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Rotary
Across the Nation



Rotary Club of Downers Grove

Located just west of Chicago, Downers Grove is a community that blends small-town charm with the opportunities of a major metropolitan area. Its historic downtown, award-winning parks, and strong volunteer spirit have made it one of Chicago's most desirable suburbs. While it may not be a destination that draws international tourists, Downers Grove is known for something equally important—a community where neighbors invest their time and talents to improve the lives of others.

That commitment is reflected in the Rotary Club of Downers Grove. The club was chartered in 1949, is number 5569 and part of District 6450. For more than 75 years, its members have worked alongside local organizations to identify unmet needs and create lasting solutions, supporting everything from food insecurity and education to environmental stewardship and community grants.

One of the club's most inspiring connections is its long-standing partnership with Diveheart, an internationally recognized nonprofit founded by Rotarian Jim Elliott, a member of the Rotary Club of Downers Grove. You may recognize them from the August 2025 publication in Rotary Magazine. Diveheart uses adaptive scuba diving to help children and adults with physical, cognitive, and emotional disabilities discover confidence, independence, and new possibilities. What began in suburban Chicago has grown into an international organization with affiliate programs around the world and adaptive dive expeditions in destinations including Cozumel, Grenada, and Roatán. The program has transformed thousands of lives by demonstrating that disability does not have to define opportunity.

Closer to home, the Rotary Club of Downers Grove continues to strengthen its community through scholarships, grants, food security initiatives such as Blessings in a Backpack, and "Done in a Day" volunteer projects that address local needs throughout the year.

If you would like to visit the Rotary Club of Downers Grove, they meet every Tuesday at 7:00 a.m. at The Baked Apple Breakfast Co., in Downers Grove.

Rotary
Across the World



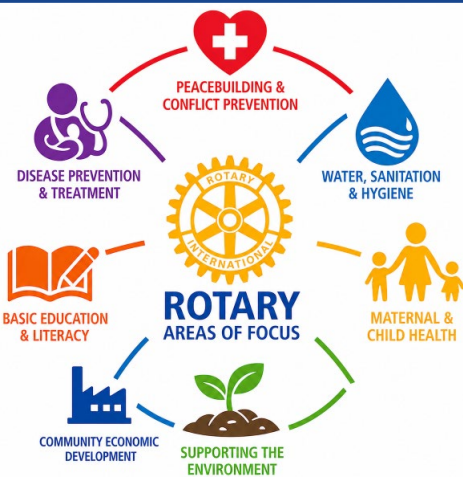
Rotary Club of Sarajevo

Surrounded by the Dinaric Alps and divided by the Miljacka River, Sarajevo is one of Europe's most fascinating cities. Often called the "Jerusalem of Europe," it is a place where mosques, churches, synagogues, and cathedrals stand within walking distance of one another, reflecting centuries of cultural and religious diversity. While many visitors come to learn about the city's pivotal role in world history, they also discover a resilient community that has rebuilt itself through determination, compassion, and hope. That same spirit of resilience defines the Rotary Club of Sarajevo. Originally founded in 1930, the club was forced to suspend operations during World War II and remained inactive for decades. Officially re-established in January, 2000, the club is number 52538 and part of District 1910.

One of the club's most significant long-term commitments has been improving healthcare and opportunities for people with disabilities. Working alongside Rotary clubs from around the world, members have donated wheelchairs, provided medical equipment to hospitals, and supported programs serving individuals with intellectual disabilities. The club is also helping develop a center dedicated to people with intellectual disabilities, creating opportunities for greater independence, inclusion, and community participation.

The club has also made an important contribution to rebuilding Bosnia and Herzegovina through humanitarian demining projects in the Goražde region, helping remove dangerous landmines left behind by war. Closer to home, members have organized clean-up efforts along the Miljacka River, established scholarship opportunities for promising students, and created the Rotary for Excellence concert series to recognize outstanding young musicians and scholars. Together, these initiatives reflect the club's enduring commitment to helping communities recover, grow, and thrive.

If you would like to visit the Rotary Club of Sarajevo, they meet quarterly at Hotel Europe in the heart of Sarajevo.



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Where Rotary Clubs Meet Southern Nevada, District 5300

1. Las Vegas Rotary Club

- **Where:** Lawry's The Prime Rib
- **When:** Thursdays @ 12:00–1:30 PM

2. Las Vegas Southwest Rotary Club

- **Where:** Lawry's The Prime Rib
- **When:** Mondays @ 12:15–1:30 PM

3. Downtown Las Vegas Rotary Club

- **Where:** Omelet House
- **When:** 1st–3rd Tuesdays @ 7:30 AM

4. Las Vegas WON Rotary Club

- **Where:** Fogo de Chão Brazilian Steakhouse
- **When:** 1st & 3rd Fridays @ 5:00 PM;
2nd Friday @ 12:00 PM

5. Las Vegas Summerlin Rotary Club

- **Where:** Red Rock Country Club
- **When:** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays @ 7:00 AM

6. Las Vegas Red Rock Rotary Club

- **Where:** PKWY Tavern (varies)
- **When:** Tuesdays @ ~6:30 PM

7. Las Vegas After Hours Rotary Club

- **Where:** Varies
- **When:** 1st, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays @ 6:00 PM

8. North Las Vegas Rotary Club

- **Where:** Gold Mine Tavern (may vary)
- **When:** Fridays @ 7:15 AM

9. Henderson Rotary Club

- **Where:** Varies
- **When:** Tuesdays @ 12:00 PM

10. Henderson After Hours Rotary Club

- **Where:** Grape Street Cafe & Wine Bar (varies)
- **When:** 2nd & 4th Wednesdays @ 6:00 PM

11. Green Valley Rotary Club

- **Where:** Wildhorse Golf Club
- **When:** Rotating Thursdays (AM & PM)

12. Boulder City Rotary Club

- **Where:** Boulder City (varies)
- **When:** Tuesdays (midday)

13. Boulder City Sunrise Rotary Club

- **Where:** Boulder Creek Golf Course
- **When:** Thursdays (morning)

Make Up Meetings
Rotary Clubs of
Southern Nevada
District 5300



REASONS TO VISIT ANOTHER ROTARY CLUB



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Rotary Network



Discover
New Ideas



Learn About
Community Impact



Find Partnership
Opportunities



Experience Different
Club Cultures



Hear Outstanding
Speakers



Strengthen Rotary
Fellowship



Stay Inspired and
Motivated

★
Rotary Clubs of Southern Nevada
District 5300

14. Pahrump Valley Rotary Club

- **Where:** Artesian Cellars Winery (plus rotating)
- **When:** Midday + 4th Tuesday @ 6:00 PM

15. Mesquite Rotary Club

- **Where:** 150 N Yucca St, Suite 26, Mesquite, NV
- **When:** Wednesdays @ 5:30 PM

16. Moapa Valley

- **Where:** University of Nevada Extension
1897 North Moapa Valley Blvd Building B
Logandale, NV 89021
- **When:** Wednesday, 07:00 AM - 08:00 AM

Outside of Our District

(but in Southern Nevada)

17. Laughlin–Bullhead Rotary Club

- **Where:** Aquarius Casino Resort
- **When:** Wednesdays @ 12:00 PM

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Steve Casey

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Gary Vause

25 CLUB OFFICERS

President:

Solea Rae

Secretary:

Jorina King



September is Basic Education and Literacy Month



THE ROTARY MISSION

Teach Youth to Succeed through
Literacy, Education & Life Skills Development.





WHAT WE DO FOR OUR YOUTH

- **SUPPORTING SIX AT RISK SCHOOLS**
 - Hollingsworth STEAM Academy
 - Laura Dearing Elementary
 - Walter Bracken Elementary
 - Walter V. Long Elementary
 - Will Beckley Elementary
 - Quannah McCall Elementary**Recently donated 100 back packs and \$1,500 school mini-grant to each school.**
- **PARTNERSHIP WITH SPREAD THE WORD NEVADA**
 - In partnership with Spread the Word Nevada, volunteers read with the children, and the club supplies **\$25,000 a year for new books for the children to take home.**
- **VOLUNTEERS HELP GREEN OUR PLANET**
 - Volunteers help set up for their annual Farmers Market as well as previously providing funds for hydroponics gardens.
- **EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP**
 - One or two UNLV \$3,000 scholarships a year.
 - Host a 4-Way Speech Contest, Dan Stover Music Awards, Valedictorian Lunch, TLC, RYLA and this year host two international RYE students.
 - Sponsor Interact and Kidderact Clubs.
- **PARTNERING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE**
 - Recently approved a \$8,000 grant to partner with Nevada Partners for Homeless Youth.
 - Partnership with Project 150, assisting homeless youth to stay in school.
- **SANTA CLOTHES**
 - Providing new clothing for **400 children each year** so they can experience dignity and joy during the holiday season.

*“When we support literacy, we empower young minds, strengthen our community, and build a **brighter future** for all.”*

Together, we change lives through literacy and service.

www.LasVegasRotary.com

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Rotary Web Sites

Las Vegas Rotary Club – www.lasvegasrotary.com
Rotary District 5300 – www.district5300.org
Rotary District 5300/Club Data Base and Ignite – www.dacdb.com
Rotary International – www.rotary.org



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