



the Nor'easter



Rotary
Club of San Antonio
Northeast



IMAGINE
ROTARY

March 7, 2023

Salsalito Cantina Mexican Restaurant, 14535 Nacogdoches Road, San Antonio, TX 78247
Social at 5:30 p.m. Meeting from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Zoom Meeting ID: 846 0937 6016



Rotary's 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 it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? 4.) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



Our guest speakers this evening will be Noora Naser and Nathaniel Reed, Madison High School students who attended RYLA this past January.

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is Rotary's leadership training program for young people to further develop character and leadership skills and learn about Rotary. RYLA participants can be ages 14-30, but most clubs and districts choose to focus on a narrower age range, such as 14-18 or 19-30. RYLA emphasizes leadership, citizenship, personal growth, service and aims to demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth; provide an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders; encourage leadership of youth by youth; recognize publicly young people who are rendering service to their communities.

Originating in 1959 in Queensland, Australia, RYLA was created as a festival highlighting local youth organized in honor of a royal visit by Princess Victoria. Through Rotarians' constant belief in the potential of youth, RYLA has since become an opportunity to help the next generation of leaders define themselves and expand their skills. Officially adopted by Rotary International (RI) in 1971, this exciting program engages Rotary clubs and districts around the world.

In 1975-76, Floyd Harriman of the Rotary Club of Pleasanton was District Governor. He asked W. Dain Higdon, a Past District Governor, to select a committee to determine the possibility of establishing a Rotary Youth Leadership Award Seminar in Rotary District 5840. A committee was selected which included Rotarians from several clubs. At the time, Dr. Duncan Wimpess, a Rotarian and a Director of the Rotary Club of San Antonio, was president of Trinity University. He was approached and agreed to host the meeting on Trinity's campus. District 5840's first RYLA was May 14-16, 1976, with 55 high school students in attendance.

The RYLA program is designed for outstanding high school students to help develop qualities of leadership skills and good citizenship, as well as to emphasize the advantages of the free enterprise system. Young men and women, selected by their local Rotary clubs, are invited to participate in leadership training meetings organized and run by Rotarians.

In 1996, the RI Board of Directors adopted the following minimum standards for the core curriculum of every RYLA:

- Fundamentals of leadership
- Ethics of positive leadership
- Importance of communication skills in effective leadership
- Problem-solving and conflict-management
- What Rotary is and what it does for the local community
- Building self-confidence and self-esteem
- Elements of community and global citizenship

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Austin Riley will be celebrating his birthday on March 9th. Happy Birthday, Austin.

LaVonna Stewart and her husband Terrance will be celebrating their wedding anniversary on March 16th.



At the start of tonight our Happy Bucks pot is up to \$1,022. That means if your ticket is drawn and you draw the Joker, you are going to be going home with at least \$511. That's a nice little pot of gold. Speaking of a pot of gold....



International Women's Day

International Women's Day (IWD) is a global holiday celebrated annually on March 8 as a focal point in the women's rights movement, bringing attention to issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women

Women are active participants in Rotary, serving their communities in increasing numbers and serving in leadership positions in Rotary. The 1989 Council on Legislation vote to admit women into Rotary clubs worldwide remains a watershed moment in the history of Rotary. "My fellow delegates, I would like to remind you that the world of 1989 is very different to the world of 1905. I sincerely believe that Rotary has to adapt itself to a changing world," said Frank J. Devlyn, who would go on to become RI president in 2000-01.

The vote followed the decades-long efforts of men and women from all over the Rotary world to allow the admission of women into Rotary clubs, and several close votes at previous Council meetings.

The response to the decision was overwhelming: By June 1990, the number of female Rotarians had skyrocketed to over 20,000. The number of women members worldwide reached 195,000 in July 2010 (about 16% of Rotarians) and surpassed 277,000 in July 2020 (about 23%).

A top priority for Rotary is growing and diversifying our membership to make sure we reflect the communities we serve. We know that our capacity to increase our impact and expand our reach is larger when more people unite with us, which is why we value diversity, equity and inclusion. Rotary celebrates and welcomes the contributions of people of all backgrounds, regardless of their age, ethnicity, race, color, abilities, religion, socioeconomic status, culture, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity.



Rotary's timeline highlights historic milestones and senior leadership firsts that have helped build greater diversity in Rotary. These leaders and all our female members are making positive change in communities around the world.

Early timeline of women in Rotary

1950

An enactment to delete the word "male" from the Standard Rotary Club Constitution is proposed by a Rotary club in India for the Council on Legislation meeting at the 1950 Rotary Convention.

1964

The Council on Legislation agenda contains an enactment proposed by a Rotary club in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) to permit the admission of women into Rotary clubs. Delegates vote that it be withdrawn. Two other proposals to allow women to be eligible for honorary membership are also withdrawn.

1972

As more women begin reaching higher positions in their professions, more clubs begin lobbying for female members. A U.S. Rotary club proposes admitting women into Rotary at the 1972 Council on Legislation.

1977

Three separate proposals to admit women into membership are submitted to the Council on Legislation for consideration at the 1977 Rotary Convention. A Brazilian club makes a different proposal to admit women as honorary members.

The Rotary Club of Duarte, California, admits women as members in violation of the RI Constitution and Standard Rotary Club Constitution. Because of this violation, the club's membership in Rotary International is terminated in March 1978. (The club was reinstated in September 1986.)

1983-86

In a lawsuit filed by the Duarte club, the California Superior Court in 1983 rules in favor of Rotary International, upholding gender-based qualification for membership in California Rotary clubs. In 1986, the California Court of Appeals reverses the lower court's decision, preventing the enforcement of the provision in California. The California Supreme Court refuses to hear the case, and it is appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

1987

On 4 May, the U.S. Supreme Court rules that Rotary clubs may not exclude women from membership on the basis of gender. Rotary issues a policy statement that any Rotary club in the United States can admit qualified women into membership.

The Rotary Club of Marin Sunrise, California (formerly Larkspur Landing), is chartered on May 28. It becomes the first club after the U.S. Supreme Court ruling to have women as charter members. Sylvia Whitlock, of the Rotary

Daylight Saving Time begins March 12th

Remember to move your clocks ahead one hour.



... St. Patrick's Day is Friday, March 17th



We were pleased to welcome Bobby Martinez and Carmen Maglievaz as our guest speakers on February 21st. Bobby and Carmen spoke to us about the San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club. Thank you Bobby and Carmen for visiting us on Mardi Gras. Happy Mardi Gras Y'all.



With tomorrow being International Women' Day, we thought we would share with you an article about Dr. Sylvia Whitlock, the first woman in Rotary, from the Downey, California Rotary Club from May 20, 2014.

FIRST WOMAN IN ROTARY

by Lorine Parks, Rotary Club of Downey

Who knew? The Rotary Club of Duarte, California was the club to send seismic shocks through Rotary International. It was 1976, and the local Superintendent of Schools and his Assistant (those educators are always making trouble), brought in a person eminently qualified by profession and by cooperative community spirit, to be a Rotarian. And yet that nomination for membership was declined, on the national organization level.

This act of inclusion sufficed to put Duarte beyond the official Rotary pale for eleven years. And it took a series of judicial actions, culminating in the landmark United States Supreme Court decision (unanimous by the way), to reinstate Duarte within Rotary. But let Dr. Sylvia Whitlock tell the story. Dr. Sylvia became one of the first woman members of Rotary International, when her club was re-granted Rotary status in 1987.

Doug Baker was on hand to introduce Dr. Sylvia to us, and he admitted that although Dr. Sylvia is his dear friend, she is not impressed by his status. In fact, at the lunch table waiting to be introduced, she had asked Doug, "And just who is the Governor of this Club's District this year?" Doug pointed to the conspicuous banner we display with such pride every week, "District Governor's Home Club," and pointed to himself as that District Governor. Dr. Sylvia told us that when she was asked to join, she had not, she said, heard of Rotary. But she had heard of Kiwanis. She said that she knew that "Kiwanis" meant, "Waiting to join Rotary."

In 1976, as now, Duarte was a bedroom community most famous for being the home of The City of Hope. But what's in a name? The little Duarte Club was told it could not call itself a Rotary Club so it adopted the title, The Ex-Rotary Club of Duarte." And having the parent corporation lift the charter had its advantages: no dues to pay.

The issue on which it was expelled was not directly that of gender, not the "female" issue. It was on the technicality that Duarte had violated the by-laws of Rotary International, which said that women were excluded from full active membership. The vote on this was 1,000 to 34.

As Governor Doug attempted to point out, Paul Harris most likely would have included women in his original group of people he would like to do business with, meet socially, even do service projects with. But in 1905, said Doug, in Paul Harris's defense, women were not part of the business and professional scene. Ahem.

When Rotary was debating taking in women, Dr. Sylvia said she remembers that it was the wives who put up the opposition. "They were being protective of their husbands," she said. For example, she overheard one wife's response, on being asked if women should be members of Rotary, "I didn't think so then, and I don't think so now." The case for what was essentially gender equality moved all the way through the judicial system, beginning with the California State Court.

In California there was by then in place the Unruh Act, which entitles all persons to full and equal accommodations, privileges, membership in public corporations. Rotary International won the case at the lowest court level, that it was not a public corporation, even though the meetings were used for business purposes. But the Duarte Club appealed this ruling to the California Superior Courts, which reversed the lower court and held that Rotary was a public corporation and not, as some die-hard members tried to describe themselves, as "a boys club," or "a tree-house."

The case was carried to the California Supreme Court, which refused to hear it, which meant that the Superior Court's ruling against Rotary International would stand. To complete this saga of an idea whose time had come, Rotary International brought the issue to the U. S. Supreme Court, which on May 4, 1987 ruled there could be no violation of the prohibition against discrimination. Women were in. The Duarte Club had won. But they were not notified directly of their reinstatement. The only concession Rotary International made to the new status, was to send them a bill for dues.

Media from all over the world were immediately on Dr. Sylvia's doorstep, asking questions about how it felt to be setting a precedent. She was glad to have the opportunity to be part of a humanitarian organization that does so much good, was her answer.

President Paulo Velasco thanked Dr. Sylvia for coming, and presented her with a large orchid plant from the club. And in honor of Dr. Sylvia's visit, Paul recognized some of the women who have served in the club. Lorine Parks, with twenty-six years perfect attendance and counting, was the first to receive a beautiful badge, with "14 genuine zircons" and Pat Pratt, also with 26 years, was given one too. Dr. Mary Stauffer and Mary Phillips were singled out to represent all the women in the club, both past and present members, for all they have done.

Partly as a tribute to Mother's Day and partly to women serving in Rotary, rose buds were distributed to all the women in the club, and Connie Baker, as First Lady, was given another well deserved beautiful orchid plant, "for being such a large part of our club."



Dr. Sylvia Whitlock, left and RI 2022-2023 Rotary International President Jennifer Jones

Socks delivered to Blessed Angels

Thanks go out to Dan Hernandez for delivering the 1,000 pairs of socks that the San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club was able to send to the Blessed Angels Community Center. The four boxes fit very nicely into Dan's Jeep. Blessed Angels Community Center CEO and Executive Director Marion Thomas was happy to receive the socks. Marion said that the socks will be given out at their upcoming Spring Break event.



The mission of Blessed Angels Community Center is to fight hunger in San Antonio, TX and surrounding communities through healthy and nutritional food distribution. We are here to provide educational programs and resources while giving hope and compassion to citizens in need of food assistance and make sure no child or citizen goes to bed hungry.



you're invited to

Greater Randolph Area Service Program (GRASP)

Let's Go Western Night

BENEFITS CONGREGATE MEAL PROGRAM SENIORS & THEIR GUESTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2023

6 TO 9:30 PM

GRASP COMMUNITY CENTER
250 DONALAN CONVERSE, TEXAS

RSVP 658-6351

\$15/PLATE

WESTERN ATTIRE PREFERRED

SPONSORED & PRESENTED BY:

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DANCING, GAMES, BINGO & MORE

MUSIC BY CARLOS BARRERA

CATERED BY:
BLUE BONNET PALACE

Dan Clark, Becky Robles, and Assistant Governor Jan King represented the San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club at Lone Star P.E.T.S. on February 23-26 up in Dallas. Lone Star P.E.T.S. is the premier training event that prepares Rotary Club President Elects for their year of service as President of their Rotary club in Texas and Southern Oklahoma. P.E.T.S. (PETS) is the acronym for "President Elect Training Seminar". The purpose of this site is to provide information to the participants. Lone Star PETS is the combined efforts of ten Rotary International Districts. They all converge on the Hyatt Regency Hotel at the DFW International Airport to jointly provide the best possible training for future Presidents of Rotary clubs.



Lone Star P.E.T.S., Inc.



The keynote speaker on Saturday night was Rotary International President-Elect Gordon McNally. RI President-Elect received a genuine cowboy hat after his presentation. District 5840 Governor-Elect Monica Gutierrez presented her Cinco de Rotary theme for our district.

The District 5840 Raffle benefiting The Rotary Foundation will take place on Saturday, May 20, 2023. Club president Debbie Degollado will pass out the tickets this evening at our meeting. The dollar amount of the tickets you sell will go towards your Paul Harris. The prizes for this year's raffle is a \$1,000 VISA Debit Card awarded to each of the seven (7) tickets drawn.

