



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?

As we published last week, International Women's Day was celebrated on March 8th. 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.



Following up on International Women's Day, our program tonight will be a presentation by Sylvia Whitlock, the first woman Rotary club president. No, Sylvia will not be joining us in person, but we will be showing a video of Sylvia speaking to the Rotarians of District 5550 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada from May 3, 2019.

Dr. Sylvia Whitlock has been in Rotary for nearly forty years. She was the second woman to join the Rotary Club of Duarte. Whitlock went on to become the first woman Rotary club president. She was District Governor in 2012-2013. Sylvia is a recipient of many awards including the Rotary Foundation District Service Award. She has supported an orphanage in Mexico, sunk wells in Nigeria and raised nearly \$90,000 to educate girls in India.

It is with great sadness that we report on the passing of Eamonn Grant. Eamonn was a charter member of the San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club when it was formed in 1987. Eamonn served as our club president in 1999-2000. Eamonn also served as Assistant Governor for a number of years for Rotary District 5840. Please keep Eamonn and his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Analyne Jimenez is celebrating her 6th Rotary Anniversary today.
Happy Rotary Anniversary, Analyne.

Anthony Strickland will also be celebrating his Rotary Anniversary. Anthony will be celebrating his 4th Rotary anniversary on March 26th. Happy Rotary Anniversary, Anthony.

Dennis Heath will be celebrating his birthday on March 31st.
Happy Birthday, Dennis.

Miranda Horner will be celebrating her birthday on April 3rd.
Happy Birthday, Miranda.



At the start of tonight our Happy Bucks pot is up to 1,055. That means if your ticket is drawn and you draw the Joker, you are going to be going home with at least \$527.50.

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.



We need some volunteers to help for an hour or two at our club's booth at the Bella on the Vine Spring Craft and Vendor Fair this Sunday, March 26th. Great chance to talk about Rotary and to network. Please contact Dan Clark for more details.

Recipient of Rotary's new Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award takes a global approach
by Etelka Lehoczkky

The first recipient of Rotary International's Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award, Chin Mei Lu of the Rotary Club of Taipei Taimei, Taiwan, has spent more than 30 years working for women, girls, and others around the world. She has helped educate girls in Nepal, immunized children in India, supported girls in Uganda who have learned to sew menstrual belts, and helped people in Taiwan who are blind. "We as Rotarians are like lantern-carrying people in the dark corners of society, bringing light to others and helping make the world a brighter place," Lu says.

The Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award honors one Rotary member each year who has actively worked to advance women in Rotary. It is named for the first female Rotary club president, who went on to lead change for women around the world through Rotary. The award was originally established by a group of Rotarians before the Board of Directors voted to make it an official RI award.

Lu, who has been a Rotary member for three decades, traveled to Nepal and India in 2006-07 to assist with a project that enabled girls who didn't have housing to attend school. She cooperated with local agencies to obtain supplies, food, uniforms, and sponsorship funds for the girls, many of whom were at risk of being trafficked into sex work or child labor.

"Three years later, there were girls who were once helped by Rotary going back to assist other girls in need," says 2014-15 RI President Gary C.K. Huang, who nominated Lu for the award.

Lu has also promoted a service project in Uganda begun by her son, Kelvin Wang, who is a member of the Rotary E-Club of Taipei Midtown. Rotary members in Taiwan sent fabric menstrual belts to Ugandan girls, many of whom couldn't attend school because they lacked these supplies. The project provided sewing machines, taught girls how to sew belts for themselves, and promoted menstrual health overall.

Lu has a particular interest in assisting people who are blind or have partial vision. A senior member of the Arts Promotion Association for the Disabled of Taiwan, she helped establish a rehabilitation center for the blind, which offers educational and employment assistance. She has set up rural medical centers and made it possible for musicians who are blind or have partial sight to buy instruments.

These musicians are often very sensitive to pitch, but many don't have the funds to buy new instruments for practice, she says. "I proposed a Rotary Foundation grant helping them to replace old musical instruments with new ones. Our action has had an enduring impact in the community."

Lu also collaborated with Rotary clubs in Nepal and India on clean water and sanitation projects. In 2011, she returned to India to join local volunteers in campaigns to immunize children against polio and other diseases that can be prevented by vaccines.

"Some kids would move back to the end of queue again after the drip," she says. "They tried to remove the mark from their little fingers very carefully, because if they got vaccinated again, they could get another small bowl of flour."

Outside Rotary, Lu's philanthropic efforts include working with World Vision International in Romania to provide school supplies and visit children she has helped. "There was no road for the car. I had to get down and walk — my feet were covered with mud," she recalls. "After visiting the children's home and school, I helped the school replace all the blackboards and classroom bulbs."

Lu has also served as world vice president of the women's business group Femmes Chefs d'Entreprises Mondiales, vice president of the National Council of Women of Taiwan, and president of two local business groups. She has received numerous national and international awards, including the International Alliance for Women's World of Difference Award and the Acquisition International magazine's Influential Businesswoman Award.

Nominations for the Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award are open from August 1st to 30th September each year. Any member can nominate another member in good standing.



Chin Mei Lu, of the Rotary Club of Taipei Taimei, Taiwan, is the first recipient of Rotary International's Sylvia Whitlock Leadership Award.





We were pleased to welcome Noora Naser and Nathaniel Reed, Madison High School students who attended RYLA this past January. They were joined by Interact club sponsor Janeen Downen. Noora and Nathaniel told us about their experience at RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) this past January in New Braunfels. 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 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.

Club president Debbie Degollado (second from left) presented Noora and Nathaniel certificates for their presentation to our club. Thank you Mrs. Downen (far left) for coordinating for Noora and Nathaniel to visit



Members of the San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club volunteered alongside with their fellow Rotarians in the Randolph Metrocom Rotary Club at the 13th annual GRASP Western Night on Thursday, March 16th. The mission of GRASP (Greater Randolph Area Services Program) is to provide help to needy individuals and families improving their quality of life and promoting self-sufficiency. Rotarians served dinner to the seniors in attendance and cleaned-up the kitchen and the tables after dinner. After the music and dancing concluded, Rotarians called bingo for those in attendance. Thanks for everyone that came out and volunteered.



San Antonio Northeast Rotarians Miranda Horner, Roxi Alvarez, and Dan Clark volunteered to be judges for the St. Patrick's Day costume contest held at Blessed Angels Community Center on Wednesday, March 15th. They had the difficult task of selecting the five winners because there were so many great costumes. There was definitely a lot of green being worn.

The mission of Blessed Angels Community Center is to fight hunger in San Antonio and surrounding communities through healthy and nutritional food distribution. Blessed Angels 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.

