



**San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club**  
Chartered May 19, 1987 - District 5840 - Club #24625  
[www.sanortheastrotary.com](http://www.sanortheastrotary.com)

**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**



# the Nor'easter



**Rotary**  
Club of San Antonio  
Northeast



March 24, 2026

**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.



**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 speaker this evening is Mari Tamez, Outreach Manager with the Bexar Heritage Center. She will be sharing with us information about the Bexar America250 project. In conjunction with America250 and Texas America250, Bexar America250 was created by the Bexar Heritage Center to promote the hidden history of Bexar County's role in the American Revolution.



Mari Tamez is directly responsible over the Bexar Heritage Center operations and procurement of exhibit materials, and staff liaison to the Bexar County Historical Commission. She is also the Bexar County Member to the World Heritage Site Management Group. As ex officio to the Main Plaza Conservancy Board, Mari serves as the community liaison between the County and historical groups in the community. She partners, with Visit SA, Centro San Antonio, UTSA ITC, City of San Antonio, San Antonio River Authority, Casa Navarro, UTSA, SAAACAM, Archdiocese, and a number of descendant groups throughout the community.

San Antonio Northeast Rotarians will be volunteering at the San Antonio and South Texas Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association's on Wednesday, April 15th from 5:45 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Alzheimer's Association is located at 1100 Northwest Loop 410, Suite 302. Volunteers will be calling those that have participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer's before and remind them that this year's walk will take place on Saturday, November 7th, 2026.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS	
March 31st	Mark Kunetz Texas LEGO User Group - San Antonio
April 7th	Carlos Martinez Texas Cavalier River Parade
April 14th	Maddie Aguilar Global Education Scholar
April 21st	Dr. Elizabeth Mitchell McNay Art Museum

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**  
Anthony Strickland, our club's Dad Joke aficionado, will be celebrating his 7th Rotary anniversary on March 26th.

At the start of tonight our Happy Bucks pot is up to \$302. That means if your ticket is drawn tonight and you pull the Joker out of the deck, you will leave with at least \$151.

## WANTED

**"LET'S GO WESTERN NIGHT"**

Hosted by  
The Greater Randolph Area Services Program, Inc.  
GRASP COMMUNITY CENTER  
250 Donalan Drive  
Converse, Texas 78109

**SPONSORED AND PRESENTED BY:**  
Randolph Metrocom Rotary Club  
Northeast San Antonio Rotary Club

Thursday April 16, 2026  
6p.m. to 9:00p.m.

Dinner catered by Bluebonnet Palace  
Dinner, Dancing & Prizes  
Music by Carlos Barrera

(Western Attire Preferred)  
RSVP 210-658-6351

**\$15 per plate**



**Rotary**  
Club of San Antonio

**IT'S BASEBALL TIME!**

Join us for our annual Missions game  
with an all you can eat buffet.

Tickets are limited. Reserve your seats today.

**ROTARY NIGHT AT THE MISSIONS GAME**

LET'S HAVE A BALL  
THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH  
\$40 PER PERSON INCLUDES ALL YOU CAN EAT HOT DOGS, HAMBURGERS, FAJITAS + BEER  
BRING GUESTS!

Click the link below to purchase tickets  
<https://www.rotarysa.org/events/rotary-night-at-the-missions>

March is a time to recognize and celebrate the strength, leadership, and impact of women around the world. This year, we're inviting Rotarian women across our District (and beyond!) to join us in a month-long celebration highlighting the incredible women who serve and lead in Rotary. Rather than limiting the celebration to March 8, we are turning International Women's Day into a movement that lasts the entire month.

**How to Participate**  
We've made it simple and fun!  
Wear your favorite Rotary shirt.  
Take a photo that reflects your passion for service.

Snap a photo (Use the [WOMEN IN ACTION Canva Template Design](#)) and share it on your social media, with the hashtags #D5840ServiceStrong #RotaryWomenRock #WomenInRotary

Share it with the District ([pblankenzee@rotary5840.org](mailto:pblankenzee@rotary5840.org)) so we too can promote District 5840 Women in Rotary!

Let's fill social media throughout March with proud Rotarian women united in service. Together, we will showcase the strength and influence of women in Rotary — not just for a day, but all month long.

**CELEBRATE ROTARY WOMEN IN ACTION**

Rotary District 5840

#D5840ServiceStrong #WomenInRotary #RotaryWomenRock

**Review from last week**

With our meeting last week falling on St. Patrick's Day, there was a definite Irish theme to the gathering. Trina Forcey and Dan Clark brought some decorations to decorate the room, while Becky Robles brought some St. Patrick's Day themed cookies that she baked. We played some games that everyone enjoyed. Thomas Brainard's ticket was drawn for our weekly raffle but he did not pull the joker. Our happy bucks pot continues to grow. We did conduct some Rotary business. President-Elect Dan Hernandez spoke about his experience at Lone Star P.E.T.S. Dan is looking forward to his year as club president in Rotary year 2026-2027.



**With dams, rainwater collection, and purification systems, Rotary and Rotaract clubs help people access clean water**

by Etelka Lehoczky

Access to clean water and sanitation can determine whether a child gets an education. That's what Rotaract club members in the Ashanti region of Ghana learned when they explored ways to improve schools in their area.

The schools the club members visited faced water shortages and relied on contaminated water, resulting in high levels of diarrhea, dysentery, and other illnesses. There were no modern toilets, and girls didn't have private spaces for menstrual hygiene. The lack of water affected every aspect of the students' lives. The wide-ranging impact of water access is highlighted on the United Nations' World Water Day, observed on March 22. "Water bankruptcy is becoming a driver of fragility, displacement, and conflict," Tshildzi Marwala, undersecretary-general of the UN, said in January. "Managing [water] fairly — ensuring that vulnerable communities are protected and that unavoidable losses are shared equitably — is now central to maintaining peace, stability, and social cohesion," Marwala said.



More than 2 billion people around the globe lack clean, safe drinking water. Helping people gain access to clean water and sanitation is a top priority for Rotary, which includes the issue among its seven main causes. With a US\$57,000 global grant from The Rotary Foundation, members of the Rotaract clubs of Kumasi and Obuasi in Ghana brought clean water and sanitation facilities to eight schools in the Ashanti region. Their project installed around 80 microflush toilets and 10 urinals, constructed changing rooms for girls, and drilled borehole wells at two schools. Ghanaian Rotary and Rotaract clubs and Rotaract clubs in Turkey and the U.S. supported the initiative. It benefited more than 6,000 people.



Other recent Rotary projects in Mexico, Kenya, and the Dominican Republic highlight the far-reaching impact of water accessibility.

**Clean water for the Rarámuri**

The Indigenous Rarámuri people live in isolated mountain villages in Mexico's Chihuahua state. They face high rates of infectious diseases, malnutrition, and infant mortality due to a lack of clean water. The villages are out of reach of existing water networks, and the terrain makes it virtually impossible to drill wells.

A global grant-funded project led by the Rotary Club of Chihuahua Campestre, Chihuahua, Mexico, installed rainwater collection and purification systems in two villages, bringing water to 54 families. The project included masonry classes for residents, who took part in the construction. Women and girls no longer need to travel long distances to collect water. Partner organizations provided food and nutritional supplements for children, pregnant women, and older residents.

**Sand dams for farmers**

Residents of southeastern Kenya experience poverty and famine due to climate extremes and frequent, severe droughts. The Rotary Club of Embakasi, Kenya, led a global grant-funded project to construct sand dams, wells, and hand pumps for two subsistence farming communities. The US\$88,000 project created sustainable water sources for around 3,000 people. It also trained farmers in crop diversification and rotation, tree nurturing and management, beekeeping, soil and water conservation, and livestock production. The initiative distributed drought-tolerant crop seeds, tree seedlings, and food preservation chemicals.

**Providing for the House of Light**

Casa De Luz ("House of Light") provides care for 40 orphaned and abandoned children with severe disabilities in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The residence hospital relies on a well for water, but it's not clean.

With a US\$117,000 global grant, the Rotary Club of Santo Domingo Bella Vista, Dominican Republic, installed a water purification plant at the hospital. The plant provides enough water for the hospital's needs and a surplus that it can sell. In addition to training hospital employees to operate the system, the project established a distribution route for trucks to sell water throughout the community. Around 4,500 people benefited from the project.

**Join Us at the District 5840 Conference & Club Leader Training**

Join us in New Braunfels for the Rotary District 5840 District Conference & Club Leader Training on May 1–2, and be sure to lock in early bird pricing before rates increase!

We kick off at the Brauntex Theatre with an inspiring keynote from JC (James) Clapsaddle, recipient of Rotary International's prestigious Service Above Self Award. In his presentation, "Rotary's Role in Worldwide Peace," JC will share firsthand insights from his experience in Rotary's humanitarian relief efforts and the global impact of our mission.

On May 2nd, we begin with a Peace Pole installation, followed by our District Awards celebration and Club Leader Training for Rotary Year 2026–27.

Raffles will be held throughout the event — two-day attendees receive one raffle ticket, first-time attendees receive two, with more available for purchase.

Don't miss this opportunity for inspiration, celebration, and leadership development.

Register at the link below now to secure early bird pricing while it lasts!

<https://rotary5840.org/events/2026-district-conference-club-leader-training/>

**Lock In Early Bird Pricing until March 31st.**

There will be a Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) on Saturday, April 11th, 2026 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Northwest Vista College, 3535 N Ellison Dr, San Antonio, TX 78251.

Classes will begin at 9 a.m. The institute is \$50 and is open to all Rotarians. [Click to Register.](#) RLI is a very informative and fun day. You will enjoy a program that is well-planned and presented by district leaders. There is great inter-action amongst attendees and you will learn quite a bit about leadership qualities and the "nuts and bolts" of Rotary. This program will prove invaluable in preparing you or your fellow Rotarians for leadership positions within your club and district. For questions, contact Arden Riley, at [arden.riley@gmail.com](mailto:arden.riley@gmail.com).

