



San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club
Chartered May 19, 1987 - District 5840 - Club #24625
www.sanortheastrotary.com



the Nor'easter



Rotary Club of San Antonio Northeast



April 22, 2025

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?

With today being Earth Day, our program this evening will include a discussion of Rotary's newest area of focus - protecting our environment. We will be showing a short video from the 2024 Rotary International Assembly discussing the environment, and then discuss what we as Rotarians can do to protect our world.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

We do not have any birthdays or anniversaries to report this week.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- April 29th To be announced
- May 6th Traci Brodbeck, Yellow Roses
- May 20th Colleen Swain, San Antonio World Heritage Office
- May 27th Justin Moore, Airborne Aerial Photography
- June 3rd William Philips, Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer University Health



At the start of tonight our Happy Bucks pot is up to \$112. That means if your ticket is drawn tonight and you pull the Joker out of the deck, you will leave with at least \$56.

Celebration of Districts, May 2nd - 4th in San Marcos

The Celebration of Districts will be held May 2nd - 4th in San Marcos at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 1001 E. McCarty Lane. Members from District 5870 and 5840 have been working hard on this event for several months now and we can't wait to celebrate with so many of our AMAZING Rotarians! Please click the following link to purchase tickets and for more information:

<https://www.rotary5840.org/Events/celebration-of-districts>

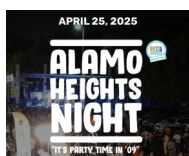
REGISTRATION CLOSES THIS SATURDAY, APRIL 26TH



A Safe, Fun, Family Friendly, Outdoor Block Party with Great Food, Drink, Entertainment, Games and Rides for the Entire San Antonio Community.

The 37th Annual Alamo Heights Night

presented by the **Alamo Heights Rotary Club**, will take place this Friday, April 25th from 5:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. at The University of the Incarnate Word, 4301 Broadway, San Antonio, TX 78209.



2025 Council on Legislation recap



About 480 Rotary members from around the world, each representing a single Rotary district, gathered the week of April 14th at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago, Illinois, for the 2025 Council on Legislation. They voted on 78 proposals to change Rotary International's constitutional documents.

"This Council represents the heart of Rotary's democratic process and the best of our international spirit," said Rotary International President Stephanie A. Urchick at the opening session. "The gathering is one of Rotary's most powerful expressions of multiculturalism. Here, voices from every corner of the globe come together – not to compete, but to collaborate."

The Council on Legislation, which meets every three years, is Rotary's version of a congress. Representatives selected by their districts gather to consider proposals designed to move Rotary forward and adapt to the changing times.

Representatives approved a measure to decrease the number of members needed to charter a new Rotary club from 20 to 15. Supporters said it would remove barriers to starting new clubs and help Rotary grow and expand its reach. The Council also defeated a pair of measures to set an age limit for Rotaractors. Opponents cited the low number of current Rotaractors over the age of 40 in arguing that limits were unnecessary and said such restrictions could force members out of Rotary.

They also rejected limiting the number of honorary members a club can have to 5% of the club's active membership. Opponents noted that many clubs use honorary membership to stay in contact with former members, many of them longtime Rotarians with valuable expertise to offer.

After 45 minutes of debate, the Council approved an increase in the dues that every member pays to Rotary International of US\$3.50 in the first year and US\$3.75 in the following two years. Supporters said the increase is needed to meet rising costs and continue providing essential resources and services to clubs. They said that the dues increase is below the inflation rate, indicating that RI is working to cut costs and manage revenues responsibly. Opponents felt that dues increases may hurt membership and wanted more transparency from RI about what cost-cutting has been done.

Representatives also approved a measure allowing the Board to test additional new governance models in districts beyond those approved by the Council three years ago. A governance pilot is currently being tested in districts in RIBI, New Zealand, and Australia, with some modest success in membership growth. Supporters noted that the system in which governors oversee districts dates back to the early days of Rotary. They argue that trying new governance models can help Rotary adapt to future needs and train and develop new leaders.

In another measure, representatives agreed to allow the Board to consider factors such as culture and language, not just the number of Rotarians, in deciding zone boundaries.

Representatives voted to require that the five-year financial forecast presented at the beginning of each Council include updates on specific process improvements and cost-reduction measures taken by RI. Several representatives wanted RI to provide more details about cost reductions to justify any increase in dues.

In a similar measure, the Council approved commissioning a regular professional analysis of processes and cost structures in RI's administration. They declined to require, however, that Rotary's annual report include an itemized list of every expense over US\$1 million.

After considerable debate, the Council voted to make holding a district conference optional.



We were pleased to welcome Rotary District 5840 Membership Chair Holly Croom as our speaker last week. She gave us some great ideas on how to bring more folks into Rotary. After her very interesting and informative presentation, Club President Russell Sturgeon presented Holly with a Speaker's Certificate of Appreciation.



Members protect endangered habitats, plant trees, and clean up plastic waste

by Nicki Clayton, Rotary International's area of focus manager for the environment

Fifty-five years ago, the first Earth Day launched a wave of environmental action in the United States. Other countries soon began observing Earth Day as well. Celebrated on April 22 this year, Earth Day mobilizes people around the world to help preserve our planet.

Rotary added the environment as an official area of focus for our service efforts in 2020, but Rotary and Rotaract members have carried out environmental projects for decades. Rotary members around the world continue to find innovative solutions and take action.

Rotary International's vision statement regarding the environment:

Together, we act locally and globally, using evidence to sustainably address shared environmental issues and foster harmony between people and nature.

Rotary's approach to protecting the environment revolves around local, long-term service projects in three main areas: freshwater protection and watershed restoration; sustainable land use; and nature-based climate solutions. We recently partnered with the United Nations Environment Programme on a global environmental initiative, Community Action for Fresh Water. It empowers Rotary members to restore, protect, and sustain their local freshwater ecosystems.

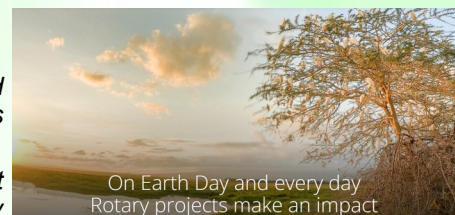
The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers, the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group, the Rotary Action Group for Endangered Species, and the Food Plant Solutions Rotary Action Group all help Rotary members plan environmental service projects and build awareness of environmental issues. Rotary also has at least 40 eco clubs around the world that focus their service on sustaining the environment.

Here are just a few of the ways Rotary and Rotaract members are working to preserve our planet:

- In Taiwan, members are using global grants to create and improve habitats for little terns, purple crow butterflies, and tree frogs. These projects also educate people about why it's important to protect local species and improve biodiversity.
- In Finland, 114 Rotary and Rotaract clubs are providing freshwater testing kits to schools, then sending the data that is collected to a national water resources inventory. Rotary members are monitoring blue-green algae at nearly 400 locations, and some clubs are collecting and classifying marine litter and identifying its sources. This helps protect local freshwater areas and the Baltic Sea.
- In Portugal, members are restoring habitats for endangered seahorses. Working with the Aglarve Centre of Marine Sciences and Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e das Florestas on a scientifically rigorous project, they've been able to increase seahorse populations in protected areas.
- In the Netherlands, Rotary members are tackling the crisis of plastic waste. The EndPlasticSoup project, which started with a cleanup in the canals of Amsterdam, has expanded to more than a thousand clubs around the world. They collect and recycle plastics and raise awareness of plastic waste.
- In Egypt, Rotary members are renovating fishing boats to collect plastic and organic waste in the Nile River. They're also helping women upcycle the plastic waste into marketable products.
- In Mexico, the Rotary Club of Valle de Iguala, Guerrero, and the Rotary Club of Tucson Verde, Arizona, USA, have constructed dams to control silt runoff, created a community nursery to help with reforestation, and provided technical assistance to reduce pollution in Lake Tuxpan.
- In Kosovo, members used a Rotary global grant to replace oil-fueled machinery, which creates pollution, with solar panels at the regional hospital in the city of Peja. The grant also provided environmental protection training to the hospital staff.
- Around the world — in the British Virgin Islands, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mozambique, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Trinidad and Tobago, among others — our members have taken on nearly 100 restoration, planting, and educational service projects to regenerate mangrove forests and protect marine environments.

What you can do on Earth Day:

- Plant some native species or create habitat for bees and other pollinating insects
 - Pay attention to how you use water and find ways to limit your usage
 - Start a compost bin or find another way to compost in your community
 - Bike, walk, or use public transit
 - Turn off the lights when you don't need them, and join the Million Solar Panel Challenge
 - Find environmentally focused social media influencers to follow
 - Switch from plastic containers to sustainable options like compostables and reusable water bottles
 - Organize, or participate in, a litter cleanup
 - Use reusable bags when you shop
 - Follow the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group's seminar series for learning opportunities
 - Look for local opportunities to raise awareness about environmental issues that are important to you
- There are many other ways you can help protect the environment on Earth Day and every day. Make a pledge today to fight for the planet in your own way.



Rotary Night at Missions Baseball

Join us for a great night at the ballpark on Thursday, May 22nd. Ticket price of \$35 includes food, beer and soft drinks. Rotary will have the private Fiesta Deck. Tickets are limited so sign up today. The San Antonio Missions Fiesta Deck is an all-inclusive, private, multi-level deck. It includes an ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT meal that includes hamburgers, hot dogs, beef and chicken fajitas, and nacho bar. Plus, snack on popcorn, cookies, and chips and salsa throughout the game while washing it down with refreshing Coca-Cola products or ICE COLD BEER!! (Food is available from 6-9 or until the 7th inning, whichever comes first.)

Click the following link to purchase tickets: <https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/3FXRB75T3KV5A>

