



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



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**
May 2, 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.



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 Linda Porter-Wenzlaff, of Therapy Animals of San Antonio (TASA). Linda is the Co-Director of the CARE program. She is also the Pooch Parade Coordinator which took place this past Saturday. Therapy Animals of San Antonio is an all volunteer non-profit organization. TASA is an affiliate member of the International Association of Human-Animal Interactions Organizations (IAHAIO) and a GuideStar Exchange Platinum Participant.



Since 1989 the mission of TASA has been bringing people and animals together for healing. This is done with their therapy teams' visits to hospitals and other facilities, educational presentations, and their StoryTails literacy program in the greater San Antonio area, as well as, the CARE program bringing teams with enhanced training to crisis situations across Texas. TASA provides support for therapy teams, who may choose to become registered with Therapy Animals of San Antonio or Pet Partners, Inc. (formerly Delta Society) which they support ongoing team development. TASA's primary fundraiser each year is the Fiesta® Pooch Parade, an official Fiesta® San Antonio event. All proceeds from the parade support local programs.

Linda has worked with dogs and horses in her psychotherapy and pediatric nursing practices for over 40 years and has had significant experience in disaster and crisis response through both professions.

She has been a member of Therapy Animals of San Antonio since 1990 and has held many positions in the organization; including President and Education Chair; as well as serving for 15 years as a therapy team evaluator.

Linda is a retired professor from UT Health San Antonio and has extensive grant and program development experience. Her research and publications were often in the human animal interactions arena, and she has taught a multidisciplinary graduate elective in animal therapy for many years there which kept her current in the literature and connected in the community. Accompanying Linda with her Therapy Team and CARE Team is her 6-year-old Sheltie, Indigo Moon.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May 16th Jeremy Sneed,
San Antonio Missions Baseball Club
June 6th Analyn Jimenez,
Fraud Prevention

Birthdays & Anniversaries

LaVonna Stewart's husband, Terrance, will be celebrating his birthday on May 9th. Happy Birthday, Terrance.



The District 5840 Raffle benefitting 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.



At the start of tonight our Happy Bucks pot is up to \$1,136. That means if your ticket is drawn and you draw the Joker tonight, you are going to be going home with at least \$568.

May is Rotary Youth Service Month when Rotary clubs, around the world focus on youth services, Rotaract, Interact, RYLA, Youth Exchange.

INTERACT

Interact is a Rotary-sponsored service club comprised of 14-18 year old's. Interact gives young people the opportunity to take part in fun, meaningful service projects. Along the way, Interactors develop their leadership skills and initiative while meeting new friends. Members exchange ideas, opinions and plans with other talented, energetic people, in an atmosphere free from negative pressures and distraction. Interact strives to promote student leadership, local volunteer service, and to make members aware of the many global and world issues that effect people everyday. Ultimately, students can:

- Become acquainted with a premiere service organization (Rotary International) and proven leaders from communities throughout Rotary;
- Learn how to manage and head community service projects;
- Learn about other Rotary club programs including Rotaract (service club for young adults), EarlyAct (a service club for primary school students), youth exchange (a chance to live and study abroad) and RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards).

The word Interact stands for "international action" and today there are more than 10,700 clubs in 109 countries.

ROTARACT

Rotaract is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young people ages 18-30. Rotaract clubs are usually community or university-based and are sponsored by a local Rotary club, making them true "partners in service" and key members of the Rotary family.

Young adults augment their knowledge and skill and also address the physical and social needs of their communities while promoting international understanding and peace through a framework of friendship and service. Rotaractors also often spearhead the formation of Interact clubs and participate in RYLA.

Rotaract is one of the fastest-growing programs of Rotary service with more than 9,500 Rotaract Clubs with 291,000 members in 177 countries. Rotaractors follow the motto "fellowship through service".

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE

Rotary Youth Exchange is an excellent and inexpensive way for high school age students to travel and study in a foreign country.

Youth exchange gives the participant the opportunity to improve their language skills and school and family experiences will teach them the culture of their host country. They also act as ambassadors for their home country. Each year the Rotary Districts that are part of CSRYE send approximately 300 young people to other countries and accept 300 young people from other countries in return.

Accepting a youth exchange student into your club, community and household can be a very rewarding experience. It's an opportunity for you, your family and your fellow Rotarians to learn about a different culture and also help a young person understand your culture. The goal of Rotary Youth Exchange is to promote the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace at the person to person level.

RYLA

Each year thousands of young people take part in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) programs worldwide. Young people are chosen for their leadership potential to attend a seminar, camp or workshop to discuss leadership skills and to learn those skills through practice. RYLA 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; and
- Recognize publicly young people who are rendering service to their communities.

Started in Queensland, Australia in 1959 and officially adopted by Rotary International in 1971, the RYLA program enables young people to debate issues of professional responsibility and human relations, improve leadership and communication skills, learn about businesses or institutions and meet Rotarians, while having fun and making friends. For participants, RYLA provides the opportunity to refine skills and explore pertinent topics with peers and elders; for Rotarians, RYLA offers the chance to help develop leaders, share valuable expertise and bridge the gap between generations. RYLA can help lead to the strengthening and formation of Interact and Rotaract clubs and can be used as a recruiting tool for youth exchange.



We were pleased to welcome Chris Rodriguez, Executive and Artistic Director of the Wonder Theatre at Woodlawn Theatre, as our guest speaker on Tuesday, April 18th. Woodlawn Theatre officially changed its name to the Wonder Theatre in January 2023. The organization will continue to produce musical shows at its current Deco District location on Fredericksburg Rd., while renovations take place at its new venue at the Wonderland of the Americas. After his very interesting and informative presentation, club secretary Dan Clark presented Chris with a Certificate of Appreciation and a copy of the Rotary magazine.



WONDER
THEATRE
at Woodlawn Theatre



San Antonio Northeast Rotarians and Madison Interactors will be putting up these signs in the parking lot of Madison High School on Thursday, May 18th starting at 4:15 p.m. Thanks go out to Madison Interact Sponsor Janeen Downen for helping coordinate this project. Please let Dan Clark know if you can help with this service project.

LaVonna Stewart and Dan Clark volunteered at Alamo Heights Night on Friday, April 21st. They were volunteering at the Rotary District 5840 Membership Booth. The main focus of the booth was to inform the community about Rotary. We had quite a few folks come to the booth inquiring about Rotary. Hopefully we will gain a few new Rotarians from the booth.





Take your leadership skills to the next level with RLI -
Rotary Leadership Institute

There will be a Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) on Saturday, May 20th, 2023 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Spring Creek United Methodist Church, 28970 Old Fredericksburg Rd, Fair Oaks, TX 78015. RLI is a development program using facilitation in small groups to engage Rotarians and strengthen clubs through quality leadership education.

RLI's Part 1 is a great start for new Rotarians, as well as a good summary for experienced ones. It is suggested all members who are "new" to Rotary attend at least Part 1.

Parts 2 and 3 build on the foundation – completing all three parts is a great idea for incoming club presidents and board members. It builds action and sustainability in your local club!

The cost for RLI is \$50 and is open to all Rotarians. Please go to the following link to register:

<https://www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=70b216f9-5b1d-4308-9fdb-dd75d194e414>

7 reasons young people should join Rotary

by Ryan Bell, Iowa City District 6000 Public Image Co-Chair. Published 4/21/2020

I have a message for all you young people out there who may never have heard about Rotary. Or if you have, it was from a parent or grandparent who spent more time talking about the lunch menu or how great the salad bar is. If that's all you've heard about Rotary, then you're missing a lot. And let me tell you why, in the middle of this pandemic, Rotary is more relevant than ever. It's definitely something you want to know about.

Rotary is kind of a big deal. With over 1.2 million members worldwide, it's the biggest service organization on the planet. If you're a fan of the planet, that's just what Rotary wants to preserve. Our members are working on helping save mothers and children, supporting basic education for children, and fighting diseases. Many of those members are now using their connections and resources to help combat COVID-19.

Rotary has no religious or national affiliation. We don't care what you believe or who you voted for. The way Rotary sees it, the most important thing is that we come together to accomplish some much-needed tasks for a group we like to call humanity.

Rotary efforts have already helped eradicate 99.9 percent of global cases of polio. If you've never heard of polio, you can thank a Rotarian for that. Armed with a massive investment and partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Rotary has taken on the incredible task of ridding the world of this crippling disease so no child need get it ever again.

In addition to these large-scale, international projects, Rotary clubs are always working to improve their own communities. Just check out the list of activities Rotarians are involved in to help their communities get through this pandemic.

I would never pressure you to do something that will improve your life in every conceivable way. But let me tell you the benefits I've personally seen from being involved in Rotary for seven years.

1. You'll make local connections. During the pandemic, Rotary clubs have been staying connected through virtual meetings, which you can join conveniently from the safety of your home. Even in these unusual times, Rotary is keeping people connected. We all need that sense of connection. You will meet wonderfully diverse people from many walks of life. For many of us, this is the main appeal: local friends, local colleagues, clients and contacts. It's actually why a group of young professionals in Chicago started Rotary back in 1905. When it comes to networking and advancing your business, Rotary membership isn't like the fickle, transactional networking and "referral" groups you've likely been encouraged to join. It's authentic and real.
2. You'll make a global impact. Bill and Melinda Gates saw the efficiency and effectiveness of Rotary, and have partnered with us to commit \$450 million to eradicate polio. Once we crush polio, we'll move on to other important challenges facing our world.
3. You'll see your work pay off locally. Sure, the whole "saving the world" thing is cool, but if you're wanting to make a difference a little closer to home, don't worry, Rotary does that. We are leaders in our communities. We are a funding source (through a grant program), a volunteer source (because we're awesome like that) and we even come up with our own initiatives, like in 2018 when we planted over 1.2 million trees.
4. You can inspire the next generation. We have amazing youth programs that involve students in service and leadership. Rotary Youth Leadership Awards weekends fuel and shape the potential for greatness that's already inside these students. They get fired up about making the world a more peaceful, loving place — and have the contacts, plans, and direction to make it happen.
5. You can spend time with the Greatest Generation. Rotary includes members of all ages. Sure, Rotary has a reputation for having a lot of members over the age of 50. But there is also a ton you can learn from the Greatest and Baby Boomer generations. If you're looking for mentoring, or just great stories, look no further.
6. You'll get inspired. No matter what your motive is in considering Rotary, you will be inspired by guest speakers or performances, online or otherwise. I've seen amazing singers, legitimately awesome circus clowns, environmentalists, coaches — you name it. And virtual meetings make it easier for clubs to line up dynamic speakers from even further away.
7. You'll put your energy where it's really needed. Here's (perhaps) the best part of getting involved in Rotary: These clubs need you like crazy! We need leaders from every community in the world to join Rotary and amplify our impact. Feel helpless during the coronavirus outbreak? Consider the impact you could have joining a family of volunteers committed to doing whatever is needed to help the community.

About the author: Ryan Bell has been a Rotary member for seven years. He is the owner of Locals Love Us Iowa City. His great passions include community-building, Pearl Jam and Iowa whiskey.

Rotary Voices

Stories of service from around the world



Ryan Bell explains what Rotary has to offer young people.