



Service Above Self

San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club

Chartered May 19, 1937 - District 5840 - Club #24623

www.sanoneastrotary.com



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Club of San Antonio Northeast



UNITE FOR GOOD



June 30, 2026

Salsalito Cantina Mexican Restaurant

14535 Nacogdoches Road, San Antonio, TX 78247

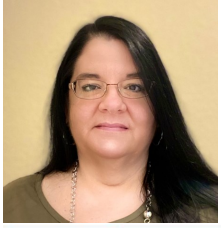
Social at 5:30 p.m. - Meeting from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



CANTINA MEXICAN RESTAURANT

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 speakers this evening are Karon Cuellar, Executive Director of Family Outreach Services, and Veronica Calderon, Director of the San Antonio Texas Family Outreach Center, for Arms of Hope. Arms of Hope, is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit Christian care organization that assists children and single-mother families in need. Arms of Hope's facilities include Medina Children's Home, Boles Children's Home, the Refuge Campus and Family Outreach Centers in four major cities across Texas.



Karon Cuellar grew up a military brat traveling across the United States and Japan as her dad served 21 years in the Air Force finally retiring in Abilene, TX, where she graduated from both high school and college majoring in Business Administration and continuing her education and career path into social work. Arms of Hope has been her lifelong passion and mission over the last 28 years as she has been honoured to walk alongside single moms, children and families as they navigate some of life's toughest challenges.

Veronica Calderon grew up in San Antonio and holds a Master of Social Work degree, graduating from Our Lady of the Lake University. She has had the privilege of serving with Arms of Hope for nearly nine years, a milestone which she will celebrate this October, God first. Her professional journey has been in serving others, advocating for those in need, and building meaningful partnerships that strengthen single mothers, grandparents raising children, individuals, and other communities. In her role, she is grateful for the opportunity to work alongside a dedicated team and other partners who share a commitment to making a positive impact. Working at the Family Outreach Center is an honor, to be present and to serve others. One of her greatest gifts is seeing transformation and hope in the eyes of our clients.

Thanks go out to Trina Forcey for arranging for Karon and Veronica to speak with us this evening.

SPECIAL MEETING AND LOCATION AND TIME

2026-27 District Governor Bobby Martinez will be making his official visit to the San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club **NEXT Tuesday, July 7, 2026.** This will also be the **San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club's 40th Installation Dinner and Awards Banquet.** 2026-2027 club officers will also be installed at this time. This special meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. and will take place at **El Chaparral Mexican Restaurant** in the Redland Trails Shopping Center located at 2838 N Loop 1604 E, San Antonio, TX 78232.



SPECIAL MEETING

UPCOMING PROGRAMS	
July 14th	Scott Sitterle, Dry Eye Therapy
July 21st	Kristen Salazar Real Estate

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Honorary Rotarian Kristine Gusman will be celebrating her birthday on July 1st. Happy Birthday, Kristine.

Jossi Clark will be celebrating her second Rotary Anniversary on July 2nd. Happy Rotary Anniversary, Jossi.

Elizabeth Monsivais will be celebrating her birthday on July 7th. Happy Birthday, Elizabeth.

Honorary Rotarian Mayra Rivero-Diaz will be celebrating her Rotary Anniversary with the San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club on July 13th. Happy Rotary Anniversary, Mayra.

We finish out Rotary Fellowship Month today with a look at the Rotary Global History Fellowship (RGHF). The Mission of the RGHF dedicated to accumulating and preserving the history, values and philosophy of the Rotary movement, and encouraging others to do the same by publishing these histories, values, and philosophies on the internet.



Rotary Global History Fellowship

The Rotary Global History Fellowship website can be found at rghf.org (RGHF) has been accumulating and maintaining the global history of Rotary for more than 20 years. RGHF is a hub of information and a reference library – almost anything you want to learn more about from a historical standpoint about Rotary can be found within our many links and pages. To date, over 4,000 pages and in excess of 50,000 items of the Global History of Rotary have been compiled and these are available to all on the fellowship's. Annually, the fellowship's website receives in excess of 1,000,000 visitors seeking information which is made available freely in the expectation that any reprint of material is credited to RGHF. There are Rotary Global History Fellowships in 101 countries and counting.

Membership in the fellowship is open to all Rotarians, Rotaractors and their spouses and partners. It includes a number of RI presidents, past and present RI directors, TRF trustees, past and present district governors and many Rotarians world-wide. It is an essential tool in assisting all Rotarians and Rotaractors to gain a better knowledge and understanding of Rotary. PRIP Frank Devlyn described the fellowship's activities as "an instrumental tool for those forward thinking people who wish to learn from our history, in order to guide our future."

What is a Paul Harris Fellow? The Rotary Global History Fellowship can help explain. Want to see a Rotary timeline throughout history? RGHF has got you covered. Have you ever seen the first copy of what would become the Rotarian magazine? Published in January 1911 as The National Rotarian, you can find this on the RGHF website.

There are three levels of RGHF membership:
1-Year Member → Curator (\$36)
Hands-on stewards of Rotary's global story. Join for a year and help shape the collection.
2-Year Member → Archivist (\$60)
Committed guardians of Rotary's past. Your two-year membership supports deeper preservation efforts.
5-Year Member → Conservator (\$125)
Legacy protectors. Conservators ensure long-term access and care for Rotary's history and heritage.

If you are interested in joining the Rotary Global History Fellowship, please go to: <https://rghf.org/join-rghf/>





Tony Hernandez has applied for membership in the San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club. Tony has attended our last two meetings and is a former member of the Austin South Rotary Club. His classification will be Funeral Counselor.



At the start of tonight our Happy Bucks pot is up to \$745. That means if your ticket is drawn tonight and you pull the joker out of the deck, you will leave with at least \$372.50.

Club Treasurer Becky Robles has e-mailed out the members' dues invoices to San Antonio Northeast Rotarians for the period of July 2026 through December 2026. **Invoice payments are due no later than Wednesday, July 15, 2026.**



PAYMENT DUE

Please note that dues are \$100 every six months (or \$200 per Rotary year). This amount helps cover dues from Rotary International, District dues, and also helps cover shared costs such as speaker meals and general operating expenses.

As an added option, you may also choose to make a voluntary donation to the Paul Harris Fund when submitting your dues. The donation amount is entirely up to you.

RECAP FROM LAST WEEK

We had a good turnout for our meeting last week. Anthony Strickland's ticket was drawn for our weekly raffle but he did not pull the joker. Our happy bucks pot continues to grow.

We were pleased to welcome Joshua Mair, Marketing Partner and Team President of the San Antonio Toros, a professional outdoor football team that just completed its inaugural season in the revived Continental Football League (CoFL). The Toros are already making plans for the 2027 season. After his very informative presentation, Joshua received a Speaker's Certificate of Appreciation, and a copy of the Rotary magazine from Club President Trina Forcey.



16th Annual Halloween Bowling Fundraiser

The San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club's 16th Annual Bowling and Silent Auction Fundraiser will take place on Saturday, October 24, 2026 at Astro SuperBowl starting at 12:00 noon. As in years past, funds raised from this event will go to awarding a scholarship to a graduating senior at James Madison High School, supporting the James Madison Interact Club's Food Pantry, and sending two students to Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA).

Cost is \$25 per bowler, consisting of 3 games or 3 hours, whichever comes first. In addition to bowlers, we are also looking for silent auction items. Club members are encouraged to reach out to local businesses and request an item for our auction. Finally, we are also looking for sponsors for our fundraiser. There are multiple levels of sponsorship.

For forms and additional information, please check out the San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club's website at sanortheastrotary.com Please contact Dan Clark at danclark@ibc.com or (210) 799-4474 if you have any questions.

At the Rotary International Convention, polio experts report on eradication effort

by Etelka Lehoczky and John M. Cunningham photos by Monika Lozinska and Kristen Wei

Current leaders of the four-decade campaign to eradicate polio expressed confidence in the effort at the Rotary International Convention in Taipei, Taiwan, saying on 15 June that the promise of a polio-free world can be achieved.

"I think we could even see the last case of wild poliovirus in Pakistan this year," Michael K. McGovern, chair of the International PolioPlus Committee, said after the session.

"Some years we have disappointments. There are international factors that affect our progress," added McGovern, a member of the Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth, Maine, USA. "This year, there's been some political turmoil. Obviously, there are wars going on. But I just sense that we're on track. We have more resilience to overcome the issues that come up, and vaccine refusal rates are the lowest they've ever been. Everything seems to be ticking in the right direction."

That optimism was echoed by Johrita Solari, chair of the Polio Eradication Advocacy Task Force for the United States, who called the eradication effort "the rare good news story."

"We live in a world full of bad news," said Solari, a member of the Rotary Club of Anaheim, California, USA. "Polio eradication is an inspiring example of the power of collective action, enduring commitment, and effective partnerships, with proven results. We've leveraged our respective strengths — Rotary volunteers, technical partners, [the World Health Organization,] UNICEF, and governments around the world — to reduce polio cases by 99.9% and sustain that progress. That's something rare."

The panel was among numerous breakout sessions on the second day of Rotary's annual convention, which has brought together more than 37,000 people from around the globe. As in previous years, the session about polio was crowded with attendees seeking an update on Rotary's signature cause.

While McGovern and the other panelists mainly emphasized the positive, they did express one warning. On social media and even in mainstream news sources, they said, false narratives are both widespread and pernicious. McGovern said the U.S. media failed to accurately report the level of congressional support for eradication. "For five straight years, the U.S. government has appropriated US\$265 million for polio eradication. If you read the news, you would never guess that," he said.

Valarie Wafer, a member of the International PolioPlus Committee and the Rotary Club of Burlington Lakeshore, Ontario, Canada, said that Rotary members and their allies should fight misinformation with meaningful personal narratives. Finding new opportunities for people who have had polio to share their stories has a powerful effect, she said.

"Even in some of our challenging areas in Afghanistan and Pakistan, they're actually employing polio survivors to go door to door with frontline [vaccination] workers," she said. "You open the door, and your initial reaction may be to say no, but then you see somebody who actually had the disease, it's affected their life, and they're standing right in front of you. And you can see what might happen to your children if you're not immunizing them."

Another breakout session focused on creative ways to use technology in education. Speakers from the Basic Education and Literacy Rotary Action Group and The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers shared examples of successful technologies for learning.

These tools don't necessarily rely on internet access, which can be unavailable or unreliable in many places. In Belize, Guatemala, Namibia, Panama, and elsewhere, Rotary clubs have distributed portable offline servers loaded with educational material to schools and other institutions. The servers are called RACHEL, short for Remote Area Community Hotspot for Education and Learning.

Panelists also discussed the importance of partnerships in implementing technology-focused projects, such as an annual event in the U.S. that teaches middle-school students skills in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). It's organized by District 7430 (Pennsylvania) with support from Kutztown University in Kutztown, Pennsylvania, and the nonprofit SETI Institute (better known for its work on the search for extraterrestrial intelligence).

Carolyn Johnson, past chair of the Basic Education and Literacy Rotary Action Group and a member of the Rotary Club of Yarmouth, Maine, USA, said Rotary members who develop educational technology projects should do more than just put computers in classrooms. Instead of simply providing advanced hardware, members should ensure that the technology will improve the quality and impact of lessons, she said.

This need was echoed by the action group's vice chair, Anthony Bloome, a member of the Rotary Club of Washington Global, based in the USA. If the technology "doesn't operate smoothly, it's disruptive," he said. And it's important to teach digital citizenship alongside other skills, said Ritika Anand, a school principal in New Delhi, India, and a member of the Rotary Club of Delhi City. She said parents and teachers should strive to curb harmful behaviors like cyberbullying.



Michael K. McGovern, chair of the International PolioPlus Committee, addresses a breakout session, Join the Experts: A Polio-Free World Is Possible. The session was a highlight of the second day of the Rotary International Convention in Taipei, Taiwan

