



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



**IMAGINE  
ROTARY**

December 6, 2022



*the* **Nor'easter**

**Rotary**  
Club of San Antonio  
Northeast



**Salsalito Cantina Mexican Restaurant, 14535 Nacogdoches Road, San Antonio, TX 78247**  
Social Half-Hour 5:30 p.m. - Meeting 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 guest speaker tonight is tattoo artist Brittany Elliott. Brittany has been tattooing since 2006. She specializes in bold, bright, custom, old-school tattoos. Brittany knew as an early teen that she wanted to make tattooing her career.



After going through an apprenticeship in 2006, she began tattooing full time and never looked back. In 2012, she appeared on the Oxygen series Best Ink Season 2, which she said was a crazy and cool experience. After appearing on the show, she went on tour with a few bands doing merchandise for a few years in between her tattoo schedule. Brittany's specialty in tattooing is heavy metal imagery and band logos. In 2014, she opened her own heavy metal record store and tattoo shop in Fort Worth. Brittany moved back home to San Antonio in late 2019.

When she is not tattooing, Brittany refurbishes antique furniture. She said that she loves the challenge of taking something old and worn out and turning into a new piece of art. Same with tattooing, she loves doing reworks and coverups because of the satisfaction she gets seeing before and after photos. She uses old rock n' roll posters for her tabletops and they are all 100% handmade and one of a kind.

**UPCOMING SAN ANTONIO NORTHEAST ROTARY CLUB EVENTS**

- Tuesday, December 20th** Club Christmas Party at Salsalito's
- Tuesday, January 3rd** Dr. Angela Speck, Department Chair, Physics & Astronomy UTSA
- Tuesday, January 17th** District Governor Dwayne Hopkins

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

Since we did not have a newsletter at our last meeting, we need to acknowledge a couple of important dates that were not share with everyone.



Dennis and Mary Heath celebrated their 63rd Wedding Anniversary on November 14th. Belated Happy Anniversary wishes Dennis and Mary.

Dan Clark's 29th Rotary Anniversary was on December 1st

Bob Barron celebrated his birthday on December 3rd.

Now on to some current announcements.

Sue Bauer will be blowing the candles out on her birthday cake on December 8th.

Our Honorary Rotarian Mayra Rivero's husband Antonio will be celebrating his birthday on December 23rd.



At the start of tonight our Happy Bucks pot is up to \$832. That means if your ticket is drawn and you draw the Joker, you are going to be going home with at least \$416.

Our Rotary club's Christmas party will be held on Tuesday, December 20th starting at 6:00 p.m. The party will be held at Salsalito's Cantina Mexican Restaurant.



As in years past, we will play our annual White Elephant Gift Exchange. If you wish to participate, please bring a gift worth approximately \$15.

**Yes, polio still exists ... but it can be eradicated**

Polio can be eradicated very soon, but the challenges need to be met swiftly and with resources.

by Joe Stahlman, Charlie Cogan and Tim Mulcrone



Why is there still polio in the world today? Around this time of the year, global health experts and partners come together to reflect on the progress made on the road to polio eradication, honor those on the frontlines, and reflect on the work that still needs to be done. Two of the original partners of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) are UN agencies: the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF. Rotary International, a founding partner of the GPEI works closely with these partners as well as the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and national governments to eradicate polio worldwide. The GPEI has been a huge success, but the job is not yet done. At first, the progress was amazing. In 1988, when the GPEI was formed, there were more than 350,000 cases of polio in 125 countries across the globe. Today, only Pakistan and Afghanistan are still endemic to the wild poliovirus with less than 50 wild polio cases in the world, including a handful of cases in Africa that are traced back to Pakistan. In 1988, there were three strains of the wild poliovirus: Types 1, 2, and 3. Now, only Type 1 remains.

As the virus is nearing eradication, there are still challenges. While wild polio cases are few this year, there are some cases circulating in different parts of the world that are linked to the oral vaccine. In rare cases, if the weakened strain of the poliovirus contained in the oral vaccine circulates among an under-immunized population, it can revert back to a form that causes paralysis, although the GPEI's new oral vaccine is more genetically stable and less likely to revert to a paralysis-inducing form (and it's being used in a growing list of countries). A recent case in New York falls into this category, in which an unvaccinated person contracted a case of paralytic polio. The key is to keep vaccination rates high, in which case polio does not have any openings. As some countries have gone for many years without any polio, the vaccination rates can lapse, especially during the lockdown caused by the COVID pandemic. The key is to get all of the routine immunizations and you are protected. In countries with active conflicts like Ukraine, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Mozambique, this takes extra effort and resources.

Polio can be eradicated very soon, but the challenges need to be met swiftly and with resources. In the wake of the massive floods and humanitarian disasters in Pakistan, Internally-Displaced People (IDPs) need to be supported by targeted immunizations. In Afghanistan, there is renewed hope as the Taliban has agreed to allow house-to-house vaccinations to resume, after several years when some regions were not accessible to vaccinators. Across the board, female vaccinators play a particularly important role because they're able to go house-to-house to immunize children where men cannot, and during a visit to Pakistan in August, Rotary International President Jennifer Jones took part in a vaccination campaign and used the opportunity to "spotlight female health workers who are playing a critical role in protecting children from this vaccine-preventable disease" (Rotary magazine, October 2022). During the final push to eliminate polio in northern Nigeria, it was also women who led the way, working together with health officials, community and faith leaders, and the GPEI partners to get the vaccine into the mouths of children.

As we continue the march towards global eradication, we must also continue to ensure that GPEI's eradication efforts receive the support necessary to end polio for good. Rotary – inclusive of 1.4 million members in 46, 000 clubs – is committed to raising \$50 million a year, and has contributed more than \$2.6 billion to fight the disease. What's more, thanks to Rotary's funding partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Rotary commits \$150 million annually to the global effort to eradicate polio. If you would like to lend a hand, please take a look at this link for more information on how to help and how to donate: www.endpolio.org.

Joe Stahlman, North St. Paul, Rotary District 5960, Charlie Cogan, Northfield, District 5960 and Tim Mulcrone, Savage, District 5950 are leaders of the Rotary International PolioPlus Teams for the Twin Cities and surrounding areas of Minnesota and Wisconsin.





Fellow Rotarian Bill Biggadike of the Rotary Club of New Braunfels was our guest speaker at our meeting on November 1st. Bill spoke to us about a project that the New Braunfels Rotary Club recently held where they raised money for a Ukrainian children refugees camp in Poland. Bill showed us a video of his trip to Poland and Germany. After his presentation, San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club president Debbie Degollado presented Bill a Speaker Certificate of Appreciation. Debbie and Bill also exchanged Rotary club banners. Thank you, Bill.



The 2023 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, better known as RYLA, will take place Friday, January 13 through Monday, January 16, 2023. Open to more than 150 outstanding representatives of clubs throughout District 5840, the RYLA Conference will be held at the John Newcombe Tennis Ranch in New Braunfels.

The RYLA program is designed for outstanding high school students to help develop qualities of leadership skills and good citizenship, as well as to emphasize the advantages of the free enterprise system. Young men and women, selected by their local Rotary clubs, are invited to participate in leadership training meetings organized and run by Rotarians.

A portion of the money raised at our bowling fundraiser in October was for our club to sponsor two Madison High School students to attend RYLA. Remember, the youth of today are the Rotarians of tomorrow.

There was a District wide fundraiser in October to raise funds to eradicate Polio. Part of the fundraiser is that if at least \$1,000 was raised, District Governor Nominee Steve Darling would get a pie in the face at the District Conference held in November in Kerrville, TX. If \$2,000 was raised, District Governor Elect Monica Gutierrez would get a pie in the face. And if \$3,000 was raised, District Governor Dwayne Hopkins would get a pie in the face. If District 5840 was able to raise \$5,000 or more, Steve, Monica and Dwayne would all get a pie in the face. Well guess what happened. Our own Debbie Degollado was in attendance at the District Conference and was the one that delivered Steve's pie.



Rotary Club of San Antonio Presents

# THE ROTARY ICE RINK

## AT TRAVIS PARK

The Coolest Place in Town

The Rotary Ice Rink is back!  
Mark your calendars for November 18 - January 16

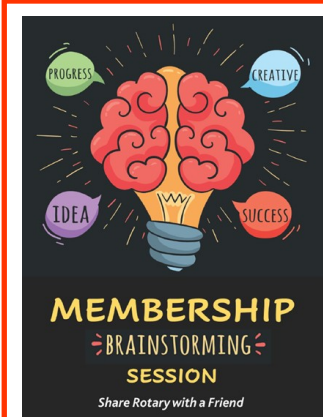


Rotary Club of San Antonio  
Club 52 Established 1912

The Rotary Club of San Antonio 2022 Holiday Outdoor Ice Rink returns to Travis Park adjacent to the annual Christmas tree. The address is 301 E. Travis St, San Antonio, TX 78205. The Rink will be open through January 16, 2023. Since 2019, nearly 200,000 people have enjoyed the rink and the beautiful winter festivities. Admission pricing is \$14 for all ages. For more information about hours and pricing, please go to <http://rotaryicerink.com/hours-and-pricing/> HINT: The link will also tell you about special skate nights.



Photo courtesy of Kin Man Hui, S.A. Express-News



At our last meeting on November 15th, we had a club brainstorming session on how we can increase our club membership. Some good ideas came out of this session. One of the suggestions was to have joint socials with other Rotary clubs. This can be beneficial to all clubs participating. With the

holidays upon us, you will probably be attending a party or two with a lot of folks in attendance. This would be a perfect time to mention Rotary to someone. Better yet, invite them to one of our upcoming programs. Who knows, they might just say "yes".

Debbie Degollado is proud to report that 400 gifts were wrapped by volunteers at the Westside YMCA Wrapping Party held this past Saturday morning.

