

Monthly News

Volume 108, No. 6 • December 2023
Meetings held Mondays at 12:00 p.m.
In person at Cornerstone Church • Online via Zoom



What we are thankful for: Rotarians and friends

New Member Spotlight



Gagandeep Gill
Area
Superintendent,
Learn4Life



Mike Snell
CEO, California
Teaching Fellows
Foundation

Upcoming Events



Don't miss our meeting **Monday, Dec. 18**, noon at
Cornerstone Event Center. We'll have prizes for the
ugliest, funkiest holiday attire!

Letter from the President



'Tis the season: Why I'm thankful to be a Rotarian

As we enter the holiday season, there are so many things to be thankful for as a Rotarian: thankful that your club is able to help so many local organizations at this time of year; thankful for Rotarians who give of their time to volunteer in the community; and thankful for members of the club who volunteer to serve our club.

The Rotary Club of Fresno Foundation received an incredible gift this past month that raised the assets of the foundation by more than a third. The Lewis and Virginia Eaton Trust donated over \$500,000 to the foundation. This gift will raise the profile of the foundation and allow for significantly more giving to the Fresno community in the years to come.

How can you help? We have several projects in December to get Rotarians in the holiday spirit. We have bell-ringing for the Salvation Army; a blood drive for the Central California Blood Center; and we are assembling warming kits again this year to benefit less-fortunate members of our community.

I hope all Rotarians have a wonderful holiday season and get a chance to "Create Hope in the World."

Mike Falge,

Rotary Club of Fresno President, 2023-24



This Month in Rotary



Fresno Pacific University Choir

The choral group will be performing holiday songs.



Leadership Fresno and 40 Under 40

Members of Leadership Fresno Class of 38 and members of the 40 Under 40 will be visiting. Bring a guest!



Chris Staub

The Central California Blood Bank president and CEO will be on hand for our next blood drive. Sign up to donate today!



No meeting

Rotary Club of Fresno will be dark today to celebrate the Christmas holiday. We wish you the very best!



Updates from the Board

Board Meeting: Nov. 8, 2023

Avenues of Service

Membership

- As of Oct. 31:
 - 232 active members
 - 38 honorary

Program Committee

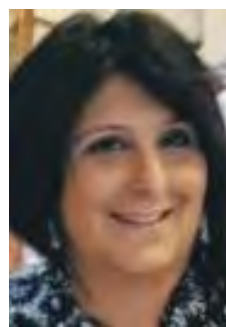
- All speaker dates are filled for the remainder of 2023 and the club has 11 meetings available in the second half of the year.

Vocational Service

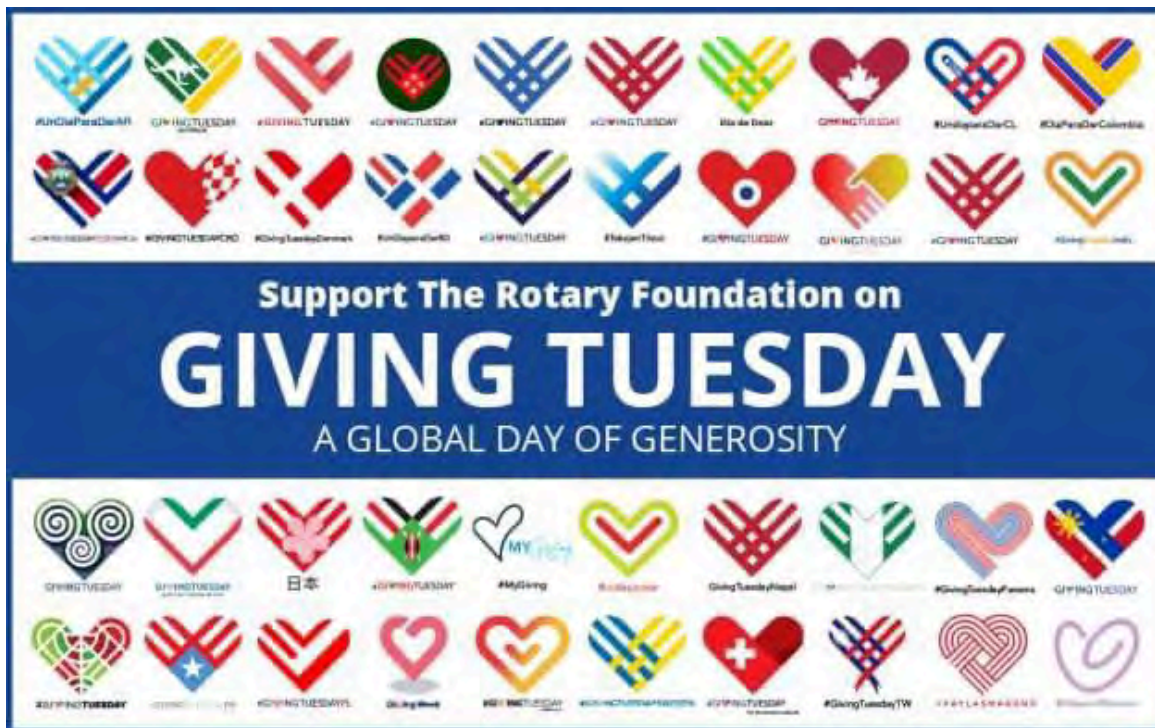
- Michelle Williams, along with Claude Laval, will be the club's point of contacts for Patino High School moving forward.

Get involved!

- **Rescue the Children Warming Kits:** We are only \$75 away from our \$6,000 goal! Special thanks to Ashley Webster-Rudolph for organizing this fundraiser. To donate, call 724-556-9430, email jason@fresnorotary.org or text Jason. Each kit is \$50. We will assemble the kits before the Dec. 18 meeting.
- **Salvation Army Bell-Ringing:** We still need volunteers for a few shifts of bell-ringing in Fashion Fair Mall at JC Penney. **Sign up here** or contact John Richers.
- **Blood drive at Rotary meeting:** We will be hosting our biannual blood drive on December 18 at our club meeting. Chris Staub, president and CEO of the Central California Blood Center, will be our speaker that day. Bring a guest to donate, and their lunch is on the club. **Sign up here** or contact John Richers.
- **Club business updates:**
 - Needing access to members in the club? Simply log into iMembers: **<https://imembersdb.com/>**
 - Need help? Email, call, or text Jason Hannold anytime at **jason@fresnorotary.org**.
 - We are looking for **gift cards for the weekly raffle**. If you have any, please give them to Jason Hannold.
 - **Learn More About Rotary Day** is Monday, Dec. 11 as we welcome Leadership Fresno Class 38 and 40 under 40 recipients to our club that day!



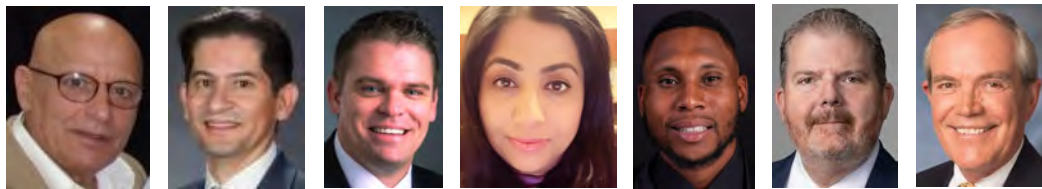
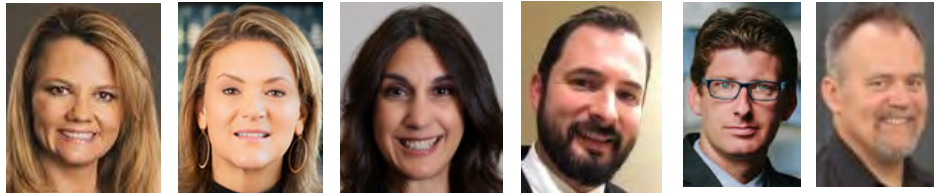
- Gus Bonner- **3 Rings** - In recognition of the 11 scholarships Gus and his wife, Greti, handed out to Clovis Community College students in September
- Blair Looney - **3 Rings** - In honor of Blair's retirement as president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau
- Sara Mirhadi - **2 Rings** - Celebrating 50 years of the Poverello House and renovation of its kitchen
- Mike Falge - **1 Ring** - For forgetting to bring out the flag before the Pledge of Allegiance



Keep the generosity coming: Giving Tuesday is behind us, but that doesn't mean you've missed your chance to support. When we come together, a gift of any size combines to make a big impact.

Time to celebrate!

December Anniversaries - Thank you for your service to Rotary and our community!



Jim Wilson: 52 years; Bill Stewart: 38 years; Andre Minuth: 37 years; Patricia White: 20 years; Duane Oswald: 18 years; Ted Falk: 13 years; Melissa Holtermann: 10 years; Lisa Smittcamp: 10 years; Ann Abajian: 7 years; Deryl Shilling: 6 years; Matt Dildine: 5 years; David Ingerson: 5 years; Wayne Picard: 5 years; Saul Jimenez-Sandoval: 3 years; Zachary Fraser: 2 years; Jyoti Arora: 1 year; Robert Golden: 1 year; Guy Lamb: 1 year; and Gary Quisenberry: 1 year.

December Birthdays - Wishing you the best!



Bryan Burton: Dec. 3; Bruno Boehi: Dec. 4; Jeanette Ishii: Dec. 4; Scott Rurik: Dec. 4; Tyrone Roderick Williams: Dec. 6; Andre Minuth: Dec. 8; Lisa Graham: Dec. 9; Vanna In: Dec. 9; Darren Rose: Dec. 9; Rich Olsson: Dec. 16; Matt Flores: Dec. 18; Ralph Fasi: Dec. 23; Samuel Okenyi: Dec. 27; and Dave Denham: Dec. 30.

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Looking Ahead



No meeting
Happy New
Year!



Roger Nord
Wells Fargo
economist



No meeting
Martin Luther
King Jr. Day



Debbie Hale
Rotary District
5230 governor



Michael Der Manouel
HUB
Central California

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