



Monthly News

Volume 108, No. 9 • March 2024
Meetings held Mondays at 12:00 p.m.
In person at Cornerstone Church • Online via Zoom



Rotary After Hours: Fun, friends and laughs at Ovidio Restaurant

New Member Spotlight



Kristina Solberg
Community Relations
Senior Manager, Central
Valley Community
Foundation

Upcoming Events



Biz Day is here:
Monday, Feb. 5, is
Biz Day. You can
sign up for a Biz
Day site by
emailing
**jason@
fresnorotary**

Visit fresnorotary.org to register you and your guest for weekly meetings

Letter from the President



January is behind us and 2024 is looking bright for Rotary

The Rotary Club of Fresno had a fun and interesting start to the new year, which included updates for the financial and real estate markets. And the annual visit from our district governor, Debbie Hale, was a success.

February is shaping up to be a great month as we have some fantastic programs, including the return of Biz Day. That's right - Biz Day is Back! I hope that you are able to sign up and attend a meeting hosted by one of several Rotarians at their business on Feb. 5. I am really proud of this club to bring back this tradition after a COVID-19 pandemic hiatus. Please contact Jason Hannold if you have not already signed up to get the details of which businesses are hosting.

Our January Rotary After Hours was a huge success with several members meeting at Ovidio Restaurant for food, beverages, and fun times. In February we will be going bowling for Rotary After Hours! Paul Salazar will be giving updates and reminders at our February meetings. Please save the date for Feb. 21 at Bowlero, located at Blackstone and Sierra avenues.

Valerie Vuicich is starting to ramp up the planning for her upcoming leadership year. How can you help? Join a committee. Reach out to the First-Year Avenue of Service directors (Darrick Duerksen, Club Service; Courtney Shapiro, Community Service; Diane Carbray, International Service; Rick Wolf, Vocational Service; and Wilma Hashimoto, Youth Service) and see where you can be of service in an area that you have passion for. It's never too early to get involved and start making a difference.

I hope that all Rotarians have a successful and joyful 2024 and get a chance to "Create Hope in the World."

Mike Falge,

Rotary Club of Fresno President, 2023-24



This Month in Rotary



Biz Day

Meetings will be held at 10 members' business sites around Fresno



Nicole Zieba

The city manager of the city of Reedley will discuss the illegal lab discovered in Reedley.



Presidents Day

No meeting today to celebrate the national holiday.



Dr. Jeff Thomas

Community Regional Medical Center vice president, chief medical and quality officer will discuss his annual mission to Armenia.



Updates from the Board

Board Meeting: Jan. 17, 2024

Avenues of Service

Membership

- As of Nov. 30, 2023:
 - 232 active members
 - 40 honorary

Community Service

- The Community Projects fund has about \$3,500 left for this fiscal year. No more grant applications will be accepted until April or May for the next fiscal cycle.

Report of the President-Elect

- President-Elect Valerie Vuicich and 2024-25 President-Elect Emil Milevoj are looking for a Youth Exchange chair for our club going into 2024-2025 year.

Club Service

- Fresno Mayor Jerry Dyer is tentatively on the schedule to speak at the club meeting May 13.

Get involved!

- **Rotarians in action - Kids Day Volunteer Opportunity:** Kids Day is Tuesday, March 12. We are looking for volunteers to help sell newspapers from 6-10 a.m., but you can come and go as needed, too. Reach out to member Mariah Walton at mwalton1@valleychildrens.org.
- **Rotarians in action - Volunteers needed to serve at Fresno Mission:** Member Don Eskes is looking for members and their families to help serve meals at the Fresno Mission. Reach out to Don at deskes@sbcglobal.net for details.
- **Rotary After Hours:** Wednesday, Feb. 21, from 5:30-8 p.m., come hang out with us and bring a guest to Bowlero at Blackstone and Sierra avenues. Cost is \$60 per person and includes food. Check out the weekly reminders in your email to register today.
- **Celebrate veterans:** Are you a veteran or have a family member who is? We would like to revamp our Veterans Day tribute. Email jason@fresnorotary.org any photos of yourself or your family member and the details in which they served to be part of our Veterans Day tribute.
- **Club business updates:** We are in need of gift cards or unique prizes/giveaways for the weekly raffle. You can drop them off at the Rotary office or give them to Jason Hannold at a club meeting. Thank you in advance for your help on this!



- Paul Salazar - **1 Ring** - For the Los Angeles Rams beating the San Francisco 49ers to end the regular season



MORE JANUARY MEETING FUN:
Share your photos of Rotary meetings on social media and tag [@RotaryClubofFresno](#)

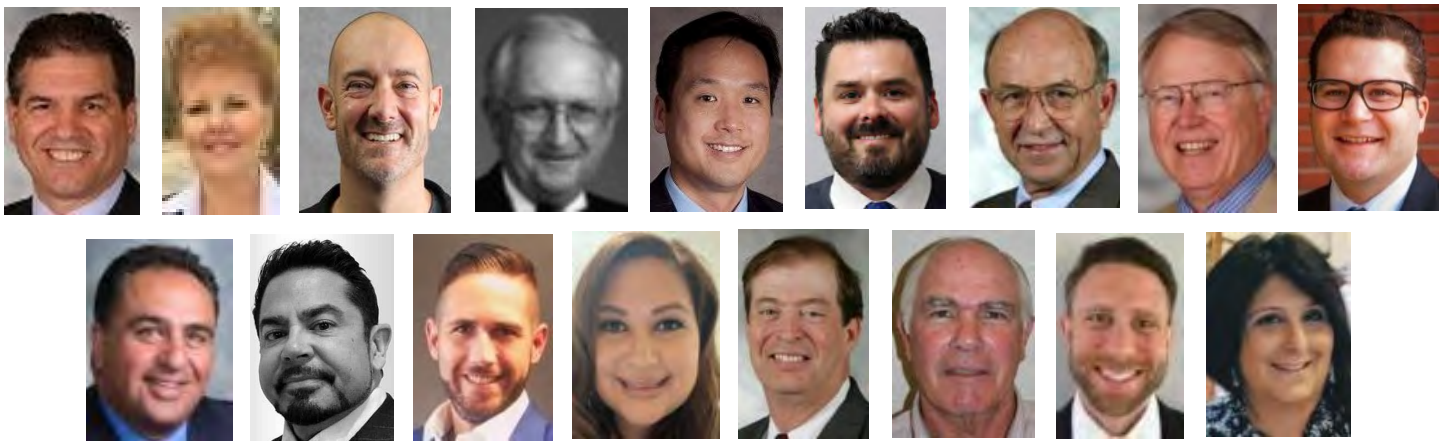
Time to celebrate!

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



Gary Renner: 44 years; Frank Witherow: 44 years; Richard Shehadey: 40 years; Susan Good: 29 years; Doug Arney: 26 years; Paul Duckworth: 25 years; Dale Samuelian: 25 years; Paula Castadio: 20 years; John Richers: 16 years; Frank Bailey: 15 years; Serop Torossian: 12 years; Wendi Hammond: 9 years; Roger Slingerman: 7 years; John Coakley: 5 years; Michael Der Manouel Jr.: 5 years; Wilma Hashimoto: 5 years; Kacey Auston-Tibbetts: 2 years; Mark Carlson: 1 year; Natalia Dabdoub: 1 year; Vanna In: 1 year; Eric Klimes: 1 year; and Mariah Walton: 1 year.

February Birthdays - Wishing you the best!



John Baerg: Feb. 1; Shelly Lether: Feb. 4; Mike Snell: Feb. 4; Dick Herrinton: Feb. 7; James Kim: Feb. 7; Edward Gonzalez: Feb. 9; Garry Griesser: Feb. 9; Doug Jensen: Feb. 10; William Oliver: Feb. 12; Serop Torossian: Feb. 14; Dominick Berarducci: Feb. 20; Clifton Wahlberg: Feb. 20; Natalia Dabdoub: Feb. 21; Ron Stumpf: Feb. 24; John Salmonson: Feb. 26; Richard Verducci: Feb. 26; and Sara Mirhadi: Feb. 28.

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Looking Ahead



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Heroes Day

We will honor
public safety
heroes



Ryan Jacobsen

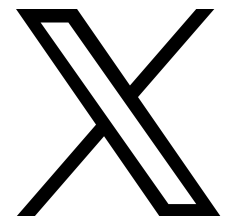
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