



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



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**



January 13, 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.



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 Cathy Criado of Criado Realty. Cathy is a full-time, seasoned Real Estate Broker dedicated to building strong connections with business owners and individuals who need a reliable, high-quality Broker in the Greater San Antonio Area.

She specializes in commercial real estate (retail, office, multi-family, and industrial) as well as income-producing residential and value added properties.

With her MBA from UTSA, Cathy offers value-added services beyond real estate, including a strong network of business coaching, consulting, and reliable resources to help business owners and investors maximize success.

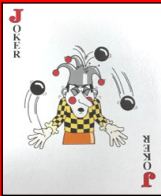
Her approach is simple: Listen first. Whether you're ready to buy/sell or need guidance to get there, I'm here to be a trusted resource and advocate.

Nothing is too big to dream, achieve, or reach. As Zig Ziglar said, "You can get anything in life you want if you help enough other people get what they want." Let's make it happen together!



Birthdays & Anniversaries

We do not have any birthdays or anniversaries to report this week.



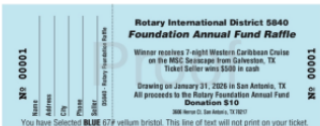
At the start of tonight our Happy Bucks pot is at \$0. That's because Becky Goering pulled the Joker at our meeting last week. Congratulations Becky.



TONIGHT'S MEETING IS THE LAST CHANCE TO TURN IN ROTARY FOUNDATION RAFFLE TICKET STUBS



Rotary Foundation Raffle Instructions



Each member will receive one book (10 tickets at \$10 each) to sell and raise funds for our Rotary Foundation Annual Fund.

Each member can send \$100 directly to Rotary Foundation Annual Fund or your Club Foundation Chair can collect money from members and use the Multiple Contribution form with one check to Rotary Foundation Annual Fund.

Winner receives a \$5000 voucher for a 7-night Western Caribbean Cruise on the MSC Seascapes from Galveston, TX to be taken anytime in 2026.



Seller of winning ticket receives \$500 in cash.



Club Foundation Chair to mail ticket stubs (no staples) and deposit sheet to the following address by **January 15, 2026**:
Monica Gutierrez
3606 Herron Ct. San Antonio, TX 78217



Raffle Drawing will be held at RLI on **January 31, 2026** at the Northwest Vista College campus in San Antonio, TX at 12PM.

Note: Raffle tickets per club were distributed at DG installation; contact your Assistant Governor if your club has not received them.



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

**NO KID SLEEPS
ON THE FLOOR
IN OUR TOWN!**

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY THIS SATURDAY

Club President Trina Forcey has arranged for San Antonio Northeast Rotarians to volunteer at Sleep in Heavenly Peace this Saturday, January 17th from 8:30a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

If you will be able to attend please register at the link below. There is a waiver you must complete in order to register.

<https://x.gldn.io/e/LwLoys8flZb>

Once you register you will receive a confirmation e-mail.

Madison Interact Club first meeting of 2026

Speaking of Club President Trina, she attended the first meeting of 2026 of the Madison Interact Club. The San Antonio Northeast Rotary Club has proudly sponsored the Madison High School Interact Club since it was chartered on March 2, 2016.



January is Rotary Vocational Service Month

One of the ways to take action during Rotary Vocational Service Month is to join or Rotary Fellowship related to your vocation. Rotary Fellowships are international groups of Rotarians, family members, and program participants and alumni who share a vocational or recreational interest. There are many vocationally-oriented fellowships such as: Authors and Writers, Editors and Publishers, Health Professionals, Lawyers, Photographers, Police and Law Enforcement. For a complete list of Rotary Fellowships Please find below a more extensive list of Rotary Fellowships:



Acquaintance
Fellowship
Connections Ideas Opportunity
Expertise Action Fair Respectful Ethical
Integrity
Accountability Honor
Understanding International
Diversity
Membership Commitments United
Community Education Health
Vocational Service
Economy Club Scholarship Friendship
Relationships Development
Leadership
Sincere Responsible Professional

<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/more-fellowships>

With January being Rotary Vocational Service Month, club members Dan Hernandez and Debbie Degollado spoke about their respective professions to those in attendance. Dan spoke about his vocation of being an Insurance Agent with State Farm Insurance. Debbie spoke about her career with the YMCA of San Antonio. Thank you Dan Debbie for two great presentations.



ROTARIAN CODE OF CONDUCT

As a Rotarian, I will:

- 1. Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
- 2. Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
- 3. Use my professional skills through Rotary to mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
- 4. Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians
- 5. Help maintain a harassment-free environment in Rotary meetings, events, and activities; report any suspected harassment; and help ensure non-retaliation to those individuals that report harassment



There will be a Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) on Saturday, January 31st, 2026 from 8:30AM to 4:30PM at the Northwest Vista College, 3535 N Ellison Dr, San Antonio, TX 78251. Classes will begin at 9AM. The institute is \$50 and is open to all Rotarians. Click the following link to register:

<https://www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/registrations/publicfill/eventpublicfill.aspx?evtid=5674128a-d94e-4502-b81a-8a710c3b069c>

RLI is a very informative and fun day. You will enjoy a program that is well-planned and presented by district leaders. There is great inter-action amongst attendees and you will learn quite a bit about leadership qualities and the "nuts and bolts" of Rotary. This program will prove invaluable in preparing you or your fellow Rotarians for leadership positions within your club and district.

RLI seeks to provide quality education in Rotary knowledge and leadership skills to Rotarians interested in developing their Rotary participation and to those identified by Rotary Clubs as having a potential in club leadership. These educational opportunities will teach skills that will benefit the members in their lives and in their volunteer service.

For questions, please contact Arden Riley: arden.riley@gmail.com

Rotary International president-elect emphasizes effective action and ‘embracing the world with open arms’

by Etelka Lehoczky

Rotary International President-elect Olayinka H. Babalola called on members to Create Lasting Impact by making their clubs more welcoming, carrying out impactful projects, and allowing their Rotary experiences to transform them personally.

“Rotary has changed us. It has shaped who we are and made us better people,” Babalola said at Rotary’s International Assembly in Orlando, Florida, USA, on 12 January. “We often talk about changing the world. We talk about ending polio, about building peace. We do not think enough about how Rotary transforms us.”

Babalola, a member of the Rotary Club of Trans Amadi, Nigeria, described how joining a Rotaract club as a teenager enlarged his perspective beyond the limited, privileged outlook he’d once had. That change in awareness came from observing the lasting impact his club had in the community, particularly from teaching people to read and write.

“As members of Rotary, we share a vision of a better future,” he said. “To make this vision a reality, we must acknowledge and unleash the change within ourselves. We must focus not only on outcomes, but on impact.” Change and impact are not the same, he added: “Change is only the beginning. Impact is what endures.”

Understanding impact

Rotary members have made an impact by expanding early childhood education in Knysna, South Africa, and increasing access to prenatal care in Nigeria, Babalola said. The Rotary Club of Knysna empowered local women to open and manage early childhood education centers.

“The project has reached thousands of children and families, and it will continue to provide education in those communities for generations,” Babalola said. “We can recreate this kind of impact in other parts of the world, and in doing so we can earn the trust and recognition of our neighbors in the communities we serve. And when more communities trust Rotary, more people want to join.”

Babalola also described the wide-ranging impact of Together for Healthy Families in Nigeria. The initiative to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality rates received a US\$2 million Rotary Programs of Scale grant in 2022.

“Before Rotary’s intervention, many women avoided prenatal care, which is essential to ensuring a safe birth for both mother and child,” he said. “After working with Rotary, systems were put in place to help expecting mothers receive prenatal care. The community was involved. Attendance went up. Mortality went down. That project [will] transform lives across Nigeria for decades.”

Extending a welcome

Babalola urged members to take a more open, welcoming attitude toward newcomers to their clubs. He described how, when he was a Rotaract club member eager to join a Rotary club, the president of the Rotary club treated him with scorn. “He said, ‘What audacity! You cannot just join. You need an invitation,’” Babalola recalled. “I could have walked away. Instead, I said, ‘I didn’t know a child needed an invitation to enter his parents’ home.’”

While things have changed since that time, Babalola said, they haven’t changed enough. Some clubs close themselves off instead of “embracing the world with open arms,” he said. Young people aren’t necessarily treated with respect, he added, and people with different ideas and backgrounds aren’t always made to feel welcome. He urged members to think about how they could better welcome others. “You never know whose Rotary story might begin — or end — based on the way you make them feel at a meeting or service project,” he said.

Another way members can focus on personal change, he said, is to aim to do better than their best. He urged district leaders to examine their past successes in raising funds, planning projects, and recruiting members. Then, he said, they should challenge themselves to surpass their past triumphs. “When we change ourselves, we change our clubs and districts,” he concluded. “When we change our districts, we change the communities we serve. And when we change our communities, we create lasting impact across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.”

