



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



the Nor'easter



October 29, 2024

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 Bennie Price. Mr. Price, the CEO and Founder, is a prominent figure in the Community Violence Intervention and Prevention movement. He leads the 1 Church 1 Soul Ministry, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit known as Big Mama's Safe House. Bennie also serves as the Program Manager for the Community Violence Interrupters Team G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Rehabilitation Ending Affiliation Ties).



Born and raised in the Wheatley Courts Housing Projects on the eastside of San Antonio, Bennie has overcome a tumultuous past, having been involved in gang activities that led to a lengthy incarceration. Sentenced to nearly a century in the Texas Prison System for offenses including murder, aggravated assault, drugs, and escape, Bennie served 23 years before his release in 2016.



Despite his challenging history, he has successfully worked in gun violence intervention and prevention, drawing from over four decades of firsthand experience. His personal journey, from being both perpetrator and victim of gun violence, fuels his dedication to making positive change.

Driven by his deep-rooted values of faith, family, friendship, and community, Bennie is not only a business owner but also a compassionate leader. His commitment to addressing the scourge of gun violence stems from a profound understanding of its devastating impact on individuals and communities alike.

Thanks go out to Trina Forcey for arranging Bennie to come out and speak to us this evening.

Upcoming Programs

November 5th **Kim Torres,**
Premier World Discovery Tours

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Belated Rotary Anniversary Wishes go out to Becky Goering who celebrated her Rotary Anniversary on October 25th. Thank you, Becky for everything that you do for our club. Apologies to Becky for not publishing this in last week's Nor'easter.



At the start of tonight our Happy Bucks pot is at \$1,027. That means if your ticket is drawn tonight and you pull the Joker out of the deck, you will leave with at least \$513.50.

Daylight Saving Time ends this Sunday, November 3rd. Unless you want to wake up at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, remember to turn your clocks back one hour when you go to bed Saturday night.



A Little History of Rotary District 5840

Rotary International District 5840 lies deep in the heart of Texas, covering an area of 52,466 square miles encompassing 44 counties. There are nine Rotary districts in Texas, with District 5840 having a membership of 2,300.

Rotary first came to Texas in 1912 when clubs were chartered in San Antonio, Dallas and Houston. Rotarian Herbert J. Hayes organized the San Antonio Rotary Club, the 52nd Rotary club to be chartered, in June 1912 with 11 men. Today, the San Antonio club is one of the largest clubs in the world with a membership of more than 400. The Cuero Rotary Club was the second club formed in the District and was sponsored by the Victoria Rotary Club in District 5930. The Cuero Club's charter number 907 was issued May 1, 1921. The Beeville Rotary Club, the third club in the District, was sponsored jointly by the Victoria Rotary Club and the San Antonio club. Beeville holds charter number 955, issued on May 1, 1921.

Clubs donate supplies, raise funds, and volunteer
by Arnold R. Grahl and Etelka Lehoczky

Kelsey Mitchell grimly sums up the effects of two subsequent hurricanes on the state of Florida. "When this storm came through, it put an even bigger mess on top of the mess we already had," says Mitchell, the governor of Rotary District 6960 in Florida. "We had to stop working in all the flooded areas and go back to preparing for the storm."

Mitchell's District was one of several where members were working to help those impacted by Hurricane Helene, which hit the southeastern United States at the end of September. Now, in the wake of Hurricane Milton, members are once again organizing relief efforts. "We work with our local partner organizations, which we already support, to identify the communities that have the most need and least ability to provide for themselves," Mitchell says. "We already had a disaster committee on the state level. The district governors had been meeting every month to prepare a response, and since the hurricanes hit, we have met almost every day."

Hurricane Milton made landfall on October 9th in Florida as a powerful Category 3 storm. Mere weeks before, Hurricane Helene battered areas in and around the Caribbean, the Gulf of Mexico, and parts of the United States' Eastern Seaboard. Storm surges and heavy rains produced extreme flooding throughout the region. More than 250 people have died in the U.S. states of Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. Other countries and areas that experienced severe flooding include the Cayman Islands, Cuba, Honduras, and Mexico.

Sandra Lilo, a member of the Rotary Club of Seminole Lake, Florida, says she's lucky that her house wasn't destroyed. "Of the 80 houses on my street, probably 78 took water. I and my next-door neighbor did not," she says. "Some of my neighbors took 4 feet of water. There are 2 or 3 feet of muck in most people's houses."

Even if they and their fellow club members weren't directly affected, Rotary members all over the southeastern U.S. immediately offered funds, supplies, and their own labor. Members of the Rotary Club of Alpharetta, Georgia were just spared the hurricanes' devastating effects, and quickly began collecting supplies and raising money for people in neighboring states. "One of our members owns a cabinet-making business, so he had a trailer. We reached out to a few clubs in the area and compiled a list of needs, and we completely stuffed the truck with supplies," says Jeff Davis, the club's president. "The trailer is 10 to 12 feet long and 6 or 7 feet tall, and it was literally stuffed."

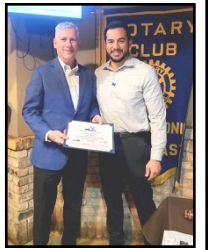
A club member drove the truck to a supply drop-off site in North Carolina. The club is also raising money to buy generators. In Florida, members are helping to remove sodden drywall and flooring from flood-damaged houses. "You have to get the wet stuff out as fast as you can to prevent mold," says Ed Hallock, another member of the Seminole Lake club. "Otherwise, it destroys the whole living space."

The Rotary Club of Dunedin North, Florida, rented a 26-foot moving truck to collect donations. It was filled with shovels and rakes, cases of water, garbage bags, and utility knives to cut up and remove wet carpet. The club has set up four distribution centers where people can get supplies. "This is why you are a Rotarian," says Mark Middleton, a member of the Dunedin North club and a district governor-nominee. Dunedin North has five members whose homes were destroyed. "We have multiple clubs going to homes, mucking out and gutting these houses. Drywall has to be cut out as high as the water line, and all flooring has to be cut out," Middleton says. "What a blessing it is that we can help and be there for them. You become close to your Rotary family. When we can support and help each other, it becomes impactful."

The Rotary Foundation has awarded three \$25,000 Disaster Response Grants to provide food, medication and supplies to areas affected by the hurricanes. Many Rotary clubs are collecting and distributing supplies, raising funds, and assisting those affected.



We were pleased to welcome Doug Sehres, Financial Advisor and Vice President with Ameriprise Financial Services as our speaker last week. Doug gave us a very interesting and informative presentation on the importance of investing funds for the present and the future. After his presentation, club president Russell Sturgeon presented a speaker's certificate to Doug. Doug said that he would be very interested in giving his presentation to other Rotary clubs in the future.



https://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2024/TX-SanAntonioandSouthTexas?team_id=873758&pg=team&fr_id=17962

*This year's event raised approximately **\$3,500.***

We want to thank everyone that participated in our event - from the bowlers, the bidders, the sponsors, the folks at Astro Super Bowl and all the club members that volunteered to make this year's event a great success.

We hope to see you in 2025 when will be holding our 15th Annual Bowling and Silent Auction Fundraiser.



14th Annual Halloween Bowling Fundraiser

Thank you! 

