

# Service Above Self The New Silver Sage

Rotary  
Club of Silver City



MONTHLY BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF SILVER CITY

March 15, 2021

Check out our Website

[www.silvercityrotary.org](http://www.silvercityrotary.org)

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## Officers and Directors

President:	Bart Roselli
President-Elect:	Niel McDonald
Secretary:	Leslie Bush
Treasurer:	Carlos Lucero
Immediate Past President:	Rosie Higgs
Club Service & Public Image:	Kathy Eaton
Community & Int'l Projects:	Peter Herzberg
Membership:	Niel McDonald
Youth Service:	Maggie Veeder
Development:	Kate Watson

## Schedule: Upcoming Meetings, Service Projects, and Special Events

Date	What's Happening
Tuesday, March 16	Bart Roselli – Innovative Projects at the S. C. Museum
Tuesday, March 23	Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill – Experiences as a new Legislator
Tuesday, March 30	Club Assembly

## Catching Up

This being the first issue of the *Silver Sage* since July, there's a bit of catching up to be done. The pandemic has continued to overshadow things, which means in particular that we have continued to have our meetings via Zoom.

For most of the time, our Zoom host was **Wendy Spurgeon**, and we are indebted to her for all that work. More recently, **Lucy Falley** has taken on that role.

We've had excellent speakers throughout the period. Unfortunately, there are quite a few members who have been unable to join the Zoom meetings, and we are now hopeful that

we will soon be able to return to in-person meetings. Despite the limitations imposed by the pandemic lockdowns, the club managed to accomplish quite a lot.

We continued working with The Commons to support its food pantries. All of the \$12,590 allocated for the 2020 District Grant project was spent on food supplies from the Roadrunner Food Bank, and club members recruited and scheduled by **RJ Jones** spent many hours helping to repackage bulk purchases of rice, beans, corn, etc. It's worth noting that \$2,590 of the total spent on this project was in the form of a District Grant, money that comes back to the club based on our contributions to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund.

In conjunction with World Polio Day in October, we used a couple of *Fact or Fiction* Zoom games designed and organized by **Lucy Falley** and **Kathy Eaton** to raise over \$2,300 for Polio Plus. When matched 2 for 1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, that meant a contribution of about \$7,000 to the polio eradication effort.

The *Fact or Fiction* games turned out to be fun for the participants, and we held another one later in February to primarily benefit the High Desert Humane Society. That brought in \$485 in total contributions to the Humane Society.

The strategic plan put together for 2020-21 by **Bart Roselli's** planning committee (**Bart, Cynthia Bettison, Peter Falley, RJ Jones, Niel McDonald**) focused on four general areas:

- Youth Education;
- Addressing Community Needs;
- Strengthening the Club's Ability to provide Service; and
- Supporting RI and District Initiatives.

The plan was reviewed at monthly club assemblies, the latest one taking place on February 23. It appears that, despite the problems caused by the pandemic and the inability of many club members to participate in club meetings and activities, we are making good progress toward achieving the goals laid out in the Plan. The Plan is posted in its entirety in the Member Access area of our website under *Display a Club Policy*.

Our own **District Governor Sunny Kellerman** has had to miss many of our meetings because of her need to visit other clubs in the District, many of which have the same meeting time as ours. She did visit our club in her capacity of District Governor on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and brought us up to date on District activities and initiatives and discussed how our club can contribute at the District and international level.

One District project to which we have contributed is a Disaster Response Project for the Navajo Nation, the latter having been especially hard hit by the coronavirus and the resulting dislocations. The project is being administered by the Albuquerque and Albuquerque del Sol clubs. Our club and individual members contributed a total of \$1,920 to that project.

In addition, we gave support to a new Guatemala water project in an impoverished town called Joya Verde outside Guatemala City. The project involves the construction of bathrooms in homes and their connection to the municipal sewer lines. The latter had been constructed with the help of a prior Rotary grant. Deborah Simon from the Santa Fe club and two of her partners from the Guatemala Norte club gave a status report on that project at our March 9 meeting.

All of our projects were well publicized through the efforts of **Sunny McFarren** whose frequent new releases have been instrumental in keeping the club activities in the public eye.

**Alfredo Ontiveros**, who had joined the club a little more than a year ago, having transferred from a club in Tempe, AZ, lost his battle with cancer on February 12, 2021. Throughout his struggle, Alfredo had been upbeat and had joined our Zoom meetings and other activities whenever he could. His loss is deeply felt by all of us.

## **What's Coming Up?**

Although coronavirus vaccines have become available and growing numbers of Grant County residents are receiving their shots, we are continuing to hold our meetings on Zoom for the time being. All of us look forward to the time when in-person meetings can resume safely.

The club is planning to apply for another District Grant in support of the food pantries being run by The Commons. **Tom Bates** and **Maggie Veeder** have signed up for the required Grant Management Training being offered by the District later this month and in April.

The District Conference will be a virtual event this year with numerous speakers, breakout sessions and entertainment. It is scheduled for April 8-10. Go to [https://rotary5520.org/event/rotary-district-conference-\(zoom\)/](https://rotary5520.org/event/rotary-district-conference-(zoom)/) for details and to register. There is a \$50 registration fee.