

The far-flung Rotary Clubs of Area 11 are all doing their best in the new “normal” during the COVID era. All four clubs are meeting in person most of the time but have used hybrid methods as well. We’ve all lost some members and gained new members, but overall, our numbers are steady. All the Rotarians remain enthusiastic, and we continue to strive to demonstrate “Service about Self”

The Rotary Club of Ely under the leadership of President Mary Kerner, is looking forward to their biggest fund raiser, the Annual Ice Fishing Derby in early February. After a promising start to the winter, they are hoping the weather stays cold enough! The funds have been valuable to support many service projects from scholarships, to support for Breast cancer organizations to new firepits at the fairgrounds and many other activities.

The Rotary Club of Winnemucca has really taken off under President Joe Bryant. They are looking forward to their annual golf tournament as their biggest money maker, but last year’s “Poop-a-palooza” at the rodeo grounds was a real crowd pleaser. “Baby’s First Book”, Literary kits for kindergartners, Senior Center repairs and many other projects keeps all the members active. The Club also works with other organizations like the Lions Club to take on numerous community projects as well.

The Rotary Club of Elko continues to find ways to engage members and improve the community under the steady hand of President Cheryl Paul. They have found that a

hybrid meeting format usually works best, but everyone is looking forward to in-person soon. The Festival of Trees and their annual Christmas ornament sale have been the main fund raisers so far. School dictionaries, Scholarships, and RYLA support are some of the projects they regularly take on. Recently their Club and the Elko Desert Sunrise Club have begun joint social meetings once a month as well.

The Elko Desert Sunrise Club has remained vibrant with President Frans Yorgesen in the lead. After the success of last year's Ruby Roubaix, the gravel bicycle ride around the Ruby Mountains, plans are full steam ahead to make it bigger and better this year. With four different riding distances to choose from, the event was popular with cyclists locally and from around the West. The funds raised have supported several community projects such as repairs to the Lamoille Community Center and restriping the local pickleball courts. However, the main use for the money will be toward youth projects including scholarships and RYLA support.

Area 11 remains active and we are looking forward "bigger and better" as restriction relax!