



R I B

Rotary in Bloomington

Bloomington Noon, January 26, 2026

Noon Meetings Two Weeks Per Month, Mondays at the Hilton, France Ave & 494 Social Events and Club Service - See Calendar

Mission

The Bloomington Noon Rotary Club unites leaders to improve our community and the world through service and philanthropy.

2025-2026 Officers:

President:

Kurt Hagen

Phone: 952-240-9338

kurt.hagen@moa.net

Board Meetings - Monthly

Second Mondays, 11:00 AM, Hilton

President Elect:

Valeria Camboni Miller

Vice President:

Jane Fenton

Treasurer:

Bob Erickson

Sergeant at Arms:

Lori Rebers

Program Chair:

Sara Kleinsasser Tan

Past President:

Laura Schultz

District Governor:

Mark Shockey

Executive Secretary:

Kathy Koehler

952-250-0476

kkoehler53@frontiernet.net

Directors: Adam Johnston, Jim Mortenson, Jane Fenton, Lori Rebers, David Drummond, Lee Mosher, Paul Niederberger, Abul Sharah

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 20300
Bloomington, MN USA 55420

February 2nd Preview: "Mount Olivet Rolling Acres" Community Service, Noon to 1:30 PM

On Monday, February 2nd, we will head to:

**Mount Olivet Rolling Acres (MORA), a youth center at
1603 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN
55431.**

We will be taking down the variety of decorations that were placed in December for the Holidays. Parking is available in the St. Luke's Lutheran church parking lot. The team members who have signed up include: **Don Stiles, Sara Tan, Valeria Camboni Miller, Kurt Hagen, and Erika Rivers.**

The March 2nd Community Service event will be at Wilderness Inquiry to pack meal kits with our host, **Rotarian Erika Rivers.**



February 9th Preview: "Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies" Guest: Megen Balda, Executive Director



Megen Balda joined the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies (GTCYS) in 2003 and has served as executive director since 2011. She leads strategic planning, fundraising, and program development, and oversees the daily operations of GTCYS' 38-member artistic and administrative staff, stewarding a \$2.7 million budget and multiple endowed funds.

Under her leadership, GTCYS has grown into the largest youth orchestra program in the United States. Enrollment has doubled, five new orchestras have been added, and Harmony—an El Sistema-inspired program for underrepresented youth—was created. In partnership with the Board of Directors, Megen ensures that GTCYS centers students, engages the community, and advances diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Megen will explore how GTCYS uses music as a powerful tool for student development, building confidence, discipline, and community while expanding access for students of all ages across our region. GTCYS provides young people with more than high-level music training—it offers belonging, leadership, and a place to grow. Please join us.

Zoom is now available for our Monday Noon Hilton meetings. Meeting ID: 243 737 0314 Passcode: 4waytest Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2437370314?pwd=azZHeENQd2poLzY2VzBDZi9RNldNQQT09&omn=81223847594>

Recent Meetings...



On January 19th, we equaled our recent record attendance at our **Meet and Greet**. 15 Participants. We had a number of visitors: **Ann Spencer, Bud Nordstrom, Michael Arazi, and Betsy Lee**, each spouses. We welcomed **Brenda Pearson**, Wabasha Rotarian, and **Jeff Knight**. Both were guests of Valeria Camboni Miller.

Mark your calendar and be sure to join us at our next Meet and Greet on Monday, February 16th.



On January 26th our guest was Mary Kay Ziniewicz. Mary Kay is the designer of the online job matching service **Bus Stop Mamas**. It is a workforce platform that gives employers access to experienced talent when needed. The jobseekers are all looking for a position that will fit their unique situation, whether it is only during school hours or when the baby is napping, or after the teenager leaves for college. The platform offers employers a chance to fill a temporary need or a full time position for a unique person with a certain talent.



The idea rose from the moms that she met who were setting aside their working skills to be able to raise their family, but still wanted to use their talents if possible in the workforce. She began talking to employers and found that employers also needed unique skills periodically. Her teenage daughter helped her develop a website where the employer can post their need and a potential worker can be matched with them. The employer pays a monthly fee to post their position. Bus Stop Mamas matches potential employees to the skills needed. The two are introduced and if a good match, a position is filled. They have temporary, part time and full time positions with the most common being an Administrative Assistant. The pool of employees includes highly skilled talent like lawyers, engineers, and doctors. After seven years of growth, they are currently working with 30,000 workers and 2,000 mostly small or midsize businesses. For more information: marykayz@busstopmamas.com www.busstopmamas.com

Distinguished Guests

Rotarian Brenda Pearson, Wabasha Rotary, Guest of Valeria Camboni Miller

Jeff Knight, Guest of Valeria Camboni Miller,

Andrew Huss, a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones who found us through our website.

January Birthdays

02 Adam Johnston
24 Chris Guarnera
26 Angela Wandera

January Anniversaries

01 Valeri Camboni Miller 16 yrs
01 Lee Mosher 27 yrs
01 Angela Wandera 21 yrs
11 Nick Basil 43 yrs
14 David Drummond 13 yrs
16 John Houle 36 yrs
28 Larry Lee 34 yrs
28 Lee Sundet 18 yrs

Greeter:

Feb 9: Warsan Artan
Feb 23: Mike Helmick
Mar 9: Jane Fenton

Invocation / Pledge / 4 Way Test

Feb 9: Don Stiles
Feb 23: Laura Schultz
Mar 9: Dave Drummond

Recent Program Recordings...

8/25/2025: "Iringa Smart Classrooms" - <https://youtu.be/Rlh11Khlc8>
9/08/2025: "Chaska Rotary Film" - https://youtu.be/67G1Ma_g-50
10/13/25 "Crypto and Blockchain" - <https://youtu.be/GTrecKX2NLc>
10/27/25 "Mount Olivet Rolling Acres" - <https://youtu.be/rLXSv549CPQ>
11/13/25: "Veterans Day lunch" - <https://youtu.be/yDNba1ZgV6o>

These and other Rotary programs are also available to stream on the city website here: <https://reflect-bcit.cablecast.tv/CablecastPublicSite/search?channel=2&query=rotary>

Middle School Sports:

Support Bloomington MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our Middle School Sports Programs Need You. Your gift keeps students active, confident, and part of a team. Every contribution makes a difference.

Give Today

- \$40 Outfit a Player
- \$95 Support a Student
- \$100 Transport a Team
- \$2,000 Champion a Coach

100% of your tax deductible donation goes directly to the program.

"I firmly believe in having middle school kids involved in sports. Middle school can be a challenging time for our kids and having sports programs available to them can help them get through those times without getting into trouble. Any opportunity we can give middle school kids to get into something positive, we need to take it."

— Booker T. Hodges, Bloomington Chief of Police

Our Middle School Sports Programs Need You. Your gift keeps students active, confident, and part of a team. Every contribution makes a difference.

To donate, scan the QR code or go to www.bloomingtonrotary.org or mail your check to Bloomington Rotary Club Foundation, P.O. Box 20300, Bloomington, MN 55420-0300 and make for Middle School Sports.

At our Monday meeting, **Rotarians received copies of a flyer** that you are being asked to share with your circle of influence. Mention your Rotary Club's efforts to help maintain Middle School Sports in our three Middle Schools here in Bloomington and ask your connections to consider making a donation.

As you might remember, during the Covid pandemic, afterschool middle school sports were discontinued except for track and field. When in-person learning came back, Bloomington Noon Rotary helped the school system to restart the soccer and wrestling teams for boys and girls with a significant donation.

Today, our purpose is to help the schools maintain these teams, giving our students something positive in which they can participate.

The Fundraising Committee has chosen to work with Zeffy to offer a platform for the public to use to donate to our Middle School Sports effort. Zeffy does not charge us for this service. They rely on voluntary donations given by the donors. If giving through Zeffy's QR code for Middle School Sports, please consider leaving a tip to cover their expenses for providing this free service to our Foundation. Or, one may make direct donations to this effort via check made out to the **Bloomington Rotary Club Foundation** and mailed to the Foundation address at **P.O.Box 20300, Bloomington, MN 55420**. All gifts are tax deductible.

Happy Bucks and Announcements...

Leslie and **Don Stiles** entertained their grandchildren for one week while the kids' parents took a much needed vacation. Ann

and **Eldon Spencer** will be spending two weeks in New Zealand then off to spend three more weeks in Hawaii. See you in the spring, Eldon. **Lori Rebers** spent the weekend with her church group outfitting an apartment in a senior housing facility. The facility has 14 apartments for needy seniors and one for a staff person. **Valeria Camboni Miller** joined a singles class on Saturday learning Pole Dancing. She suffered some bruising, but otherwise it was fun. Her son cautioned her to just not go upside down. The next class will be on belly dancing. **Karen Nordstrom** attended Artistry's *Kiss Me Kate* and said that it was amazing. She also shared that Bud has now allowed her to sign up for a new place to live. It is getting harder to manage in their large house.

Announcements:

Nath Challenge for Every Rotarian Every Year With the Nath Challenge coming up in March, **Debbie Belfry** encouraged everyone to set up their personal account at Rotary International. www.rotary.org In doing so, you will be able to easily donate online, one time or periodically. All your donations have been being tracked under your membership since you joined Rotary and when you set up online, you will be able to see your whole history. Just tell your captain that you have donated online and how much. Each donation will generate a thank you/tax information to your email and will also be credited to the club as a member donation. No checks necessary! If you need help to set up your account, just connect with Debbie!

Vocational Talk: Jane Fenton

Jane Fenton joined our club in 2022. She is the Executive Director for the Normandale Community College Foundation. Jane is a former Rotarian and is currently our Club Membership Chair and Vice President.

Jane was born on a Naval Base in Maine. She moved often from Michigan, to Florida, to Illinois where she graduated from High School. She took part in debate and speech and was a Girl Scout. She came to Minnesota to attend Carleton College. There, she was an art history major. Jane has two adult sons, one on the "spectrum". She enjoys reading especially about women who solve problems. She loves animals and has a dog training and breeding side business.

Vocationally, she developed many skills through several different positions like working the dark room for a newspaper; running a gourmet deli, being a PACER advocate for students in her school district, and being the Youth Director for her church. She joined Normandale Community College and held several positions in fundraising, administration, program planning, human resources, and communications before she took her current position. She is most proud of the Foundation's recent campaign to support students who have unique needs.



You are Invited to the State of the City



Join us for the 2026 Bloomington State of the City with Mayor Tim Busse
on Thursday, March 12, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.,
at the Sheraton Bloomington Hotel, 5601 W 78th St.

Individuals: \$50.00 Table: \$500.00

This presentation will spotlight notable accomplishments from 2025 and will share some of the ways we are composing Bloomington's next chapter in the year ahead.

You will receive an invite to register from Kathy Koehler through Club Runner. Sign up through this invite and you will be billed through your Rotary Billing.

District Happenings...Take Advantage of these Opportunities Put them on your Calendar

Meet the 2027-28 Rotary International President:

Program:

Join City of Lakes Rotary for an engaging program with Erick Garcia Luna of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis. Erik will share insights about current economic conditions and what lies ahead for the economy in the U.S. and Minnesota.

This meeting will also feature **special remarks** from:

- **Larry Lunsford**, Rotary International President Nominee, 2027–2028
 - **Tom Gump**, Chair of the 2028 RI Convention Host Organization Committee
- Their presence offers a unique opportunity to hear from Rotary leaders shaping the future of our organization at the global level.

Location:

Minneapolis Club
729 2nd Ave S.
Minneapolis, MN 55402

Register at: colrc.org

Schedule:

- 7:00 AM — Check in and room assignment
- 7:15 AM — Networking & Breakfast
- 7:30–8:30 AM — Meeting & Program
- 8:30–9:00 AM — Larry Lunsford visits with Library breakfast tables

 The graphic features a night cityscape of Minneapolis with a bridge in the foreground. Below the image, the text reads: "MEET THE 2027-28 RI PRESIDENT MULTI-CLUB/DISTRICT BREAKFAST". The date and time are "FEBRUARY 11, 2026 7:00AM - 8:30AM AT THE MINNEAPOLIS CLUB". Guest speakers are listed as Erick Garcia Luna, Regional Outreach Director of the Federal Reserve of Minneapolis, and Larry Lunsford, 2027-28 Rotary International President. The cost is "\$40 per person (parking included)". The registration information is "Register at: colrc.org". Two circular inset images show a golf course and a large building.

MEET THE 2027-28 RI PRESIDENT MULTI-CLUB/DISTRICT BREAKFAST

**FEBRUARY 11, 2026
7:00AM - 8:30AM
AT THE MINNEAPOLIS CLUB**

Guest speakers: Erick Garcia Luna, Regional Outreach Director of the Federal Reserve of Minneapolis and Larry Lunsford, 2027-28 Rotary International President

**\$40 per person
(parking included)**

Register at: colrc.org

Register early - Seating is limited. Registration closes February 4 at 5pm.

More District Happenings...Take Advantage of these Opportunities

[Register for the Capitol Here](#)

[Register for Club Workshops Here](#)

Speak up in favor of Rotary at

ROTARY AWARENESS DAY

**FEBRUARY 23, 2026
AT THE MN STATE CAPITOL**

DISTRICTS 5950, 5960, & 5580

MEET AND HEAR NEWS FROM LEGISLATORS;
ATTEND AVAILABLE LIVE COMMITTEE OR
LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS; TOUR THE CAPITOL

.....

Register and Full Information Available at
<https://rotarymidwest.org/rotary-awareness-day/>



CLUB EXPERIENCE WORKSHOPS

4 DATES & LOCATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM

- MINNEAPOLIS - LAKE STREET**
THURSDAY - FEBRUARY 5TH
6:15PM - 8:45PM CST
- MONTICELLO - BEST WESTERN**
SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 14TH
8:30-11:00AM CST
- VIRTUAL & HYBRID CLUBS - VIA ZOOM**
MONDAY - FEBRUARY 23RD
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM CST
- HUTCHINSON - CROW RIVER WINERY**
FRIDAY - FEBRUARY 27TH
5:00PM-8:30PM CST

Full Details on Website and sent via email to all District 5950 Rotarians.

Rotary District 5950

1 DECIDE:
Select the date and location that best fits your schedule. Each one provides its own character while offering the same valuable chance to discover new ideas and elevate the guest and member experience at your club.

2 REGISTER:
RSVP via the District Website reserve your spot now!

SECURE YOUR SPOT IN TWO EASY STEPS

[Register for AI for Rotarians Here](#)

District Assembly 2027
Save the Date

Rotary District 5950

HOW INTELLIGENT ROTARIANS USE AI

AN INNOVATIVE EXPLORATION BY BEN BAUER
ROTARY REGION 36 ASSISTANT REGIONAL
PUBLIC IMAGE COORDINATOR

TUESDAY - FEBRUARY 17, 2026
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
EDINA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
7201 METRO BLVD. STE 520 - EDINA

SAVE THE DATE

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

Education for Rotarian Leaders
April 25th - Bloomington

Rotary District 5950

Upcoming Meetings -

Black Denotes In Person Meeting (Most often Noon At the Hilton Hotel)
Blue Denotes Club Service, Meet and Greet, Vocational Event or Holiday Party
Red Denotes No Meeting at the Hilton
Green Denotes a planned Zoom Meeting

Feb 2: Monday "Community Service at Mount Olivet Rolling Acres" Noon to 1:30
 Feb 9: Monday "Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphony" Guest: Megan Balda
 Feb 16: Monday "Meet and Greet" 5:00 PM Olive Lounge, Hilton Hotel, France and Hwy 494
 Feb 23: Monday "Bloomington Public Schools Middle School Sports" Rotarian Eric Melbye
 Mar 2: Monday "Community Service at Wilderness Inquiry" Host: Rotarian Erika Rivers

Calendar of Events - SAVE the following DATES on your calendar!

Feb 2: Monday "Mt Olivet Rolling Acres – Take down decorations and lights" 12 Noon – 1:30
 Feb 5: Thursday "Club Experience Workshop" Minneapolis, 6:15 to 8:45 PM [Register Here](#)
 Feb 7: Saturday "Meet 2027-28 RI President" 7:00 to 9:00 AM [Register at: colrc.org](#)
 Feb 17: Tuesday "How Intelligent Rotarians Use AI" Edina Chamber of Commerce, 7201 Metro Boulevard, Suite 520, 5:30 to 7:30 PM, [Register Here](#) Hybrid, also on Zoom
 Feb 23: Monday "Rotary Awareness Day" At the State Capital, 9:30 AM [More Info & Register Here](#)
 Feb 23: Monday "Club Experience Workshop" Virtual, Via Zoom, 5:30 to 7:30 PM [Register Here](#)
 Mar 2: Monday "Wilderness Inquiry – Meal Kit Prep" 12 Noon – 1:30
 Mar 12: Thursday "State of the City" Sheraton Bloomington Hotel, 5601 W. 78th Street, 11:00 AM
 Individual: \$50 Table: \$500 [Register Here](#)

Rotary Meeting Calendar

Monday, February 2, 2026	Service Project
Monday, February 9, 2026	Club Board meeting (11:00-12:00)
Monday, February 9, 2026	Regular Club meeting
Monday, February 16, 2026	Meet and Greet
Monday, February 23, 2026	Regular Club meeting
Monday, March 2, 2026	Service Project
Monday, March 9, 2026	Club Board meeting (11:00-12:00)
Monday, March 9, 2026	Regular Club meeting
Monday, March 16, 2026	Meet and Greet
Monday, March 23, 2026	Regular Club meeting
Monday, March 30, 2026	Vocational Visit
Monday, April 6, 2026	Service Project
Monday, April 13, 2026	Club Board meeting (11:00-12:00)
Monday, April 13, 2026	Regular Club meeting
Monday, April 20, 2026	Meet and Greet
Monday, April 27, 2026	Foundation Board Meeting (11:00-12:00)
Monday, April 27, 2026	Regular Club meeting
Monday, May 4, 2026	Service Project
Monday, May 11, 2026	Club Board meeting (11:00-12:00)
Monday, May 11, 2026	Regular Club meeting
Monday, May 18, 2026	Meet and Greet
Monday, May 25, 2026	Holiday, No Meeting
Monday, June 1, 2026	Service Project
Monday, June 8, 2026	Club Board meeting (11:00-12:00)
Monday, June 8, 2026	Regular Club meeting
Monday, June 15, 2026	Meet and Greet
Monday, June 22, 2026	Regular Club meeting
Monday, June 29, 2026	Regular Club meeting

Color Key
Service Project
Club Board Meeting
Regular Club Meeting
Meet and Greet
Foundation Board Meeting
Vocational Visit
No Meeting

The Four-Way Test
 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?

RIB Editor:

Karyn Arazi

Backup Contributors:
 Erika Rivers, Eldon Spencer, Larry Lee, and with Debbie Belfry, Don Stiles, and Becky Amble on photos

ADDRESS

Bloomington Noon

Rotary

P.O. Box 20300

Bloomington, MN 55420

Web Addresses:

Bloomington Noon Rotary
www.bloomingtonrotarymn.org

Rotary International
www.rotary.org

Rotary District 5950
www.rotary5950.org

Find a Local Club
[Club Directory & Contacts | District 5950 \(clubrunner.ca\)](http://clubdirectoryandcontacts.district5950.clubrunner.ca)

ClubRunner
<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/3537>

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