



R I B

## Rotary in Bloomington

Bloomington Noon, March 9, 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](mailto: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](mailto: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

## March 16th Preview: "Meet and Greet" Hilton Hotel Olive Lounge, 5:00 PM

**Meet and Greet set for Monday, March 16th  
at the Hilton's Olive Lounge - 5:00 PM**

Our next Meet and Greet meeting is Monday. **We gather at 5:00 PM** at the Hilton on France Avenue and Hwy 494 in the Olive Lounge just outside the Chop House Restaurant.

Please join us this month. We encourage guests and always spouses are invited to join at these meetings. There is no set charge for attending the meetings. We all order ala carte from the bar menu, either the Happy Hour special price items or from the regular menu. Many of us make this our dinner out evening. The company is always great!



## March 23rd Preview: "How to Make a Bronze Statue" Guest: Mike Knudsen



Have you ever wondered how artists actually create the beautiful bronze statues that you see in museums, community gardens, or your church? Join us for a unique program and learn the complete process for sculpting a bronze statue from idea to finished product.

Mike Knudsen is a working artist. His mother and grandmother were both artists. He grew up in Iowa and Missouri and graduated from Luther College, in Decorah, Iowa. He trained as an ELCA pastor at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC. His formal training in sculpture was at Creighton University and Bellevue University a few years later. He was mentored by Les Bruning, John Lajba, and Littleton Alston.

In addition to creating bronze sculpture, he is currently studying old master painting techniques and is engaged in painting restoration. Before taking his art skills to full time, he served as an ELCA pastor for over 40 years.

**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=azZHeENQd2poLzY2VzBDZi9RNldNQTO9&omn=81223847594>

## Recent Meetings...

Rotarians gathered at **Wilderness Inquiry** on **March 2nd, 2026** for our monthly community service event. With a theme of “Everyone belongs in the outdoors”, Wilderness Inquiry was founded in 1978 as a non profit organization with a mission to “connect people of all ages, backgrounds, identities, and abilities through shared outdoor adventures” so that all people can experience time in nature.

Over the past 48 years, they have served over 700,000 people from all 50 states and 35 countries across 165 destinations. Their headquarters are here in Bloomington. They offer day and multi-day programs; near nature and extended overnight adventures; and leadership and career pathways.

In 2025, almost 36,000 people participated in their day and multi-day programs; almost 2000 individuals participated in the overnight and extended adventures, and 400+ participated in their leadership and career pathways program. Our Rotary crew helped to set up portions of their prepackaged meal kits for their upcoming summer programs. Thank you to our volunteers: **Debbie Belfry, Don Stiles, Lori Rebers, Sara Tan, Paul Niederberger, Jim Mortenson, Mary Kurth, Mike and Karyn Arazi, Warsan Artan, and Mike Helmick.**



At our recent Monday luncheon meeting, **March 9th**, we hosted Tony Loyd who shared his personal story that became a personal goal to share his take on **Endurance Leadership**.

Tony began his presentation by asking us to think about how we are feeling now about our world. Is everything changing so fast that what we thought was true on Monday is no longer true on Wednesday? Uncertainty erodes our confidence. Over the years we have experienced world shaking times where change happened. For example: the Industrial Revolution; the invention of the transistor; and today where everyone is carrying an AI driven supercomputer in their pocket. In the last 5 years the rate of change was 183%. This year alone, the rate is at 33% already. How does one not succumb to the stress of this rate of change?

On April 29, 2025, Tony Loyd was diagnosed with lung cancer. He lost 25% of his lung capacity. He was also in the middle of a divorce and a move when he got the news. He felt like his world was “fading to black”. He knew he had to step back and find a way to endure. Tony shared some of his techniques: breathing and meditation; a mantra; and be sure to eat, sleep, move, share community, and find pleasurable activities to participate in.

With the help of a friend, Jen Wiseman, a psychologist and social worker, they have developed a model with 5 stages (see image) to help one move from an overwhelming, out of control feeling to one of endurance, where you are in control of how you manage the change happening around you.

**Endurance is being unshakable in a world that feels unstable.** To access their self assessment go to [Cultureshift.com](https://Cultureshift.com).



### March Birthdays

- 1 Eric Dallmann
- 6 Erika Rivers
- 8 Eldon Spencer
- 14 Lee Sundet
- 18 Aaron Slattery

### March Anniversaries

- 01 Becky Amble 33 yrs
- 03 Dick Young 39 yrs
- 21 Meg Schnabel 10 yrs

### Greeter:

- Mar 23: Erika Rivers
- Apr 13: Warsan Artan
- Apr 27: Mike Helmick

### Invocation / Pledge / 4 Way Test

- Mar 23: Carolyn Pratt
- Apr 13: Jim Casserly
- Apr 27: Diann Kirby

### Recent Program Recordings...

- 9/08/2025: “**Chaska Rotary Film**” - [https://youtu.be/67G1Ma\\_q-50](https://youtu.be/67G1Ma_q-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>
- 11/12/2026 “**Transform Your Body and Your Life**” - <https://youtu.be/dY1fkW018aY>

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>

## Distinguished Guests

**Jennifer Wiseman**, Psychologist, Social Worker, business partner with Tony Loyd at Culture Shift Advisors  
**Anthony and Dante**, Videographers with our Speaker

## Welcome to our Newest Rotarians: Jaime Tsurusaki and Zach Walker



**Jaime Tsurusaki** is familiar with Rotary because her father is a Rotarian in the Apple Valley club. She is the Executive Director at Rebels Gymnastics. Jaime grew up in Apple Valley and graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College with a Business Management Major and Japanese Minor. After graduation, she joined the legal department of Life Time Fitness. She was also coaching gymnastics and after four years of coaching, she accepted a full time position with the Richfield Gymnastics Club, now Rebels Gymnastics. Their non-profit gym participates in many community outreach projects. As a female run non-profit organization, they feel strongly about empowering the next generation of athletes to be strong and brave, and are committed to providing the best athletic experience to every gymnast that walks through their doors.

Jaime lives in West Bloomington with her partner, Whitney, and their 4 dogs. In her spare time, Jaime enjoys time with her dogs, and trying out new restaurants in Minneapolis. Jamie was excited to join as a new Rotarian and said, "Thank you guys for welcoming me." We look forward to getting to know you better, Jaime.

**Zach Walker** is joining us as the new Bloomington City Manager. A former Rotarian, Zach was President of his previous Rotary Club in Independence, Missouri. Zach began his work here in Bloomington on October 20, 2025. He grew up in Trenton, Missouri. With a father on the school board and his mother a teacher, he learned the value of hard work and showing up for community, values he sees here in Bloomington. His dream was to be President of the United States so he achieved a degree in Political Science and a Master of Public Affairs. During that time, he worked in the Missouri House of Representatives. Career wise, he spent 13 years with the City of Independence, and 5 years with the City of Kansas City, Missouri.



Service has always been central to who Zach is. He has been active with the Boy Scouts of America and attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Service is tangible to him. He can see the impact and he feels it strengthens the community. "Rotary embodies that spirit of practical, hands-on leadership." Zach enjoys time with family, staying active, reading and following sports.. He and his wife have their residence here in Bloomington where they are raising their two children. He genuinely enjoys being out in the community attending events, connecting with residents and seeing firsthand what makes Bloomington special. He sure came to the right community! Welcome, Zach.

## Happy Bucks and Announcements

**Don Stiles** mentioned the fun everyone had at Wilderness Inquiry at our March Community Service event. **Sara Tan** announced that the April 12th Bloomington Symphony Orchestra concert is almost sold out. If you want to attend, now is the time to purchase your ticket. **Paul Niederberger** is happy to be heading to San Diego and Las Vegas for the next few weeks. **Andrew Huss** was happy that they finally found time to take down their Christmas Decorations.

**Warsan Artan** enjoyed volunteering at Wilderness Inquiry and also honored our new Rotarians. **Becky Amble** is almost ready to launch her 7th AI Book. She also requested prayers for healing for Marshall who has had an infected eye. Then, she celebrated NOT being able to go to Puerto Vallarta with her sister because their flight was cancelled! **Debbie Belfry** highlighted our new members and our speaker and thanked all Rotarians who are pledging or supporting The Rotary Foundation this month.

**Announcements:** We need a few more volunteers for our April Community Service at Closet of Hope arranging clothing. Plus, more volunteers are needed for the May Community Service event assisting with the lunch service at our Bloomington elementary schools. Connect with Don Stiles at [stiles.don@gmail.com](mailto:stiles.don@gmail.com).

## There is a change of location and time for our March 30th meeting.

Our Vocational Visit will be to **Schmidt Music**, 7800 Harmony Drive, Bloomington. Our time will run from **11:30 AM to 12:55 PM**. Please note this on your calendar.

## Nath Challenge for Every Rotarian Every Year!

Here is the first update on the 2026 Mahendra Nath Rotary Foundation Challenge. This year's campaign is off to a strong start. As of today, 69% of our membership — 34 Rotarians — have donated. Remember, for every team that hits 100%, Mahendra Nath is making a special donation.

As a reminder, members can donate in one of three ways:

- ONLINE (the easiest way to give!): The Rotary Foundation, [my.rotary.org/en/donate](https://my.rotary.org/en/donate) (Click on the box for Annual Fund-SHARE)

You might want to create a Rotary Account if you do not have one so that all of your donations can be tracked for your future information. If you have a Rotary account, sign into your account.

- PHONE: The Rotary Foundation, 866-976-8279 (contributions should be directed to Annual Fund-SHARE)
- CHECK: Give to your Team Captain or mail to Bloomington Rotary Club, P.O. Box 20300, Bloomington, MN 55420 (make checks payable to The Rotary Foundation).

**EVERY  
ROTARIAN  
EVERY  
YEAR**

Our goal is to have all pledges submitted by the end of March. Donations should be completed by April 27.

We hope to continue our club's tradition of 100% giving in this 20th anniversary of the Mahendra Nath Rotary Foundation Challenge.

Thanks!  
Diann Kirby and Debbie Befry

### 2026 MAHENDRA NATH ROTARY FOUNDATION CHALLENGE

3/11/26

#### Phase 1: Pledges

TEAM	Total Members	# Pledged	% Pledged	Pledge Amount
TEAM BELFRY	4	4	100%	\$2,850
DALLMAN	4	4	100%	\$3,950
STILES	4	4	100%	\$2,450
NORDSTROM	5	4	80%	\$3,400
NEW TEAMMATES	6	3	50%	\$1,600
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>\$14,250</b>

TEAM KIRBY	6	4	67%	\$3,300
BASIL	4	4	100%	\$1,250
CASSERLY	4	3	75%	\$2,225
FENTON	4	0	0%	\$0
GUARNERA	4	4	100%	\$2,400
MOSHER	4	0	0%	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>\$9,175</b>

## 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**

- Mar 16: Monday **“Meet and Greet”** 5:00 PM Olive Lounge, Hilton Hotel, France and Hwy 494
- Mar 23: Monday **“How to Make a Bronze Statue”** Guest: Mike Knudsen
- Mar 30: Monday **“Vocational Visit to Schmidt Music”** **TIME Change: 11:30 AM to 12:55 PM**
- April 6: Monday **“Closet of Hope”** Community Service, Arranging Clothing, **5 More volunteers needed**
- April 13: Monday **“Making the Case for Optimism”** Guest: William Farmer
- April 20: Monday **“Meet and Greet”** 5:00 PM Olive Lounge, Hilton Hotel, France and Hwy 494
- April 27: Monday **“To be Determined”**
- May 4: Monday **“Elementary School Lunch Service Assistance”** **more volunteers needed**

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

- The Month of March: **“Mahendra Nath Rotary Foundation Challenge: Every Rotarian Every Year”**
- Mar 12: Thursday **“State of the City”** Sheraton Bloomington Hotel, 5601 W. 78th Street, 11:00 AM
  - Mar 30: Monday **“Vocational Visit to Schmidt Music”** **TIME Change: 11:30 AM to 12:55 PM**
  - April 6: Monday **“Closet of Hope”** Community Service, Arranging Clothing, **5 More volunteers needed**
  - April 13: Monday **“Rotary Club Board of Directors Meeting”** 11:00 Hilton
  - April 17: Friday **“Pancakes with a Purpose”** Cornerstone Community Networking Event, Perkins Restaurant, 4201 W. 78th Street, 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM
  - April 27: Monday **“Bloomington Rotary Club Foundation Board of Directors”** 11:00 AM Hilton
  - May 4: Monday **“Elementary School Lunch Service Assistance”** **more volunteers needed**  
**Connect with Don Stiles to sign up! [Stiles.don@gmail.com](mailto:Stiles.don@gmail.com)**

## Rotary Meeting Calendar

Date	Event	Color Key
Monday, March 16, 2026	Meet and Greet	Meet and Greet
Monday, March 23, 2026	Regular Club meeting	Regular Club Meeting
Monday, March 30, 2026	Vocational Visit	Vocational Visit
Monday, April 6, 2026	Service Project	Service Project
Monday, April 13, 2026	Club Board meeting (11:00-12:00)	Club Board Meeting
Monday, April 13, 2026	Regular Club meeting	Regular Club Meeting
Monday, April 20, 2026	Meet and Greet	Meet and Greet
Monday, April 27, 2026	Foundation Board Meeting (11:00-12:00)	Foundation Board Meeting
Monday, April 27, 2026	Regular Club meeting	Regular Club Meeting
Monday, May 4, 2026	Service Project	Service Project
Monday, May 11, 2026	Club Board meeting (11:00-12:00)	Club Board Meeting
Monday, May 11, 2026	Regular Club meeting	Regular Club Meeting
Monday, May 18, 2026	Meet and Greet	Meet and Greet
Monday, May 25, 2026	Holiday, No Meeting	No Meeting
Monday, June 1, 2026	Service Project	Service Project
Monday, June 8, 2026	Club Board meeting (11:00-12:00)	Club Board Meeting
Monday, June 8, 2026	Regular Club meeting	Regular Club Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2026	Meet and Greet	Meet and Greet
Monday, June 22, 2026	Regular Club meeting	Regular Club Meeting
Monday, June 29, 2026	Regular Club meeting	Regular Club 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](http://www.bloomingtonrotarymn.org)  
**Rotary International**  
[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)  
**Rotary District 5950**  
[www.rotary5950.org](http://www.rotary5950.org)  
**Find a Local Club**  
**Club Directory & Contacts | District 5950**  
[clubrunner.ca](http://clubrunner.ca)  
**ClubRunner**  
<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/3537>

**“Like; Follow; Join; Share” us on [Facebook](#) and [Join our group on The Rotary Club of Bloomington MN: Posts | LinkedIn](#) . Also on [Instagram](#). In all cases the search keyword is “Rotary Club of Bloomington Noon MN”**