



R I B

Rotary in Bloomington

Bloomington Noon August 3, 2026

Noon Meetings Second and Fourth Mondays at the Hilton, France Ave & 494 Social Events and Club Service - See Calendar Meeting times Noon to 1:15

Mission

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

2026-2027 Officers:

President:

Valeria Camboni Miller
valeria@cambonimillerlaw.com

**Board Meetings - Monthly
Second Mondays, 11:00 AM,
Hilton Board Room**

President Elect:

Jane Fenton

Vice President:

Treasurer:

Sergeant at Arms:

Lori Rebers

Program Chair:

Sara Kleinsasser Tan

Past President:

Kurt Hagen

District Governor:

Leif Hagen

Executive Secretary:

Kathy Koehler

952-250-0476

kkoehler53@frontiernet.net

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

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

August 10 Preview: "MNSCU Update" Guests: Chancellor Scott Olson and NCC President Pakou Yang

Minnesota State College and Universities (MNSCU) is made up of seven state universities and 26 community and technical colleges. Scott Olson has served as Chancellor since 2023. He has been instrumental in improving outcomes for marginalized students and transformed MNSCU's technology platform, ensuring efficient business processes supporting students seamlessly.



Dr. Pakou Yang began her appointment as President on April 22, 2026. She is the sixth individual to serve as President of Normandale Community College and the first Hmong American college or university president in the US. Coming to Normandale on June 4, 2025, as Interim President, she previously served as Provost and Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs at Century College in White Bear Lake, MN. where she held several positions beginning in 2003. Her PhD is from the University of Minnesota.

Join us for these two distinguished guests!

August 17 Preview: "Meet and Greet Social, 5:00 PM, Hilton"

Our next Meet and Greet meeting is set for 5:00 PM at the Hilton on France Avenue and Hwy 494 in the Olive Lounge just outside the Chop House Restaurant. Guests are welcome! Last month we hosted 5 guests.

There is no set charge for attending the meetings. We order ala carte from the bar menu. Many of us make this our evening dinner out. The company is great and you always learn something new about your Rotary friends!



*Don Stiles and Deb Newman
enjoy a friendly chat.*

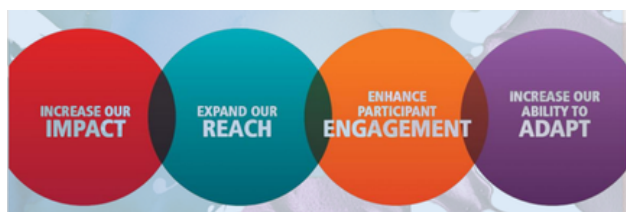
Recent Meetings... District Governor Leif Hagen

We hosted **District Governor Leif Hagen** on Monday, July 27th. His theme for this year is the "Art of Rotary". As we lunched, Rotarians were asked to artistically share what Rotary meant to them individually.



Leif recounted his many experiences with Rotary over the years where he "made friends from around the world"; learned many new cultural tidbits; and visited many countries while attending the annual International Rotary Conventions. He hosted a Youth Exchange student from Finland and enjoyed Orlando, FL, with 500 fellow District Governors as he prepared for this year.

Leif expanded on Rotary's Action Plan to Increase our Impact, Expand our Reach, Enhance Participant Engagement, and Increase our Ability to Adapt. On October 24th, our district will host the World's Largest Polio Walk at the MOA. And, from May 27 to May 31st, 2028, over 1000 volunteers will be needed here in the Twin Cities as we host the International Convention. Our "IMPACT will be felt near and far." He hopes to EXPAND our Reach with a net 60 new members across the District. To Enhance participation ENGAGEMENT, he is encouraging two events for Rotarians



to consider. On April 23, 2027, the District Conference will be held at the McNamara Alumni Center. And, there are several meetings encouraging Rotarians to attend the International Con-

vention in Barcelona, June 26-30, 2027. There will also be a Road Trip to Evanston, Illinois, to visit the Paul Harris House and the RI Offices. He hopes 50 clubs will qualify for the Excellence Award. North Star Youth Exchange has a goal is for 30 inbound and 30 outbound youth. AND, to ADAPT, he is hoping to assist 20 clubs to create a Strategic Plan.

Rotarians Help Wilderness Inquiry Prepare Food for the Trail

On August 3, 2026, 13 Rotarians volunteered at Wilderness Inquiry, preparing food and cooking kits for outdoor adventurers of all ages, abilities and identities who travel with the nonprofit organization throughout the year. Wilderness Inquiry started in 1978 with a mission to help people with disabilities experience wilderness



adventures, and its inclusive model now also serves youth and families from all backgrounds, especially those who have been historically disconnected from outdoor adventures. Rotarians prepared oatmeal packages, restocked spice containers and condiments, and assembled trail cookware kits that had been sanitized after returning from adventures over the weekend.

Wilderness continued along with Photos...Check out page 4 RIB

July Birthdays

27 Mike Helmick

July Anniversaries

No July Anniversaries

August Birthdays

12 Jim Mortenson

17 David Senness

18 Laura Schultz

24 Kathy Koehler

25 Andrew Huss

August Anniversaries

01 Mike Helmick 32 yrs

17 Diann Kirby 27 yrs

19 Lori Rebers 7 yrs

22 Eric Dallmann 3 yrs

29 Jim Waldvogel 10 yrs

Recent Program Recordings...

02/23/2026 "Middle School Sports" -

<https://youtu.be/YWs3ErP2G7M>

03/09/2026 - "Endurance Leadership with Tony Loyd" -

<https://youtu.be/0LAuTvD9BOY>

03/23/2026 - "How to Make a Bronze Statue" -

https://youtu.be/u3PPI9_BfBE

04/13/2026 - "Making the Case for Optimism" -

<https://youtu.be/kL3dh9S6m2k>

04/27/2026 - "Make-A-Wish Minnesota" -

https://youtu.be/Q5G1_X5EMjM

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

Dario Bilardello, Guest of Valeria Camboni Miller, Financial Advisor and Research Professor at the University of Minnesota, an Italian British citizen, Approved for membership in our Rotary Club.

Dan Klement, Retired Pastor, 48 Year Rotarian and Paul Harris Major Donor to The Rotary Foundation, moved back to MN from New Jersey. Joining our club.

Mary Allenburg Routhieaux, Northwestern Health Sciences University, Marketing and Advancement, Membership in our club has been approved by the Board.

Betsy Lee, Retired, spouse of Larry Lee, has her own Instagram blog

Rotarian Catherine Gump, Edina Rotary

Karla Hult, Edina, Current Candidate for Senate District 50, Journalist

Nawal Mohamoud, Guest of Jane Fenton, Woodbury, Social Media Intern, Jefferson HS Junior

Announcements

Mark your calendar...November 10th will be the Annual Veterans Luncheon

Consider signing up for Closet of Hope Social Service set for August 31st!

Mike Helmick reminded everyone that our next Rotary Rush will feature **Zach Walker, our City Manager.**

Invite a guest that day and introduce them to Rotary.

Happy Bucks

Don Stiles is back from Ireland having had a wonderful vacation. **Kurt Hagen** is happy to be back for his first meeting as Past President. **Mahendra Nath's** company is celebrating their 50-year anniversary. Check out their website for "50 weeks of 50 Years", a yearlong tribute to 5 decades of lasting impact. www.nathcompanies.com They are currently on post #9 of 50. You will find many interesting tidbits throughout the weeks! Mahendra also shared a concern about the gun violence that he sees hurting many businesses throughout Minnesota.

Eldon Spencer had a great holiday with his two grandchildren. **Andrew Huss** is back from a whirlwind Mediterranean cruise, Napoli, Rome, the Vatican! **Paul Niederberger** spent time with his granddaughter in Missoula, Montana. **Mike Helmick** offered prayers and thoughts for Val's swift recovery. **Becky Amble's** planned cruise was cancelled due to low water level! She also wanted to thank everyone who helped to move three recent published books up to "best sellers". **Lori Rebers** is happy it is summer with the many concerts that she can attend. **Jane Fenton** celebrated all the new members we are seeing. **Catherine Gump**, guest, was happy to be able to spend time with her grandson in Ireland.

DG Leif Hagen Presents a New Paul Harris Society Award

Mike Helmick was the latest Bloomington Noon Rotarian to commit to donating \$1,000 annually to **The Rotary Foundation** for as long as he is able. **District Governor Leif Hagen** was pleased to award Mike with his certificate and pin to commemorate this commitment.



Welcome to our New Social Media Intern - Nawal Mohamoud



Meet our new Social Media Intern, a very impressive young woman. Nawal Mohamoud is a Jefferson High School Junior. Her early years were in California before her family moved to Bloomington. She now lives in Woodbury. She eventually wants to study law. Her favorite subjects in school are History and Political Science. She participates in both the Speech and Debate teams. Her dreams include travel to at least 150 countries in the world. In her spare time, she is either reading or writing. Mystery novels and books on mythology are her favorite. She is a chess player and is conversational in 4 languages while studying another 5!

Rotarians Support Education Foundation of Bloomington Fundraiser



The Chip in for Schools Annual Golf Tournament was held last week. Several Rotarians support the work that the Education Foundation does within our Bloomington school system. Representing Rotary on the Greens were **Nick Basil, Jim Mortenson, and Don Stiles** seen here on the hole named in honor of Bloomington Noon Rotary due to the many Senior Scholarships sponsored each year by our club.

Other Rotarians who work with the Foundation include **Superintendent Eric Melbye, Karyn Arazi, former school board member, and Debbie Belfry.**

Community Service at Wilderness Inquiry Continued...



Thank you to all who came to Wilderness Inquiry to help: Kadaja Abdi (from Kennedy High School), Mike & **Karyn Arazi, Dario Bilardello, Jim Casserly, Bob Erickson, Jane Fenton, Nawal Mohamoud** (our intern, from Jefferson High School), Mary Murphy, **Paul Niederberger, Lori Rebers, Erika Rivers and Don Stiles.** Note that we had four non-Rotarian volunteers who joined us today because a Rotarian invited them.

*Wilderness Article contributed by **Erika Rivers.** Photos by **Karyn Arazi.***

Pack to School Fundraising Campaign

For the past 30 years, Bloomington Rotary has been providing school supplies for students in two of our local schools, Indian Mounds Elementary School and Valley View Middle School.

In the early years we purchased the supplies and organized a meeting to create 50 backpacks full of supplies for Indian Mounds or 75 bags of supplies for Valley View students. These were delivered to each school and the school would distribute to students who needed these supplies.

We changed our process a few years ago and today we find we can purchase supplies through the school district directly and more efficiently, actually providing more supplies using the school's purchasing power. Supplies can be distributed to students as needed.

During the month of August, we will be collecting cash donations. The pledge slip below is designed to be used to pledge your donation. You can choose to make a tax-deductible donation by writing a check to Bloomington Rotary Club Foundation and bring it to one of our August meetings or mail as indicated. Or, you may also choose to be billed through your quarterly billing. Indicate the dollar amount that you would like to be billed.

Turn in your pledge sheet and/or check at an August meeting.

Pledge Form



The Club is again providing school supplies to Bloomington School students through the 31st annual Pack to School Community Service project.

I, _____, agree to donate \$_____.

My preferred method of payment is: Checks may be mailed (*see below*) in or turned in at a meeting.

☐ Enclose check made out to Bloomington Rotary Club Foundation for \$_____.

☐ I request that at my next invoice cycle an additional cost of \$_____ be added to my billing amount.

Make all checks out to Bloomington Rotary Club Foundation.

Mail to : Bloomington Rotary Club Foundation, P.O.Box 20300, Bloomington, MN USA 55420

Thanks for supporting Pack to School!

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

Green Denotes a planned Zoom Meeting

Aug 10: Monday **"Update on Minnesota State College & University System"** Chancellor Scott Olson and President Dr. Pakou Yang

Aug 17: Monday **"Meet and Greet"** 5:00 PM Olive Lounge, Hilton Hotel, France and Hwy 494

Aug 24: Monday **"Rotarian Zach Wilson, Bloomington City Manager"**
Rotary Rush Day, Invite a Guest to meet the new City Manager

Aug 31: Monday **"Community Service at Closet of Hope"** Sign up

Sept 7: **NO MEETING** - Enjoy the Labor Day Holiday

Sept 14: Monday **"To Be Determined"**

Sept 21: Monday **"Meet and Greet"** 5:00 PM Olive Lounge, Hilton Hotel

Sept 28: Monday **"Dustin Delfs and Friend - Special Olympics"**

Oct 5: Monday **"Mock Job Interviews at Normandale Community College"**

Mark you calendar - sign up...all Rotarians are needed! Community Service

Calendar of Events

Month of August: **"Pack to School Fundraising"**

Aug 10: Monday **"Club Board of Directors Meeting"** Hilton Board Room, 11:00 AM

Aug 20: Thursday **"Taste of Lakeville"** Info: <https://tasteoflakeville.org/>

Aug 29: Saturday **"Band Blitz for the Military"** Bloomington Veteran's Club, 1:00 to 4:00 PM-Silent Auction, 311 W. 84th Street, Bloomington

Aug 31: Monday **"Community Service at Closet of Hope"** Noon to 1:30 PM

Sept 7: Monday **"NO MEETING"** Enjoy the Labor Day Holiday Weekend

Sept 14: Monday **"Club Board of Directors Meeting"** Hilton Board Room, 11:00 AM

Oct 5: Monday **"Mock Job Interviews at Normandale Community College"**

Mark your calendar - sign up...all Rotarians are needed! Community Service

Oct 24: Saturday **"World's Largest Walk to End Polio"** at MOA - 7:30 - 9:30 AM Save the Date

Oct 26: Monday **"Bloomington Rotary Club Foundation Board of Directors Meeting"** 11:00 AM Hilton

Nov 10: Tuesday **"Veterans Day Luncheon"**

April 23, 2027: **"District Conference, McNamara Alumni Center"**

May 27, 2027: **"Road Trip to Evanston, RI Offices and Paul Harris House"**

June 26 - 30, 2027: **"Barcelona: Rotary International Convention"**

Middle School Sports...2026-2027

Donate through Zeffy, see QR code.

Or, by issuing a check to **Bloomington Rotary Club Foundation and mailing to P.O.Box 20300, Bloomington, MN 55420-0300.** This is our Club's ongoing 2026-2027 fundraiser.



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 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)

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"

2026-2027 Rotary Club Calendar

Date	Speakers
Monday, July 6, 2026	Community Service
Monday, July 13, 2026	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, July 13, 2026	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, July 20, 2026	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, July 27, 2026	Foundation Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, July 27, 2026	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, August 3, 2026	Community Service
Monday, August 10, 2026	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, August 10, 2026	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, August 17, 2026	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, August 24, 2026	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, August 31, 2026	Community Service
Monday, September 7, 2026	No meeting - Labor Day
Monday, September 14, 2026	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, September 14, 2026	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, September 21, 2026	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, September 28, 2026	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, October 5, 2026	Community Service
Monday, October 12, 2026	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, October 12, 2026	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, October 19, 2026	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, October 26, 2026	Foundation Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, October 28, 2026	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, November 2, 2026	Community Service
Monday, November 9, 2026	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, November 9, 2026	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, November 16, 2026	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, November 23, 2026	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, November 30, 2026	Vocational Visit / Other
Monday, December 7, 2026	Community Service
Monday, December 14, 2026	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, December 14, 2026	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, December 21, 2026	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, December 28, 2026	No meeting - holiday
Monday, January 4, 2027	Community Service
Monday, January 11, 2027	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, January 11, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, January 18, 2027	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, January 25, 2027	Foundation Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, January 25, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, February 1, 2027	Community Service
Monday, February 8, 2027	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, February 8, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, February 15, 2027	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, February 22, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, March 1, 2027	Community Service
Monday, March 8, 2027	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, March 8, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, March 15, 2027	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, March 22, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, March 29, 2027	Vocational Visit / Other
Monday, April 5, 2027	Community Service
Monday, April 12, 2027	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, April 12, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, April 19, 2027	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, April 26, 2027	Foundation Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, April 26, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, May 3, 2027	Community Service
Monday, May 10, 2027	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, May 10, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, May 17, 2027	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, May 24, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, May 31, 2027	No meeting - Memorial Day
Monday, June 7, 2027	Community Service
Monday, June 14, 2027	Club Board Meeting (11:00 to Noon)
Monday, June 14, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon
Monday, June 21, 2027	Meet and Greet - 5:00 PM
Monday, June 28, 2027	Regular Club Meeting - Noon

KEY
COMMUNITY SERVICE
CLUB BOARD MEETING
REGULAR NOON MEETING
MEET AND GREET
FOUNDATION BOARD MEETING
VOCATIONAL VISIT/OTHER
NO MEETING

This is our proposed calendar of meetings for our 2026-2027 Rotary Year. Keep this page with your calendar.