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Rotary in Bloomington

Bloomington Noon, April 29, 2024

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.

2022-2023 Officers:

President:

Laura Schultz

Phone: 763-273-5417 Work Cell laura@lauraschultzlaw.com

Board Meetings:

Over zoom, to be determined monthly

President Elect:

Dwayne Lowman

Vice President:

Kurt Hagen

Treasurer:

Bob Erickson

Sergeant at Arms:

Lori Rebers

Program Chair:

Debbie Belfry

Past President:

Debbie Belfry

District Governor:

Jewelie Grape

Executive Secretary:

Kathy Koehler

952-250-0476

kkoehler53@frontiernet.net

Directors:

David Drummond, Valeria Camboni Miller, Lee Mosher, Adam Johnston, Terry Stirewalt, Chris Aldrich, Jane Fenton, Lori Rebers

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

May 2 Preview: "Community Service at VEAP"

Thursday, May 2 is the next **Club Service** project at VEAP. Up to 8 Rotarians can volunteer their time at VEAP for the afternoon to help along side others from VEAP with food packing (sorting, breaking down items, repackaging) in the Pantry or helping clients with their shopping so clients are able to pick the variety of items that they need.

How to sign up: Email **Laura Schultz** at laura@lauraschultzlaw.com

Volunteer Today! Email Laura.



May 6 Preview: "Destructive Leaders in an Organization"

Guest: **David Langemo**



Dr. David Langemo completed his doctoral research on destructive leaders in organizations. He is joining us to share how destructive leaders negatively affect an organization financially. He stays away from religion, politics, psychology, and government issues.

He is the Founder and President of Long Meadow Leadership, LLC. He has a bachelor's degree in Music Education, a master's in Organizational Management, and a doctorate in Business Administration with a specialization in Leadership.

He has over 20 years in IT, higher education, and nonprofit leadership experience. He is a certified Interim Executive Director of Nonprofits and is currently writing a book about leadership from a child's perspective. He lives in south Minneapolis with his husband Drew, dog Mabel, and cat Reggie. He is proud to be a founding member of the MN Pride Rotary Club!

Zoom will now be available for all of our Hilton meetings. Meeting ID: 243 737 0314 Passcode: 4waytest
Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2437370314?pwd=azZHeENQd2poLzY2VzBDZi9RNldnNQTO9&omn=81223847594>

May 16 Preview: "Meet and Greet" Hilton Chop House Bar

Thursday, May 16 is our next **Meet and Greet** at the Hilton's Chop House Bar 5:00 PM

Our Meet and Greet Social Hours are designed to offer different opportunities for Rotarians to get to know one another better at a scheduled meeting. We gather at 5:00 PM and stay for a hour or two. Spouses are welcome and several have attended as guests. This is also a great time to invite a friend who you think might be a great Rotarian. No RSVP is needed, just come.

Recent Meetings... Out April 18 **Meet and Greet** at the Hilton Chop House Bar had one of our best turnouts. Many of us enjoyed dinner together, others shared drinks or appetizers. Here are a couple of photos from our evening. Several spouses and a special friend joined us. **The May Meet and Greet is set for Thursday, May 16 at 5:00 PM for Happy Hour.** Please join us.



On April 22nd guests Jim Mayer and Hayley Poxleitner joined us to share about efforts they are making with the **Great North Innocence Project** to advocate for and help to free persons who have been wrongfully convicted of a crime. In introducing himself, we learned that Jim Mayer was a Youth Exchange student in France over 30 years ago, so he was very familiar with Rotary and what Rotary does. Jim then gave us some background on the Great North Innocence Project (GNIP).

GNIP works within 3 states, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. They have seven members on their team. Besides the legal work on behalf of clients, they also work to educate legal professionals and the public about their work and the issues surrounding wrongful conviction. They currently have two bills in the legislature as well. GNIP receives 250-300 applications each year for their services. All applications are fully vetted by staff. Law students help with their research. Clients must have passed all vetting processes and exhausted all appeals before a case is taken. Today, they have 16 open cases and in 2023, three persons wrongfully convicted were freed.



GNIP guests: Jim Pool, Hayley Poxleitner and James Mayer

Common causes for wrongful conviction include: Perjury or False Accusation 62%; Witness Mistakes 28%; False Confession 10%; False Evidence 23%; and/or Official Misconduct 60%. The reason for so many false accusations is that people make mistakes. It is hard to pay attention to more than one thing at a time, so witnesses are often wrong in their descriptions. The stress of the situation causes mistakes. Cross racial/age misidentification happens.

They did review the specific case of Cassandra Black Elk whose baby died of SIDs in 2022 where several of these factors were involved. An assumption was made before the final autopsy results that the baby had been exposed to trauma by the mother and she was arrested. Her attorney convinced

April Birthdays

- 01 Sharon Van Winkel
- 09 Lori Rebers
- 18 Becky Amble
- 18 Karen Nordstrom
- 20 Brian Emerson
- 26 Jamie Verbrugge

April Anniversaries

- 01 Kathy Koehler 25 yrs
- 11 Bob Erickson 13 yrs
- 21 Debbie Belfry 24 yrs
- 27 Terry Stirewalt 20 yrs
- 29 Mark Adkins 5 yrs

Recent Program Recordings...

01/29/24 – “Bloomington Fire Department” Fire Chief Ulie Seal - <https://youtu.be/aXZ1ma97cEU>

02/12/24 - “Becoming Benedict Arnold” Stephen Yoch - <https://youtu.be/iSGeSFG8NAE>

02/26/24 - “Birth With Dignity” Sue Steen - <https://youtu.be/rbCNMOZJiNM>

04/08/24 - “Citizen’s Climate Lobby” <https://youtu.be/214O9215vRk>

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>

GNIP Continued...

Several factors were involved here as well as ethnic bias.

her to confess which she did under duress. The autopsy results, which showed no trauma, were withheld by the prosecution. She spent 18 months in custody before her case was overturned.

More information about GNIP can be found at: greatnorthinnocenceproject.org

Donations: The Great North Innocence Project's pro bono legal services are fueled by investments from individuals and organizations in our community. We are deeply grateful for any and all contributions. If you would like to donate to the Great North Innocence Project, please visit: greatnorthinnocenceproject.org/donate, or send a check payable to the Great North Innocence Project and to Great North Innocence Project 229 19th Ave. S Minneapolis, MN 55413.

Benefit for Innocence: The Great North Innocence Project Benefit for Innocence will take place Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at Quincy Hall in Northeast Minneapolis from 5:30-9:30. Our keynote speaker will be exoneree, author, and producer, Amanda Knox. Tickets will go on sale in June. For updates about how to purchase tickets, please subscribe to our newsletter at or reach out to Yariet Montes Huerta at ymonteshuerta@gn-ip.org. Thank you!

Distinguished Guests:

Rotarian Chris Farris, Apple Valley Rotary, Chris was one of the first women to join Rotary

Rotarians Floyd Ingersoul and Dave Christian, Rogers Rotary, here to share about their fundraiser and raffle

LuAnn Paulette, Former Bloomington Noon Rotarian and Past President, Insurance Design

Jeff Pool, Great North Innocence Project, their speaker in training



Member Induction: Chris Guarnera...Rejoining!

Jane Fenton led our re-induction of **Chris Guarnera**. Chris is being sponsored by **Debbie Belfry**. Chris works with My Credit Union. He was our club President in 2013-2014. Chris was originally inducted in 2011 when LuAnn Paulette was our President. Chris is Vice President of Commercial Services at My Credit Union. He has been with My Credit Union since 2019.

Prior to My Credit Union, Chris was with Sunrise Banks and Premier Banks and before banking, he was the General Manager at the St. Paul Grill, St. Paul Hotel. He is a graduate of the University of St. Thomas.

Loaves and Fishes Community Service

A great crew gathered on April 29th at Christ the King Lutheran Church to prepare and pass out 125 meals to 37 visitors. Many folks who stop in for meals take meals back to neighbors or friends. Bloomington Noon has been volunteering for many years two different evenings per year.

In 2023, Loaves and Fishes at Christ the King served over 30,500+ meals to about 10,000 visitors. Our club in its two evenings served a total of 236 meals to 102 visitors in 2023.

Bloomington Noon pays for the meals which are catered by Affordable Best Catering located here in Bloomington.



Update on our Mahendra Nath Rotary Foundation Challenge

Bloomington Noon Rotary is celebrating 62 years of giving to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) of Rotary International with a total that currently exceeds \$1,333,000. **Mahendra Nath** joined Rotary because “It helps the World.” And, he has pledged to continue to support TRF and our challenge as long as he can.

With 17 straight years of 100% participation, we are challenging ourselves to make it 18! Our club has been divided into 12 teams. Mahendra will donate \$400 for each team that reaches its 100% goal. The Kirby team reached 100% pledged first and you will notice that the Belfry team is currently ahead on Paid Pledges. The race is still tight as we strive to meet our goal of 100% paid.

All pledges need to be paid in May to count toward our 100% goal. You can pay your pledge by either giving your check to Diann or Debbie. **Easier yet**, go online to Rotary International and pay online, then tell Debbie. She will update our spreadsheet. Online giving can be set up on a monthly basis, too. Create an account and Rotary will track your giving throughout your Rotary life. www.rotary.org

MAHENDRA NATH ROTARY FOUNDATION CHALLENGE

4/29/2024

Phase 2: Paid Pledges

TEAM	Total Members	# Members Paid	% Members Paid	Amount Paid
TEAM BELFRY	6	6	100%	\$6,325
ADKINS	5	5	100%	\$2,650
LEE	3	2	66%	\$1,100
STILES	3	3	100%	\$1,100
STIREWALT	4	3	75%	\$900
SWANEY	4	3	75%	\$2,100
TOTAL	25	22	86%	\$14,175

TEAM KIRBY	6	3	50%	\$6,500
BASIL	4	4	100%	\$1,740
CASSERLY	4	2	50%	\$1,655
FENTON	4	3	75%	\$2,125
MOSHER	4	3	75%	\$1,760
NEWMAN	5	4	80%	\$2,200
TOTAL	27	19	70%	\$15,980

For a Quick refresher on how our TRF dollars come back to our local District and Club, see page 5 RIB.

Bachman’s Gift Card Fundraiser Next Deadline May 1st!

For every gift card we purchase through Bachman’s, we will get 15% back in fundraising dollars for our club to put to good use. **Gift cards purchased in store will not be applicable.** This is your LAST CHANCE to order gift cards for Mother’s Day or Summer plantings.



Order cards through Laura Schultz, (Laura@LauraSchultzLaw.com) **Deadline: May 1st!** Indicate how many gift cards, and in what amount (s) you want. **Write your check for the card (s) out to Bloomington Noon Rotary and bring to our next meeting.**

Bloomington Noon Facilitates the Planting of 100 Tree Seedlings

The environment is International Rotary’s seventh area of focus. Bloomington Noon Rotary facilitated the planting of 100 seedling trees this month through two Bloomington organizations. An opportunity was presented to our club and the Board approved using President’s Discretionary funds to purchase 100 seedlings through Neighborhood Forest. <https://www.neighborhoodforest.org/> These seedlings were then given to the Kennedy Green Club and to Bloomington Schools Early Childhood.

Early Childhood sent a photo of the children planting a new seedling and the Kennedy Green Club sent a couple of photos of their event to plant trees around their neighborhood. Rotarians are invited to join them at a tree planting event on May 4, to plant 60 trees. At Kennedy High School from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/w1keewr23> to sign up. **They need volunteers!**



Upcoming Meetings -

- Black Denotes In Person Meeting At the Hilton Hotel**
- Blue Denotes Club Service, Meet and Greet, or a Vocational Event**
- Red Denotes No Meeting at the Hilton**
- Green Denotes a planned Zoom Meeting**

- May 2: Thursday **“VEAP Community Service”** 2:15 to 5:00 Register with Laura Schultz
- May 6: Monday **“Destructive Leaders in an Organization”** David Langemo **Zoom Available**
- May 16: Thursday **“Meet and Greet”** Hilton Hotel, Chop House Bar area, 5:00 PM
- May 20: Monday **“Abijah’s on the Backside”** Sally Mixon and Mark Irving **Zoom Available**
- May 27: Monday **“No Meeting”** Enjoy the Memorial Day Holiday
- June 6: Thursday **“VEAP Community Service”** 2:15 to 5:00 Register with Laura Schultz
- June 10: Monday **“Vocational Visit to TORO”**
- June 20: Thursday **“Meet and Greet”** Hilton Hotel, Chop House Bar area, 5:00 PM
- June 24: Monday **“Celebration and Recognition Luncheon”** Noon Hilton

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

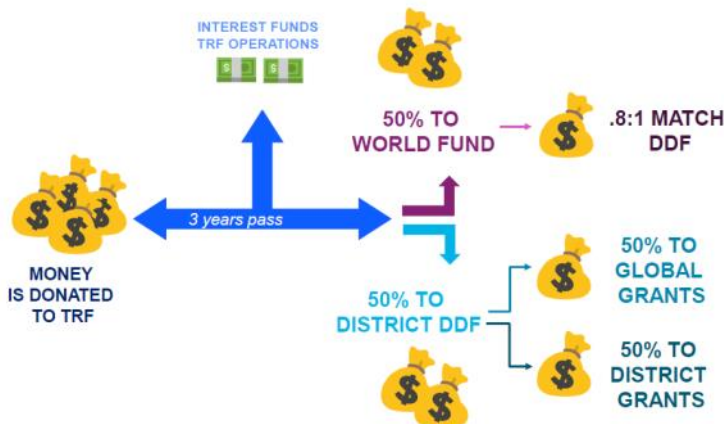
- Apr 30: Tuesday **“Education Foundation Spring Thank You Event”** Nine Mile Brewery 4:30 to 6:30
- May 2: Thursday **“VEAP Community Service”** 2:15 to 5:00 Register with Laura Schultz
- May 8: Wednesday **“STRIVE Future Positive Mindset”** Don Stiles, Terry Stirewalt
- May 16: Thursday **“Meet and Greet”** Hilton Hotel, Chop House Bar area, 5:00 PM
- May 21: Tuesday **“STRIVE Recognition Event”** Kennedy HS, 8:00 AM
- June 6: Thursday **“VEAP Community Service”** 2:15 to 5:00 Register with Laura Schultz
- June 10: Monday **“Vocational Visit to Toro”** Stay tuned for more Information
- June 20: Thursday **“Meet and Greet”** Hilton Hotel, Chop House Bar area, 5:00 PM
- June 24: Monday **“Celebration and Recognition Luncheon”** Host: Past President Debbie Belfry
- July 17: Wednesday **“17th Annual Aavishkaar USA Fundraiser”** 6:30 to 9:00 PM
- Aug 24, 2024 Saturday **“Rotary on a Stick”** Rotary Day at the State Fair—District Conference

- 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:
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Contributors: Sara Tan, Kurt Hagen, Eldon Spencer, Karen Nordstrom, Larry Lee, with Becky Amble on photos

ADDRESS
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How TRF Funds are used and Distributed as Grants



Donations are held 3 years. The interest that is earned funds TRF operations. Then, 50% is sent back to each District. 50% goes to TRF World Fund and is shared as .8:1 match with District Designated Funds. The District splits 50/50 to Global and District Grants. These matches leverage our funds 2.35 to 7 times.

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](http://ClubDirectory&Contacts|District5950)
clubrunner.ca
ClubRunner
<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/3537>
Shop the internet through:
<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1649217>

“Like” us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) and “Join” our group on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com). In both cases the search keyword is “Bloomington Noon Rotary MN”

District Conference Planned for August 24th... at the State Fair!



We are so excited to announce this year's **Rotary District 5950 Conference**, which promises to be as exciting as it is unique. Affectionately dubbed "Rotary-on-a-Stick," this year's conference will be held at the iconic **Minnesota State Fair** on August 24, 2024!

This isn't just another District Conference — it's an extraordinary blend of fellowship, fun, and the Rotary spirit of service, all set against the backdrop of the **Great Minnesota Get Together**. Here's a taste of what we've got planned:

- **State Fair Entry:** No need to buy a separate ticket — yours is already included!
- **Exclusive Access:** Enjoy the private "Rotary Oasis" at Horton's Pavilion, where camaraderie and comfort collide.
- **Parade Participation:** Wave your Rotary pride for all to see and cheer on Rotary Club presidents as they march in the parade.
- **Rotary Treasure Hunt:** Engage in a bit of friendly competition with a Rotary-exclusive treasure hunt across the fairgrounds.
- **Service With a Smile:** Make an impact with our Done-in-a-Day service project, embodying the Rotary commitment to community.
- **Swag Galore:** Fill your goody bag to the brim with a selection of exclusive Rotary-on-a-Stick swag, including t-shirts, viking hats, paper fans, and more!

This day is more than just a conference — it's a celebration of our collective impact, build awareness of Rotary in Minnesota, and create memories that will last a lifetime. Save the date, and get ready for a gallon-size bucket of fun, Rotary-style!

Stay tuned for more details on how to secure your spot.

We can't wait to see you there!

