



# Moccasin Flower

Official Publication of the Rotary Club of Rochester, Minnesota  
Organized June 12, 1925

Club No. 2164

District No. 5960

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## VITAL STATISTICS

MEMBERSHIP: 236

**AMBASSADORS:** Essex Vermont Rotary: **David Colville**, North Colorado Springs Rotary: **George Allen**, Rotary Club of Hanalei Bay: **Bari Amadio**, South Fort Myers Rotary Club: **Jerry Downes**, District 5960 Conference: **Mark Dripps, Diane Ilstrup, Lorie Luedke, Judith O'Fallon, Mike O'Fallon, Karel Weigel**

**GREATER ROCHESTER ROTARY:** **Caroline Baihly, Lynn Clarey**

**ROCHESTER ROTARY RISERS:** **Mark Utz**

**ROTARY eCLUB ONE:** **Sarah Burrington**

**MEMBERS ON LEAVE:** **Brian Younge**

**RESIGNATIONS:** **James Gibson, Nicole Pierson, Pixy Russell, Bill Ryan, Rick Sheldon**

**NEW MEMBERS:** **Sandra Bartlett, Peggy Elliott, JoAnn Stormer**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

<u>Birthday</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
May 3	Tom Fitzgerald	Rochester, MN
	Karel Weigel	Hopkinton, Iowa
May 4	Borge M. Christensen	Odense, Denmark
May 5	Stacy Sinner	Pipestone, MN
May 6	Sarah Burrington	Rochester MN
May 8	James Seward	
May 10	Peter Carryer	Rochester, MN
	Dave Colville	Philadelphia, PA
	John Woodruff	Rochester, MN
May 11	Bill Harreld	Chorokoo, IA
	Hal Henderson	Boone, IA
	Fred Nobrega	Kansas City, MO
May 13	Tim Weir	South Bend, IN
May 14	Alison Bach Good	Rochester, MN
May 16	Brian Younge	Edmonton Alberta Canada
May 17	David Westgard	Minot, ND
May 20	Kelly Engler	Virginia, MN
	Dennis Nigon	Waukon, IA
May 21	Tim Sitzer	Rochester, MN
May 22	Carla Nelson	Webster City, IA
	Lorrie Swancutt	Rochester, MN
	Jon Ewing	Des Moines, IA
May 23	John Brandrup	Mankato, MN
May 27	Brad Lohrbach	Austin, MN
May 28	Dana Funk	Mankato, MN

If we have missed your birthday, please let us know.

## 2012 Rotary International Convention

More than 35,000 Rotarians have registered for the 2012 RI Convention, which is being held May 6-9 in Bangkok. Rotary Club of Rochester Rotarians participating in the event include President Mark Dripps, President Elect Lorie Luedke and members Karen and Merlin Ricklefs.



For the first time in convention history, you'll be able to see leaders and experts talking about polio eradication during a plenary session live streamed on May 8, 9:15-11:45 a.m., Bangkok time, at <http://rotary2012.sessionupload.com/>. (Please note the 12 hour time difference.) A recording of the session will be available later in the day.

Register or follow the convention online at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) or with the Twitter hash tag #ricon12.

# ROTARY NEWS

• Thanks to all who helped with the April meetings:  
 Greeters: **Bari Amadio, Jeff Amundson, Harriet Hodgson, John Hodgson, Judith O'Fallon, Susan Ahlquist**, Cashier: **Lois Nietz, Janice Farris, Danae Ostern**, Sergeant-at-Arms: **Janice Farris, Bob Priem, John Woodruff**, Visitors Desk: **Walter Menning, Kathy Lessard, Steve Rossello, Michon Rogers**, Piano: **Ann Beatty** and **Linda Herrick**, Invocations: **Bill Wiktor, Colin Aldis, Phil Karsell, Lorie Luedke**, Four Way Test: **Kelly Engler, Denny Nigon, Audrey Betcher, Vicki Allen**, Introduction of Visitors: **Leigh Johnson, Vicki Allen**, Presenters: **Pam Meyer** and Quarry Hill Staff, Richard Ehman, Dawn Devine, Vocational Talk: **Audrey Betcher**.

## May Rotary Anniversaries

Robert Bleimeyer	1 year
Tom Claymon	1 year
James Seward	3 years
Maria Brown	4 years
Leon Clark	5 years
Betty Hutchins	6 years
Lorrie Swancutt	6 years
Brad Jones	7 years
Nickie Froiland	8 years
Beth Warren	10 years
Cris Fischer	12 years
Christopher Colby	13 years
Thomas Behrenbeck	14 years
Jane Piegras	15 years
Marvin "Marv" Ramsay	15 years
Christine Cross	15 years
Rick Lien	15 years
Barbara Hight-Randall	16 years
Sheldon Sheps	18 years
Charles Kennedy	20 years
Paul Grassle	28 years
Phillip Henoach	28 years
Robert MacCarty	29 years
J. Daniel Skinner	34 years
Lance Thorkelson	36 years
Roger Kempers	50 years



## MAY ROTARY CALENDAR

- May 3**                    **Rotation Day-** 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
- May 10**                  **Kahler Hotel – Windsor Hall -**  
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Youth  
Exchange Student Giulia Castangia
- May 17**                  **Kahler Hotel – Windsor Hall -**  
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. "Adapting  
IBM's Watson to Healthcare" by Bill  
Rapp and Service Above Self Awards
- May 24**                  **Kahler Hotel - Elizabethan Room -**  
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. "Rochester  
Airport Update" by Steve Leque
- May 31**                  **Kahler Hotel - Heritage Hall -**  
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. "Job Growth  
in Rochester" by John Wade

## OTHER MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- May 7**                    **Channel One**, Channel One  
Building, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- May 9**                    **Community Food Response -**  
1:15-6:45 p.m., Bethel Lutheran  
Church - Contact Glen  
VanLanningham or Phil Karsell
- May 16**                  **Rotary Board of Directors' Meeting -**  
7:00 -8:00 a.m., The Kahler Grand  
Hotel, Directors Room
- May 23**                  **Rotary Information Meeting -**  
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., Kahler Grand  
Hotel
- May 28**                  **Salvation Army Dinner -**  
5:45-7:00 p.m. - Salvation Army  
Building



### THANK YOU FROM HONORARY ROTARIAN MARY SORENSEN

Thank you doesn't seem enough to express my gratitude for being honored as a recipient of the Paul Harris Fellow. I am deeply honored and humbled for receiving an Honorary Rotary membership. Thank you again for both prestigious acknowledgements.

Sincerely, Mary Sorensen

## ROTARY CLUB OF ROCHESTER'S BIENNIAL AUCTION HELD APRIL 21

Rotarians and their guests gathered at the Rochester International Event Center Saturday, April 21 for the 6<sup>th</sup> Biennial Rotary Auction. The "Vegas" theme inspired all sorts of attire from sequins to sunglasses. Rotarian Rick Lien and his guest chose to dress in attire inspired by the Lien's donated Mexican Dinner up for bid. Rotarian Leigh Johnson served as auctioneer, entertaining the crowd and inciting bidding wars, all in the name of fundraising.

Approximately \$18,000 was raised from the sale of seventy-nine donated auction items and from the purchase of chances to win jewelry and a \$2,500 travel voucher. The money will be used to carry out service to youth and to those in need both locally and internationally. Thank you to all who donated and all who bid. Special thanks to the auction committee and volunteers, as well: Co-Chair Lorie Luedke, Co-Chair Laurel Schacht, Vicki Allen, Christine Beech, Anne Berberich, Audrey Betcher, Teresa Blythe, Suzanne Dinusson, Mark Dripps, Kelly Engler,

Nicki Froiland, Dana Funk, Elizabeth Karsell, Mary Jo Kelly, Michon Rogers, Gail Sauter, Stacy Sinner, Terry Sorensen, Steve Stenhaus, and Lorrie Swancutt.



Rick Lien and Ross Messick at the 6<sup>th</sup> Biennial Rotary Auction.

## CAMP RYLA 2012



Camp RYLA students Ahmed Mukhtar, Emily Newman, and friend.

Two Rochester students sponsored by Rochester Rotary clubs, recently returned from the 2012 Camp RYLA. Mayo student Emily Newman and John Marshall student Ahmed Mukhtar attended the "five-day camp which strengthens leadership skills and capabilities of high school students through physical, mental, emotional, and intellectual challenges." Thank you to Rotarian Dana Funk for his coordination of the program in Rochester and to both Dana and Rotarian Steve Courts for providing transportation for the students.

Emily Newman shared the following reflection of her experience: "RYLA was like no other experience I've ever had before. Going into a camp where you know zero out of the 100 people is overwhelming. Leaving the last day, those 100 people you just met are now your family. The hard obstacles you are thrown into together scare you, but make you stronger as a team in the long run. It's not just about becoming a leader, but helping others learn to lead along the way."

## Welcome New Members



Rotarian Susan Ahlquist, new member JoAnn Stormer, new member Sandra Bartlett, and President Elect Lorie Luedke.



New member Peggy Elliott with Rotarian Linda Bonow.



# RI PRESIDENT PRESENTS POLIO MEDAL TO AFGHANISTAN PRESIDENT IN KABUL

Rotary International News - April 4, 2012

Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee presented a medal to Afghan President Hamid Karzai on 2 April in Kabul, in recognition of Karzai's support for the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#), in which Rotary is a spearheading partner.

Banerjee is the first RI president to visit Afghanistan. His visit was made possible through the work of Rotary Foundation Trustee Stephen R. Brown and Fary Moini, both members of the Rotary Club of La Jolla Golden Triangle, California, USA, which has carried out numerous successful educational projects in Jalalabad.

During their 45-minute meeting, Karzai and Banerjee discussed how lessons learned from India's success might be applied in Afghanistan. Banerjee's home country of India was removed from the polio-endemic list in February.

"I encouraged the president to keep up the intensity of the immunization program because, by doing so, they can stop polio as we did in India," Banerjee said. "Once it stops, it stops. You don't know when it will happen, or where the last polio case will be; but one day it will happen if you remain ever vigilant."

## Continued support for polio eradication

Karzai vowed his government will continue to support the eradication program and said he personally would help encourage and educate the Afghan public on the importance of reaching all children with the oral polio vaccine.

In discussing strategies, Banerjee said Muslim leaders who supported India's polio immunization campaign could be encouraged to communicate with their Afghan counterparts to explain the importance of immunizations. Indian Rotary members were instrumental in gaining the support of influential clerics to help dispel misconceptions about polio immunizations within some Muslim communities.



Banerjee also said both countries could exchange teams of health workers so that Indian vaccinators can share best-practice approaches and learn more about the challenges facing polio eradication in Afghanistan.

Afghanistan is one of only three countries where the wild poliovirus has never been stopped. So far in 2012, Afghanistan has reported five new polio cases out of the 36 recorded globally. The country reported 80 cases in 2011. The other two endemic countries are Nigeria and Pakistan. Polio infections due to cross-border traffic between Afghanistan and Pakistan are a continuing problem, making bi-national cooperation essential. Pakistan has reported 15 cases this year after posting 198 in 2011.

## Rotary's work in Afghanistan

Accompanying Banerjee on his historic visit were Brown; Moini; Dr. Ajmal Pardis, chair of Rotary's Afghanistan National PolioPlus Committee and a member of the Rotary Club of Jalalabad; and Mohammad Ishaq, a member of the Rotary Club of Jalalabad.

Brown and Moini have led several projects in Afghanistan and participated in National Immunization Days there. The Global Connections and Exchange Program, an education project of the La Jolla Golden Triangle Rotary club, administers Internet training labs in 13 high schools as well as a central training facility in Jalalabad. The effort is part of a larger initiative to promote technology, curriculum development, and international collaboration.



# DISTRICT 5960 CONFERENCE - April 13-14, River Falls, Wisconsin



ABOVE: The Rotary District 5960 Choir with Rotary Club of Rochester members Judith O'Fallon (3<sup>rd</sup> from left) and Mike O'Fallon (3<sup>rd</sup> from right).



LEFT: Rotary Club of Rochester 2012 Youth Exchange Student Giulia Castangia (far right) and friends at District 5960 Conference Youth Exchange Luncheon.

2012 Youth Exchange students performing a dance for Rotarians at the District 5960 Conference.



DG Judy Freund, Youth Exchange Student Giulia Castangia, and visitors at District 5960 Conference "World's Fair."



## THANK YOU FROM ABILITY BUILDING CENTER

Thank you for your generous gift...to Ability Building Center on March 14, 2012 for our Ability Options photography project. Your donation will directly benefit the people we serve here at ABC and is truly appreciated.

Ability Building Center served 874 individuals in 2010. We provide individualized, person-centered programs and service options which allow each person the opportunity to choose their own path toward becoming productive and active members of our community.

Your support helps us to continue our mission to improve the quality of life in Southeastern Minnesota by providing rehabilitation and employment services for persons with disabilities and other special needs. We appreciate your joining our team that advocates for persons with disabilities.

Sincerely,  
Laurie Kellagher, Development Director

## THANK YOU FROM UNITED WAY OF OLMSTED COUNTY

Bolder Options would like to thank you, the Rotary/US Bank Holiday Classic Committee Grant Committee, and all three Rochester Rotary Clubs for the generous grant...received on March 14, 2012. Thanks to donors like you, Bolder Options is thriving in its third year of operation in Rochester. We are providing at-risk Rochester youth with mentors, tutoring services, physical activities and a place to feel safe. We are evaluated yearly to ensure that we are meeting our goals, and I am proud to say we consistently achieve a success rate 42% higher than the national average of mentoring programs. Your grant will be used to support our mission in Rochester, serving Rochester youth.

Again, thank you for all you do for our innovative activity-based mentoring program. We appreciate receiving the Holiday Classic Grant.

Sincerely,  
Darrell Thompson, Executive Director

## THANK YOU FROM THE READING CENTER

Thank you very much for your generous gift from the Rotary Clubs of Rochester, the 3<sup>rd</sup> installment of the Rotary Impact grant to the Reading Center received on March 14, 2012.... The donation is designated for our Rochester District Infusion Training for classroom teachers.

I appreciated the opportunity to share information about the Teacher Training with members at the Basketball Tournament banquet on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for hosting me at your meeting.

As I mentioned at the banquet, we are making huge progress toward our goal of training all Rochester District elementary teachers this year. From the first year of training, 2007 to 2010, we trained a total of 72 teachers. This year alone, 2011-2012, we will have trained or started the training of 74 teachers! This 146 teachers will impact 3,650 of our Districts children, helping them to become stronger readers.

If we can train 80 teachers a year for the next three years, or 120 teachers a year for the next two years, we will meet our goal!

Thank you for Rotary's support of the Reading Center. When you help kids read, you are helping them succeed.

Gratefully,  
Cindy Russell, Executive Director



Thank You

2011  
2012  
Katie  
Progen  
Lest  
Rodx  
Feliccia  
Max  
JESSIE  
Sara Dejanae  
Tashawn Collins  
Shaniqua  
Destiny



**ROCHESTER ROTARY CLUB**

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Rochester, MN 55903-7566  
Phone: 507-252-0085

**ROTARY CLUB OF ROCHESTER**

**Rochester, Minnesota**

*Organized June 12, 1925*

Club No. 2164                      District No. 5960

**THE FOUR-WAY TEST**

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build good will and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

**THE MOCCASIN FLOWER**

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
ROTARY CLUB OF ROCHESTER

**PRESIDENT:** Mark Dripps

**PRESIDENT-ELECT:** Lorie Luedke

**PRESIDENT NOMINEE:** Vicki Allen

**SECRETARY:** Janice Farris

**TREASURER:** Dan Kelly

**PAST PRESIDENT:** Karel Weigel

**ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR**

Elizabeth Karsell, 507-252-0085

E-mail: [romnrotary@charter.net](mailto:romnrotary@charter.net)

**ROTARY DISTRICT 5960 GOVERNOR**

Judy Freund, Hudson Daybreak Rotary

**ASSISTANT GOVERNOR**

Mike O'Fallon, Rochester Rotary

**WEB SITES**

Rochester Rotary: [www.rochesterrotaryclubs.org](http://www.rochesterrotaryclubs.org)

Links to STRIVE – Rotary US Bank Holiday Classic

District 5960: [www.rotary5960.org](http://www.rotary5960.org)

Rotary International: [rotary.org](http://rotary.org)

**ROTARY COMMITTEES**

**CLUB SERVICE I**

Christine Beech, Director

Greeters ..... *Paul Tieskoetter*  
 Membership Development ..... *Lorie Luedke*  
 Rotary Information Officer ..... *Leigh Johnson*  
 Visitors Desk ..... *Kathy Lessard*  
 Sergeant-at-Arms ..... *John Woodruff*  
 Mentors ..... *Milt Tostrud*

**CLUB SERVICE II**

Bill Wiktor, Director

Club Bulletin ..... *Elizabeth Karsell, Lorie Luedke*  
 Club Web Site ..... *Elizabeth Karsell*  
 Invocations ..... *Bill Wiktor*  
 Programs ..... *Maria Brown, Dana Funk*  
 Public Relations ..... *Vicki Allen*  
 Four-Way Test ..... *Chris Holloway*

**CLUB SERVICE III**

Margaret Hinz, Director

Biennial Auction ..... *Lorie Luedke, Laurel Schacht*  
 Golf Day ..... *Rick Lien*  
 Music ..... *Jane Belau*  
 Social Events ..... *Jim Wiekamp*

**INTERNATIONAL SERVICE**

Cris Fischer, Director

Foundational Scholarships ..... *Steve Sponsel*  
 Group Study Exchange Team ..... *Gilda Banfield*  
 Rotary International Foundation ..... *Karel Weigel*  
 YouthLINC ..... *Nickie Froiland*  
 Youth Exchange ..... *Cris Fischer*  
 Rotary Gift of Life ..... *Betty Devine*  
 World Community Service ..... *Judith O'Fallon*

**VOCATIONAL SERVICE**

Linda Herrick, Director

Camp RYLA ..... *Steve Rossello*  
 Rotary Literacy Coordinator ..... *Stacy Sinner*  
 Rotary Riverside Mentors ..... *Cris Fischer*  
 Rotation Day ..... *Danae Ostern*  
 STRIVE ..... *Linda Herrick*  
 Vocational Talks ..... *Fred Banfield*  
 Youth Protection Officer ..... *Kim Adams, Aaron Johnson*

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Lorrie Swancutt, Director

Channel One ..... *Tom Moyer, Phet Saysomphou*  
 Community Food Response ..... *Phil Karsell, Glenn VanLaningham*  
 Library Hosts ..... *Mary Jo Kelly*  
 Quarry Hill Fall Festival ..... *Barbara Porter*  
 Rotary Bell Ringing for Salvation Army ..... *Fred Suhler*  
 Rotary US Bank Holiday Classic ..... *Lynn Clarey, Lorie Luedke, Lois Nietz, Mike Quinn, Doug Rovang, Laurel Schacht*  
 Service Above Self Awards ..... *Cresta Valentine*  
 Student Guests ..... *Sara Gilliland*  
 White Oaks Park ..... *Ashok Patel, Mike Mahrer*