



The Rotary Club of Boulder Valley- April 28, 2026

Tuesday April 28, 2026 12 PM - 3 PM, Village View Room,

Williams Village

Mark Burnett, Our President 2025 - 2026

Fellow Rotarians,

Molière writes, “Unbroken happiness is a bore. It should have ups and downs.” As I read this this morning, I was reminded of a Twilight Zone episode entitled “A Nice Place to Visit.” In that episode, a small-time hoodlum named Rocky Valentine is shot and killed by police while fleeing a robbery, and awakens to find the smiling, white-tuxedoed Mr. Pip (Sebastian Cabot) at his side, declaring himself Rocky’s guide in the next world. In this world, Rocky is given whatever he asks for: winning at gambling, beautiful women, and endless luxury.

The twist, of course, is classic Twilight Zone: throughout the episode, Rocky assumed he was in heaven. But when Rocky cries out to Pip, stating that he does not deserve this luxurious life, Pip responds — through a maniacal laugh — with the chilling line, “whoever said this was heaven.” Through Rocky, one vision of hell was a tormented life of sheer boredom and dissatisfaction; a life devoid of risk, of chance, and of potential failure.

We join Rotary, in part, because we are drawn to purpose — to the idea that we can make a difference in the world. But whose purpose? By its very definition, purpose is deeply personal, and thus it often brings with it challenges and friction. Should we devote funds to a homeless project or to RYLA? Should our focus be toward international projects, or should we spend more time and money solving the ills in our own backyard? And as we all know, service projects rarely go perfectly smoothly, our committees don’t always agree, and every fundraiser requires some last-minute adjustment. For myself, I sometimes look upon these hiccups as signs that something went wrong — that life would be better if things were easier.

But as I think back on the things that mattered most to me, in both Rotary and life, it was never easy. I think back to getting stuck on the side of the road with two flat tires while transporting students to a service project in Virginia. I’m sure John K. could probably write a book on the many challenges he faced as chair of YRYLA. Diane and Tinbet could tell stories about the issues that arose over their years doing international projects. Dean and Terry could start a podcast series describing the imperfect moments behind what appeared to be perfect functions. These endeavors, like almost anything worthwhile, had ups and downs — and that is precisely what gave them meaning (and gave us stories worth telling).

Molière, writing in the 17th century, and Rod Serling, writing for a 1960 television audience, arrived at the same universal truth: a life without resistance, without challenge, is not a gift. It is a sentence.

Rotary continually asks something of us. It asks us to make the call we are not sure will land, to chair the meeting we do not feel fully ready for, to head a project that we feel ill-equipped to

lead. And in that asking — in the stumbles and the recoveries, the campaigns that fall short and the ones that quietly change a life — we find what Rocky Valentine never could: the particular satisfaction of having actually earned it. That the joy was actually found in the struggle that led to the accomplishment.

Mark Burnett



Please send JPG photos only (no PDFs) and copy NOT attached to a string of previous comments.

The necessary information is swallowed whole and can't be accessed. JPGs must not be embedded

in documents

Joan Scott is assisting with the Newsletter and can receive information to be published through leacachjs@gmail.com.

Posts circulated via Clubrunner are provided by our club members who should be consulted regarding any comments or questions regarding the contents. Please read to the bottom of each post for contact information.

For the Speaker, please send a JPG photo, brief biography, and topic description to me for the newsletter!

Articles of interest for our club and Rotarians are gratefully accepted.

I am merely the messenger.

Installation Banquet Save the Date July 23!

Flatirons Club Social Gathering 4/29





Hi all –

At our alternative meeting at Chatauqua this week, several folks expressed confusion about the upcoming Rotary social gathering on 4/29. Joe Hinton from Flatirons Club brought several fliers about it to one of our recent club meetings at Will Vill. I have attached a copy here for your reference. Attendees simply need to bring their own beverage.

I attended last year held at a farm just outside of Louisville and it was quite nice. It is meant to be a social gathering where members of the 3 Rotary clubs in Boulder and hopefully some community members can all meet to enjoy conversation, beer and brats, and some bluegrass music. In other words, build community.

This year it has the added advantage of being held at MASA Seed Foundation farm on the right-hand side of 75th St. just south of the Arapahoe and 75th intersection. MASA itself is interesting and will be the site for the Flatiron Club's EPIC Day again this year.

Joe has made an extra effort to organize this which deserves some support.

Unite for Good!

Thanks.

Steve

Jim Beckley

A Celebration of Life



FOR THE GOOD TIMES!

**Please join us in celebrating
the prodigious life of Jim Beckley**

**Sunday, May 17, 2026
2:00-5:00pm**

**CHAUTAUQUA COMMUNITY HOUSE
301 Morning Glory Dr., Boulder, CO, 80302**

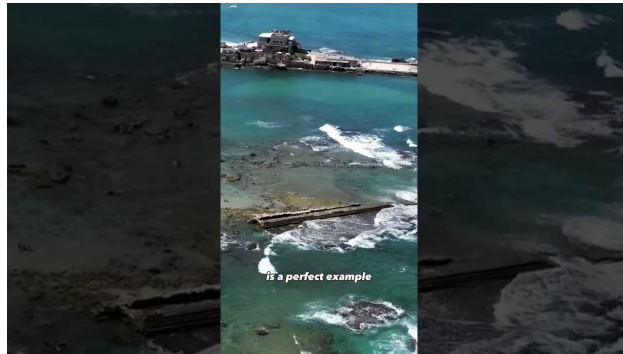
**RSVP via text to 303-885-2647 by May 2
Sailing attire encouraged!**

Jim's celebration of life service will be on May 17th, from 3pm to 5pm at the Chautauqua Community House.

RSVP via text to 303-885-2647 by May 2. *Sailing attire encouraged.*

Rex van Gorden

Speaker: Bob Hohlfelder, *Back to the Future? – Rediscovering Roman Concrete Engineering in the Mediterranean Sea*



Bob Hohlfelder is a professor emeritus and former chair of the Department of History at the University of Colorado in Boulder. His special research interests are in ancient maritime history and archaeology, the world of late antiquity, and ancient numismatics. In addition to over 130 published articles, he has written, co-authored, or edited nine books, including his most recent one - **Building for Eternity: The History and Technology of Roman Engineering in the Sea**, Oxford, 2014 and reprinted in 2021. He was twice a research fellow at Harvard University's Center for Byzantine Studies at Dumbarton Oaks; a visiting research fellow at Edith Cowan University in Perth, Australia on two occasions and once at University College, Dublin; four times a visiting scholar at the American Academy in Rome; and currently is a visiting research scholar at Wolfson College, University of Oxford where he also served as an Honorary Associate of Oxford's Centre for Maritime Archaeology.

Bob had 30 national lecture tours for the Archaeological Institute of America; participated in or directed 50 maritime archaeological expeditions in the Mediterranean including deep-water explorations in the Aegean and Cretan Seas; co-directed the Roman Maritime Concrete Study; served as an archaeological tour expert on cruises for the National Geographic Society, Lindblad Expeditions, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Archaeological Institute of America throughout the Mediterranean world for more than three decades; presented more than 160 papers at professional conferences in 13 countries and 300+ public lectures at universities and museums around the world; served as mission expert for UNESCO/ICOMOS and the World Heritage Committee; and has received over 70 post-doctoral national and international grants to support his research. He is currently working on a book tentatively entitled, **The Julio-Claudian Emperors and the Sea: Building a Maritime Infrastructure as the Nexus of the Roman Empire**.

Tree Planting at the Family Learning Center



Boulder Rotary has asked for us to participate in a tree planting project at the Family Learning Center - details below:

Tree planting on Saturday April 25th from 1:30 to 3:30. at the Family Learning Center at 3164 34th St, Boulder, CO 80301. Drinks and snacks provided. We have shovels and gloves but feel free to bring your own.

Bob Harberg

VOLUNTEER FOR THE EMERGE 5K RUN!



May 3, 2026

It's time to sign up to volunteer for EMERGE, the RISE 5k fundraiser. <https://runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/CO/Boulder/RiseAgainstSuicideEmerge5KRace>

The event is SUNDAY morning May 3 at the Boulder Reservoir. BIG OOPS.... I've been announcing this as May 2, BUT IT IS SUNDAY MAY 3rd. You can volunteer for set up activities

starting at 6AM, lots of duties during the event and then clean up starting at 10:30AM. I usually volunteer early, walk the 5k route and then stay for music and speakers afterwards. I encourage you to stay for at least part of the after race activities. They usually raise \$175,000 - \$200,000 at this event. Sign up here for a shift <https://runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/CO/Boulder/RiseAgainstSuicideEmerge5KRace>

Jane EngelRotarian, Adventurer, Sister and Friend

BolderBoulder 10K Race Volunteers



Our club will again be volunteering to assist with passing out drinks during the race. As in previous years our site will be the Mile 3 Aid station at 19th and Floral. The race is Memorial Day May 25th and volunteers are needed to arrive at 6:00am and we will finish around 11:00. If you haven't helped before, I would describe the event as high energy, a party, chaotic, perpetual motion, and fun. For each volunteer our club will receive a donation to our Club Foundation. Kellie Martindale and I will be running the station. All volunteers must register for the event which will give you the opportunity to also order your shirts for the event. The registration for our specific group (BoulderValley Rotary Club) is below. https://www.letsdothis.com/us/o/156050/checkout/ticket?eventId=265326&utm_source=reserved_entry&occurrenceId=21111173769&reservationCode=re_razvz9wtqoux

Thanks for supporting this event along with our club.

Jeff Strobel

Our Project for Rotary's EPIC Day of Service

2025 GLOBAL IMPACT
5 Continents
8 Countries
20 States
57 Districts
539 Clubs
613 Projects
6,557 Volunteers
\$151,197 Raised

PUT YOUR CLUBS ON THE MAP!



SAVE THE DATE **MAY 16, 2026** **PLAN YOUR PROJECT**



What if all 45,000 Rotary Clubs worldwide... all did any project they like... all on the same day? Imagine the...

IMPACT... 1.2 M Rotarians 🏆 plus community volunteers

REACH... build awareness 🏆 a membership magnet

ENGAGE... energize service 🏆 retain members

ADAPT... a new fundraising tool 🏆 top club did \$98,000



Sound like a Rotary Action Plan? It can help!
Unite for good on May 16, 2026 – or as near then as possible – to show the world what we can do.
Have Fun – Make a Difference – Be EPIC!



epicdayofservice.org

organized by Rotary Clubs for communities worldwide

Our project for Rotary's EPIC Day of Service is now live, and members can sign up to participate.

This year, we will be volunteering at the food bank at the Emergency Family Assistance Association (EFAA) in Boulder. During the project, volunteers will help sort, inspect, and organize approximately **20,000 pounds of donated food** so it can be prepared for distribution to local families experiencing food insecurity.

EFAA plays a vital role in the Boulder community by providing food, housing stabilization, and other essential services to individuals and families in need. By helping process these donations, our volunteers will directly support EFAA's ability to ensure that nutritious food reaches households that need it most.

No prior experience is required. Volunteers should be comfortable standing, lifting light to moderate boxes, and working as part of a team.

We hope you will join us for this meaningful day of service.

Sign up today to participate.

- <https://www.epicdayofservice.org/clubs/united-states-5450-boulder-valley/projects/sort-and-prepare-food-donations-at-ffa-b858cb282>

L'Shawn Howard

BV Rotary Upcoming Service Projects



Upcoming Service Projects

We have a lot of opportunities to support our local community with the upcoming service projects! Please bring friends and enjoy this time to work with fellow Rotarians. More information will be coming. If you have questions, contact the person listed.

Ongoing – Harvest of Hope Food Pantry – sign up on your own or with a few friends, see message from Andrea

May 3 – Rise Against Suicide 5k race support

May 10 – 9 am PLAY Boulder Tree planting at New Vista High School with students and their mothers, Caroline (will be part of Caroline's Canopy)

May 13- Epic Day of Service at EFAA (L'Shawn and Epic Day website to register)

May 16 – BCIS/High Peaks School – tree planting with PLAY Boulder and Caroline's Canopy, let Caroline know if you plan to attend

May 25 – Bolder Boulder Aide Station, 6 -11 am – Jeff

May 30 – The Family Learning Center – tree planting with PLAY Boulder and Caroline's Canopy

June 6 – Habitat for Humanity - our rescheduled work day for the Habitat MOD site is June 6, Saturday. The time is 9-3 and the location is 6500 Arapahoe. No construction experience is needed and any required tools will be provided. You must register to volunteer. Use the link: bloomerang.co This link will allow you to navigate the site, here are the steps: First choose individual volunteer, then choose MOD site April to June, Then scroll down to June 6 with the red line and click the box. It says Boulder Valley Rotary. You then will be sent to the page to complete your personal info including adding a photo of your drivers license. Once completed you can go back to the June 6 sign up day and click "add to cart". Within a minute or 2 you will get a confirmation of your volunteering for that day. Any questions direct to Jeff Strobel. Strobeljeff@gmail.com

June 15 – 19 – Autism Society Bike Camp is June 15 - 19. This camp is open to anyone who wants to learn to ride a bike with a focus on those who are more challenged. Just a note, the Autism Society is a small nonprofit with a part time director and no staff so they work with the *iCan Shine* nonprofit to put on the camp. Rex will have details of

what the volunteers are expected to do later. <https://icanshine.org/ican-bike-boulder-co/>- Contact Rex for questions and if interested.

June 26 – Planned Parenthood fundraising event support – *need 8 volunteers*, Diana

District 5450 Rotarians - *Great Networking Opportunities*



Dear District 5450 Rotarians - see below for great training/networking opportunities. All Zoom sessions will be recorded and posted on the [District website Training page](#).

Save the Date!

LEADERSHIP LAB

Saturday, May 2 | 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

Front Range Community College

WOMEN POWERING CHANGE

Thursday, May 7 | 4:00 to 7:00 pm

University Memorial Center, Boulder, CO

EPIC DAY OF SERVICE

Saturday, May 16 - is your club project registered?

GRANTS QUALIFICATION TRAINING

Saturday, May 30 | 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

SAVE THE DATE - registration will open soon

RI CONVENTION TAIPEI, TAIWAN

June 13-17, 2026

There's still time to register!

***** [CLICK HERE TO VIEW CLUB EVENTS!](#) *****

[JOIN OUR UPDATED FACEBOOK PAGE!!!](#)

Interested in becoming an event sponsor? [Click here for more info!](#)

Bev -

Beverly Mendel

District Operations Manager

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