



The Rotary Club of Boulder Valley - June 30, 2026

***Tuesday, June 30, at 12:00 Noon, we meet at the Great Dharma Chan Monastery at
6417 South Boulder Rd, Boulder, CO 80303***

Mark Burnett, Our President 2025 - 2026

Fellow Rotarians,

Knowing that I would be gone this week for YRYLA, I had this final message mostly written prior to my departure. In it, I was going to reflect on the joys and challenges I had being President of BVRC, and write about some of the achievements we shared this past year. However, as it does every year, my perspective on the world and life was changed by my experiences this past week — and I find myself wanting to close out my term with what camp taught me instead.

For me, the beginning of the week was rough. I was meeting my JC for the first time, and it took a bit for us to learn how to work together. However, that was solved after a few days, and the

relationship worked well for the rest of the week. (Note: John Kenyon attended camp on Monday and Tuesday and led a fantastic program on performing Simple Acts of Kindness.)

The group challenge was helping a bunch of middle schoolers develop into a team. Part of the challenge was dealing with a bunch of boys who wanted to do nothing more than run. This was exacerbated by the fact that, per the True Colors profile assessment, 60% of the team was Orange (think high-energy extrovert) and 40% was Blue (think caring introvert). This led to tension between one group that was dominating the conversation and the other that felt overlooked and ignored. There was also a battle between the Oranges over who would be the leader, which resulted in individuals creating and pursuing their own ideas rather than working together on a comprehensive plan. As you can imagine, the result was often chaotic and had limited success.

What turned it around wasn't a lecture or a rule — it was the JC quietly asking each of them what they actually wanted the group to accomplish, and then handing that question back to the group itself. By Wednesday, the same kids who couldn't agree on a huddle were running their own debrief and asking poignant questions about teamwork and engagement. Watching that shift reminded me that leadership often isn't about controlling a room; it's about patiently creating enough space for people to find their own way back to each other.

What could not be so easily resolved were some of the challenges that YRYLA participants deal with everyday outside of camp. Participants feeling that their parents' divorce was their fault. Students feeling ostracized and left out at school. People feeling bullied and harassed for every reason imaginable. Participants feeling pressure to perform from coaches, parents, teachers, and themselves, with failure resulting in perceived ridicule and self-disappointment. Sitting with a teenager while they talk through something like that isn't something you ever fully get used to, no matter how many years you've done this. These problems do not go away in a week of camp. But we can offer something real in that week: a cabin group that doesn't judge them, a counselor who actually listens, and the simple, novel experience of being surrounded by peers who are dealing with the same kinds of things they are. That alone seems to loosen something in a lot of these kids, even if it doesn't fix everything.

These challenges of home life came to a head this morning as we left camp: one of the campers did not have someone to pick them up. Everyone else was gone, but this camper remained. The camper called the responsible adult and asked where they were. The person on the other end said they thought the pickup day was Sunday. The camper told them it was actually Friday. The other person said no one had told them, to which the camper replied that they'd been told Friday was pickup day when they were dropped off the previous Sunday. Needless to say, a long wait was in store — and the camper handled the whole exchange with more patience than most adults could have mustered. It struck me afterward that this small, almost mundane mix-up was

its own quiet example of what so many of these kids carry: being the one who has to keep track, explain themselves, and wait, while the adults around them sort it out.

Hearing these stories just reminds me how fortunate I am, and how the support of YRYLA-RYLA, through both our time and our purses, can make a real difference in the challenging lives of today's youth. I personally want to thank you for your ongoing support.

And finally, I want to thank you for placing your support in me this past year. It has been a privilege to serve.

Mark Burnett



1 - John Kenyon at RYLA



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.

June 30, 5th Tuesday at the Great Dharma Chan Monastery



Greetings, Mr. Mione,

Thank you for your inquiry!

We would be absolutely delighted to host your group on **Tuesday, June 30, 2026**.

We have a lovely visit planned for you. Upon your arrival, we'll start with a **half-hour guided tour** of our grounds, followed by about **30 minutes for lunch**. Afterward, our **Abbot** would be happy to share the history and mission of our organization with you. If your group is interested, the Abbot can also lead a session on a **simple, accessible form of meditation**.

Regarding lunch, please keep in mind that we are a **vegetarian community (vegan, but dairy is ok)**. We kindly ask that any lunch or snacks your group brings along adhere to these dietary guidelines out of respect for our traditions.

We are looking forward to sharing our space and community with all of you. Please let us know if you have any questions or if there is anything specific we can do to make your visit more comfortable!

Warmly,

JianYong Shi

All,

*Our fifth Tuesday this month will be at the Great Dharma Chan Monastery at
6417 South Boulder Rd, Boulder, CO 80303*

vmione.morganfamilyfound.org@clubrunner.email

Rotary Taipei 2026









Yamagata Visitors for Fall, Potential Club Activity

I shared the following information with 12 club members in early June via email. I did not receive any responses from any of those recipients leaving me challenged as to how to proceed. After some reflection, I have decided to reach out from RI in Taiwan to add this edited version to our newsletter in case there are any club members who would like to participate.

A 34-person delegation from Yamagata City, Japan will visit Boulder from 9/28 to 10/1. The purpose of the visit will be to celebrate the Yamagata City/Boulder Sister City relationship. The last time this occurred in Boulder was in 2016. The delegation will consist of 14 governmental folks from various offices and 20 members from the greater Yamagata community. Among the visiting community members will be some members of the Yamagata North Rotary Club, our sister Rotary club. I will check with YNRC for more details about their participants in the near future.

Our Rotary club has been approached to help make this sister city visit a grand success. We are all proud of Boulder so it should be easy to contribute to the various events being planned or with adding new ideas (Ann and I have already raised our hands). Community service anyone?

One important event being planned is a “Home Visit” cultural experience for the visitors. Home Visit means that local Boulder folks will volunteer to host a “typical Boulder dinner” as the host wishes to define it. For instance: a vegetarian meal or a non-alcoholic evening or wild game meat from the west or a typical burger cookout or ?? This will be held on the evening of Sept. 30th . Depending on how many hosts can be recruited, each dinner will have from 3 to 5 visitors.

Home Visit hosts will also be recruited from around Boulder by word of mouth up to a total of 9 or 10 hosts. This will be a great opportunity for an enjoyable evening for all involved. It could even become a club activity of sorts, if several club hosts volunteer and later would like some planning support or participation support. No worries about language – Japanese often have some basic English language skills plus the GoogleTranslate app works well. And of course, gestures and smiles always work wonders.

The local organizer hopes that BVRC will invite the Japanese Rotarians and any other interested Japanese visitors to join our September 29 th Rotary meeting. That seems like a very logical action to take. Maybe we can think of a cool way to deliver an invitation to attend or maybe a specialized meeting agenda for that day??

Finally, if anyone wishes to lend a hand in the overall planning and prep process for the three-day visit, your efforts will be greatly appreciated by the local organizer, Eiko Kato. The more we can help, the more likely that the club will be mentioned in follow-up local news coverage. Plus we will pick up some great content for our website and social media including photos. I will respond via email sparrish80304@gmail.com (even from Taiwan) to anyone with questions or wanting to volunteer.

Thank you.

Steve Parrish

Installation Banquet Save the Date July 23!

Event Invitation

You are invited to the Installation Dinner for BVRC 26/27 Officers .



Please click on the link below to attend or decline. You can also book family and friends.

Event: Installation Dinner for BVRC 26/27 Officers

Date: Jul. 23, 2026 5:00 p.m. - Jul. 23, 2026 8:00 p.m.

Fee: no charge

Location: John/Maud Kenyons

615 Theresa Dr

Boulder, CO United States of America

80303 [View map](#)

Details:

Celebrate the past year and welcome the officers for the 2026/27 Rotary year with your fellow BVRC members.

- 5:00p Doors open
- 5:30p Appetizers
- 6:00p Dinner
- 6:45p Program

[Register or Decline](#)

Note that the link above has been specially coded with your login information .

Thank you

Rotary Club of Boulder Valley

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.

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](#)

[MOUNTAIN FOOTHILLS Andy Smith Sr Memorial Golf Tournament](#) | Monday, July 13, Shotgun Start 8:00 am | Hiwan Golf Club in Evergreen. Benefiting INSPIRE program (special needs children and adults) Resilience 1220 and Crutches 4 Africa.

[EVERGREEN ST BALDRICK'S FOUNDATION](#) | Evergreen Rotary is looking for fundraising teams to join us raising money for The St. Baldrick's Foundation, the largest private fundraiser in the U.S. for Children's Cancer Research.

[DENVER SOUTHEAST HOPS & GRAPES](#) Save the Date | Saturday, August 15 - 4:30 to 7:30 pm | Curtis Park in Greenwood Village | Live Music, Local Food & Drinks, Games for Kids, Pets Welcome | Tickets on Sale Soon

Support eClub One's meeting Make-Up Program - your contributions make a difference! Rotarians from any Rotary Club in the world are welcome to make-up for missed meetings at their own club by completing a make-up meeting with Rotary eClub One. Because eClub One is an internet-based club, funds generated through the Make-Up Program are the main fundraising source to support eClub One's service projects, which occur around the globe. To participate in online meeting make-ups, visit: <https://www.rotaryclubone.org/makeups/howtodoamakeup/>

[Summit County Bingo](#) | Second Monday 6:00 to 8:00 pm | The Pad, 491 Rainbow Drive, Silverthorne | % of bar sales and proceeds benefit rotating local non-profits.

[CLUB VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES](#) | View a grid listing of club service project volunteer opportunities. Help other clubs help their communities thrive!

[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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