

Rotary
District 6270



JUNE 2026 MAGAZINE



- first** Is it the **TRUTH**?
- second** Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- third** Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- fourth** Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

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Welcome to Rotary International District 6270

We serve 55 clubs in Southeastern Wisconsin, USA.

Our nearly 2,500 members represent
leaders from all walks of life.

Rotary District 6270 Leadership

Liz Nevitt

District 6270 Governor

Dawn Fiedler

District Governor-Elect

Harry Farchmin

District Governor-Nominee

Dean Danner

District Treasurer

Karlene Leatherman

District Secretary

Michael Phillips

District Rotary Foundation
Committee Chair

Rob Bassett & Gillian Leggett

District Membership
Committee Co-Chairs

Debra Duick

District Finance Committee Chair

Marta Carrión

District Learning Facilitator

Ted Gurzynski

Director-At-Large (Small Club)

Angelica Niemann

District Public Image Chair

Dana Kohlmeyer

District Administrative Assistant (Ex-Officio)



Learn more at
<https://rotary6270.org>



DEAR ROTARIANS

Rotary's theme for June is Rotary Fellowships. I have learned over the last couple of years that many of our members have no idea what Rotary Fellowships are. Well, they are groups of Rotarians who share a passion for a certain topic or activity. There are fellowships for people who love agriculture and farming, whiskey (known in other countries as "whisky") horse racing, and yachting. There are fellowships for Information Technology professionals, mental health practitioners, fitness and wellness and running. A link to all of the fellowships is available by clicking [HERE](#).

If you cannot find a topic that interests you, start your own fellowship! Often, at Rotary International Conventions, there are meetings of these fellowships and many of them have booths in the House of Friendship, so you can meet others who share your passions. Check them out!

There is so much to experience in Rotary. Although I have been a member since 1998, it seems like I learn something new at least every year. Rotary always remains current and relevant, regardless of how many years you have been a member. Especially during this year, I have found myself clicking on one thing after another while I've been looking for something on the Rotary International website. Before I knew it, hours had passed. I hope you try this one day soon – maybe when it's raining outside!

Continued on the next page

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This is my last message to you as the District Governor of D6270. I can't believe the year has gone this fast! I have met so many amazing people this year! Our clubs are all different and so wonderful. It goes to show that there is no single way to have a Rotary club. I encourage everyone to visit another club, either in our district or someplace where you are traveling. The ability to visit Rotary Clubs anywhere in the world is something I would never trade!

My grandfather served as District Governor here (it was D627 back then) almost 75 years ago. He would never have expected that one of his granddaughters would become a member of Rotary, let alone serve as its District Governor. I am confident that he would be proud. Soon, I will be able to wear his Past District Governor pin with pride!

Thank you so much for allowing me to serve as your District Governor since last July. It has truly been an honor. Yes, there have been times when I wasn't sure how I was going to get all my "real" work and all my Rotary work done, but those times were far outweighed by the joy I have experienced in serving our great District 6270! I encourage all of you to get more involved with Rotary. You never know where *your* Rotary journey may lead you!



In Service,

Liz Newitt

2025-26 Rotary District 6270 Governor



Inspired Vacations

For many of us, the spring/summer vacation season has begun. Amazing local, national, and/or international travels await. Traveling opens our eyes to amazing cultures and pressing community needs, sparking innovative ideas and a renewed passion for Rotary's core mission of "service above self."

This issue of our magazine highlights: Ray Robinson of the Mequon-Milwaukee Diversity Passport Rotary Club as he shares how a family vacation to Mérida, Mexico, resulted in an impactful club service opportunity; and Sue Hebner of the Rotary Club of Mitchell Field as she shares how a planned vacation to Japan inspired peacebuilding Rotary service projects in her hometown of South Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

In Service,

Reggie Parks

Dr. Reggie Parks
Rotary District 6270 Magazine Editor

Letter from the Editor

If you would like to submit content for consideration, please email: magazine@rotary6270.org on or before the 5th of each month.



Rotary Who We Are



[Click HERE for a short video about Rotary.](#)

**I'M A
PROUD
MEMBER!**



rotary.org

**I'M A
PROUD
MEMBER!**



rotary.org

**I'M A
PROUD
MEMBER!**



rotary.org

ROTARY CLUB SPOTLIGHT



SERVICE SHINES IN BURLINGTON, WISCONSIN

The Rotary Club of Burlington has had an exciting and impactful year, continuing our strong commitment to "Service Above Self."

We were proud to celebrate our 100th Anniversary by recognizing individuals who have made a lasting difference in the Burlington community.

We continue to financially invest directly in local organizations through our very effective community grant program.

Join us! Meetings Mondays at Noon at the Veterans Terrace.



A Rock in the Community

From celebrating our history to supporting today's needs and honoring those who lead with service, the Burlington Rotary Club remains dedicated to strengthening our community and creating lasting impact.

Building Opportunity in Mérida



One Trip At-A-Time



Rotary 

By Ray Robinson
Mequon-Milwaukee Diversity
Passport Rotary Club

I recently traveled to Mérida, Mexico, with my young daughter, hoping for a memorable vacation.



Mequon-Milwaukee Diversity Passport Rotary Club members unveil a new computer lab in Mérida, Mexico.

I also hoped for a chance to connect with a local Rotary club. Before leaving, I reached out to the Mérida English Rotary Club and was warmly welcomed by member Liz Gassimi—an introduction that sparked a meaningful friendship and a powerful service partnership.

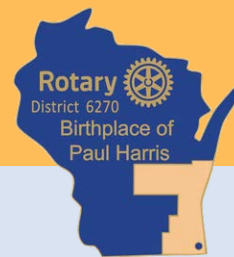
My daughter and I joined Liz and other local Rotarians for a visit to the Nueva Vida Center for Childhood Development, which “provides care and an educational base for children from two-to-14 years of age in a safe, healthy, and loving environment.”

During the visit, I noticed that the computers used for tutoring were extremely outdated—many no longer working at all. Upon my return home, I shared my experience and observations with my club and proposed a simple but impactful idea: help Nueva Vida upgrade its computer lab. The club was extremely supportive and encouraging. Through mostly small individual gifts, we raised more than **\$5,000** to purchase 10 Chromebooks, 2 laptops, and a printer for the center.

In March 2026, a group from our club returned to Mérida to unveil the new lab. We spent the day setting up equipment, learning to make panuchos, and celebrating with the families. But the ribbon-cutting moment was unforgettable. Standing in that room—knowing every computer came from people who simply gave \$25—was deeply moving. The gratitude and joy expressed by the children and parents said everything. I am amazed at how one vacation turned into a service opportunity that positively impacts a whole community.

**“Through mostly small individual gifts,
we raised more than \$5,000...” —Ray Robinson**

My Vacation



at the International House of Peace



By Sue Hebner
Rotary Club of Mitchell Field

My belief in Rotary's mission of peace led me to travel to Japan to experience a unique cultural phenomenon.



The International House of Peace promotes cultural exchange and global peace.

The International House of Peace, located in Japan, on the quiet, rural island of Osakikamijima, was born from the idea of creating peace in ourselves and within the world. The hosts, Steve and Noko Yoshida, believe that peace starts with sitting still and reflecting on who you are and why you want peace. Next, guests are guided toward creating friendships with people who live in the spirit of peace and interacting with them one-on-one.

Guests meet the wonderful people of Japan that contribute to the country's peace culture and enjoy an environment that is extraordinarily safe and clean.

Activities on the island vary by season. They may include viewing cherry blossoms, participating in a local neighborhood service project, listening to students practice taiko drumming, visiting an onsen (a hot springs bathing experience with a spectacular view of the Seto Inland Sea), digging for clams; and touring local businesses like a traditional soy sauce manufacturer, a fruit grower, or a Shitake mushroom farm.

The conversations. The silence. The sightseeing. The reflection. I left Japan with a solid plan to implement peacebuilding Rotary service projects in my home community of South Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

I found a renewed sense of contentment and joy and an elevated cultural perspective that strengthened my commitment to advancing Rotary's global mission of peace and goodwill.



"...peace starts with sitting still and reflecting on who you are and why you want peace." —Sue Hebner

ROTARY DISTRICT 6270 FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE

10 district Rotarians are excited to travel to Vilnius, Lithuania, from September 1 to 10, 2026, for our outbound 2026 Rotary Friendship Exchange. Other cities visited will include: Trakai, Palanga, and Šiauliai.



Please contact Randy Helbach, District Friendship Exchange Chair, with any questions by email at: randyhelbach@hotmail.com.

ROTARY DISTRICT 6270 GLOBAL GRANTS

Rotary Global Grants support large long-term international activities with sustainable, measurable outcomes. To apply for a Global Grant, a Rotary Club needs to send two members to the Annual Global Grant Training.

This year, the training will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM via Zoom. Participants must register in advance by clicking [HERE](#).

Please contact John Hein, District 6270 International Service Chair, with any questions by email at: johnhein.rotary@gmail.com.

ROTARY DISTRICT 6270 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Rotary District 6270 will be held on Thursday, May 21, 2026, from 6:30 PM until 8:00 PM, via Zoom. The Annual Meeting is held as a forum for clubs to collectively make decisions that affect district operations.

Please contact Liz Nevitt, District Governor, liz.nevitt@rotary6270.org, Karlene Leatherman, District Secretary, secretary@rotary6270.org, or Dana Kohlmeyer, Administrative Assistant, dana.kohlmeyer@rotary6270.org, with any questions.

ROTARY DISTRICT 6270 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Rotary members are experts at making connections and serving communities. Toastmasters members use their state-of-the-art curriculum and club environment to hone their leadership and communication skills.

Rotary, Rotaract, and Toastmasters members can collaborate in a number of ways to increase their impact. Click [**HERE**](#) to see how you, and your club, can benefit from the Rotary/Toastmasters Alliance.

ROTARY DISTRICT 6270 POLIOPLUS UPDATE

The results are in for April 2026 Year-To-Date PolioPlus giving total. We are up over **\$36,000** compared to this time last year.

Thank you to everyone for contributing to our successful fundraising work.

ROTARY DISTRICT 6270 ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Rotary District 6270 will celebrate the accomplishments of the 2025-26 Rotary year under the leadership of District Governor Liz Nevitt and look ahead to 2026-27 with Dawn Fiedler as our new District Governor on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, at the Chandelier Ballroom, located in Hartford, WI.



ROTARY DISTRICT 6270 CLUB LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Rotary District 6270 held its annual Club Leadership Summit on May 16, 2026. Club leaders from 27 of our districts 54 clubs gathered to share ideas, sharpen skills, and prepare for the upcoming 2026-27 Rotary year.



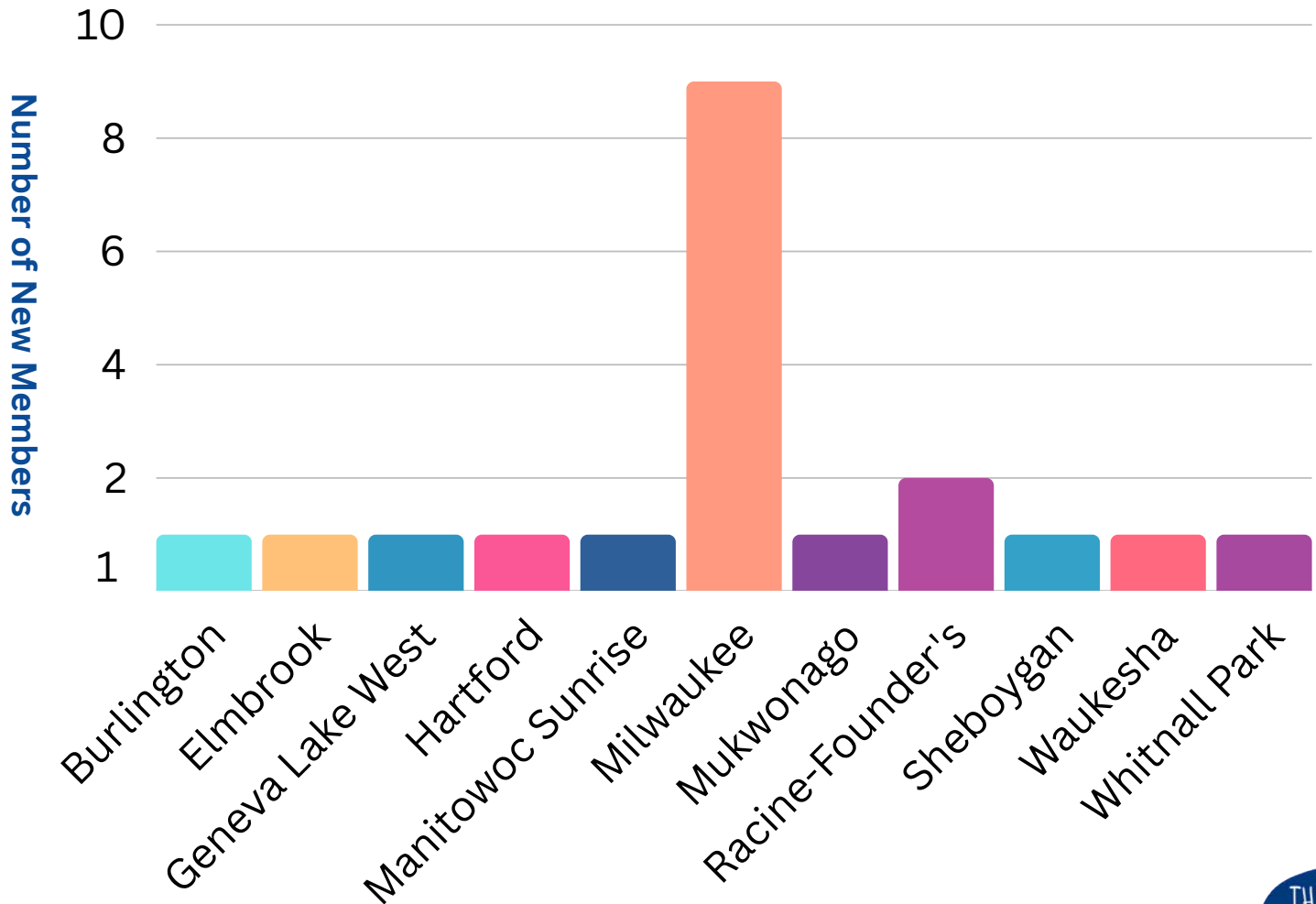
Targeted workshops for Assistant Governors, Membership Chairs, Public Image and Service Project leaders, Secretaries, and Treasurers gave participants a chance to learn from each other and build enthusiasm for the work ahead!



April 2026

New Membership Count

The clubs listed below welcomed new members
in the month of April 2026:



GLOBAL GRANT PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Providing Education, Diagnosis, and Treatment in the “Rest of the World”

THE GLOBAL EPILEPSY TREATMENT GAP

Epilepsy affects an estimated 65 million people worldwide — and 80% live in low- and middle-income countries, where 75% cannot access treatment. The stigma is devastating: people with epilepsy face fear, exclusion, and barriers to education and employment. Yet up to 70% of cases could be controlled with the right diagnosis and medication.

ROW Global Health is a U.S. 501(c)(3) public charity and Rotary organizational member dedicated to closing this gap. Their model trains community health workers (CHWs), reduces stigma through education, and delivers anti-seizure medication to those who need it most. Prior Rotary Global Grant projects have proven that the model works (Watch: [Change in Zambia: Education Transforms a Community's Response to Epilepsy](#)). Now ROW and partner Rotary clubs are seeking funding partners for three new 2026 grants.



THREE 2026 GLOBAL GRANT PROJECTS SEEKING CLUB PARTNERS

Kenya



Lead Club: Rotary Club of Howard West, Maryland

Host Club: Rotary Club of Malindi, Kenya

Kenya has ~1 million people with epilepsy — 2% of the population — and studies show people with epilepsy are **6x more likely to die** than the general population. Partners FPE Kenya and Kiserem Epilepsy Foundation will run education programs; ROW will provide anti-seizure medication.

[View Project Profile →](#)

Zambia



Lead Club: Sunrise Rotary Club, Naperville, IL

Host Club: Mfuwe Rotary Club, Zambia

Building on the proven first grant, this project expands to the remote **southern Mambwe District** — where **90%+ of people with epilepsy face isolation**, and only 15% of adult patients report employment. CHWs will survey 3,500+ households and bring education to 19 schools.

[View Project Profile →](#)

Ethiopia



Lead Club: Forest Lake Rotary Club, Minnesota

Host Club: Rotary Club of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Ethiopia has **3 million people with epilepsy** and a treatment gap exceeding **95%**. Stigma and cultural beliefs are often more disabling than the seizures themselves. CareEpilepsy will provide clinical care, EEG, medication, and mental health support.

[View Project Profile →](#)

HOW YOUR CLUB CAN PARTNER

Rotary Global Grants can scale impact quickly when many clubs contribute. Your participation provides your club with a direct connection to a meaningful, measurable global health project that changes lives. If you're interested in getting involved — or partnering with ROW Global Health to lead your own global grant project — contact Jeremy Gudauskas: jeremy.gudauskas@rowglobal.org or 630.234.4126.

Rotary 

 TAIPEI
2026



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

TAIPEI, TAIWAN | 13-17 JUNE 2026



Register today at convention.rotary.org.



Elmbrook Rotary Club members are pictured in Guatemala providing humanitarian support.

The Elmbrook Rotary Club provided humanitarian support to Guatemalan communities in February 2026.

The club partnered with Common Hope, an organization that specializes in improving housing, health, nutrition and family services to create environments that help children stay in school rather than work in agriculture.

The partnership has resulted in nearly 3,500 high school graduates, and a much higher rate of high school completion than in the general population.



The Rotary Club of Cedarburg-Grafton partnered with local high school students in the Global Scholars program and hosted “Walk 4 Water,” a four mile walk on Saturday, May 16, 2026, to raise awareness for the global water crisis.



According to the World Health Organization, approximately 2 billion people worldwide do not have access to clean drinking water.



The Rotary Club of Milwaukee has named Mary McCormick its 2026 Rotary Person of the Year, recognizing the retiring executive director whose 25-year tenure transformed the 370-member organization into one of the most active and innovative Rotary clubs in the country.

Mary will be honored this year as Rotary Person of the Year, a distinction reserved for leaders who demonstrate exceptional professional achievement and a commitment to "Service Above Self."

You are invited to watch the Rotary Club of Milwaukee's awards presentation by clicking [HERE](#).




Mary is pictured with Kent Lovern and Saj Thachenkary of the Milwaukee Rotary Club. Photo by Kristine Hinrichs Photography.

SERVICE TO FELLOW ROTARIANS THROUGH BUSINESS SUPPORT.

Rotary Means Business encourages Rotarians to support the success of their fellow Rotarians by doing business with them, and by referring others to them.

It is the fellowship that takes Rotary back to its business roots. Stay tuned for more information about District 6270's support of this fellowship.

Rotary  **RMB** **ROTARY MEANS BUSINESS FELLOWSHIP**

ROTARY MEANS BUSINESS Fellowship

A Networking Fellowship for Rotarians & Friends

- ✓ Building Relationships to grow your business
- ✓ Encourage Rotarians to Support other Rotarians
- ✓ Find new vendors & customers to grow your business
- ✓ Create a network that shares the ethics of Rotary
- ✓ Network, Learn and Grow



The Milwaukee North Sunrise Rotary Club partnered with MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary to provide a series of re-entry workshops to support formerly incarcerated Black men in Milwaukee.

Over the course of 15 workshops, participants focused on re-entry resources, personal empowerment, and community reintegration.

This project was partially funded through a **\$1,700** grant from Rotary District 6270.



Kenosha Rotary Club member Fran Wargolet, who is an ambassador for Rotary partner ShelterBox, invites all district Rotarians to participate in the upcoming Adventurers Yosemite Trek, scheduled for August 7-10, 2026.



The Trek is an unforgettable four-day experience moving through Yosemite National Park that raises funds to provide shelter and hope to families displaced by disaster and conflict.

For more information, click [HERE](#).

WEST BEND SUNRISE ROTARY

PARTY *in the* PARK

MAY 30, 2026

REGNER PARK, WEST BEND, WI
12 P.M. - 9 P.M.

LIVE MUSIC • FOOD • DRINKS • RAFFLE
PRIZES • FUN • GAMES • DANCING



West Bend
Sunrise



All proceeds will be used to support causes locally, nationally, and internationally.



John Rehman

THE ROTARY CLUB OF MITCHELL FIELD

FOOD TRUCKS & JAZZ



FREE
ADMISSION



SUNDAY JUNE 7TH 11AM - 6PM
MILTON VRETENAR MEMORIAL PARK

4230 S KIRKWOOD AVE, ST FRANCIS

THREE GREAT
MILWAUKEE
JAZZ BANDS



11A TO 1P



1P TO 3P



3P TO 5P



FLOWER POT PAINTING FOR THE KIDS!
FROM 11A TO 3P BUY A POT FOR \$6.
PAINTS, BRUSHES & FLOWER INCLUDED!



PLUS A BOUNCE HOUSE
AND FACE PAINTING!



BEER AND SODA SALES BENEFIT LOCAL CHARITABLE
PROJECTS AND ROTARY INTERNATIONAL'S **END POLIO NOW**

PLEASE SUPPORT LOCAL JAZZ!



Mequon-Milwaukee
Rotary
 Diversity Passport Club
 Presents



13
 JUNE
 2026

GLOBAL FUSION

Rock your best 80s & 90s attire!



Summer Of 85

2213 N M.L.K. Jr Dr, Milwaukee, WI 53212

2:00PM-5:00PM

Ticket in Advance: \$40

Includes variety of ethnic food,
 non-alcoholic beverages,
 entertainment, access to silent auction



Scan QR code below
 to purchase tickets

All proceeds benefit our college scholarship program for students in the Mequon-Milwaukee school districts.

Presenting Sponsor



For more information contact
 Zoredua at 414-794-9461.



AWARDED OVER \$30K IN SCHOLARSHIPS



World Affairs Seminar **2026**

Uniting for Peace

What happens at WAS?

World Affairs Seminar is a residential camp held at Carroll University, WI, where delegates are introduced to people, organizations, and ideas that address the challenges of building a peaceful world.

Delegates embrace a holistic and inclusive understanding of peacebuilding on global, national, and local issues focusing on equity and justice. Delegates learn to translate these ideas into action.

Who should attend WAS?

- High school students 14-18 years old in good academic standing.
- Young people who want to build a strong college portfolio and be future change agents for peace on local and global issues.

Interested in participating?

Share this flyer with parents, guidance counselors, teachers and your principal. Local organizations like Rotary or Kiwanis Clubs sponsor many students and may support your attendance.

Saturday, June 20 - Friday, June 26, 2026

For more information,
please visit or scan the QR code:
www.WorldAffairsSeminar.org/WAS2026



Hartford
Rotary
Club



HARTFORD ROTARY RIVER RIDE
2026



HARTFORD ROTARY RIVER RIDE
2026

BIG WHEEL RIDE

Fun for Kids - Part of the River Ride



FREE for Kids Ages 4-10

🕒 June 27th, 2026

11 AM - 1 PM

📍 Centennial Park,

Hartford WI



Oshkosh Southwest
Rotary
Club



Flying Rotarians Picnic & Rotary Meeting

Monday • July 20 • 12noon-1:30pm

Join Rotarians from all over the world for a Wisconsin-style Rotary meeting & picnic!

For 39 years, the Rotary clubs of Oshkosh have welcomed Rotarians from all reaches of the globe who come to Oshkosh for the dramatic EAA AirVenture aviation convention. We invite you to be among local Rotarians and visitors from around the world to share camaraderie, a Wisconsin picnic, and a presentation by a fascinating aviation-related speaker.

Where

EAA Nature Center Pavilion • 1157 Galatin Ave • Oshkosh

Speakers & Topic

Joanna Weitzel - LightHawk Conservation Flying



LightHawk is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to conservation flying. They collaborate with partners to design flight campaigns that drive conservation impact, support education, and enhance outreach. Thanks to the generosity of volunteer pilots and donors, LightHawk provide these flights at no cost to our partners.

LightHawk exists because aviation has a profound impact on conservation. They recognize that preserving biodiversity, ensuring climate resilience, and protecting future generations require critical conservation efforts. Since aviation resources are often cost-prohibitive, they provide scientists, conservation groups, media, and other stakeholders with aerial access to enhance their work.

Meal (approx. \$22)

Hamburgers • Wisconsin bratwurst • Corn on the cob • Potato salad • Baked beans • Potato chips • Soda & water • Cake

Driving Access & Parking - 2026

Pre-distributed (free) parking passes will be **REQUIRED** this year. **SIGN-UP so we know to whom to distribute the passes.**

Registration: **REQUIRED by 7/13** - so we can pre-distribute parking passes and get catering counts

<https://forms.gle/TXJNk2zgreKMNwHH6>

Full details: (speaker, price, menu, parking, directions, etc. will be updated as information evolves)

<https://www.oshkoshrotarysouthwest.org/event-info/flying-rotarians-picnic>

No EAA convention wristband required.

To SIGN UP and obtain parking pass →



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The June 2026

Rotary District 6270

Member Spotlight Shines Upon:

RANDY HELBACH

Attorney Randy Helbach joined Rotary in 2010 while an active duty member of the United States Air Force and stationed in Iceland. Upon returning to the United States, Randy joined the Rotary Club of Hartland-Lake Country in 2015.

Randy's time spent traveling the world while serving in the U.S. Air Force made him a natural choice to serve as our district's Rotary Friendship Exchange chairperson. He has led very memorable trips to India, Tanzania, and a host of other locations.

Randy is working to inspire the next generation of Rotarians to lead the way with new cultural experiences, ideas, and perspectives to add to Rotary's legacy and positive impact in our district, country, and world.



Randy Helbach



Randy is pictured enjoying his fishing hobby and spending time with his girlfriend Mary, who joins him in all of his Rotary escapades!

Rotary Recipe

Garlic Parmesan Shrimp

INGREDIENTS

- Nonstick cooking spray
- 1 cup dry bread crumbs
- 1 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- 2 tablespoons dried parsley
- 1 ½ teaspoons garlic powder
- 1 pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 2 tablespoons butter, melted, or more to taste



DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Spray a 9x13-inch glass casserole dish with nonstick cooking spray.
2. Combine bread crumbs, Parmesan cheese, parsley, and garlic powder in a large resealable plastic bag. Seal and shake to mix ingredients together. Add shrimp and shake to coat.
3. Lay shrimp flat in the prepared baking dish. Sprinkle with any bread crumb mixture remaining in the bag. Drizzle melted butter over the top.
4. Bake in the preheated oven until starting to crisp, 15 to 20 minutes. Switch to broil setting until topping is light brown, 2 to 3 minutes. Serve warm.

We hope that you enjoyed the June 2026 issue
of the Rotary District 6270 Magazine!