



Rotary Club of Coeur d'Alene



BULLETIN 02/06/2026

NEXT MEETING February 13, 2026

Erin Mckindree-Assistant Park Manager · Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

PLEASE RSVP FOR HEADCOUNT

Presided.....PRESIDENT JOHN YOUNG

Invocation.....MARIE PRICE

Greeter.....

Sergeant at Arms.....JOHN BEUTLER

GUESTS

We had one visiting Rotarian here today:

Whitney Morgan	Boise Centennial
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We also had the following guests:

Michelle Newby	Mark Olson
Joe and Sherrie Sommers	Mark Olson
Marita Diffenbaugh	Mark Olson
Rosa Mettler	Vanessa Moos

Speakers

Club Leaders



[K. John Young](#)
President



[Ann Thomas](#)
President -Elect



[Rebecca Eyman](#)
Club Director
Secretary



[Brian C. Shull](#)
Treasurer



[Caiti Bobbitt](#)
Public Relations Chair



[Mark Botterbusch](#)
Club Director

[Sue Crenshaw](#)
Club Director

Brad Corkill*	Nick Swayne
Wes Fenn	Jan Strauch
Jen Snow	Kristi Rietze
Mary Everett	Marie Price
Zoe Brunelle	Bill Pfinsgraff
Emma Hoagland	Bill Pfinsgraff

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rotary New Member Orientation!

When: Wednesday, February 18, 2026, from 5:30-7:30 pm

Where: Canopy Village (formerly Children's Village) Family Support Center

1318 West Hanley Ave
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815

This is a great opportunity to receive information about Rotary, both locally and internationally. Also, attending orientation is one of the activities for new members to complete as part of the New Member Time Table. Please RSVP by Wednesday, February 11, 2026, by emailing rebecca@cwelp.com. All club members are welcome to join us. The more, the merrier! Dinner and beverages will be provided. All you need to bring is yourself! We encourage new member sponsors to attend with new members.

St. Patty's Day in Rotary Park!

Join fellow club members on March 14th after the St. Patty's Day Parade on Sherman Ave.
More to come!

LES and JANET ATCHLEY were presented with the STAR Award for all of their support of the Veterans Committee.

BIRTHDAYS

Feb 6 – Sam Hunter

Feb 6 – Joe Righello

PROGRAM

Linda Olson introduced John Shovic of the University of Idaho Robotics Lab.

Dr. Shovic is a nationally recognized leader in applied artificial intelligence, robotics, manufacturing, and cybersecurity, combining deep technical expertise with extensive entrepreneurial and industry experience. He has founded or led seven high-technology companies across sectors including cybersecurity, manufacturing, medical software, wastewater treatment, and financial services, before returning to academia to focus on regional economic and workforce impact.

At the University of Idaho's Center for Intelligent Industrial Robotics in Coeur d'Alene, Dr. Shovic leads world-class research in physical AI—AI systems that interact directly with the real world—along with precision agriculture, advanced manufacturing, and industrial automation. The Center develops cutting-edge technologies locally, including autonomous agricultural robots, collaborative and industrial robotic systems, AI-driven manufacturing optimization, and predictive maintenance solutions that have delivered significant ROI for industry partners.



Joseph Deacon
Club Director



Ian Hicks
Club Director
International Service
Chair



Kiki Miller
Club Director



Emily Moses
Club Director



Mahlon Priest
Club Director



Britt Towery
Bulletin Editor



Jennifer W Wood
Webmaster
Club Director



Chris L. Cheeley
Sergeant-at-Arms



Hank Martin
Rotary Foundation
Chair



Katherine Monroe
Membership Chair



Carla L Cicero
International Service
Chair



Stephen Childers
Youth Protection
Officer



Ashley Lenz
iPast President



The Center has a substantial community and workforce impact, supporting 14 PhD students, multiple research scientists, and dozens of undergraduate researchers through a unique and highly integrated partnership with North Idaho College (NIC). This collaboration enables students to complete associate, bachelor's, master's, and PhD degrees entirely in Coeur d'Alene, creating a strong local talent pipeline. Graduates are overwhelmingly employed within the region, directly supporting local manufacturing, technology, and industrial firms.

Strong industry partnerships—including Idaho Forest Group, Amalgamated Sugar, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, and others—have resulted in millions of dollars in investment, real-world deployments of AI systems, and measurable productivity gains. New workforce-focused programs, such as robotic machine tending and lights-out manufacturing, further align education with regional labor market needs.

Overall, Dr. Shovic's work positions Coeur d'Alene as a hidden but emerging hub for world-class AI, robotics, and manufacturing innovation, delivering tangible economic, educational, and community benefits while addressing critical workforce shortages in automation and artificial intelligence.

FEBRUARY PROGRAMS

2/20 Rose Backs and her daughters- Life of an Auctioneer

2/27 MOM Talks- David McGlasson /Susan Schuler

In Service,

BRITT TOWERY

