



AUGUST - AROUND THE DISTRICT

We always need to think of recruiting new members into Rotary. With August being 'Membership and New Club Development' month, we should be incentivized to do this with renewed effort. Bringing new members into your club will give it new energy, new ideas, and new life. A club will always lose members due to career changes, relocations, family issues, financial strife, and, unfortunately, death. Without an influx of new members, a club will wither away and die. Since 2011, our District has lost eleven clubs with the formation of only a satellite club during that same period. Data from Rotary International indicates that most growth comes from the formation of new clubs.

Speaking of satellite clubs, the Rotary Satellite Club of Cumberland Impact was chartered on June 12. This club is an extension of the Rotary Club of Barron County Sunrise in Wisconsin. Congratulations to everyone involved in the creation of this satellite club.

RI encourages clubs to be innovative. You can change meeting times and locations, including mixing things up each month. Create your own Satellite Club. Consider forming a Rotaract Club in your community. The more hands that we have, the more we can Expand Our Reach and Increase Our Impact. Let's grow Rotary in 5960!

Consider sponsoring a student for a Long-Term Youth Exchange. The application deadline is November 15 for the 2026-27 school year. More information can be found on the [North Star Youth Exchange website](#). Also, consider hosting an inbound student. The exchange is a life-changing experience for the students. The program also positively impacts the adults that work with these students.

Rotary Foundation Team Update

Events





Here's the latest on how District 5960 is working to grow [The Rotary Foundation](#) impact—locally and globally:

Annual Share Fund

- Foundation Coaches are continuing to connect with clubs to share the impact of your donations.
- We're encouraging all members to consider **Rotary Direct**—just **\$10/month** makes a difference. [LINK](#)
- This November (Foundation Month), we're planning **3–4 casual Pub Foundation Celebration events** across the district. These are geared toward younger Rotarians and those who enjoy socializing but may not yet be Foundation contributors.
- Looking ahead, we're considering a more formal celebration in **2026**, potentially tied to the Conference of Clubs.

PolioPlus

- In **September**, we'll be asking clubs to plan a **fun and engaging Polio event** for World Polio Day in October. [LINK](#)
- We're also looking to **build leadership** around Polio efforts in the district—please reach out to [Margie Horning](#) if interested.

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Empowering Change: LIFT Program Expands Opportunities in Nicaragua

Building Stronger Communities through Agriculture, Leadership, and Dreams



During the second quarter, the LIFT program in the communities of **Granada and Nandaime, Nicaragua** focused on strengthening both the **productive and social capacities** of participating farmers. Through field visits and direct engagement, the program emphasized three main priorities:

1. Supporting the early stages of **turmeric planting**, addressing progress and challenges.
2. Identifying new forms of **support and tools**—including microcredit options and resources to improve fieldwork.
3. Promoting **diversification and leadership**, with a strong emphasis on women's roles in driving community change.

A key highlight this quarter has been the **strengthening of community bonds** among farmers. What was once individual work has become collaborative, with producers embracing shared goals around diversification—not only for self-sufficiency but also for **future commercialization**.

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Camp Enterprise: Entrepreneurship. Leadership. Business Ethics.



In-Person Camp – November 6–8, 2025

Location: True Friends – Camp Courage, Maple Lake, MN

www.campenterprise.org

Camp Enterprise is a three-day immersive experience in entrepreneurship, leadership, and business ethics designed for **high school students** across Rotary Districts 5950 and 5960. Founded in the late 1970s by the Rotary Club of Alexandria, the program grew under the leadership of the Rotary Club of Edina, which has now partnered with the Edina Morningside Rotary Club to make Camp Enterprise a signature annual event.

From its earliest days, Camp Enterprise has focused on preparing the next generation of leaders by engaging students in interactive workshops, real-world business simulations, team projects, and discussions with local entrepreneurs and civic leaders. The camp continues to be held at True Friends – Camp Courage in Maple Lake, MN—the same location as the very first session.

A Legacy of Leadership

The success of Camp Enterprise is a testament to the vision of Rotarians like John Lervick (Alexandria), Dan Hallberg, and Dennis Hykes (Edina), who recognized the unique alignment between Rotary's mission and the goals of the camp. Since 1992, the Edina and Edina Morningside clubs have jointly led the program, with the support of more than 60 Rotary Clubs across the districts.

Nearly 100 Rotarians volunteer annually to guide and mentor students through a packed agenda that includes:

- Small group discussions
- Business-focused simulations
- Leadership activities
- Keynote addresses from business and civic leaders

- Fireside chats, recreational activities, and networking

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19th Annual Community Forum



Roseville, St. Paul, and City of Lakes Rotary Clubs proudly sponsors the Annual Community Forum, a signature service event open to all community members. Each year, this forum brings Rotarians and the public together to explore timely and important topics shaping our world.

This year's forum is titled “**Making Sense of AI: Risks, Rewards, and Responsible Use**” and will examine how artificial intelligence is influencing decision-making, communication, and innovation across sectors. Four distinguished panelists will discuss how to evaluate new technologies responsibly, and ways to identify credible sources of AI information.

Details:

Date: Tuesday, September 16, 2025

[Base Camp, 201 Bloomington Road, Fort Snelling, MN 55111](#)

In-person registration includes sandwiches & accompaniments; tickets are \$30/person before September 12.

(Late Registration: \$45 after Sept. 12th and walk-ins)

Virtual Registration via Zoom is an option. Tickets are \$15/person. Zoom links will be sent closer to the event.

Agenda:

4:15 PM – Pre-Forum Workshop with Becky Amble, AI Business Growth Specialist

5:30 PM – Lite meal served (sandwiches and accompaniments – in-person only)

6:00 PM – Forum Begins

Panelists: Nicholas Kremer, Marcella de la Torre, Blake Howald

Moderator: Jeff Ondich

Register here <https://registrations.dacdb.com/Register/index.cfm?EventID=77852417&NoCaptcha>

Planning Ahead for Recognizing Literacy in September



District Literacy Team

The District Literacy Team encourages all of our clubs to take some time in the month of September to recognize our efforts to enhance literacy in our communities and across the globe. This is a good time to highlight your club's literacy project focusing on how to advance your goals. Alternatively, you can use a club meeting to:

- **Connect with your local school district. Recognize a teacher or a Reading Specialist or invite an administrator to speak.**
- Connect with your local library. Ask about programs we can support or invite a librarian to speak.
- **Connect with another club and invite them to feature their work in literacy.**
- Connect with a global grant project that focuses on literacy.

Use this month of connection and recognition to springboard into a year of activity supporting the much-needed work of improving literacy in our youth and the broader community. For additional speaker suggestions, you may reference the District's Literacy webpage ([click here](#)) or drop the District Team Lead, David Waldschmidt, an email at dwaldsch42@gmail.com.

[Read More](#)