



What is red and spotted and has 540,000 legs?

Answer: 90,000 pest-eating ladybugs that groups of children help release in the Mall of America's Nickelodeon Universe each year. The ladybugs act as a natural pesticide on the park's plants by feasting on common pests such as aphids. The 30,000+ plants and 400 live trees also act as a natural air purifier.

This is just one of the many ways that the Mall of America is committed to green design.



ANNOUNCEMENT—\$100 MOA GIFT CARD DRAWING

On July 15th, we will draw the name of one lucky winner of a \$100 MOA gift card *good at any shop or restaurant in the Mall of America!* Everyone who is

REGISTERED and PAID IN FULL by the July 15th Early Bird deadline will be entered into the drawing!

Note: If you paid the \$75 pre-registered fee, you must complete your registration and pay the appropriate full registration fee (less the \$75 that you have already paid) prior to July 15th.

Follow the North Star Institute on Social Media

We are now on Instagram and LinkedIn with Facebook to follow soon. If you have an account on these sites, just search for **rotary25b29institute** or



click on the links on the right.



Thank you to our Diamond Sponsor

Rotary
District 5950



Issue #7—May 2022

Rotary
Zones 25B & 29

IMPORTANT DATES

September 15-18, 2022

North Star Zone in
Bloomington, Minnesota

July 15, 2022

Last day for Early Bird prices

August 17, 2022

Last day for special hotel rates

USEFUL LINKS

**Institute website/
registration—** <https://zones25b-29.org/sitepage/2022-zone-institute>

Hotel reservation— [Rotary Zone 25 and 29— Radisson Blu Mall of America](https://www.rotary.org/Zone25and29/RadissonBluMallofAmerica)

Mall of America video -
<https://youtu.be/NCIbAV1DipY>

Radisson Blu Video -
<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/697547491>

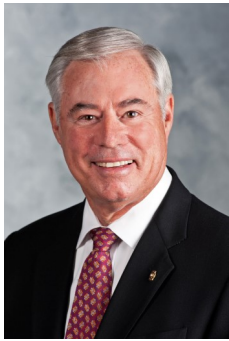
RIDE Pat's Invitation—
<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/697547491>

Nickelodeon Universe—
<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/705787057>

Sponsorship Packages—
<https://bit.ly/3soBzAP>

Instagram— <https://instagram.com/rotary25b29institute>

LinkedIn - <https://www.linkedin.com/company/rotary25b29institute>



We are very pleased to have **GREG PODD, Trustee of The Rotary Foundation and Past Vice President of Rotary International** joining us for the North Star Zone. Greg is an excellent speaker and a very approachable guy.

Greg is a retired CPA with his own practice. He also taught classes as a Guest professor at Arizona State University in the Master of Taxation program.

A Rotarian since 1982, Greg is a member of the Rotary Club of Evergreen, CO, USA. He has served in numerous capacities for both Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation., including a six-year term as a member of the Rotary International Investment Committee and a three-year term as the Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator for Zone 27. Greg also served as a Rotary Foundation Major Gifts Advisor where he established his District's Million Dollar Dinner raising over \$3,100,000 for the Rotary Foundation in one night. Greg is the recipient of the Service Above Self Award and The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service. Greg and his wife Pam have been married for 47 years, and have three beautiful children—Kyle (Jessi), Melanie (Matt) and Bryan—and four very special grandchildren—Carter, Madison, Payton and Vivian. All members of the family are Paul Harris Fellows. In addition, Greg and Pam are Paul Harris Society Members, Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member, Bequest Society Members, and Members of the Arch C. Klumph Society.

FUN FACT: The walking distance around each of the three floors at the Mall of America is 1.15 miles. Bring your walking shoes and get your exercise while you shop in the 520+ shops!



Watch the Video of RIDE Pat Merryweather-Arges and North Star Institute Co-Chairs Debra Warner and Joe Ruskey as they invite you to join them for some fun at Nickelodeon Universe!



<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/705787057>



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Please submit ideas for articles or travel tips that you would like to see in future editions.