

The Metro Memo

VOLUME 31-38

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB



MARCH 20, 2024

Thank you . . .

to **Tom Rose** for presenting today's invocation, leading members in the Pledge of Allegiance, and providing a fundraising opportunity.

Members with Guests

Member	Guest
Casey Buckman.....	Steve Hunt
Casey Buckman.....	Dave Sorrell
Casey Buckman.....	Erin Keys
Shane Winter	Ronnie Bodenstab

Happy Hat

Sergeant-at-Arms **Tom O'Connor** invited members to share good thoughts and news about the topic of their choice. Today's contributors were **Tom O'Connor, Sarah Read, Mark Claypole, Ginny Northcutt, Michael Kramer, Les Borgmeyer, and Warren Prost.**



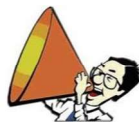
Have you invited
your friend
to **join** Rotary?



COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB

Announcements!

The next member/guest fellowship event will be held **March 21** at Hexagon Alley (111 South 9th Street).



Nominations are now being accepted for Metro's 2024 Vocational Service Award. A nomination form is on page three of this newsletter, and a link is posted on the club website. Deadline for nominations is **April 3**. Please consider nominating someone you think worthy of this honor.

Metro members will participate in Clean Up Columbia on **April 6**. Members will meet at 10:00 a.m. at Fairview Park to pick up trash and then proceed to our Adopt-a-Spot location on West Worley to pick up trash there.

Metro's Board of Directors will meet **April 10** at 1:00 p.m. at the Columbia Country Club.

Please watch future newsletters for more details about the dedication of the Peace Pole at Battle High School. Under the leadership of **Sarah Read**, Metro's PeaceBuilders Committee submitted a district grant application to help fund this project. The ceremony is hoped to be held in late April/early May.

Congratulations to **Jim Cherrington!** He won a \$50 gift card to Riversong Spa & Salon donated by **Tom Rose**.

Riversong
Spa & Salon

www.columbiametrorotary.org

Field Trip!

On **April 24**, Metro Rotary will not meet at the Columbia Country Club. Instead, members will meet at Mobility Worldwide (4825 East Meyer) for a service opportunity. The event will begin at 11:30 a.m. and conclude by 1:00 p.m. There will be an opportunity to purchase lunch for \$13 each in support of the Meals on Wheel fundraiser. Please watch for more information as the date approaches.



Please note:

The posted speed limit from US Highway 63 to the Columbia Country Club is 25 miles per hour.



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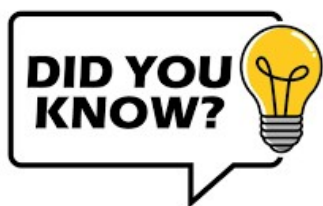
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**WORLD
WATER DAY**
MARCH 22



Spring is here! The vernal equinox arrived Tuesday, marking the start of spring for the Northern Hemisphere.

As you know, the Earth travels around the sun at an angle. For most of the year, the Earth is tilted either toward or away from the sun, which results in sunlight falling unequally on the northern and southern halves of the planet.

During the equinox, the Earth's axis and its orbit line up so that both hemispheres get an equal amount of sunlight. This year, the alignment occurred March 19 at 11:06 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. The word equinox comes from two Latin words meaning equal and night, because on the equinox, day and night last almost the same amount of time.

Columbia Water & Sewer Utilities Department

Steve Hunt, Dave Sorrell and Erin Keys (right) from the Columbia Water and Sewer Utilities Department presented today's program. They shared interesting facts about their department:



- Columbia's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) was constructed in 1983 along with trunk sewers. There are over 700 miles of pipe in the sewer collection system, and an average of 14-16 million gallons of raw sewage is treated each day.
- In 1991, wetlands were constructed resulting in an additional, secondary treatment option. Natural UV disinfection reduces e-coli, and the wetlands discharges into the Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area providing a benefit to local wildlife.
- Since passage of a \$32.3 million ballot issue in 2013, 16 upgrades to the WWTP and Columbia sewers have been completed. This has resulted in more than 150 residences having improved sewers.
- In 2022, the storm water operations division replaced over 1,450 feet of storm pipe. 18 structures were repaired or replaced, and over 46,200 feet of storm pipe was CCTV inspected.
- The Integrated Management Plan is a 5-year action plan that balances regulatory demands, community priorities, ongoing operations, and maintenance needs. This plan is currently being updated, and the public's input is welcomed and encouraged.
- The treatment that occurs at the water treatment plant was described from the aeration to the fluoridation. The water treatment plant has also received several upgrades and improvements over the past few years.
- Automated residential curbside refuse collections began in Columbia on March 4, 2024. Over 36,100 carts were delivered to residences in February, and 9 of 13 trucks needed to collect the refuse are on-site and being used.



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METRO ROTARY 2023-24 Vocational Service Award Nomination

One of the ways that Rotary Clubs encourage vocational excellence, and the practice of high ethical standards, is through the presentation of a vocational service award to deserving individuals or organizations.

Metro Rotary joins with all Rotary clubs in stressing that their members conduct the affairs of their businesses and professions in accordance with the principles of high ethical standards while recognizing the worthiness of all useful occupations and the obligation to contribute their talents to address the problems and needs of society.

Each member is encouraged to participate in the nomination of an individual or organization in our community for this award who exemplifies the following attributes:

- Adheres to the highest ethical standards in their work, including the fair treatment of employers, fellow employees, associates, vendors, competitors, and the public.
- Contributes their talents to addressing the problems and needs of the community.

From the nominations submitted, the Vocational Service Committee will select one of the nominated persons or organizations as the one to be awarded the 2023-24 Vocational Service Award from Metro Rotary. This award will be made at a regular club meeting with the recognition of the recipient and the presentation of a plaque or other honorarium.

Please complete the form provided below, scan and send your nomination to columbiametrorotary@gmail.com or give to **Cathy Scroggs**. Support information for your nominee is welcomed and can be attached.

My nomination: _____

Nominee's vocation and title: _____

Reason(s) why nominated: _____

Your name: _____

Best way to contact you: _____

Review of Nominations is scheduled to begin on Wednesday April 3, 2024.