

The Metro Memo



VOLUME 32-32

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB

FEBRUARY 4, 2026

18th Annual Metro Rotary Trivia Night

What: Fundraiser to benefit **Child Advocacy Center** and other Metro charities

When: Friday, **February 6, 2026**

Doors open 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 5:45 p.m. Trivia begins at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Knights of Columbus Hall (2525 North Stadium Blvd.)

Tickets: Only \$40 each or \$300 for a table of 8

Ticket includes a dinner buffet catered by Big Daddy's BBQ, beer, soft drinks, set-ups, and ten rounds of trivia fun!

Who: All friends, business associates, family members and other Rotarians are invited to join in the fun. Trivia night tickets are available to be purchased online at www.columbiametrorotary.org.



A Big THANK YOU to our Event Sponsors!

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(Lori Dobry)

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FEBRUARY 4, 2026

Thank you . . .

Jim Cherrington for presenting today's inspiration, leading members in the Pledge of Allegiance, and providing a fundraising opportunity.

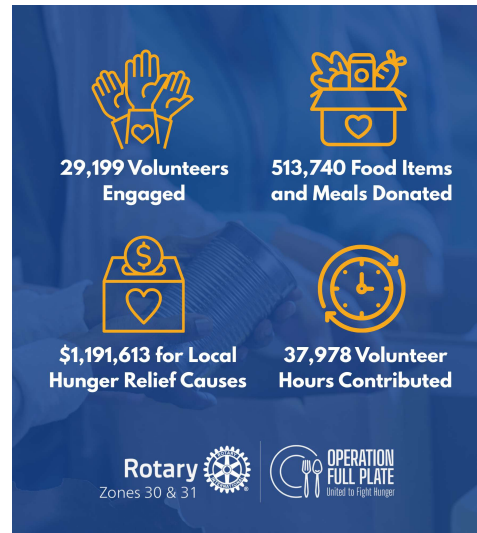
Jim has been a member of Metro since March 1996. He stated he enjoys the diverse background of club members, and he appreciates the service events that the club regularly host.



Metro's Board of Directors will meet **February 11** at 1:00 p.m. at the Columbia Country Club. All members are welcome to attend.

Metro's Community Service Committee would like to assist local organizations whose missions align with Rotary's to help youth, education, and the environment. Please see page 4 of this newsletter for a form to complete.

Operation Full Plate Summary



The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.
-- Mahatma Gandhi

www.columbiametrorotary.org



Metro's Board of Directors has decided to implement a "Snack Card" opportunity for members. Each card will cost \$10, which will provide five (5) punches for the purchaser to partake in tea/coffee/cookies during a regular weekly meeting. Cards will be available for purchase at our weekly meetings, or you can currently purchase one online.

Also, starting with **today's meeting**, members will be charged \$16 per meal, and the club will pay for the \$2 difference. The current price for one meal punch card is \$75. As a result of the increase, each individual card will now be available for \$80 starting today.

All punch cards currently distributed to members will be honored until all five punches are used on each card.



PLEASE NOTE: Metro bylaws state that if the Columbia Public Schools cancel classes due to inclement weather, Metro Rotary will not meet. Please keep this in mind as winter weather continues.

CHARTERED JUNE 10, 1993

Members with Guests

Member Guest

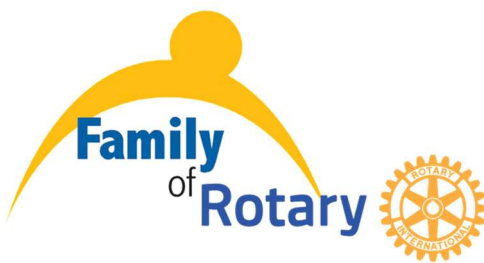
Pat Hostetler Andrew Grabau

Audrey Spieler Mike Bogue

Visiting Rotarians

Member Club

Andrew Grabau..... Downtown



Please keep **Susan Brandt's** daughter in your thoughts and prayers as she recovers from two successful surgeries.

Congratulations to **Victoria Brees!** She won a \$40 gift certificate to Booches donated by **Jim Cherrington**. We raised \$64 for Metro charities

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Happy Hat

Sergeant-at-Arms

Casey Buckman

invited members to share good thoughts and news about the topic of their choice. Today's contributors were **Loretta Schouten, Rob Christensen, Shelley Sigholtz, Valorie Livingston, Mark Claypole, Warren Prost, Jim Cherrington, and Casey Buckman.**



February Peace Challenge



Rotary's theme for February is Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month.

President Sarah is asking members to evaluate the information they receive and convey during the next month.

She gave an example of how social media is using artificial intelligence (AI) to manipulate images and falsely place people into photos creating the illusion of a situation that never actually occurred. Many celebrities and politicians are affected daily by AI in this way, but other information (besides photos) is also being falsely manipulated as well. The result is the sharing of incorrect information and the scarring of images and reputations.

Members were encouraged to constantly educate themselves. Please ask: "Where is the information coming from?" "How was it transmitted?" "Is it verifiable?" How will you share this information with others?" Remember to apply the four-way test to all you think, say, and do.



Nominations are now being accepted for the 2026 RYLA. This is a four-day/three-night service leadership academy held on the campus of the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg. If you know someone interested in attending, please contact **Sarah Wolf**.

CHALLENGE

Rotary Zones 30 and 31 are planning for the 8 in 8 Membership Challenge, a focused achievable effort to strengthen clubs through intentional growth.

The goal is to add 8 new members in 8 weeks (March 1-April 30). Clubs that successfully add 8 new members during this time period will be entered into a drawing for \$1,000 to host a member social event in May or June.



William Guitar Little Foundation

Andrew Grabau (below) is the Executive Director of the William Guitar Little Foundation. The Foundation was established by Bill Little to transform central Missouri through strategic philanthropy that creates lasting prosperity for all.



Andrew spoke about transformational philanthropy which begins when organizations shift from scarcity thinking to strategic action. This approach can provide the opportunity for enhanced capacity which can lead to unprecedented impact. The impact can reveal a deeper purpose, and the purpose can lead to even more new opportunities.

Funding from the Foundation is meant to complement, rather than replace, public funding. Andrew noted some of the partners the Foundation is currently working with including Love Columbia, Anderson Homes Foundation, and the Central Missouri Community Action.

The Foundation is led by Andrew, a Chief Finance Officer, and a four-member Board of Directors.

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JANUARY 7, 2026



Columbia Metro
Rotary Club

Community Service Committee: Community Support Proposal Form

Please complete the information below and return to Lisa Royse at roysel@health.missouri.edu.

Date: _____

Columbia Metro Rotary Member Name: _____

Community Organization Name: _____

Contact Person and Information at Organization: _____

Requested funding amount (maximum \$100): _____

Deadline for funds: _____

How does this organization contribute to our community and align with our club's mission to be a transformative influence in our community and in the world through our work with youth, education, and the environment? (2-3 sentences)

How will the organization use the funds if awarded? (2-3 sentences)
