

# The Metro Memo



VOLUME 33-40

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB

APRIL 1, 2026

## Thank you . . .

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

Mark has been a member of Metro since November 2023. Mark stated he first joined Rotary because "someone asked." This is good to keep in mind as we continue to recruit future members. There are a lot of excellent prospective members available just waiting to be asked! Mark says he believes Metro provides the best opportunity for him to serve others.



Metro's Board of Directors will meet **April 8** at 1:00 p.m. at the Columbia Country club. All members are welcome to attend.

A member/guest fellowship event will be held **April 16** at Sophia's (3910 Peachtree Drive, Suite H). All members are invited and encouraged to bring a prospective Rotarian.

On **April 22**, Metro has scheduled a workday at the Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture (1769 West Ash Street) in cooperation with Job Point from 8:30-11:30 a.m. We would like to have three Metro members sign-up for two 90-minute shifts.

The **April 22** weekly meeting will be held at Boone Electric Cooperative (1413 Rangeline Street). We will be supporting Meals on Wheels that day, as they sell lunches for \$15 each. Please contact **Shane Winter** ASAP to reserve your lunch.

On **April 23**, members will meet at 5:30 p.m. in the MBS parking lot to pick up trash along our Adopt-a-Spot streets.

Metro's Community Service Committee would like to assist local organizations whose missions align with Rotary's to help youth, education, and the environment. If you know of an organization/group/project that could benefit from additional funding, please see page 3 of this newsletter for an application form to complete.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2026 Vocational Service Award. Your nominee should be someone in the Columbia community who represents the Rotary Four-Way Test in his/her vocation. Please see page 4 of this newsletter for an application.

## weekly ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Members with Guests

<u>Member</u>	<u>Guest</u>
Valorie Livingston .....	Ron Fauss
Sandra Logan .....	Susan Johnson



Please remember to vote for **Casey Buckman Photography** in the annual Inside Columbia Magazine's Best of Columbia 2026 contest.



to **Rob Christensen** who won a \$50 gift card to Old Plank Tavern donated by **Mark Claypole**. We raised \$71 for Metro charities

## Each One Bring One



Do you know someone who would make a great Rotarian? If so, the process to nominate him/her is simple. An application form is available on the Metro website at <https://tinyurl.com/23v53s44>.

Once you have the information completed, please forward to **Victoria Brees** at [maybrees@hotmail.com](mailto:maybrees@hotmail.com).

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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 **Sarah Read, Valorie Livingston, Victoria Brees, Michael Kramer, Rose Lloyd, Rob Christensen, Jim Cherrington, Tom O'Connor, and Mark Claypole.**

Members learned today about the Rotarians Against Malaria (RAM) group. This is a volunteer group of Rotarians who partner with other Rotarians' efforts, with local and international groups, to control malaria. Their ultimate goal is to eliminate malaria. Their intermediate goal is to reduce malaria morbidity and mortality in each affected country quickly and efficiently through proven interventions.



## April Peace Challenge



Pope Francis recognized that "living in peace is also living in harmony with Earth."

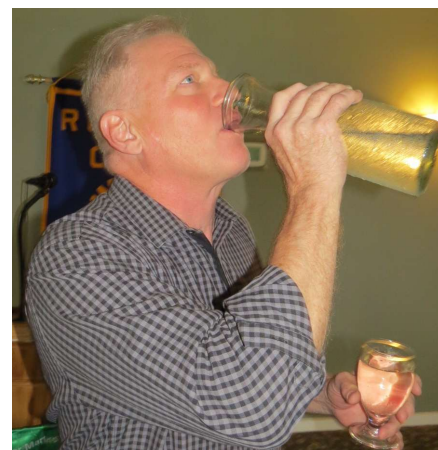
Our challenge as peacebuilders during April, which is recognized worldwide by Rotary as Environmental Sustainability Month, is to do something that is good for the environment!

That can include volunteering with our YouthBuild group working at the Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture (CCUA) on April 22, signing up as an individual to help with CCUA's third grade field trip program and helping introduce a new generation to gardening, or helping plant seeds at the Columbia Public Schools' Center for Early Learning-North.



## Water Sanitation Is A Worldwide Concern

Metro Rotarian **Tom O'Connor** (below) is an H<sub>2</sub>O engineer who is recognized as an international leader in the field of water quality and engineering. He provided members with an update of RI projects related to water and sanitation.



Tom spoke of how 2.1 billion people globally lack safe water at home. Of those people, 263 million spend more than 30 minutes per round trip to collect safe water. In addition, one in four people still lacks access to safe drinking water.

Sanitation is also a huge issue. Over 4.5 billion people worldwide have no toilets at home that safely manage excreta. The World Health Organization has the goal of universal and equitable access to safe sanitation for all by 2030. Unfortunately, this will not occur.

Metro has a proud history of supporting international water projects. To see a summary of the projects the club has sponsored, please visit <https://rb.gy/rvyizy>.

## FLOAT TRIP!

The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Float Trip is planned for the weekend of **July 25** near Steelville. For more information, contact **Casey Buckman** or watch for more information as the date approaches.



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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](mailto: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)**

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

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## COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY 2025-2026 Vocational Service Award Nomination Form

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.

Columbia 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 2025-26 Vocational Service Award from Columbia Metro Rotary. Plans are for the recipient to be recognized at a regular club meeting with a plaque or other honorarium.

**The nomination period begins Wednesday, March 4, 2026. Review of Nominations will begin on Wednesday April 8, 2026. Please complete the form provided below and scan and send your nomination to [columbiametrorotary@gmail.com](mailto:columbiametrorotary@gmail.com) or give your nomination form to Cathy Scroggs. Support information for your nominee is encouraged and may be attached.**

.....  
My nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's vocation and title: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason(s) why nominated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Best way to contact you: \_\_\_\_\_