

# The Metro Memo

VOLUME 33-41

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB



APRIL 8, 2026

## Thank you . . .

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

Barb has been a member of Metro since April 2009. She originally joined Rotary because she strongly supported its mission and values. She enjoys the welcoming attitude and friendliness of members.



Metro's Board of Directors will meet **today** at 1:00 p.m.

**April 15** is the due date to submit applications 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.

A fellowship event will be held **April 16** at Sophia's (3910 Peachtree Drive, Suite H) at 5:30 p.m. 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 as a fundraiser. Please contact **Shane Winter** ASAP to reserve your lunch.

Members will meet **April 23** at 5:30 pm in the MBS parking lot to pick up trash along our Adopt-a-Spot streets.

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.



*Happy Birthday to **Heather McArthur** today!*

*Congratulations to **Sherry Major** who will celebrate 12 years as a Metro Rotarian on **April 9!***

*Congratulations to **Robin Westphal** who will celebrate 1 year as a Metro Rotarian on **April 9!***

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

*Congratulations to **Rebecca Knipp!** Her company, Optimized CFO \_ Controller Services is a finalist for the Columbia Chamber of Commerce 2026 Small Business of the Year!*



*to **Tim Sullivan** who won a \$50 gift card to Trader Joe's donated by **Barb Danuser**. We raised \$73 for Metro charities*

## Members with Guests

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

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

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.



COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB

[www.columbiametrorotary.org](http://www.columbiametrorotary.org)



### The 4-Way Test

*of things we do and say:*

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

CHARTERED JUNE 10, 1993

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## Happy Hat



Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms **Michael Kramer** invited members to share good thoughts and news about the topic of their choice. Today's contributors were **Shane Winter**, **Rose Lloyd**, and **Rob Christensen**.

The April issue of Rotary magazine has been referenced at several recent meetings. Please be sure to read your copy as there are many informative articles featuring the work of Rotarians worldwide.

Rotary



## 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.

## Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Metro Rotarian **J. Scott Christianson** (below) is an internationally acclaimed speaker who spoke to members about Artificial Intelligence (AI).



AI is basically a machine that exhibits cognitive or decision-making behavior and can take action to achieve a goal. General AI is a machine that can reason and adapt like a human (e.g. sci-fi movies). Super-intelligent AI is a machine that is smarter and faster at solving problems than the best human minds. Narrow AI is a machine that is optimized for a particular task or project.

Scott gave examples of each type of AI and spoke of the opportunities and challenges that each present. He spoke of how he has used AI to prepare for classroom lectures and other presentations. He noted how he has to double-check everything to ensure accuracy and intent.



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).



The Environmental Sustainability Rotarian Action Group (ESRAG) was formed to empower members of the Rotary Family worldwide to take actions to sustain our environment, particularly to stabilize our climate.

The Central North America chapter of ESRAG meets monthly. To learn more, please visit them online at <https://esrag.org/central-north-america/>.

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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: \_\_\_\_\_