

The Metro Memo

VOLUME 34-01

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB

CREATE
LASTING
IMPACT



JULY 1, 2026

Thank you . . .

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

Jean has been a member of Metro since March 1995. Jean stated she enjoys the fellowship with members and Rotary's mission of helping others. In her spare time, Jean enjoys birdwatching and golf.



J.D. Moran is Metro's 35th President

J.D. Moran (top, right) began serving as Metro's 35th president today.

A Columbia native, J.D. is a graduate of Christian Fellowship High School, and Southeast Missouri State University. He is a State of Missouri Certified General Appraiser, and he is a Member of the Appraisal Institute (MAI), which is the highest-level accreditation an appraiser can earn for commercial property valuation.

J.D. began by thanking all members who served during the past year, and he invited members to join him in thanking **Sarah Read** (middle, right) for her service as our president last year.



Rotary International's theme for 2026-2027 is *Create Lasting Impact*. J.D. encouraged members to continue supporting our high-quality service projects and district simplified grants which have proven to make a difference locally and worldwide.

J.D.'s initiatives for Metro this year are threefold:

1. Adopt Technology. Members are encouraged to download and utilize the Ignite app.
2. New RFP process. Community members can now submit requests for future projects helping us identify the greatest needs and use our resources wisely.
3. Streamlined Fellowship. Fewer, more concentrated fellowship dates will be scheduled with the goal of increasing engagement and attendance.



Metro's board members, officers, and committee chairs for the next year were introduced. The goals for the year were highlighted, and J.D. gave an overview of Metro's strengths that will help us attain the stated goals. J.D.'s enthusiasm about the upcoming year is contagious, and members are looking forward to another successful year.

In closing, **Victoria Brees** (lower, right) was recognized as the third Metro Rotary Leadership Class graduate. **Anna Drake** and **J.D. Moran** were the first two Metro members who completed this leadership training program.



Members with Guests

Member

Guest

Valorie LivingstonStefanie West



Happy Birthday to **Pat Hostetler** today!

Happy Birthday to **Cindy Whaley** on July 2!

Congratulations to **Wade Schuette** who will celebrate 2 years as a Metro Rotarian on July 3!

Metro sends its condolences to **Cindy Whaley** on the recent passing of her father. Please keep Cindy and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

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METRO OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2026-2027

Thank you to the following members who have volunteered their time and skillsets for the next year for the benefit of our club:

Officers

J.D. Moran President
Valorie Livingston. President-Elect
Shane Winter..... Secretary
Bette Wordelman Treasurer
Rebecca Knipp..... Asst. Treasurer
Tim Sullivan Asst. Treasurer
Sarah Read Past President
Casey Buckman Sgt.-at-Arms

Board of Directors

Susan Brandt **Wade Schuette**
Sarah Wolf **Shelley Sigholtz**
Anna Drake **Jim Stock**



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 **Warren Prost**, **Sarah Read**, **Bill Costello**, **Victoria Brees**, and **Mark Claypole**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events

Metro has once again purchased a cart for the Hearts for Carts annual fundraiser for Mobility Worldwide. The event will be held **July 12** from 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m. in the MU Health Care Pavilion at the Farmer's Market (1710 West Ash Street). An informational flyer is on page 4 of this newsletter.

Metro's Board of Directors will meet **July 15** at 1:00 p.m.

The 16th 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.

*Congratulations to **Joy Block** who won a \$45 gift card to Schnuck's donated by **Jean Leonatti**. We raised \$74 for Metro charities.*

GET INVOLVED!



Metro Committees for the 2026-2027 year are beginning to be organized. Please contact **President J.D. Moran** to sign up for a committee (or more) that you would like to be a part of for the upcoming year.

If you would like more information about committees, a summary description of each committee is listed on the Metro website on the Committees page which is located under the About Metro drop-down header.

Rotary District 6080



Past District Governor Andrea Brady has announced that on June 25 the Nominating Committee of Rotary District 6080 met and interviewed all candidates submitted by the Rotary Clubs of District 6080 for the position of District Governor Nominee Designate. Following the interviews and deliberation of the Committee, the Nominating Committee selected **Susan Hart**, (below) a member of the Rotary Club of Columbia Metro, as its selection for District Governor Nominee Designate.

The process states that Rotary Clubs in the District have fourteen days, or until July 14, to submit challenging candidates to Andrea Brady, 2025-2026

District Governor. Challenges can be sent by e-mail or any other means as long as they are received by July 14. If no challenges are submitted by the deadline, Susan Hart will officially be declared the District Governor Nominee Designate of Rotary District 6080. Susan would serve as District 6080 Governor during the 2028-2029 Rotary year.

This is a tremendous, and well-deserved honor for Susan. At your earliest convenience, please extend your congratulations and support to Susan!



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District 6080 Assembly of Clubs



ASSEMBLY OF CLUBS

JULY 18TH | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Join us for an engaging morning of updates, insights, and tools to help your club thrive in the year ahead.



BRIAN HALL
Year Ahead in Rotary



JENNIFER OWENS-BUIE
Growing Membership



PATRICK LONGANO
DacDB/IGNITE
in Your Clubs



JOHN GERM
Polio Update

REGISTER TODAY!



Scan the QR code to register.

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

TOGETHER, WE LEAD. TOGETHER, WE GROW.

As we begin a new Rotary year centered around **Create Lasting Impact**, District 6080 Governor Brad Martens is inviting everyone to participate in the District 6080 Assembly of Clubs on **July 18, 2026**.

This interactive session will provide valuable information, practical tools, and inspiration to help your club succeed during the year ahead. Whether you are a club officer, committee chair, new member, or long-time Rotarian, there will be something for everyone.

Why Attend?

- Learn about District 6080 goals and priorities
- Discover membership growth strategies that work
- Improve your club's use of DacDB and IGNITE
- Connect with Rotarians from across the district
- Gain ideas and resources to help your club create lasting impact

All club officers, directors, committee chairs, and interested members are encouraged to attend.

Register today using the QR code posted above or by going online to:
<https://shorturl.at/r3c74>



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.



Please remit your payment for 2026-2027 membership dues timely to Metro Treasurer **Bette Wordelman** online or to P.O. Box 109, Columbia, MO 65205.

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Rotary

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**HEARTS
for CARTS**

**FOOD
TRUCKS**

LEFTY'S KETTLE CORN
KONA ICE
TOM'S COFFEE
TRAIL BOSS BBQ

FUNDRAISER FOR MOBILITY WORLDWIDE MO - COLUMBIA



**HEARTS FOR
CARTS**

**\$2,000
MAIN EVENT SPONSOR**

**\$1,000
BAND SPONSOR**

**\$425
CART SPONSOR**



10 year old Boya had contracted Polio.

ADULTS TICKET \$20

STUDENTS TICKET \$10

KIDS UNDER 10 FREE

LIVE MUSIC
FLYOVER COUNTRY
AFRICAN DRUMS BY MORGAN

**BROADWAY
BREWERY**

SUNDAY JULY 12TH, 2026
NOON-4:00 PM
FARMERS MARKET:
MU HEALTH CARE PAVILION
1701 W. ASH ST., COLUMBIA, MO 65203

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT DOOR INCLUDING SPONSOR TICKETS
EACH SPONSOR GETS 2 TICKETS & A CART TO DECORATE

DONATIONS CAN BE MAILED TO:
MOBILITY WORLDWIDE MO-COLUMBIA
4825 E. MEYER INDUSTRIAL DRIVE
COLUMBIA, MO 65201

FOR MORE INFO: GARY MOREAU, 573.886.7877
gary@giftofmobility.com

GIFTOFMOBILITY.ORG

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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 complete the form below.



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)
