The Metro Memo

VOLUME 34-14 | WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB | SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Thank you . . .

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



Joy has been a member of Metro since May 2024. She stated that she enjoys Rotary's philosophy centered on altruism, ethical integrity, and community responsibility. She enjoys serving people, and she is thankful to be a part of a group who assists so many in need.

Members With Guests

Member	Guest
Adam Blumhagen	Sue Craighead

THE FAMILY OF Rotary

Congratulations to the following Rotarians who will celebrate membership anniversaries during this next week:

Bette Wordelman ..... *October 2*
(2 years)
Valorie Livingston ..... *October 2*
(2 years)
Susan Brandt ..... *October 5*
(10 years)
John Fabsits ..... *October 5*
(4 years)

Announcements

Upcoming events

The Foundation Committee will meet at 1:00 p.m. today.

On October 17, Metro will sponsor a team in the Walk to End Alzheimer's at Stephen's Lake Park. Please contact **Lisa Royse** or **Laura Royse** if you would like to participate.

Metro's Board of Directors will meet October 21 at 1:00 p.m. at the Columbia Country Club.

The District 6080 Conference is planned for November 6 in Columbia. Please see page 3 of this newsletter for details.

IMPACT Rotary is currently doing their annual mums fundraiser. If you would like to support them, please contact Brock Rule at brockjrule@gmail.com or 816-305-7853 to place your order.

*Congratulations to **Sarah Read** who won a $40 gift card to Applebee's, a golf tote bag from Coastal Electric, and a six pack of Schafly Pumpkin Ale donated by **Joy Sweeney**. We raised $77 for Metro charities.*



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 **Michael Kramer**, **Sherry Major**, **Rebecca Knipp**, **Audrey Spieler**, **Adam Blumhagen**, and **Mark Claypole**.





Do you know of a 501(c)(3) organization in need of funding? If so, please contact **Ron Bodenstab** at your earliest convenience. He and his wife, Davida, are generously assisting qualified organizations.

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The District Simplified Grant Metro was awarded includes funds for cleanup of the nature playground at the Center for Early Learning-North (2191 East Smiley Lane). Please contact **Sarah Read** if you would like to help one (or more) of the days noted below. Each workday is tentatively planned for 1:00-4:00 p.m.

November 5

- Further cleaning/pruning of classroom window area
- Trim bushes and trees from corner walk area so kids can climb
- Trim plants growing on fenceline through fence

November 9

- Pull plants to create path between walkways through central bed on north side of garden
- Remove encroaching plants in sand area (report for giveaway)
- Re-mulch sand area
- Weed vegetable raised beds

November 12

- Remove encroaching plants in sand and arch areas
- Re-mulch sand and arch areas
- Gravel and pavers for new walkway central bed path
- Any unfinished things from prior list



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

Need help coming up with a list of possible names to invite to a Metro meeting? You may find one, or more, of the following sources helpful.

- Work/personal contact list
- People you do business with
- Community volunteers
- Neighbors
- Active civic leaders
- Colleagues/local professionals
- Teammates
- Anyone looking to network, grow personally, and serve others

Once you have the information completed, please forward to **Victoria Brees** at maybrees@hotmail.com.

PLEASE NOTE: Anyone who brings a guest to Rotary during the month of October will have his/her name entered into a drawing that will occur the first week of next month. If you bring a guest each week, your name will be entered four times! How exciting would it be to win a prize simply for bringing a friend and/or a colleague to one (or more) of our weekly meeting(s) and helping them learn more about Rotary and our activities?

College for Kids

Sue Craighead (below) is the Director of College for Kids (CK). Since 1989, CK has provided gifted children in Missouri and outlining states with an opportunity for educational and social growth during the summers. This experience is located on the campus of Westminster College in Fulton.



Sue explained how the program provides opportunities for gifted students to learn and socialize with their peers. This is a non-profit, educational, residential program that is funded solely on monies collected by tuition.

A daily schedule for students starts at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m. Three meals are included, along with classroom time, recreation time, and special activities.

RAs and junior RAs are all past CK students. Office staff are all past CK students, past junior RAs or past RAs. Teachers are hand-picked from schools around Missouri and neighboring states.

If you know someone who would benefit from this program, please visit www.collegeforkids.net.

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District 6080 Conference

November 6, 2026
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Columbia Center for Urban Agriculture
Community Welcome Center
1769 West Ash Street, Columbia, Missouri

$50 for Rotary members and $25 for Rotaractors

Register today at
https://www.dacdb.com/mmp-login/?EventID=77938650



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Corn Hole Tournament to Raise Money for PolioPlus



World Polio Day is October 24, the birthday of Jonas Salk, the American researcher who changed history by developing the first polio vaccine in 1955. Each October, Rotary Clubs around the world mark the occasion with events and fundraisers supporting Rotary International and its partners in the eradication of polio around the world.

For the past several years, the Rotary Clubs of Fayettend Rocheport have teamed up for an afternoon of cornhole, prizes and a little friendly competition — all while helping Rotary work toward a world without polio. This year, Rotary District Governor Brad Martens has challenged every club in the district to raise $1,500 for Polio Plus. Last year, th Fayette Rotary Club exceeded that goal by raising more than $1,800, and members hope to raise even more this year.

The Cornhole Tournament will be Saturday, Oct. 11, beginning at 1 p.m. at Meriwether's Café and Grill in Rocheport. The two-person, double-elimination tournament is open to everyone, with an entry fee of just $25 per team. The winning team will take home $50 in prize money, while the top team made up of Rotarians will earn the coveted "bragging rights" trophy. There will also be a trophy for the youth team, made up of players 18 years or younger, that finishes highest in the tournament.

Meriwether's will have food and drinks available for purchase throughout the afternoon, making the tournament a great opportunity to enjoy some food, watch the competition and support a good cause. Proceeds from the tournament and raffle will support Rotary International's End Polio Now campaign and its continuing effort to eradicate polio worldwide.

Registration for the tournament is from noon to 1 p.m. on-site at Meriwether's. For details or early registration, contact Gale Schafer at 573-239-0491 or Erik Martinez at 817-480-3404. Come toss a few bags, cheer on the players, try your luck in the raffle and help Fayette Rotary take another step toward a world free of polio!

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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.

Rotary 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)

_____

_____

_____