The Metro Memo

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

VOLUME 34-16 | WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB | OCTOBER 14, 2026

THANK YOU . . .

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



Victoria has been a member of Metro since March 2016. She stated she enjoys the fellowship with members and the informative and entertaining weekly speakers. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her two children.

Members With Guests

Member	Guest
Bill Costello	Steve Spellman
Bill Costello	Dwayne Carey
Bill Costello	Eric Margheim
Casey Buckman	Wesam Sabri

THE FAMILY OF Rotary

*Congratulations to **Jan Beckett** who will celebrate 14 years as a Metro Rotarian on October 17!*

*Congratulations to **Cathy Scroggs** who won a $50 gift card to Midway Golf & Games donated by **Victoria Brees**. We raised $57 for Metro charities.*

News and Announcements

On October 17, Metro will sponsor a team in the Walk to End Alzheimer's at Stephen's Lake Park. Metro walkers will meet at the FSCB table located in the vendor/sponsor area at 10:45 a.m.

Metro's Board of Directors will meet on October 21 at 1:00 p.m. at the Columbia Country Club. All members are welcome to attend.

On November 5, members will volunteer to pack lunches for families at the Ronald McDonald House (1110 South College Avenue) from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

The District 6080 Conference is planned for November 6 in Columbia. Please see page 4 of this newsletter for details.

The annual All-Columbia Rotary Thanksgiving luncheon is planned for November 11 at the Elk Park Event Center (4747 East Elk Park Drive) at 12:00 noon. Tickets are $25 each, and attendees are asked to bring a toy to be given to a local non-profit to distribute this holiday season.



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.



In recognition of World Polio Day on October 24, Metro has set a goal of raising $500 during the month of October to support Rotary's PolioPlus program. The fundraising collection is being marketed as "Change for Change."

Members are encouraged to bring any loose change they have available to meetings during the month of October (cash will be accepted as well). At the conclusion of the last monthly meeting, a tally of the cumulative donations will be taken and reported to the club. Start saving your change today!





Nominations are being accepted for a charitable partner for Metro's Annual Trivia Night to be held on February 5,2027 at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

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Happy Hat



Sergeant-at-Arms **Casey Buckman** educated and entertained members with nerd trivia, and **Michael Kramer** invited members to share good thoughts and news about the topic of their choice with donations this month going to PolioPlus. Today's contributors were **Ron Bodenstab**, **Elaine Martin**, **Valorie Livingston**, **Audrey Spieler**, **Casey Buckman**, **Tom O'Connor**, **Cathy Scroggs**, **Mark Claypole**, **Adam Blumhagen**, and **Susan Hart**.



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?



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

Proposition L

Boone County Sheriff Dwayne Carey and Boone County Presiding Commissioner Kip Kendrick (below) spoke to members about Proposition L. This proposal will be on the ballot for the upcoming November 3 election and is asking for a 3/8 cent increase in local sales tax to help fund the construction of a new Boone County jail. There is a 15-year sunset on this proposed increase.



Dwayne Carey & Kip Kendrick

Members learned that Boone County is paying for more detainees to be housed in other Missouri counties than they currently have in the Boone County jail. The cost for housing these individuals out of county is anticipated to be over $4 million this year.

The proposed new facility would hold approximately 570 beds. Current capacity is 246. Three additional phases are planned with each adding 140 additional beds. Medical services would be provided onsite at the new jail. Mental health services would also be available to detainees. With more space available, family members and attorneys will be able to visit and support the detainees on a regular basis.

Please mark your calendar to vote on November 3.

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Remembering Past District Governor Raymond E. Plue, DVM

December 4, 1944 – October 10, 2026

A Life of Service, Friendship, and Lasting Impact



With deep sadness, Rotary District 6080 mourns the passing of Past District Governor Raymond E. Plue, a devoted Rotarian, generous supporter of The Rotary Foundation, and my dear friend and mentor.

Raymond joined Rotary in 1968, beginning a lifetime of service that crossed communities, countries, and continents. Through his membership in clubs in Wisconsin, Georgia, Australia, Arkansas, and Missouri, he built friendships and strengthened the international fellowship that makes Rotary so meaningful. Here in District 6080, we were fortunate to share in his leadership and his commitment to helping others.

A member and past president of the Rotary Club of Columbia South, Raymond served as District Governor in 2010–2011. His service also included leadership as District Rotary Foundation Chair and Dean of the District's Rotary Leadership Academy. He helped prepare club and district leaders, guided clubs through changes to Rotary's grant model, and encouraged Rotarians to turn their commitment into action.

Raymond was a proud and generous supporter of The Rotary Foundation. He and his wife, Vickie, became Major Donors and established the Dr. Raymond E. and Vickie L. Plue Endowment. His commitment to giving extended to recognizing family members, fellow Rotarians, and international friends as Paul Harris Fellows. He understood that supporting the Foundation could create opportunities and improve lives far beyond his own community.

His dedication to Rotary's mission was also personal and hands-on. Raymond led international exchanges and participated in polio immunization efforts in India, helping protect children from a preventable disease. In recognition of his extraordinary service, he received Rotary International's Service Above Self Award in 2013 and was also a recipient of The Rotary Foundation's Distinguished Service Award. These honors reflected a lifetime of putting others first.

An avid lifelong motorcyclist, Raymond brought together his love of riding and his love of Rotary through the International Fellowship of Motorcycling Rotarians. As a past president of its North American chapter and an organizer of international rides, he helped build friendships across borders, one shared journey at a time.

Professionally, Raymond's career in veterinary medicine included work in clinical pathology, research, and university teaching. He and Vickie also established an annual outstanding teaching award at Purdue University, extending their support to the education of future veterinarians.

For me, this loss is deeply personal. Raymond was a friend and mentor whose guidance and examples meant so much to me. I am grateful for his place in my Rotary journey and for the lasting influence he had on my understanding of service and leadership.

On behalf of Rotary District 6080, I extend our heartfelt condolences to Vickie, Raymond's family, and his many friends around the world.

Raymond leaves a legacy in the leaders he mentored, the friendships he nurtured, and the lives he helped improve. We will miss him dearly and honor his memory by continuing the work he cared about so deeply.

Brad Martens
District Governor, 2026–2027
Rotary District 6080

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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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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)

_____

_____

_____