



The Leawood Rotarian

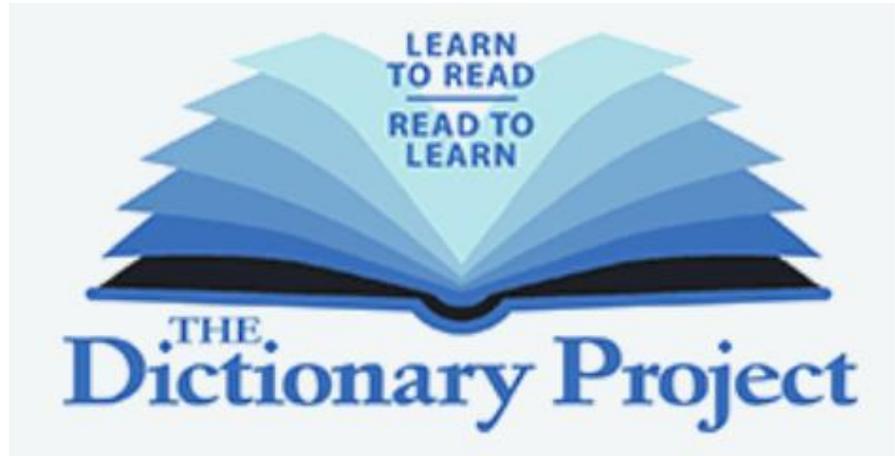
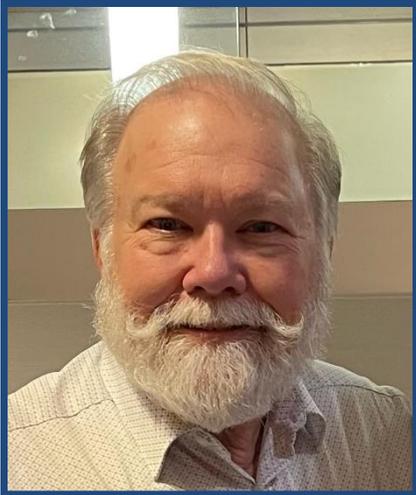
The Newsletter of the Leawood Rotary Club

Celebrating Over 30 Years!

leawoodrotary.org

January 22, 2026

January 22 Program: Gary Pollmiller - The Dictionary Project



Gary Pollmiller, of the Rotary Club of Parsons, Kansas, will join us to discuss an important project his Rotary club has been involved with for over 25 years: The Dictionary Project. Since its founding, The Dictionary Project has provided over **1,076,208** children nationwide with their very own personalized dictionary. The Parsons club presents these dictionaries to approximately 240 third-grade students in two counties annually. Rotary clubs throughout the United States are involved in this project. Gary currently serves as on the Board of Directors of The Dictionary Project, which is headquartered in Coronado, California.

MISSION STATEMENT: The goal of this program is to assist all students in becoming good writers, active readers, creative thinkers, and resourceful learners by providing them with their own personal dictionary. The dictionaries are a gift to each student to use at school and at home for years to come. Educators see third grade as the dividing line between learning to read and reading to learn, so we encourage our sponsors to give dictionaries each year to children in the third grade.

Invoker: Tom Koch

January Greeters:

Stephen Powell, Jim Rawlings, Rick Robinson, Paul Rueschhoff (Captain 1/22), Prasad Saraph (Captain 1/29), Jake Schloegel

Rotary Rewind – January 28, 2016

Jim Rawlings (left) inducts new member, Lisa Harrison, into the club. Happy decade anniversary, Lisa! Time flies when your having fun at Rotary!



REHOPE

On January 7, twenty Rotary go-kits assembled at the 2025 Rotary District 5710 Conference were delivered to representatives of Project ReHope, who were extremely appreciative to receive these much-needed items. Rotarians also learned about the plans and initiatives this organization is working on as FIFA 2026 prepares to arrive in Kansas City.

For the Goal – A Service Opportunity in Leawood

Happy New Year, Rotarians-

As we prepare to welcome people from around the globe to Kansas City, it will come as no surprise that the City of Leawood has a committee of busy volunteers and staff who are organizing many events. From Watch Parties to Business Readiness Grants, from a better-than-ever Celebration in the Park for America's 250th, to a **new** Independence Day parade on the morning of July 4, we are busy AND excited!

Our theme is "For the Goal" in honor of the soccer statue in City Park.

Rotarians Stephen Powell and I are enjoying our time on the executive committee and are very excited about the many things we've already accomplished.

So finally- the reason for this note: This spring, we are inviting Leawood community groups and individuals to help us pick up litter along some of our main corridors and intersections.

We've created the following SignUpGenius and I ask that you consider signing up AND sharing it with anyone who might be interested.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B49A9AB2CA7FD0-61376952-leawood>



We may add more dates and locations once these start to fill, so I'll probably share it again in early March. But I'd VERY MUCH appreciate it if you'd consider being an early-signer-upper!

Please let me or Stephen know if you have any questions.

With appreciation--

Lisa Harrison

913.522.5049

Looking Ahead to February

February Invocators:

February 5 – Arlene Ladegaard

February 12 – Lisa May

February 19 – John Meier

February Greeters:

Ken Selzer, Stu Sharp, Chuck
Sipple, Ron Slepitz, Diane
Stoddard, Tom Sullivan

Greeter Captains:

February 5 – Diane Stoddard

February 12 – Chuck Sipple

February 19 – Tom Sullivan

February Programs:

February 5: Kim Hammers, Executive Director with
“Embrace” (*Enriching Many By Reaching All In Catholic
Education*)

February 12: To be Announced

February 19: Jim Grant, Executive Director of the Global
Birthing Home Foundation

Rotary Resignation

John Brown, a club member since 2018, has resigned from the Leawood Rotary Club. Here is a portion of his email that he sent to the club:

Gentlemen,

Please consider this my formal resignation from Leawood Rotary Club. I admire the work that the club does, but I find myself occupied by other obligations.

Happy New Year to all!

John L Brown