



# The Leawood Rotarian

The Newsletter of the Leawood Rotary Club

Celebrating Over 30 Years!

leawoodrotary.org

November 9, 2025

## November 13: Darren Lippe *The Life of Legendary Kansan, Osa Johnson*



Click link below to launch Zoom

[Launch Meeting - Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 813 1042 7816

Passcode: Rotary

### Invoker: Lisa Harrison

Greeters: Lisa Harrison, Mel Hawk, Mary Jo Holland, Del Karmeier, Don Keith, Roxann Kerr-Lindsey, Tom Koch

### November Birthdays

- Sonja Evans – Nov. 6
- Stu Sharp – Nov. 7
- Mel Hawk – Nov. 15
- Kirt Yoder – Nov. 18
- Dick Wetzler – Nov. 30

### November Anniversaries

- Kathy Dull – 11 years
- Mary Jo Holland – 4 years
- Chuck Udell – 16 years

# Highlights from Last Week' Meeting

Marialexa Sanoja and Dr. Norbly Forero from Mision Despegeu, Inc., provided our program. The organization is committed to creating awareness about the dangers of substance abuse, addiction, and mental health issues prevalent among youth with a focus on the Hispanic community.



Chris Sagovac received his Paul Harris +& pin. Congrats, Chris



**Come Join the Fun!**  
**LEAWOOD ROTARY**  
**ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**

**Thursday, December 11, 5:30 p.m.**

**Hosts: Gary & Roxann Lindsey**  
**12710 Melrose, Overland Park, KS 66213**

**A thru R – Heavy Appetizers**  
**S thru Z – Holiday Desserts**

**Holiday Attire Encouraged**  
**Please bring a bottle of your**  
**favorite wine.**

**Please RSVP to Arlene Ladegaard**  
**[Arlene@designconnectioninc.com](mailto:Arlene@designconnectioninc.com)**

**See you there!**



*On October 24, Mayor Elkins presented members of the Leawood Rotary Club with a proclamation for World Polio Day. The Leawood Club is very supportive of Rotary's efforts to eradicate Polio from the planet, and many are members of the PolioPlus Society.*

## *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, Rotary International, launched Plus Polio in 1985 and spearheaded the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, which today includes the World Health Organization, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to immunize the children of the world against polio; and

**WHEREAS**, Rotary is a global network consisting of over 1.2 million members in more than 45,000 clubs in 200 countries and geographical areas; and

**WHEREAS**, polio cases have dropped by 99.9% percent since 1988 and the world stands on the threshold of eradicating the disease, and to date, Rotary has contributed more than \$2.9 billion and countless volunteer hours to protecting nearly 3 billion children in 122 countries; and

**WHEREAS**, Rotary is working to raise an additional \$50 million per year, which will be leveraged for maximum impact by an additional \$100 million annually from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and, these efforts provide much needed operational support, medical personnel, laboratory equipment and educational materials for health workers and parents; and

**WHEREAS**, there are 4000 Rotary club members in more than 105 clubs in District #5710 throughout Northern Kansas sponsoring service projects to address such critical issues as poverty, health, hunger, illiteracy and the environment in their local communities and abroad.

**WHEREAS**, Leawood Rotarians have committed their time, talent and treasure to continue support of PolioPlus until Polio is finally eradicated from the earth,

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Marc E. Elkins, Mayor of the City of Leawood, Kansas, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2025 as:

## **World Polio Day**

in Leawood, Kansas and encourage all citizens to participate in this observance.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Leawood to be affixed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025.



Marc E. Elkins, Mayor

# November 4 Wine Affinity Group

With 28 present, the "We Make Pour Choices" wine affinity group met at the home of Chris Sagovac and Gail Weiss. Several favorite holiday wines were sampled, including several sparkling, Pinot Noir, Grenache, and others. The Pembertons' California Cabernet Sauvignon was voted the favorite.



## Looking Ahead:

### November Meetings:

**November 20:**  
Rotary Foundation  
**December 4:**  
Genesis Mercado,  
The Ella Initiative

### Invocators for November:

November 20 – Mel Hawk  
November 27 – No meeting

### Greeters for November:

Lisa Harrison, Mel Hawk, Mary Jo  
Holland, Del Karmeier, Don Keith,  
Roxann Kerr-Lindsey, Tom Koch

# Holiday Fire Safety Showcase: November 22



Kick off the holiday season with a BANG! 🌟 Join the Leawood Fire Department for our Holiday Fire Safety Showcase Saturday, Nov. 22! 🌲 🔥

We're lighting up Leawood City Park (safely, of course!) with dramatic live demonstrations that you won't want to miss, including:

🏠 Christmas Tree Burn Show: See the shocking speed of a tree fire and how sprinklers are game-changers.

👁️ Cooking with Grease Demo: An explosive look at why water and hot oil don't mix!

💡 Electrical Safety: Tips to avoid disaster with cords and space heaters.

🌐 Sounds of Safety: Innovative smoke alarms explained.

Plus, enjoy free hot chocolate ☕, tour a real fire truck 🚒, and learn about the city's Christmas tree recycling program. This one-of-a-kind event is FREE and fun for the whole family!

📅 When: Saturday, November 22, 2025 | 2:30–4:00 p.m.

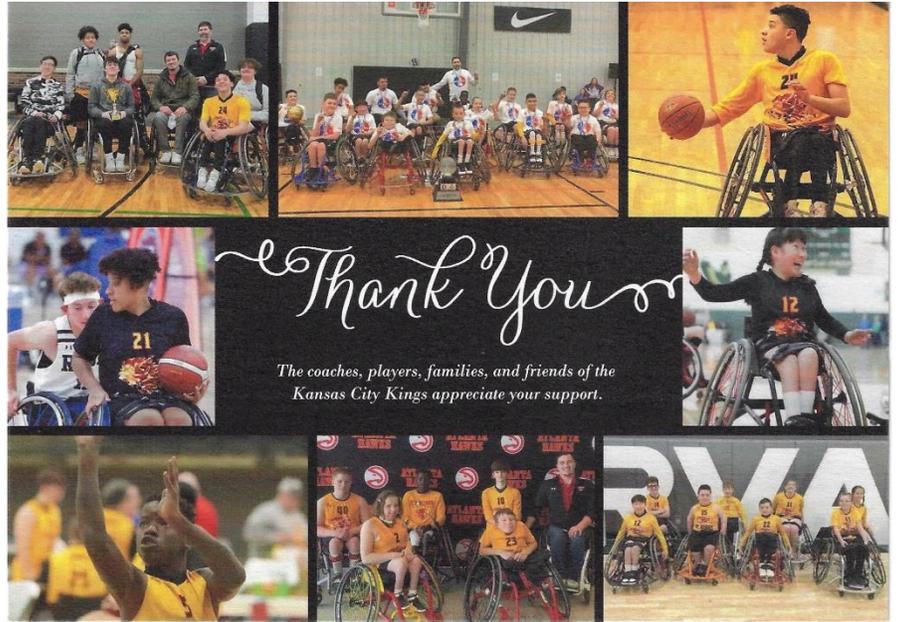
📍 Where: Leawood City Park, 10601 Lee Blvd, Leawood, KS 66206

💰 Cost: FREE!

Bring your family, stay safe, and have a festive afternoon!

# Recent "Thank You's"

Dear Rotary club of Leawood,  
Thank you so much for your generous donation to Purple Pals! We are incredibly grateful that you decided to support Purple Pals mission and goal. Together we can bring fun, freedom, and friendship to all seniors especially those with Alzheimers and dementia. Your members are so welcoming and caring. I had a wonderful time meeting you all and wanted to let you know what a difference your support and care means to us!  
-Melissa Koppers + Purple Pals



## A Message From Adam Dinkel

Rotarians,

This holiday season, my practice is partnering with **HopeKids Kansas City** to collect **new, unwrapped toys** for local families who have a child battling a life-threatening medical condition. HopeKids provides ongoing events, activities, and a powerful support community for families navigating cancer and other serious illnesses. Their mission is simple yet impactful — to surround these children and their families with hope, joy, and lasting memories throughout the year.

### How You Can Help

We'll be collecting toys at our office through the Christmas season. The office address is 5320 W. 151<sup>st</sup> St., Leawood, KS, 66224. All donations go directly to Kansas City-area families through HopeKids. Let's come together to make this Christmas brighter for these incredible kids and their families. See the next page for more information and other ways you can support the toy drive.

In good health,

**Dr. Adam Dinkel, Amy and Angel**

5320 W 151st St

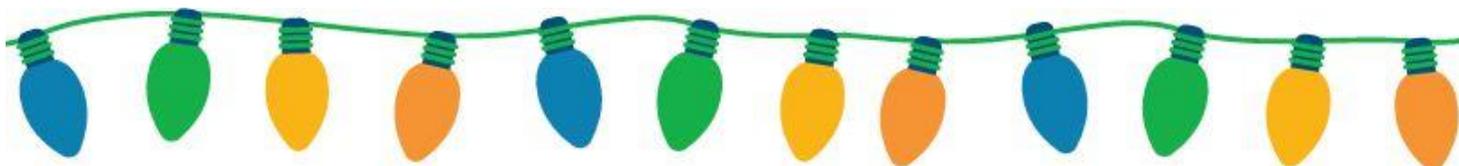
Leawood, KS 66224

[www.DinkelChiropractic.com](http://www.DinkelChiropractic.com)

(913)338-0907



Christmas  
Toy Drive



## Christmas Toy Drive

Support Kansas City metro families who have a child battling a life-threatening medical condition by donating new, unwrapped toys.

### Wish List

- Barbies, dolls, baby dolls, Squishmallows, LOL Surprise toys, and Disney Princess toys
- Lego sets, superhero toys, Star Wars toys, Beyblades, Pokemon toys, video games
- Board games, card games
- Sensory friendly toys that light up or make sounds, kinetic sand, fidgets, etc.
- Craft or science activity sets (good for "tweens") - Example: Friendship bracelet kit, magic set, etc.
- Gift Cards for teens (Game Stop, Amazon, Ulta, Sephora, Starbucks, Dutch Bros, Vans, etc.)



HopeKids provides ongoing events, activities, and a powerful, unique support community for families who have a child with cancer or some other life-threatening medical condition. We surround these remarkable children and their families with the message that hope is a powerful medicine.

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

913.633.8331

[Abigail@hopekids.org](mailto:Abigail@hopekids.org)