



The Leawood Rotarian

The Newsletter of the Leawood Rotary Club

Celebrating Over 30 Years!

leawoodrotary.org

November 30, 2025

December 4 Meeting:

Genesis Mercado-Arias

ella

*Empowering Women,
Enriching Communities*



Genesis Mercado-Arias

At the Ella Initiative, we believe the best way to strengthen communities and reduce poverty is by investing in women — especially those who keep households and local economies running through informal, domestic, or undervalued work.

Through our community-based programs, we address the evolving needs of women in today's workforce, from access and opportunity to mental health and financial stability. Our two core initiatives, Ellavate & Alleviate, provide direct resources like grocery packs and empowerment kits while sustaining long-term impact through digital learning and A.I.- powered tools. Our work is about meeting women where they are and giving them the tools to grow and thrive on their own terms.



Click link below to launch Zoom

[Launch Meeting - Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 813 1042 7816

Passcode: Rotary

Invoker: Del Karmeier

Greeters: Arlene Ladegaard, Terence Mack, Lisa May, John Meier, David Meyers, Brad Moore



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

See you there!

November 13 Meeting

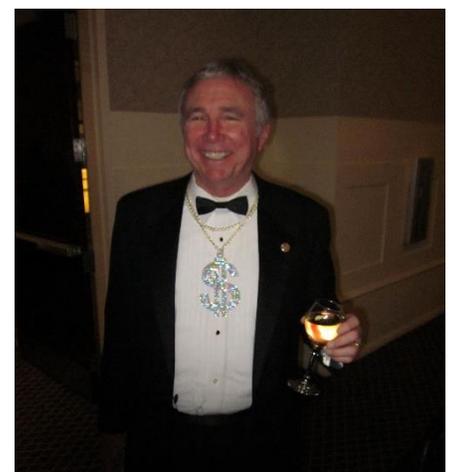


On November 13, club members had an informative presentation from Ken Selzer about the Rotary Foundation and the Rotary Endowment Trust. The club is thankful for the leadership of several members who helped raise a large sum of money for Rotary Foundation over the years, a portion of which supports the eradication of polio.

Member Moment – Jake Schloegel

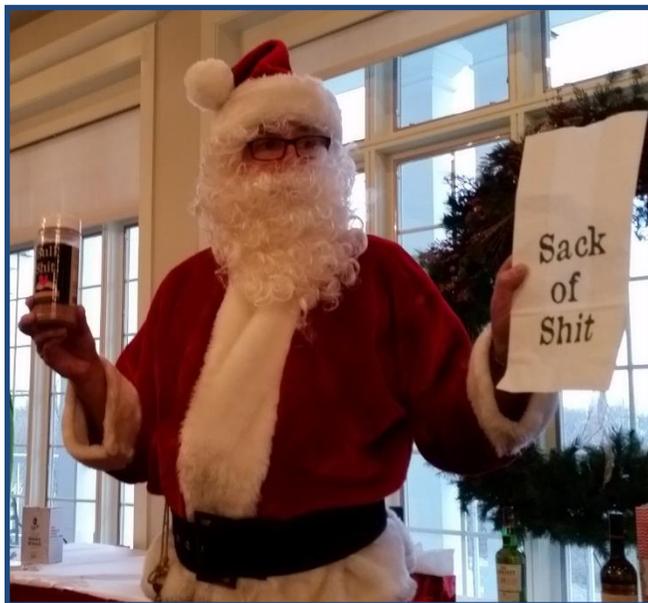
Click link below to watch Jake's Member Moment video on Facebook

[Facebook](#)



Memories of Holiday Auction Past

Recalling our club's good cheer – and sense of humor – at our Holiday Auctions in 2015 and 2018. Let's make this year's auctions equally memorable and successful!





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

913.633.8331

Abigail@hopekids.org

Leawood Rotary 2026 Meal Packing Event

Save the date! Our meal packing event will be on Saturday, January 31st. New location details on the sign-up page. Thanks to Kathy Dull for helping get the space. Please click on the link below to view the sign-up sheet.

www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4BABAC2CABF5CE9-60554957-leawood/45789999#/



Looking Ahead in December

Invocators

December 11 – Don Keith
December 18 – Roxann Kerr-
Lindsey

Greeters:

Arlene L, Terence M, Lisa M,
John M. David M, Brad M

Meetings:

December 11 & 18:
Holiday Auction

Greeter Captains:

December 11 – John
December 18 – Terence



**UNITE
FOR
GOOD**

Rotary 