

 Volume 82
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 No. 49

LAST TUESDAY AT ROTARY - President Scott Martens opened the meeting and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Dan Duncan provided the invocation, and Scott Kaufmann then led members in singing "Hey, Look Me Over." And, we send Happy Birthday wishes to our members with birthdays in June: Merle Parks and Greg Shondell!

**Karole Bradford,** program chair for the day, introduced our speaker, **Beth Felski,** the Appointments Project Director at United WE. Ms. Felski has been with United WE (formerly known as the Women's Foundation) for approximately one year and previously worked for the Olathe Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Felski is a member of the former Blue Valley Rotary Club, which has now disbanded.

The stated mission of the Appointments Project is to work to empower women and strengthen communities by increasing the gender diversity of civic boards and commissions. Historically, women have been, and continue to be, underrepresented on civic boards and commissions, and the goal of the Appointments Project is to increase the number of women serving on these boards and commissions so that the board or commission's membership is more reflective of the community which it serves.

A 2014 research project commissioned by United WE identified several factors which lead to low participation by women on civic boards and commissions. Some of these factors include lack of confidence in leadership skills, waiting to be asked to serve, concerns about the selection process, concerns about time commitment required, and building confidence and knowledge to feel a sense of belonging.

Through its work, the Appointments Project serves as a resource for all women, civic leaders, and elected officials. The Appointments Project is non-partisan and does not vet specific candidates but does provide guidance to women wishing to apply for positions on boards and commissions and will support applicants throughout the selection process. Staff at the Appointments Project also works with civic leaders and elected officials to obtain information about open positions on boards and commissions as well as to educate civic leaders about the importance of gender diversity and how to recruit more women applicants for open positions on boards and commissions.

Ms. Felski cited research which indicates that increased gender diversity on civic boards and commissions increases the efficiency and effectiveness of the group, improves public trust in government, builds stronger communities, improves the lives of residents, and enhances collaboration and innovation.

If you have any questions about the Appointments Project or for more information on how to become involved, please reach out to Beth Felski at apd@united-we.org.

**NEXT WEEK AT ROTARY** - Our speaker will be **Brandon Gawel**, Kaw District Director, Heart of America Council of the Boy Scouts of America, who will be sharing updates from the Heart of America Council. John Freshnock is the program chair for the day.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next clean-up and landscaping day at **Kaw Point Park** will be held on **Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>**, from 9 am - Noon. Contact **Ken Davis** to volunteer.

The Rotaract Club of Western Kansas City, in partnership with the Blue Valley North High School Interact Club, is hosting a Rotaract Bingo Bash on Thursday, June 17, 2021, from 6:30 pm to 9 pm, at The Legendary Rooftop at The Legends. Funds raised from this event will be used to install a new bench at Fischer Park (located in the Rosedale neighborhood), with the balance being donated to Outreach International. The evening's activities include a catered dinner from Taco Naco KC, drinks, Bingo, a silent auction, and more! At the June Board meeting, the KCK Rotary Club Board voted to become a sponsor of the Bingo Bash event, which will allow Club members to purchase event tickets at a discount. For ticket information, please visit:

https://rotaractclubofwestkc.regfox.com/rotaract-bingo-bash.



## Where the Gate to Kansas Swings Open

The Kansas City, Kansas Rotary Club was organized on November 2, 1915 and received its charter as Club No. 195 in January 1916. Its members take pride in more than 100 years of Rotary service to the community and to international fellowship. From this Club have come five District Governors and two Directors of Rotary International. The Club's history is as rich as that of the community it represents.

Following the Lewis and Clark expedition which camped at the confluence of the Kansas and Missouri rivers on June 26, 1804, in present day Kansas City, Kansas, this area became an important center for fur trappers. In the following years, many Indian tribes were relocated here from the East. In 1842 the Wyandot Indians acquired land here and founded a town. During this period, and for the next five decades, this area became the main gateway to the inviting majesty of the sprawling Kansas Prairie and the American West. This was where the frontier began. Pioneers found river transportation, outfitters and the beginning of the Santa Fe and Oregon Trails. After the covered wagons, came major trunk railroads and barge lines.

In 1886, Kansas City, Kansas received its charter as an incorporated city, combining the towns of Wyandot, Argentine and Armourdale. (Rosedale was added in 1922.) Kansas City, Kansas is the site of the first industrial park in the United States, home of the prestigious University of Kansas Medical Center, and the location of the National Agricultural Hall of Fame and the nationally recognized Kansas Speedway.

Near the geographical and population centers of the contiguous United States, it is in the temperate latitudes at an elevation of 726 feet above sea level. The average rainfall is 35 inches. The average mean temperature ranges from  $30^{\circ}$  F in January to  $80^{\circ}$  F in July. The lowest recorded temperature was -23° F on December 23, 1989, and the highest was 113° F on August 14, 1936. Our city's population of 145,000 and area of 155 square miles rank it 158th among cities in the United States.

Welcome to Kansas City, Kansas Rotary and the vibrant community it represents.





**Rotary Opens Opportunities** 

## WHERE NEARBY TO MAKE UP ATTENDANCE

MONDAY

IVIC.	NDAT
Bonner Springs (11:45am)	Twister Bar & Grill, 13100 Kansas Ave.
Overland Park (11:30am)	Doubletree Hotel, 10100 College Blvd.
TUESDAY	
Gladstone (7:00am)	Fairview Christian Church, 1800 N.E. 65th
WEDNESDAY	
	Deer Creek Country Club, 7000 W. 133 <sup>rd</sup>
Leavenworth (Noon) F	liverfront Community Center, 123 S. Esplanade
	Granite City Pub, 8461 NW Prairie View Rd.
Shawnee Mission (Noon) Sylvester	Powell Community Ctr, 6200 Martway, Mission
	- Hilton Garden Inn, 12080 S. Strang Line Road
	Margarita's, 13401 Holmes Rd.
	Hilton Garden Inn Olathe, 119th & I-35
	Waldo Pizza, 7433 Broadway
THURSDAY	
Johnson County (7:15am)	Holiday Inn, 8787 Reeder St., OPKS
	- Hallbrook Country Club, 11200 Overbrook Rd
	C/Cafeteria Conference Rm, 8929 Parallel, KCK
	Gardner Community Ctr., 128 E. Park
	Am Nazarene U, 2030 E. College Way, Olathe
	The Gallery, 61 E. 14th Street, KCMO
FRIDAY	
	Jnited Methodist Church, 8760 Kill Creek Road
	Shawnee Town Hall, 11600 Johnson Drive
Plaza, Missouri (7:15am)	Grand Street Cafe, 4740 Grand Ave.
North Kansas City, Missouri (Noon)	NKC Library, 2251 Howell Street
	Park University Underground, Woodard Center
Lenexa (Noon) Lakeview Vil	lage, Southridge Bldg., 14001 W. 92 <sup>nd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor

Please see the Secretary for the world directory of all Rotary Club's meeting times, days, and places.

<b>Board of Directors</b>
Dire
Ashley /
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