

The War Whoop Weekly Bulletin

Rotary
Club



Kansas City, KS

Meeting Location: Meetings presently held via Zoom.
Office: P.O. Box 171384, Kansas City, KS 66117
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Websites: Club: www.rotarydowntownkck.org, District: www.rotary5710.org, International: www.rotary.org

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LAST TUESDAY AT ROTARY - President Jen Wewers opened the meeting and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. David Bluford shared a Hanukkah Prayer for Freedom as the invocation, and Scott Kaufmann led members in singing "Happy Birthday" to members with December Birthdays: Rick Behrens, Pat Crilly, John Freshnock, Dave Skidgel, and Margaret Steele. Getting in the mood for the holidays, members also sang a couple of verses of "Jingle Bells."

Melissa Sieben, program chair for December, introduced our speaker, Gunnar Hand, Director of Planning + Urban Design for the Unified Government, who spoke about the goDotte Mobility Study. Mr. Hand joined the UG at the beginning of the pandemic while the UG was working remotely, making for an interesting introduction to his new workplace.

The goal of goDotte, which is the first countywide assessment of transportation infrastructure and needs, is to create a Strategic Mobility Plan for Wyandotte County that will integrate all modes of travel into a cohesive system providing convenient, safe, and equitable access for all. The study's planning priorities are equity, public health, economic vibrancy, connectivity, and safety.

Although part of the greater Kansas City metropolitan area, Wyandotte County is more diverse and has a lower median income than the overall metro area. Additionally, adding to transportation difficulties in Wyandotte County, as well as the rest of the metro, the area is significantly impacted by both natural and man-made barriers, such as the Kansas River and various highways and railway lines.

With the focus over the past 50 years being on moving cars faster and more efficiently, the current transportation network for biking and walking lags behind the road system. The goDotte study has also

highlighted that the bus transit system has been focusing on coverage rather than rider convenience, but riders would be better served with frequency and reliability of routes being prioritized over coverage. Mr. Hand also shared that the current Wyandotte County roadway network largely has excess capacity available, but most infrastructure money is still directed to highways, rather than other transportation options. Another opportunity that Mr. Hand raised involves green infrastructure. In addressing stormwater concerns, the County could also increase the greenways and trails network.

If you would like to participate in the goDotte survey, please use this link: [Home | goDotte \(mysidewalk.com\)](http://Home | goDotte (mysidewalk.com)).

NEXT WEEK AT ROTARY - Our speaker will be our own Melissa Sieben, Assistant County Administrator for the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, since 2015. Melissa will be sharing information about Kansas River projects. Melissa is also the program chair for the month.

Also, mark your calendars: The Club will not hold its weekly meeting on **December 28, 2021**, to allow members time to celebrate the holidays with family and friends.

HEALTH REPORT:

Pat Crilly reported that former Club member Bill Epperheimer recently suffered a mild stroke. Bill is at home and engaged in physical therapy. He would be delighted to hear from his Rotary friends!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

If you are cleaning out your closets, the Wyandot BHN - Winter Warm-up could put your donations of new and gently used adult and children's winter coats, scarves, hats, gloves, and blankets, as well as NEW socks, to good use! Through December 17, 2021, you may drop off items at three Wyandot BHN offices (757 Armstrong, 1301 North 47th Street, or 7840 Washington Avenue). Cash donations are also accepted. The coats and accessories will be provided to individuals served by Wyandot Center/Frank Williams Outreach Center, PACES, RSI, and Kim Wilson Housing.

At its December Board meeting, the Board voted to return to billing quarterly for lunches. The lunch billing charges will be discounted at first and then increased in stages as we navigate our return to in-person meetings and investigate lunch options. The January billing statements sent to members will include a quarterly luncheon charge of \$65, which will be increased later in 2022 as we determine the costs of the meeting space and future catering costs.



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 of the nationally recognized Kansas Speedway.

Near the geographical and population centers of the contiguous United States, Kansas City, Kansas 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° F in January to 80° 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.

Service Above Self

Rotary Websites:

KCK Club: www.rotarydowntownkck.org, District: www.rotary5710.org, International: www.rotary.org



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

WHERE NEARBY TO MAKE UP ATTENDANCE

MONDAY

Bonner Springs (11:45 am) ----- Twister Bar & Grill, 13100 Kansas Ave.
Overland Park (Noon) ----- Overland Park Chamber, 9001 W. 110th, Bldg #150

TUESDAY

Gladstone (7:00 am) ----- Fairview Christian Church, 1800 N.E. 65th
Western Johnson County (5:30 pm) ----- Blue Moose, 10064 Woodland Rd., Lenexa

WEDNESDAY

Overland Park South (7:15 am) ----- Deer Creek Country Club, 7000 W. 133rd
Leavenworth (Noon) ----- Riverfront Community Center, 123 S. Esplanade
KCI, Missouri (Noon) ----- Granite City Pub, 8461 NW Prairie View Rd.
Shawnee Mission (Noon) ----- Sylvester Powell Community Ctr, 6200 Martway, Mission
Olathe (Noon) ----- American Legion, 410 E. Dennis Ave.
Kansas City South, Missouri (Noon) ----- RC's Restaurant, 330 E. 135th St.
Johnson County-Sunset (5:15 pm) ----- Hilton Garden Inn Olathe, 119th & I-35
Waldo-Brookside, Missouri (5:30 pm) ----- Waldo Pizza, 7433 Broadway

THURSDAY

Johnson County (7:15 am) ----- Holiday Inn, 8787 Reeder St., OPKS
Leawood (7:15 am) ----- Hereford House, 5001 Town Center Dr.
Village West (7:30 am) ----- Providence MC/Cafeteria Conference Rm, 8929 Parallel, KCK
Gardner (7:30 am) ----- Gardner Community Ctr., 128 E. Park
Santa Fe Trail (7:30 am) ----- Mid-Am Nazarene U, 2030 E. College Way, Olathe
Kansas City, Missouri (Noon) ----- The Gallery, 61 E. 14th Street, KCMO

FRIDAY

Desoto (7:00 am) ----- Desoto United Methodist Church, 8760 Kill Creek Road
Shawnee (7:15 am) ----- Shawnee Town Hall, 11600 Johnson Drive
Plaza, Missouri (7:15 am) ----- Grand Street Cafe, 4740 Grand Ave.
North Kansas City, Missouri (Noon) ----- NKC Parks & Rec., 1201 Clark Fergusson Dr.
Parkville, Missouri (Noon) ----- Park University Underground, Distance Learning Ctr.
Lenexa (Noon) ----- Lakeview Village, Southridge Bldg., 14001 W. 92nd, 5th Floor

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

2021-2022 Board of Directors

Officers

Jen Wewers

President

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Vice President

Greg Shondell

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Secretary

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