

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
kckrotary@gmail.com

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. For the invocation, **Karen Hostetler** shared Maya Angelou's "Prayer" asking for peace, and **Scott Kaufmann** led members in singing "Happy Birthday" to members with January birthdays, **Melissa Sieben**, **Frank Simonich**, and **Bill Strumillo**, as well as to our speaker for the day **Pastor Adrion Roberson** and our guest **Melody Burns!** In honor of the New Year and in tribute to those we lost in 2021 (Bob Kimball, Bill Mullarky, and DuMont Reed), members then sang a chorus of "Auld Lang Syne."

President **Jen** then introduced our speaker, **Pastor Adrion Roberson**, the co-founder of KC United!, a community engagement organization, Co-Pastor of Berean Fellowship Church in KCK, and a team leader with Kansas Leadership Center. Pastor Roberson is a life long Wyandotte County resident and a proud Wyandotte High School Bulldog (making Mark Dupree very happy!).

KC United! (KCU) was founded in 2009, originally as a youth sports initiative to engage youth in after school football. Since its inception, KC United has expanded its programming and reach by dreaming big. Pastor Roberson explained that he views KCU's role as dreaming big for current residents and continuing to nurture and guide the dreams of those who have gone before us.

The work of KCU began by trying something different to impact the community positively and continues with the same philosophy today. KCU's stated purpose is "to strengthen and unify our city one soul, one life, one family at a time." The Mission of KCU is "To exceed the needs of the whole family (spiritually, educationally, economically, spiritually/emotionally, physically) through highly effective, uniquely developed, year-round, after school programs and services that will meet each individual . . . where they are to get them to where they desire to be." With this direction, KCU emphasizes thriving rather than simply surviving.

With its focus on building strong communities and strong family units, KCU sponsors several programs designed to build safe neighborhoods, create nurturing environments, and develop caring schools and caring communities.

Through its sports activities, KCU has served more than 750 youth, and more than 150 youth have participated in KCU's summer STEAM initiative. KCU also assists parents and guardians with its Gamechangers program, in which KCU assists with development of parenting skills.

Several partner entities, including KCK Public Schools, the UG, Bishop Ward High School, the Kansas City Chiefs, Dick's Sporting Goods, The University of Kansas Health System, and Urban Scholastic Center, assist KCU with its work. In fact, thirteen of KCU's youth participants have received full scholarships to Bishop Ward High School.

Looking forward, KCU plans to continue its work and programming to break the poverty mindset in children, youth, and families in Kansas City.

NEXT WEEK AT ROTARY - Our speaker will be **Denise Ogilvie**, Chief Mission Officer for Catholic Charities of Northeast Kansas, who will speak to the Club about the need for homeless shelters in Kansas City, Kansas and the work going on to provide needed shelter for the homeless at Sanctuary of Hope. **Jay Dunlap** is the program chair for the month.

HEALTH REPORT: Several members, including **Karole Bradford**, **Jay Dunlap**, and **Scott Martens** have recently tested positive for COVID-19. Wishing everyone a speedy recovery!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

At its January Board meeting, the Board discussed whether to change our meeting structure in light of the rising rates of COVID infections. After discussion, the Board decided to keep the current **meetings in-person at Memorial Hall, with a Zoom option** for members who are uncomfortable in larger groups or otherwise unable to attend in person.

On your January billing statement, you will notice 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. If you have any input or suggestions concerning the luncheons or the Club's billing structure, please contact **President Jen**, **Rosemary Podrebarac**, or **Greg Shondell**.

Contribution acknowledgment letters for 2021 contributions to the KCK Rotary Presidents' Foundation have been mailed to members. If you are expecting a letter and do not receive it, please contact **Greg Shondell**.



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:

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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

Karole Bradford

Vice President

Greg Shondell

Treasurer

Rosemary Podrebarac

Secretary

Jim Knight

Sergeant at Arms

Scott Martens

Past President

Directors

Ashley Adorante

David Bluford

Jay Dunlap

Mark Dupree

John Freshnock

Phil Gibbs

Todd Jordan

Jim Knight

Melissa Sieben