

The War Whoop Weekly Bulletin



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

Volume 83

April 22, 2022

No. 43

Happy Earth Day!!

LAST TUESDAY AT ROTARY -President Jen Wewers opened the meeting and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Reflecting on this significant and sacred time for many world religions, **Karole Bradford** then provided an ecumenical blessing as the invocation. Next, **Scott Kaufmann** led members in singing “R-O-T-A-R-Y.”

Scott Kaufmann, program chair for April, continued with his theme of freedom, focusing on the freedom of personal choice over one’s own person. Scott introduced three guests who joined us to discuss the issue of decriminalization or legalization of marijuana. First, **John Simmons** shared his personal story. Growing up poor in St. Louis, Missouri, John shared that he was a hard-headed, rebellious, and independent youth and began getting involved with drugs, mostly alcohol and marijuana. Because he was poor, selling drugs presented an advantageous way to earn some money to support his own personal usage. Over time, the drugs he used became harder, and selling drugs became more about making money and participating in that lifestyle than simply supporting his own personal fun. Throughout this time, John ended up in Missouri State Prison on three separate occasions.

While out of prison, John began to observe things in his circle of friends and drugs that disturbed him and determined that he would leave that life. So, John decided to cultivate his own marijuana and continue to sell that product to provide supplemental income as some financial security.

Eventually, the Feds discovered John’s marijuana plants, and, due in part to his previous convictions, John was sentenced to 13 years in

Federal prison, where he served approximately 11 years. During his time in Federal prison, John moved to various facilities, with a prison in Arkansas being the closest to his home. The distance from his family and the difficulty of communicating with them lead to John’s isolation from his family. Since his release from prison, John has repaired the damaged familial relationships caused by his absence. Based on his personal experience, John believes that Federal prison is without doubt punitive but not very rehabilitative in nature.

Marlena Smith, Director of Public Outreach for Kansas Cannabis Business Association, then provided some information on the efforts in Kansas to legalize marijuana. Kansas Cannabis Business Association has been working with legislators in Topeka to pass a bill legalizing medicinal marijuana. A bill currently before the Kansas Senate is likely to be put to vote when the Senate returns after its current recess. If this bill passes, Kansas will become the 38th state to legalize medicinal marijuana, and dispensaries in Kansas could be open by early 2024.

NEXT WEEK AT ROTARY - Our speaker will be **Jason Young**, Senior Vice President with American Funds, will give an update on the markets and what American Funds analysts are uncovering in their extensive global research effort. **Scott Kaufmann** is the program chair for the day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Thanks to those who joined the efforts at **Crosslines Community Outreach** last week! KCK Rotary Club volunteers were **David Bluford** and his wife **Vicky Kaufman**, **Dan Duncan**, **Scott Martens** and his son **Max**, **Terry Robinson**, and **Greg Shondell**.

The next volunteer opportunity at Crosslines Community Outreach is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 15, 2022**, from 10 am - 1 pm, in the kitchen.

A **Kaw Point Park Clean-up** is scheduled for **Saturday, May 21, 2022**. More details to follow!

2022 Greater Kansas City Day, a fundraiser for Rotary Youth Camp, is set for **May 13, 2022!** This year, the Monarchs and the Negro League Museum are joining the fundraising efforts with a replacement for the former newspaper sales. For a donation of \$20, you will receive a Monarchs ball cap, a voucher for two tickets to a Monarchs game, and a sample of Monarchs blend coffee from The Roasterie.



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

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