

# 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](http://www.rotarydowntownkck.org), District: [www.rotary5710.org](http://www.rotary5710.org), International: [www.rotary.org](http://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. **George Turner** then provided the invocation, The Beatitudes, and **Scott Kaufmann** led members in singing "Give My Regards to Broadway."

**Fred Zimmerman**, program chair for the month, was unable to join the group today as he was waylaid by COVID. **Ken Davis** served as program chair for the day and introduced our speakers, **Hannah Conner** and **Matt Kleinmann**, from the Unified Government Health Department.

Ms. Conner, who has been with the UG Health Department for two years, is a Social Epidemiologist, with her BS in Biology from Truman State University and a Masters of Public Health from Drexel University. When she began her role at the Health Department, she specialized as a COVID epidemiologist but has now transitioned to social epidemiologist. As a social epidemiologist, Ms. Conner analyzes data to determine how social injustice leads to poor health outcomes and works to develop community-based solutions to improving health equity.

In her presentation, Ms. Conner shared a series of slides concerning the status of COVID in Wyandotte County. Although the May daily case rate is much lower than during prior surges in the COVID infection, May's daily case rate in Wyandotte County is approximately 3 times higher than the case rate during April. Presently, Wyandotte County ranks in the low category in community infection rates but in the high category in community transmission of the virus.



in Wyandotte County, please visit [Wyandotte County COVID-19 Hub \(arcgis.com\)](https://wyandotte-county-covid-19-hub.unifedghub.arcgis.com/).

Matt Kleinmann recently joined the UG Health Department as program manager for the Wyandotte County Health Equity Task Force (HETF). Mr. Kleinmann received his Master of Architecture degree from KU, where he is now working on his PhD in Architecture. He also received a Masters in Urban Design from Washington University in Saint Louis.

The HETF works to ensure equitable access to health for all residents living in Wyandotte County, and Mr. Kleinmann utilizes his design expertise to improve health outcomes in the built environment. He describes the work of the HETF as "meeting people where they are."

Realizing the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on minority communities, at the beginning of the pandemic, numerous community partners joined together to form the HETF. Partners in the HETF include, among many others, the UG Public Health Department, NBC Community Development Corporation, Bethel Neighborhood Center, Vibrant Health, The University of Kansas Health System, Livable Neighborhoods Taskforce, Wyandotte Health Foundation, and Grandview Park Presbyterian Church, among others.

The highest case rate in Wyandotte County occurred in January 2022, at the height of the spread of the Omicron variant of COVID. Ms. Conner did share encouraging news that the vaccination rate in Wyandotte County has steadily increased with more than 63% of Wyandotte County residents having received at least one dose of COVID vaccine. For up-to-date information on COVID

With COVID infections decreasing somewhat, the HETF is shifting its efforts from mass testing and vaccination sites to a more neighborhood-based clinic location approach. For example, in areas of KCK with high population density and low vaccine rates, the HETF is launching a door hanger program to provide residents with information about vaccination and testing opportunities. Efforts such as this allow HETF to “meet people where they are.”



**NEXT WEEK AT ROTARY** - Stan Weber, brother-in-law of our own John Freshnock and color analyst for the K-State Radio Network, will be joining us once again to provide an always entertaining look at K-State and Big 12 sports. Fred Zimmerman is the program chair for the month.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

A Kaw Point Park Clean-up is scheduled for **Saturday, May 21, 2022**. If you are able to volunteer, please join the group at Kaw Point Park at 9 am, wearing sturdy shoes or boots and bringing work gloves. In addition to clearing the park of trash and debris, volunteers may also be weeding.

The Rotaract Club of Western Kansas City is hosting its second annual Rotaract BINGO Night on **June 9, 2022**, at the Bonner Springs Community Center. The doors will open at 5:30 pm, with Bingo starting at 7 pm. In addition to Bingo, the evening includes dinner, drinks, and a silent auction. To purchase tickets, please

visit this site: <https://rotaractclubofwestkc.regfox.com/rotaract-bingo-night>. Use coupon code RBEB22 for Early Bird Ticket rates through May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Volunteer Day!** The Club has scheduled a volunteer project at **Cross-Lines Community Outreach on Wednesday, June 29, 2022**, from 10 am until 1 pm. We will be working in the community kitchen that day. Please contact **David Bluford** or **Rosemary Podrebarac** to volunteer.

KC Monarchs hats may still be available if you have not yet been able to participate in **2022 Greater Kansas City Day**, a fundraiser for Rotary Youth Camp.

**Program Ideas:** Do you have any leads on great programs for our meetings? Please send any suggestions for programs to **Jay Dunlap**, Program Chair for **2022-2023**.

District 5710 has been awarded 30 **Kansas Leadership Center (KLC) scholarships**. If interested, please visit the website and apply now so that you can secure enrollment. [See the application information here.](#)

**Quarterly billing statements** were emailed to members on April 1, 2022. Due to a technical issue, some of you may not be able to open the statement attachment. If this issue affects you, please email Greg Shondell ([greg@HeathwoodOil.com](mailto:greg@HeathwoodOil.com)) to request an additional copy. Our apologies for any inconvenience.

Don't forget to bring your empty **egg cartons (1 dozen egg size)** to **Dave Skidgel**, who will collect the cartons and deliver them to a local food pantry so that they may be filled with fresh eggs for clients.

Remember that membership is everyone's responsibility! If you need a membership application, please contact **Rosemary Podrebarac**.

Just a reminder that you may **make up meetings** missed this Rotary year until the close of the Rotary year on June 30, 2022. If you have attended another Rotary Club's meeting or a Rotary webinar, please advise **Rosemary Podrebarac** to obtain your make-up credit.



## *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. 110<sup>th</sup>, 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. 133<sup>rd</sup>  
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. 135<sup>th</sup> St.  
Johnson County-Sunset (5:15 pm) ----- Hilton Garden Inn Olathe, 119<sup>th</sup> & 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. 14<sup>th</sup> 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. 92<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> 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