

Club Officers:
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Treasurer Tom Durkin
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Directors:
2024-2026: Jim Foley, Susan Markley, Rick Sutton
2025-2027: Shavon Forte, Gary McCombs, Geri Reinhart

Past Governor Kathy Williams
District Governor Carol Chiarito
Division 5 Lt. Governor Rick Baldessari
Executive Director/Secretary Kirstin Litz

Published Weekly by Kiwanis Club of Columbine. Send your articles to the co-editors, Ken Sweet or Jim Foley, at news@columbinekiwanis.org

New Membership Contacts:
Ken Sweet info@columbinekiwanis.org
19Kiwanis15

Attendance Last Meeting

At our meeting on November 05

Total attendance – 39

Guests – Anita Albert and Connie Ward.

Connie presented on Medicare Plans.

Project hours MTD for October are 661.5, November is 136.

Wednesday Meeting in person

6:45 Social, 7:00 Meeting

4G's Restaurant

5950 S Platte Canyon Rd, Littleton, CO 80123

Links for signups and reporting hours
Scan QR or click on link



[PROJECTS SIGN UP](#)

[VOLUNTEER 4HOURS](#)

Please report hours

Kiwanis Club of Columbine

Weekly Newsletter for November 12, 2025

This Week is a Student of the Month

Greeter /Pledge: John Marchetti

Invocation:

We need people to signup – Sign up Genius or contact Lane

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time.



Nov 14 Geri Reinhart

Nov 14 Jerry Clayton

Nov 15 Don Buck

Nov 18 Susan Markley

Upcoming Club Programs

Nov 19 Area Elementary School Teachers

Nov 26 TBD

Dec 03 Major Mike O'Brian - Salvation Army

Future Club Events and Service Projects

Nov 13 Thu Sharing with Sheridan – Ferris

Nov 15 Sat Sweet Dreams in a Bag – Shavon

Nov 18 Tue Satellite Meeting - Charlie – Colorado Credit Union

Nov 25 Tue Kiwanis After Dark - George / Abe 303 Sports Bar 5:00

Dec 02 Tue Satellite Meeting - Charlie – Colorado Credit Union

Dec 09 Tue Kiwanis After Dark - George / Abe 303 Sports Bar 5:00

Dec 13 Sat Christmas Party – Dawn/Connie

Dec 14 Sun Jefferson Symphony Orchestra – Jim R

Nourish Meals on Wheels (Note – check with master list)

Nov 12 Wed Terri & Cleve McKinney

Nov 13 Thu Denny Brehm family

Nov 14 Fri Rick & Betti Sutton

Nov 17 Mon Ferris Forar & Will Knoblauch

Nov 18 Tue Riggs & Bobbi Smith

Nov 19 Wed Terri & Cleve McKinney

Nov 20 Thu Mary Rome & Sandra Legge

Nov 21 Fri Jim Foley & Mitch Waldman

Nov 24 Mon Steve & Debbie Barns

Nov 26 Wed Terri & Cleve McKinney

Dec 01 Mon Jerry & Jan Clayton

Dec 02 Tue Riggs & Bobbi Smith

Dec 03 Wed Terri & Cleve McKinney

Dec 04 Thu Rod & Karen Hunley

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RMD Internet Site: <https://k24.site.kiwanis.org/>
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Blood Drive December 8th

Monday December 8th
10 AM – 2 PM
Riverwalk Clubhouse
2751 W. Riverwalk Cir
Littleton

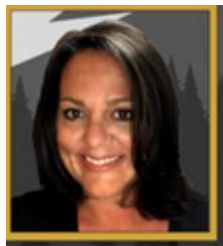


<https://donors.vitalant.org/dwp/portal/dwa/appointment/guest/phl/timeSlotsExtr?token=ivmMbU%2FVYEQqkEYtc3fahB8UrvT1uxZKnjiaDZwKgPw%3D>



Medicare Solutions

We had a very informative speaker at the last Wednesday morning Kiwanis club meeting, Connie Ward. An expert on all things, Medicare. She went through and explained upcoming changes to policies, premiums, and programs within the Medicare system. She gave us the political and economic context for why these changes were occurring. Our speaker was very knowledgeable and has been present on many institutional boards advocating for seniors. Many people had the opportunity to ask questions and become more informed. – Lane



PEO Fundraiser

P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) raises money for the education of women is selling scone mixes for \$15 per bag or \$20 for gluten free for their big fundraiser. We will be taking orders later for December. The choices are Lemon Poppyseed, Craisin, Pumpkin Raisin, and Chocolate Chip. The mixes are in handmade fabric bags with the choice of Fall, Christmas, Non-holiday and NO bag. Directions are attached to the bag. The mix needs to be refrigerated or frozen when delivered. Ask around and you'll hear how delicious they are! Thanks, Connie, Dawn, Geri, Sandy, Sally E., et al.



IFCS

Helping Hands for the Holidays is an IFCS program that helps families add joy to the gift-giving season while maintaining tight budgets. Children aged newborn to 10 years old receive holiday **gifts through the generosity of community sponsors.**

This year, our Team processed over 700 applicants and, because we can rely on your help, we accepted **311 children from 152 families - all of whom are first time program participants.**

Both [Child Gift Sponsors](#) and [Food & Program Support Donors](#) are needed to make this year's program a success. **Thank you for any help you can provide!**

Sweet Dreams in a Bag

The following date remains, help us.

November 15th

Littleton Public Schools East
Community Center
5933 S Fairfield Street
Littleton, CO 80120
(Just west of Orchard & Broadway)
10:00 AM-noon



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Sharing with Sheridan

For a second consecutive week we experienced a surge in demand, likely due to the impending cutoff of SNAP benefits; we served 194 families (610 neighbors). For the coming week, we can use Pancake mix, jelly, canned black and pinto beans, tomato sauce, canned applesauce, pineapple dry pasta, dry macaroni and cheese

Thank you for your continued care of our neighbors.
Stephanie

Columbine Key Club

The Key Club at Columbine High School is planning a food drive for the Community Mission in Denver, with whom they have been partnering. The food pantry in west Denver is especially needing peanut butter, canned fruits, vegetables, meat, and beans, but will take any non-perishable food items that have not expired. Any donations our Kiwanis members can provide will be helpful. Bring items to meeting on or before November 19.

On Wednesday, October 29, Key Club sponsored a Blood Drive at the school. The Vitalant people were very well organized, and 54 pints were collected. Several students donated blood for the first time. Their next event is scheduled April 1.

Trick or Treat Street was a great event for members to bond and provide for the community.

Here's my challenge to our club members:

Bring a jar of PEANUT BUTTER to me this or next week to support the Key Club Food Drive. - Karen Hunley

South Jeffco Business Alliance

A networking opportunity to talk to prospective Kiwanis members that are already involved in the community. Free coffee and often other food.

When: Tuesday, November 18, 2025, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Where: Peak Community & Wellness Center, 6612 S. Ward St., Littleton, CO 80127

How: Please RSVP so we can plan for breakfast and seating.



Veterans Day

Several of the local schools and other Venues have veteran day celebrations.

We will try to list them here as we learn about them.

Columbine High School

Tuesday Nov 11 11:30:PM to 1:00PM (Lunch at 12:00)

RSVP by Nov 7

303-982-4400 or Tamra.VanNorstrand@jeffco.k12.co.us

Leawood Elementary

Time to be determined

Columbine Kiwanis will help with the setup - Ken

Governors' Ranch Book Sale

Book Fair Schedule

Mon 11/10 - After School Only 2:35-3:15

Tues 11/11 - 9:15-3:15 (Come shop after the Veteran's Day assembly)

Wed 11/12 - 7:30-3:15 (Come shop with your kids during Family & Friends Luncheon!)

Thurs 11/13 - 7:30-3:15

Fri 11/14 - 7:30-10:00am (closing early to pack up)

They need volunteer help: to volunteer sign up here

[Sign-Up Genius Link](#)



We all can work together



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JSO Holiday Concert

JSO Holiday Concert with Denver Children's Choir and Ambler Clarinet Choir
Sunday Dec 14, 2025, 3:00 -5:30 PM MST Mines Green Center - Golden, 80401

For decades, the JSO's concerts have become the area's favorite holiday tradition with families and friends gathering to listen to the magical sounds of Christmas that are sure to fill hearts and souls with goodwill throughout the rest of the Season. WWW.jeffsymphony.org.

Bedouins and AK 47's

It's not every day that you sit down to interview someone who talks about coming over the crest of a hill in Saudi Arabia to see some Bedouins holding AK-47's. But that's what you get when you interview Ken Sweet for an article for the Kiwanis newsletter. When asked about his response to this situation (that would have terrified most of us), he said his response was, "dam it, now we'll have to sit down with them and have tea and doughnuts, and we'll lose 3 hours of productivity for our crew". Ken mentioned that he didn't have any fear of the Bedouins with AK-47's, since "most of the population was armed with AK-47's anyway", and he found the Bedouins to be nice, hospitable people. So hospitable, in fact, that he was invited to and attended a wedding of one of their tribe members.

Such was the life of world traveler Ken Sweet. His work as a mining geophysicist led him to all corners of the world, including Canada, Mongolia, Spain, Portugal, Africa, the Middle East, and most of the U.S.

Ken spoke of being dropped off in the Alaskan bush with his crew of 4 for a job. By 9:00 a.m. it started snowing so hard that he knew the weather would prevent the helicopter from picking them up that day, and they'd have to make camp overnight. They were above timberline, so he knew he had to get his crew down to a lower altitude, by a river for water, and with tree cover to shelter them from the snow and with wood

to start a fire for warmth. Luckily the weather cleared the next day and everyone returned safely.

Ken seemed very blasé about commuting to work via helicopter in Labrador (Canada), because his survey site was about 50 miles from the nearest road. His closest call with a person with guns may have been with a woman in Arizona, toting a rifle. who tried to run him off his worksite for "claim jumping". Interestingly, Ken even worked with Rod Hunley on a job looking for uranium (with Rod doing the computer programming).

Ken joined Kiwanis in 1981 and began ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at Christmas in 1985. He has been President of the club several times. He enjoys working with children and on the newsletter and publicity. In his free time (he has free time?) he likes to hike with other Kiwanis members like Mike, Lori, and Susan, and enjoys sailing. He has sailed off the coast of Spain. Ken used to have a boat at Chatfield, but now gets his sailing experiences by going to Vancouver for 3 weeks to sail a friend's boat.

Ken enlisted in the military during the Vietnam War but luckily stayed stateside and used his technical acumen for electrical maintenance of military technology. He has been married for over 50 years to Peggy, and has a daughter who is a school teacher. His grandson (18) is following in the engineering footsteps of his granddad and builds BattleBots for competitions.

It was such a pleasure to get to know more about Ken.

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