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 President Lane Andrew  
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 Secretary Mike Jepkes  
 Treasurer Tom Durkin  
 Past President Ken Sweet

**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](mailto:news@columbinekiwanis.org)

**New Membership Contacts:**  
 Ken Sweet [info@columbinekiwanis.org](mailto:info@columbinekiwanis.org)  
 19Kiwanis15

## Attendance

Our attendance at the February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting was 37, including one guest: Lynn Weitzel.

Project hours for January totaled 568. Project hours MTD for February is 107.

## Wednesday Meeting

6:45 Social, 7:00 Meeting

## 4G's Restaurant

5950 S Platte Canyon Road, Littleton, CO 80123

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



[PROJECTS SIGN UP](#)

[VOLUNTEER 4HOURS](#)

Please report hours

# Kiwanis Club of Columbine

Weekly newsletter for February 11, 2026

This Week is Student of the Month

Greeter /Pledge: Rick Sutton Invocation: Brian Counterman

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



Feb 11 Gary McCombs  
 Feb 12 Don Nelson

## Upcoming Club Programs

Feb 18 Sweet Dreams in a Bag - Project  
 Feb 25 Brad Bridgewater - Water Rights in the West (p)

## Future Club Events and Service Projects

Feb 10	Tue	Kiwanis After Dark – George Kinzer, 303 Sports Bar 5:00 PM
Feb 12	Thu	Sharing with Sheridan - Ferris
Feb 12	Thu	Meals on Wheels – flower preparation
Feb 14	Sat	Jefferson Symphony Orchestra – Jim R
Feb 17	Tue	Satellite Meeting - Charlie Boyer– Colorado Credit Union
Feb 21	Sat	Nibbles and Sips - Lane
Feb 23	Mon	Project CURE – George
Feb 24	Tue	Kiwanis After Dark – George Kinzer, 303 Sports Bar 5:00 PM
Mar 07	Sat	Mid-Year Rally Kiwanis Division
Mar 09—13		Jr. Achievement – 3 <sup>rd</sup> grade - Tom Durkin
Apr 26	Sun	Top Golf fund raiser – Jim F

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

Feb 11	Wed	Kathy Athens & Geri Reinhart
Feb 12	Thu	Denny Brehm Family
Feb 13	Fri	Steve & Debbie Barnes
Feb 16	Mon	Jerry & Jan Clayton
Feb 17	Tue	Riggs & Bobbi Smith
Feb 18	Wed	Scott Storey / Rick Sutton
Feb 19	Thu	Karen & Rod Hunley
Feb 20	Fri	Jim Johnstone & Mitch Waldman
Feb 23	Mon	Mike Greunke & Bob Bushache
Feb 25	Wed	<b>Need Volunteers</b>
Feb 26	Thu	Les & Mary Ann Burns & Sally Kingman
Feb 27	Fri	Janet Woodhull & Nancy Bierman
Mar 02	Mon	Tom Durkin & friend
Mar 03	Tue	Riggs & Bobbi Smith
Mar 04	Wed	Terry & Cleve McKinney????

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## 2026 Rocky Mountain District Rally

Get ready to be uplifted, empowered, & connected at this year's Mid-Year Rally with CKI DCON - a celebration of service, leadership, and community impact! Every session is designed to spark new ideas, strengthen bonds, and fuel your passion for Kiwanis.

### Why Attend?

This isn't just a conference, it's a movement. It's where stories of service come alive, where leaders are made, and where communities are transformed. Whether you're a seasoned Kiwanian or brand new to the family, you'll leave with fresh ideas, renewed energy, and a deeper sense of purpose.

### Event Includes:

- Construction Project
- Speed Recruiting
- Amy Zimmerman - Keynote and New Look at Fundraising
- Chris Martz - "Rethink how you Motivate Your Members"
- Distinguished Club awards
- Kiwanis Voices
- How Clubs are Growing Membership
- Understanding Kiwanis Awards
- Connecting with Circle K
- 100 Year Old Clubs
- Other Awards and Recognitions
- Closing Presentation - "Kiwanis runs deeper than Blue and Gold" by Chris Martz

and much more. . .

Register

[Register](#)

Ken's opinion - I attend the Rocky Mountain District Rally because I find it exciting to meet fellow Kiwanians from other clubs who are also highly motivated. I value the opportunity to connect with these members and the chance to exchange ideas with them.



Use SignupGenius so we know who is going. It is still necessary to register.

## Cycling Without Age Recognition

The Club received a plaque from Cycling Without Age in recognition of the donation made by Columbine Kiwanis. Scott is shown presenting this plaque to Lane, the president of Columbine Kiwanis.



## Jefferson Symphony Orchestra

Shall We Dance?

Sunday, February 14, 1 PM



JSO Concert: Shall We Dance?

**DATE CHANGED!!**

**SATURDAY, February 14, 2026**

**1:00 pm**

## Financial Audit

Every year we have our Columbine financial records reviewed. If you are willing to help this year contact president Lane. Board members are not eligible to be on the committee



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## Nibbles and Sips

It's that time of the year again!! Integrated Family Community Services Nibbles and Sips Gala is:

Saturday, February 21, 2026 • 5:00 - 8:30pm  
[Hyatt Regency Denver Tech Center • 7800 E. Tufts Avenue, Denver 80237](#)

Jazz Hands Foundation Band (Brian Dee Counterman) will once again be playing the music from the Ballroom during the Silent Auction and the Nibbles and Sips Portion of the event.

For more information please go to  
[Nibbles & Sips Main Page - IFCS | A Denver Area Food Bank and More to Nourish Lives](#)

Brian Counterman

## Meals on Wheels

Help Us Spread the Love This Valentine's Day  
On **Thursday, February 12 from 1-3 pm**, we're inviting volunteers to help us turn a whole lot of love into something our clients can hold in their hands. Together, we'll prepare **1,000 donated long-stem roses** from Wish of a Lifetime—one for every client—to be delivered alongside Valentine's Day meals on February 13.

Volunteers will trim stems, attach water vials, slide each rose into a protective sleeve, and finish each one with bright curling ribbon. It's part careful, part creative, and completely heart-filled. If you have them, we ask that volunteers please **bring garden clippers** to help with trimming the stems.

## Project CURE Each Month

On the last Monday of each month, several of our members visit Project CURE for a work session, usually sorting medical and surgical supplies and equipment. These items eventually are shipped to several dozen poor countries around the world, helping provide needed medical care for the folks living there. These surplus items have been donated by various hospitals and medical centers in our area.

Our next visit is set for Monday, February 23, with optional carpooling from the 4Gs parking lot at 9:00am. Our work period is from 9:30am to noon at the Project CURE Warehouse on E Geddes Ave in Centennial. We would be pleased to have you join us. See our SignUpGenius site to indicate your planned participation. - George

## Satellite Group Plans for February

On Tuesday, February 17, Timothy Andrew will present a program about Alexander the Great and his influence on history. It will be interesting to hear about this outstanding teenager's viewpoint on this aspect of history.

All Kiwanis members and friends are welcome to attend our satellite group meeting. We meet in the Community Room at the Colorado Credit Union at 10026 W. San Juan Way, facing the 8400 Block of S Kipling Parkway, on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 12:30pm.

## TopGolf Fundraiser

The TopGolf Fundraiser will be held on April 26 at Top Golf Centennial. The event will include a golf tournament, buffet lunch, and drinks there will also be a silent auction where the winner need not be present to win.

To make this event successful, we will need help from club members. Here are the areas where we could use volunteers:

- **Socialize:** developing content and communicating the event through various social media
- **Boots on the Ground:** talking to family, friends, neighbors and businesses to gain their support
- **Sponsorship:** meeting with businesses and securing sponsorship commitments at the level they can commit to
- **Participation:** we will aim for at least 10 teams of four to six participants. Participants buy a ticket which includes tournament play, a buffet lunch, and two drinks

Let Mike Jepkes know if you are interested in volunteering.

## NHDC

### National History Day in Colorado

Mitch is looking for judges for this event. See Mitch for more information.



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## Meet Anita

Anita Albert is one of our newest members. She enlisted in the Navy and served during the Desert Shield/Desert Storm conflicts. Anita was stationed at an old airbase on the Island of Oahu in Hawaii, and worked on radar, navigation, and communications with the Lockheed P-3 Orion anti-submarine surveillance aircraft. She described working on equipment that had radio tubes, even though most radio tubes had been replaced 2 decades earlier (in the 1970's) with transistors. Anita served a total of 6 years, and we are thankful for her service to our country.

Anita met her husband in Hawaii, and although they enjoyed walking on the beach after dinner most evenings, they found they had developed "Island Fever," since there is only so many new things you can experience on an island. Deciding they should return to the mainland but not wanting to return to her husband's home state of Iowa, they landed upon Colorado as the ideal place where they could pursue their love of hiking and camping. Anita went to college to study finance and worked as a Certified Financial Analyst. She then worked in software web development. Anita most recently worked for the USGS (U.S. Geological Survey) for 2 years on databases for the national map. Because of last year's DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency) slashing of the federal workforce and figuring that her 2-year tenure at USGS would not save her from being terminated, Anita chose to take advantage of DOGE's offer of a "deferred resignation" package. Anita then pursued certification as a personal trainer and is beginning that as a new side business.

Anita has a daughter who is 26 and a Flight Safety Instructor for Boeing, and a son a CSU who is studying cybersecurity. Anita and her husband enjoy hiking, camping, and biking. They have ridden the Colorado National Monument Tour of the Moon in Grand Junction and around the Elephant Rocks area in the San Luis Valley as well as other bike races.

She hiked 7 Colorado 14ers, backpacking in the Grand Canyon, as well as hiking the Kalaka volcano in Maui and spending 2 weeks hiking around the Canyonlands and Arches area of Utah. She enjoys other traveling and has visited Germany, Austria, England, Italy, Spain, and Scotland.

Anita's most memorable travel experience occurred with her sister and daughter. Anita's sister had been diagnosed with stage IV colon cancer at the age of 47 and had always wanted to walk the Camino de Santiago (a 7-day, 80-mile pilgrimage to the shrine of the apostle James, in Galicia Spain). The trio

walked the route and met people from around the world. Unfortunately, Anita's sister did succumb to her illness. Anita's sister likely had colon cancer for several years before her diagnosis, as it is a slow growing cancer that is almost always cured when caught early enough.

**Anita is encouraging everyone to encourage friends and family to get checked for colon cancer earlier in life. There are a growing number of younger people being diagnosed with it too late.**

We are so excited to have her as a new member!



Thank you, Kathy Athens, for submitting these articles.