

Club Officers:
President Lane Andrew
President Elect
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

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

Project Hours

Project hours MTD for August is 414.5

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 August 26, 2026

This Week's Presenters are Mike Greunke
Topic "Thoughts from a Bank President"
and George Kinzer
Topic "Report on District Convention" (p)

Greeter /Pledge: Rick Sutton Invocation:

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



Aug 30 Riggs Smith

Upcoming Club Programs

Sep 02	Gabriel Guillaume	Second Wind Fund
Sep 09	Stan Moore David	"Moffat and Colorado RR's" (p)
Sep 16		Elementary School Principals
Sep 23	Riggs Smith	"The Star Bangled Banner" (p)
Sep 30	Bill Worthington	- Lt, Gov Installation of Officers
Oct 7		Social time
Oct 14		Student of the month

Future Club Events and Service Projects

Aug 09-Sept 12		Action Center food drive -food to meetings - Ken / Lil
Aug 24	Mon	Project CURE - George Kinzer
Aug 25	Tue	Kiwanis After Dark - George Kinzer, 303 Sports Bar 5:00 PM
Aug 27	Thu	Sharing with Sheridan - Ferris
Aug 30	Sun	Jeffco Symphony Summer Concert - Jim R
Aug 31	Mon	Celebration of Life Hazel Kinzer
Sep 01	Tue	Satellite Meeting - Charlie Boyer- Colorado Credit Union
Sep 08	Tue	Kiwanis After Dark - George Kinzer, 303 Sports Bar 5:00 PM
Sept 11-12		Write Stuff Packing - Abe
Sep 15	Tue	Satellite Meeting - Charlie Boyer- Colorado Credit Union
Sep 20	Sun	Second Wind Walk/Run - Jim Roos
Sep 21	Mon	Columbine Kiwanis Blood Drive - Tom D
Sep 22	Tue	Kiwanis After Dark - George Kinzer, 303 Sports Bar 5:00 PM
Sept 26	Sat	Bike Helmet Distribution - Jim Roos
Dec 12	Sat	Christmas Party

Nourish Meals on Wheels (Please check master list)

Aug 26	Wed	Terri & Cleve McKinney
Aug 27	Thu	Les & Mary Ann Burns & Sally Kingman
Aug 28	Fri	Farris Forar & Jim Foley
Aug 31	Mon	Jerry & Jan Clayton
Sep 01	Tue	Geri Reinhart & Jim Foley
Sep 02	Wed	Terri & Cleve McKinney
Sep 03	Thu	Karen & Rod Hunley
Sep 04	Fri	Don Buck & Jim Foley
Sep 09	Wed	Cleve & Terri McKinney
Sep 10	Thu	Ken Sweet & Scott Story

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The Jazz Man

Many of our members have had the pleasure of hearing Brian Counterman play jazz on his saxophone. He has received many accolades for his talents, including being a member of the Colorado All State Band in high school, a nominee for the McDonalds All American Band to play at the Rose Bowl, and an award for musical excellence by the US Marine Corps in recognition of his outstanding leadership, discipline, and musical talent.

Brian worked as a professional musician for many years while also holding down a full-time day job driving a truck and delivering linens for American Linen. He was in several bands who opened for Bo Diddley, Firefall, and 38 Special. He played at Swallow Hill, and had the pleasure of playing for Stan Getz, one of the all-time great tenor saxophonists. He also worked as a studio musician doing background music on commercials.

His work with American Linen was intensely physical, and he blew out his knee while working there. Brian realized he needed to change to a less physical career, so he obtained certification in the insurance business. He has worked in the insurance business for the past 36 years; the last 6 years in his own insurance brokerage. Brian was a member of NAIFA (the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors), and over the years flew to Washington, DC twelve times to lobby members of Congress on behalf of the industry. In 2007/2008, he served as State President of NAIFA. That year he met with Senator Wayne Allard's Chief of Staff in the Senate Dining Hall. The Pope happened to be visiting Washington at the same time, and Brian described the streets outside the dining hall as absolute chaos, with road blockages, multiple sirens blaring, and multiple helicopters buzzing overhead and Brian is an incredibly resilient man who has faced many health issues. He fractured a vertebrae in his lower back in 2018, 2 vertebrae in 2019, and now has a total of 6 fractured vertebrae that cause chronic pain, especially when he is standing. Because Brian has osteoporosis, his doctors are reluctant to do a spinal fusion on these vertebrae because osteoporosis causes weak and brittle bones, and they fear any spinal fusion would not heal properly. Since his diagnosis, Brian has been successful in increasing his bone density by doing weight bearing exercises 3 times a week, and his gym has used his story to motivate others to improve their health.

Brian has limited vision. He has had 21 surgeries on his eyes for issues including a retinal detachment, cataracts, and glaucoma. Unfortunately, a surgeon botched one of the surgeries on his right eye, and it had to be removed. While he certainly looked dashing for a while when he wore a patch on

his right eye, he now uses a prosthetic eye. Despite all these challenges, Brian maintains a positive attitude about life. He often makes light of the challenges he is facing and has a wonderful sense of humor.

Brian is committed to serving others in our community. He received a 7 News Everyday Hero award for his work in raising \$85,000 for Integrated Family Community Services (IFCS), through his coordination of a group of insurance agents that deliver boxes of food to needy seniors. He is a founding member of Jazz Hands Foundation Band, a nonprofit that raises funds exclusively for children. Brian and his wife Sue are heavily involved in the Seeds of South Sudan, a nonprofit that rescues South Sudanese orphans from the crowded refugee camps in Kenya. Brian's wife Sue has made 5 trips to South Sudan. He cherishes the wrist bands brought back by Sue from various tribal members she has met on his trips there. Brian is a member of St. Philip Lutheran Church, and was instrumental in bringing Sharing with Sheridan to the Kiwanis Club as one of our major volunteer projects.

Brian is a treasure and we are so fortunate to have him in our club.



Pat McNellis The Federal Reserve

Pat delivered an engaging talk about the Federal Reserve Bank, where he worked for many years.



Membership Publicity Help

We need a few volunteers to help with publicity and membership. Recruiting members would involve helping by sending emails to prospective members, perhaps phone calls and visits. Mostly it would be people who have requested information or dropped in at a meeting.

Publicity would be posting on social media, newspapers and whatever. We need to quit being a secret society. The posting would be of some of our events such as Project Cure, Sharing with Sheridan, Meals on Wheel plus more, I think people would volunteer to help and perhaps join if they knew about us.

Let Ken know if you are willing to help or have questions.

Ken

KenSweet@gmail.com

Second Wind Fund

The Second Wind Fund is asking if Columbine Kiwanis would please help again at their Walk/Run Event fundraiser Sept 20, 2026. We've been helping them out with parking for several years and this year again it's at Clement Park (and they always feed us).. If so, they ask if we could show up at the covered picnic area by 6:30 AM. They will have vests for us to wear for directing traffic; the event itself will start at 8, release of doves at 9, and should end around 11 or 12 that morning. Thanks, Jim Roos

The Second Wind Fund decreases instances of suicide in youth by removing financial and social barriers to treatment.



Founded in 2002, this organization refers youth to therapists and pays for 12 sessions of in-person therapy. Since 2022, SWF has served more than 4000 with access to therapy. In the past 3 years, SWF has experienced a 72% growth rate in referrals. In their entire history, Second Wind Fund has reached more than 10,000 youth with

75,000 hours of therapy, invested more than \$7 million in community donations, and reached 44 of CO's 64 counties with in-person therapy. From Wheatridge Kiwanis Newsletter

Kiwanis of Columbine Community Blood Drive



Monday, Sept. 21

10 AM - 2 PM

Riverwalk Clubhouse

2751 W Riverwalk Cir, Littleton

vitalant.org or call 877-25-VITAL

Use blood drive code: 0572

Celebration of Life for Hazel Kinzer

A Celebration of Life for Hazel Kinzer has now been scheduled for Monday, August 31 at 1:30 pm MDT. It will be held at Littleton United Methodist Church at 5894 S. Datura St. in Littleton. This service will be live streamed via the Internet at <http://www.LUMC.TV> for those who are unable to attend in person. A Reception with light refreshments will follow in the church Grant Fellowship Hall.

A full updated Obituary can be

viewed at <https://www.horancares.com>

Project CURE

Our next visit to Project CURE is scheduled for Monday, August 24 at 9:30am. Carpooling will be available from the 4Gs parking lot, leaving promptly at 9:00am. Volunteers can use the Signup Genius site to indicate their planned participation. Please note that we have adjusted our planned visit schedule for this project to the fourth Monday of each month, rather than the last Monday of the month. We hope this eliminates confusion for months with five Mondays.

It is best if you sign up on Sign Up on SignUpGenius. If not joist show up at 4Gs, be on time or little early.

George Kinzer.

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JSO Summer Concert

JSO Summer Concert
Sunday, August 30, 2026
6:00 pm
Heritage Lakewood Belmar Park
Signup to volunteer on signup Genius

Write Stuff Packing Dates

Looks like Friday Sept 11, and Saturday Sept 12 works for most. Let's go with that. Shifts will be 9 - 11:30 and 12:30 - 3, Saturday afternoon only if needed. Here is a link to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B4BAFAE2FA1FF2-65116154-write> - Shirley Otto

Fire Muster

The 31st Annual Family Fire Muster; 10:00 am-2:00 pm,
Saturday, Sept 26.

We are currently coordinating logistics and the transfer of project responsibilities with the Kiwanis Club of Alameda West. We anticipate needing approximately 10-12 volunteers to assist with the project. All volunteers will be required to complete a waiver provided by West Metro Fire.

More information to come.

Thanks,

Jim

Here is the website-

[Family Fire Muster - West Metro Fire Protection District](#)

Sharing With Sherdan

Help need morning and afternoon shifts.

The inclement weather didn't stop our resilient volunteers from mission to serve 70 families (544 neighbors) last Thursday. For the coming week, we can use

- peanut butter
- jelly/honey
- canned beans
- dry pasta

Thank you for your continued care of our neighbors.

Stephanie

Meals on Wheels

Meet one of our customer's new pup, Buddy!

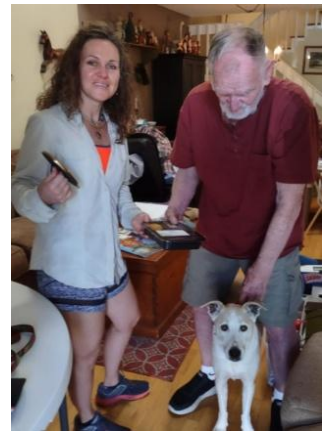
Meals On Wheels today lead to many great conversations ❤️

It meant the world for him, and us, to be able to share some

stories and smiles 😊 If you haven't had the opportunity to deliver yet, it's such a joy!

Consider helping out.

[#mealsonwheels](#)



Ask Erin about taking prisoners.

Erin (From Facebook)

Kiwanis Club Donation

Actual and Budgeted

Donation List	
Gifts - SLP Advisors Key Club	\$ 1,200
Key & Builder clubs	\$ 604
Dreams in a Bag	\$ 1,500
Second Wind Fund	\$ 1,500
Student of the Month	\$ 375
Action Center	\$ 1,500
Sharing With Sheridan	\$ 1,000
KI Children's Fund	\$ 1,000
College Scholarships	\$ 10,000
Cycling Without Ages	\$ 500
Jared Project	\$ 734
Bike Helmet	\$ 3,552
IFCS	\$ 1,000
B.I.O.N.I.C	\$ 500
Grade Schools	\$ 5,000
Ken Caryl Outdoor Lab	\$ 2,000
Total	\$ 31,965

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Action Center Community Food Drive Challenge

Kiwanis Div 5 (Columbine Kiwan is part of Div 5) has volunteered to the challenge of donating 1000 pounds of food to the Action Center. Ken Sweet and Lil Cowe will lead Columbine Kiwanis;. Please bring food donations to any meeting, Ken and Lil will store the food and get it to the Action Center on Sept 12. (Note: if you would rather donate cash give it to Lil or Ken, Lil will buy food with the money

This is a joint effort of Division 5 Kiwanis. We need **YOUR** help to reach our massive goal of collecting **10,000 canned food items** to fully stock The Action Center's Free Grocery Market. With your participation, we can ensure local families facing food insecurity have access to the nutrition they need. WE are trying for 1000 items (pounds).

Why Join the Challenge?

Food Drive Details

- **Benefiting:** The Action Center's Free Grocery Market
- **Donation Drop-Off:** Saturday, September 12th
- **Drop-Off Location:** Kiwanis meetings, or ask Ken or Lil
- Items Most Needed Right Now:
- Cereal / Oatmeal
- Rice
- Canned Fruit
- Cooking Oil
- Peanut Butter
- Pasta & Pasta Sauce
- Canned Meats
- Canned Soup
- Any food items will be accepted

Important Packing Notes: Standard 15/16 oz containers are preferred. **No glass containers, please!** All items must be within one year of their "best by" date.

Got Questions? We've got answers! Reach out to **Claire Castellanos** at CCastellanos@theactioncenter.org.

Let's come together to fill the shelves and hearts of our community! Thank you for being a part of this powerful, life-changing effort. Ken and Lil



Volunteer at Schools

Ken, here's the final information. Leawood needs 2 library volunteers, one for Thursdays and one for Fridays. Volunteers come in every week and many of us travel or have other commitments occasionally and that is okay. You would simply let the librarian know. The hours are flexible, most come in from 9-12 with one coming in the afternoon. Your job would be to check in books that have been returned, reshelve books and help the teachers and students when they come in for their library time. All teachers are proficient in checking books in and out, so if you are not there, they will do it all. Training is provided by the librarian. We are delighted to have 2 of your wonderful Kiwanis volunteers already, **Dayle and Lori**. Anyone interested can contact me directly, Charlene Warneke, Leawood Volunteer Coordinator at 303-656-0881. We would love to have you and the teachers and librarian are so appreciative. Our librarian is split between 2 schools so she is only at Leawood on Mondays and Wednesdays and half days on Fridays.

Contact Ken or Susan for details

Links to Upcoming Projects

Tom McEwen sends the current link each week. A big thanks to Tom. We do have a lot of volunteer activities.

- [2nd Wind Fund Walk Run](#)
- [Greeter & Invocation](#)
- [Jeffco Symphony Summer Concert](#)
- [Project C.U.R.E.](#)
- [Sharing with Sheridan](#)
- [West Metro Annual Family Fire Muster](#)
- [Write Stuff Packing](#)