

The Metro Memo



THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE COLUMBIA METRO ROTARY CLUB

VOLUME 17-30

WWW.COLUMBIAMETROROTARY.ORG

JANUARY 20, 2010

Opening

Vice President Cindy Whaley welcomed members, visitors and guests to today's meeting. **Linda Phillips** led the group with the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance and **Jim Sharrock** introduced our visitors and guests.

Attendance

Members with Guests

Shane Winter..... Josh Kittle
Kris Farris..... Joe McCune

Vistor from Northwest:

Gary Duncan

Vistor from South:

Elinow Arendt

Vistor from Southwest Sunrise:

Dan Scotten

Announcements

Thanks to **Rob Christenson** and **Lori Pewitt** for greeting members and guests as they arrived at today's meeting.

Sarah Read updated the members on the India water project, as well as announcing a chili cook-off on February 5th at her office to determine who will be chosen Metro Rotary's "top chef" to represent our club in the Boy's & Girl's Club Chili Cook-Off on Feb. 13th.

Steve Baumgartner said they need volunteers to keep Mizuho while he and Lynda are on vacation in February.

President-Elect Cindy turned the meeting over to **Les Borgmeyer** who directed members' attention to the Trivia Night flyers and other pertinent information about the February 12th event. As a reminder this is our club's major fundraiser of the year, and asked each member to support this effort. All members are asked to sell \$100 in raffle/event tickets. The goal this year is to have 250 attendees. In addition, there

are sponsorships available, and he outlined those for the group. **Marcia Machens** again asked for members to donate door prizes and silent auction items. She announced **Kimberly Earnest** of KBIA will provide advertising for the event, and **Tom Rose** is our ticket sponsor and once again will be our emcee. **Steve Baumgartner** was recognized for providing the flyers. The Voluntary Action Center has been chosen as the major recipient of funds raised, with other organizations getting donation as well.

President-Elect Cindy directed members to the Rotary International website for ways to donate to victims of the disaster in Haiti.

Valorie Livingston called attention to information about the Boys & Girls Club Chili Cook-Off, and indicated they need five more teams for their event.

Family of Rotary

Beth Lammers reported that **Sally Beth Lyon** will have a birthday on the 24th. She also indicated **Jodi Bales** is doing much better, and is back at work.

Norm Benedict entertained with his "this day in history" facts.

Proposed New Member

Jed Friedrichsen is being proposed as a new member to Metro Rotary. Jed is the Chief Administrative Officer for K-12 Online Education for Blendedschools.net and his proposed classification is Education – Online Learning.

Upcoming Programs

January 27 Classification Talks

February 3 Dwayne Carey
Boone County Sheriff

* REMINDER *

**Metro Rotary
WILL NOT MEET
when Columbia Public Schools
are not in session due to weather**

Sergeant-at-Arms

Brad Nelson was not present at the meeting so I am sure next week there will be double fines!

Assignments

Metro Rotary appreciates having the following members provide the raffle prize, sell the tickets, say the invocation, and lead the pledge. Please show your support by purchasing tickets that enable us to support our charities.

Raffle/Invocation/Pledge:

January 27 **Barb Danuser**
February 3 **Scott Heck**
February 10 **Lyle Johnson**

Next up for Greeters:

January 27 **Stuart Scroggs
& Kimberly Earnest**
February 3 **Jamie Cote
& Sonja Derboven**
February 10 **Linda Baumgartner
& Jose Pagoada**

Program Summary

**Larry Arrowood, President
The Friends of "Jim the Wonder Dog"**

Stuart Scroggs introduced **Larry Arrowood** who spoke about "Jim the Wonder Dog."



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Mr. Arrowood began his presentation by saying Jim's story is amazing and true. He gave a fascinating account of Jim's life, indicating he was a purebred Llewellyn Setter. In spite of early training failures, his owner, Sam VanArsdale of Marshall, Missouri, discovered he had a real talent for hunting quail, basically because he knew where they were located. Quite by accident, Mr. VanArsdale also discovered Jim could understand what he was saying, and eventually started putting on exhibitions of Jim's many talents. Mr. Arrowood gave several examples of Jim's fascinating talents, including the story of the little girl in the red dress. Jim was examined at the University of Missouri Vet School, where they found nothing physically special about him except his broad head and his expressive "people" eyes. However, when tested, they found he not only understood English, but foreign languages as well as Morse Code. Jim lived from 1925-1937, and in 1942 a book was written about him.



In the mid-90s a group of citizens from Marshall realized that people who had seen Jim perform were being lost, so an effort was begun to document their stories, and that documentary is currently available for purchase. There is a garden honoring Jim's memory in Marshall, and an effort underway to collect memorabilia for a Jim the Wonder Dog Museum.



Today, Jim's grave is the most visited spot in the Ridge Park Cemetery, with thousands visiting annually. In closing, Mr. Arrowood provided ways in which we can help raise funds to keep Jim's story alive. For more information go to www.jimthewonderdog.com.

Raffle

Congratulations to **Tom O'Connor** the lucky winner of a gift certificate to Sycamore courtesy of **Linda Phillips**. The raffle raised \$78.

Thanks to Roma Wonneman for providing the notes from the January 20th Metro Rotary meeting.