



ROTARY EXPRESS

Rotary Club of Harrisonville, Missouri | October 29, 2025 | **Service above self. One profits most who serves best.**

Today's program



We welcome District Governor **Andrea Brady** for her official club visit. See her bio on the back page.

Future programs

November 5 - Jill Filer's speaker will be art restorer **Melissa Chaney**, wife of former Rotarian Larry Chaney.

November 12 - Abigail Lowrimore

November 19 - Doug Meyer

November 26 - No meeting (Thanksgiving week)

December 3 - Bill Mills

Birthdays

October 29 Avelicia Rosales

November 18 John Foster

December 5 Brad Ratliff

December 12 Cindy Greenwell

December 12 Jon Taber

Officers & Directors

President Grant Purkey

President-Elect Erik Winkler

President-Nominee Annie Knox

Secretary Dawson Dickey

Treasurer Jessica Junge

Sergeant-at-Arms Judy Franklin

Past President Jon Taber

Directors Jenna Giess, Larry Pfautsch, Cassie Wieberg, Jayden Love, Vanessa Hargrave

District Governor Andrea Brady

Asst. Gov. Bing Schimmelpfennig

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Once intent on a career in ag, Abby Lowrimore now provides financial advice

In one of our periodic classification talks, Abigail Lowrimore shared with fellow Rotarians last week the unlikely story of a small-town girl who made the transition from career in agriculture to becoming a financial advisor with Edward Jones.

Abby was introduced by fellow Edward Jones advisor Lori Watson, who recounted how Abby was referred to her by another advisor. "She reminds me of how I started (12 years ago)," Lori said. "She has heart, grit and soul."



Abby and her husband, a human resources executive at Russell Stover, live in Pleasant Hill with their Golden Retriever. She grew up in a similar-sized town, Mexico, Mo., the eldest of three children. Her parents were educators. "I was used to wrestling pigs and sheep, so I always thought I would go into agriculture."

She attended Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, graduating in three years. Her first job was working in hydroponics at a greenhouse manufacturing company

helping big growers grow plants for resale through companies like Lowe's. Her next job was with a Lenexa company but a desk job was not for her. On the side, she started her own photography and videography business and worked part-time for her church, which was interrupted when she had hip and back surgery.

Then her mentor one day asked, "Have you ever thought about becoming a financial advisor." Abby had not, but she knew she loved helping people, so helping them with their finances and investments seemed like a good way to fulfill that desire.

One thing led to another until, under Lori's auspices, she opened her own Edward Jones office on Feb. 24. She and Lori share office space but have separate businesses. Now, Abby says, "I love what I do." In addition to her involvement with Rotary, Abby is active in the Harrisonville Chamber Foundation, the Peculiar Chamber and the Lions Club.

She has one more connection to Harrisonville — her brother-in-law, Nathaniel Orr, is the band director here.

Cindy and Jesi share 'Rotary Minute'

A periodic feature of our club meetings, the Rotary Minute, led by Cindy Greenwell, resumed at last week's meeting as Cindy was joined by Jesica Junge to share tidbits of information important to both new and veteran Rotarians.

Cindy refreshed members on our annual Christmas Adopt a Family project, providing clothing, gifts and toys for a needy family. The referrals come through either Bright Futures or the Cass County Toy Shop. Look for details as reach the holiday season.

Jesi refreshed members on our quarterly billing details. For a regular member, the statement includes \$165 for meals, \$30 for Rotary dues and an optional \$25 to The Rotary Foundation, called a Sustaining Member. Over 10 years, the quarterly contributions add up to \$1,000, which makes the member a Paul Harris Fellow.

The quarterly statements are different for corporate members, whose meals are charged based on their attendance at \$13.25 per meal. Jesi also reviewed some of the club's recurring donations to various organizations, which are funded in part by meal profits. This includes a \$5,000 yearly contribution over five years going to a Parks & Rec account for our Miracle Field 50th anniversary project.

Announcements from last week's meeting

- Past President Jon Taber presided in the absence of President Grant Purkey.
- John Foster won the Secret Greeter dollar coin.
- Cindy Greenwell contributed to the PolioPlus bank with the news of her first great-grandchild. She also congratulated Alison Dickey on her marriage Friday.
- Jill Filer updated the club on plans for Trunk or Treat, and gave kudos to Vanessa Hargrave for the four banners promoting the Oct. 26 event on the Square.

DG Brady has a big heart for Rotary

The driving force behind Andrea Brady's dedication to service is her love for Springfield and her unwavering belief in the power of community. A proud member of the Rotary Club of Springfield Sunrise, Andrea exemplifies the Rotary motto, Service Above Self, in every aspect of her personal and professional life.



"Being involved means showing up—fully and with purpose," says Brady, Community Outreach and Development Manager at Great Southern Bank for Great Southern Bank. "I view leadership as an opportunity to model commitment, consistency, and compassion."

Brady brings over two decades of leadership experience in retail and human resources, joining Great Southern Bank in 2004. Her approach to management mirrors the Rotary ideal of servant leadership: uplifting others, fostering growth, and leading with integrity.

"It's incredibly fulfilling to see people grow into their potential," Brady says. "Helping others succeed—whether in my workplace or my community—is what drives me." Brady's Rotary journey has been defined by action and impact. She served as president of the Rotary Club of Springfield Metro in 2015-16, leading initiatives that aligned with Rotary's areas of focus, particularly peacebuilding and supporting victims of violence. Under her leadership, the club assembled and distributed comfort kits—stocked with clothing, toiletries, and snacks—for victims of violent crime through The Victim Center.

"Many victims leave traumatic situations with nothing," she says. "A comfort kit may seem small, but it provides dignity and a first step toward healing. Rotary helped make that possible."

Brady's Rotary service represents more than club meetings—it's a deeply personal mission. "It's these moments that remind me why I say yes," she reflects. "Rotary connects me with others who care, who want to serve, and who believe we can make a difference together."

Known for her wide-ranging community involvement, Brady also volunteers with Help Give Hope, Leadership Springfield, and the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce. Her deep commitment to service has not gone unnoticed—she is a recipient of Great Southern Bank's Bill and Ann Turner Distinguished Community Service Award, one of the bank's highest honors.

"I was humbled to be recognized," Brady says. "So many of my colleagues give so much. To be named among them is one of my proudest moments."

For Andrea Brady, Rotary is not just a club—it's a calling. Through mentorship, advocacy, and leadership, she continues to advance the mission of Rotary in Springfield and beyond.

Club Calendar

Friday, October 31

Rotary works concession stands - 5:15 - 10 p.m., Memorial Stadium

Monday, November 3

Monthly Board Meeting - 12 noon, Family Center Farm & Home.

Friday, November 7

Classroom Partner Visit - 10:45 a.m., McEwen Elementary School..

Friday, November 21

Rotary helps at Food Pantry - Two shifts: 9 a.m.-noon and 1-5:30 p.m.



Rainy day reduces attendance, but Rotary joins with Parks & Rec for another successful Trunk or Treat on the Square

