

COGS

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Rotary 
Club of Kingsport

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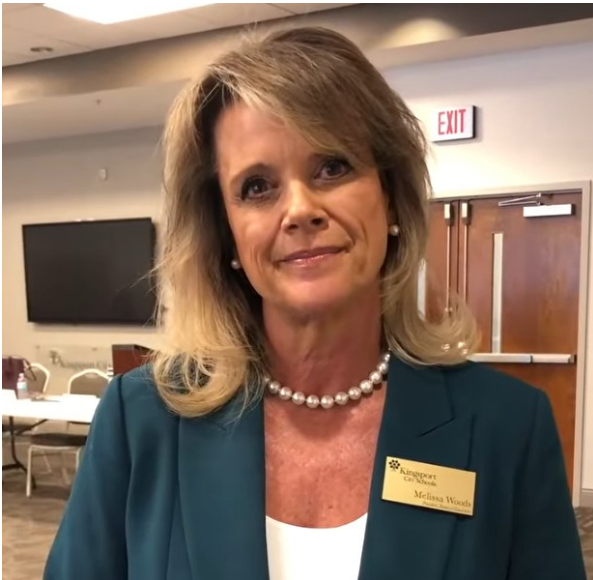
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**THE MAGIC
OF ROTARY**



June 11 Meeting Preview

Melissa Woods, President—Kingsport City Schools Board of Education



Melissa Woods was elected to the Kingsport Board of Education in 2021 for her first four-year term. The term expires on June 30, 2025.

Born and raised in Elizabethton, Tennessee, Melissa graduated as class valedictorian. She earned a B.S. degree in Accounting as an Honors graduate from Milligan University.

Melissa moved to Kingsport over 30 years ago to become an Accountant & Systems Analyst at Eastman Chemical Company. She

has experience in information technology, cost accounting, and was the Staff Assistant for the Eastman Maintenance Division. Melissa currently serves as the Director of Music Ministries at Colonial Heights Christian Church.

After leaving her corporate career in 1999, Melissa shifted her focus to community service. She has worked alongside teachers, coaches, and the KCS administration for the past eighteen years. Her involvement has been very diverse; she has served as a homeroom mom, PTA president, Dobyns-Bennett Band president, and in many other leadership roles along the way. Melissa also has a track record of service to the Kingsport community at large. She has volunteered in roles with the Women's Symphony Committee, the Kingsport Tomorrow Vision Team, and Kingsport's ShowTime Productions as the Assistant Vocal Director. Melissa has been recognized as an Outstanding Young Woman of America and received a City of Kingsport Mayoral Commendation for her years of dedication to the betterment of our youth and support to the Kingsport community.

Melissa and her husband, Jon, have been married 28 years and have three children who are KCS graduates. Her love for students and the desire to see them achieve their potential is the driving force behind her membership on the Board of Education.

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June 4, 2025 Meeting Summary

Attendance was 57.8%

Paul Gray opened the meeting and introduced Ken Calvert, who led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. Emily Ball provided the week's Sunshine.

The club's final social event for the year will be a picnic at the June 13 Kingsport Axemen baseball game at 6:00pm. The club has reserved a pavilion and will serve hamburgers and hot dogs.

There will be no meeting on July 2.



Kitty Frazier introduced the week's speaker, member Lynn Tully, who serves as the regional director for Northeast Tennessee in the Department of Economic and Community Development. Lynn works with existing manufacturing companies in this region, helping them to expand their sites and/or increase their employees, as well as with out-of-state companies looking to relocate or add facilities in Northeast Tennessee.

She stated that Tennessee has identified 12 target markets representing industry segments that fit well with the state's existing companies and growth plans, and regional directors like Tully assist in both the proposals and the specialized help on the ground once agreements are signed.

She reviewed recent local projects, including John Deere, Tennessee Hills, and Snap-on Tools, and also shared a five-year pipeline dashboard for potential and approved projects in various stages of planning. She also discussed the many ways the Department supports workforce development—in the schools, through apprenticeship programs and ongoing job training.

Paul closed the meeting with a recitation of the Four-Way Test.

Kennedy School Pollinator Garden Maintenance

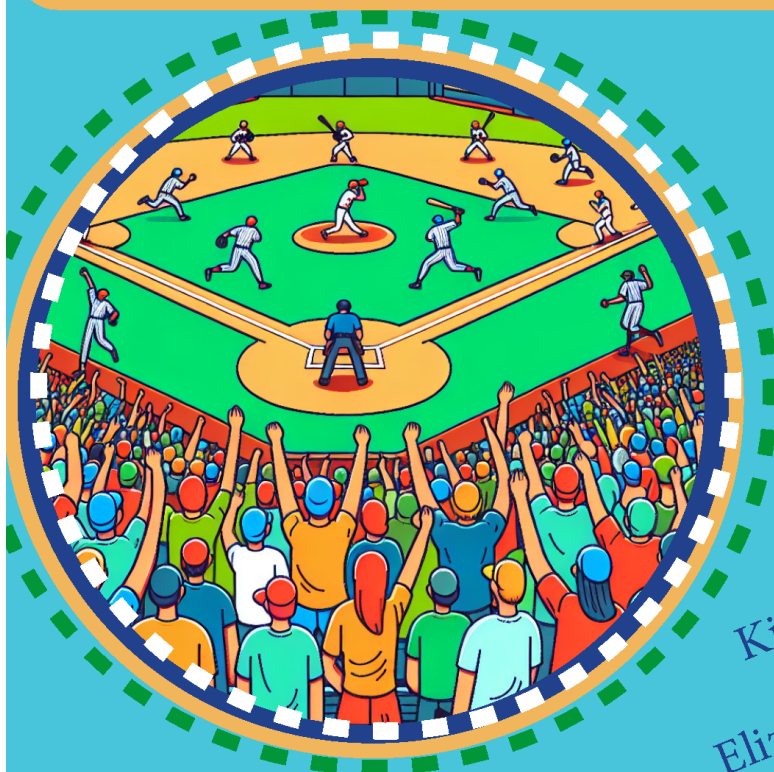
Mark your calendars for Friday June 27. We will be assisting the Kennedy School with the Summer Maintenance of their Pollinator Garden from 8:00AM to Noon.

- We will be weeding and replanting parts of the garden.
- Bring gloves and gardening tools.
- Additional Details will be coming soon.

Sign Up at the Meeting or Call Paul Gray to
get on the list

We hope to see you
there.

Rotary of Kingsport



You are
invited to
join us at
the
ballfield!!

Kingsport Axemen
vs
Elizabethton River Riders

June 13th at 7:00 P.M.
Hunter Wright Stadium
800 Granby Road, Kingsport, TN

A meal will be provided by the ballpark,
and we'll eat and watch the game
from the stadium pavillion.

5 years strong: our district's membership magic

Rotary Voices

By Marty Schulman, a member of the Rotary Club of Bronxville, New York, USA



Being part of Rotary District 7230 feels special. For the past five years, we've seen something really cool happen: our membership has actually *grown*. In a world where sometimes it feels like organizations are shrinking, we're heading in the opposite direction. And honestly, it's not by accident.



Marty Schulman

I've had the chance to connect with Rotary members from different clubs across the district, and a few things really stand out about why I think we're seeing this success.

- **A focus on connection.** It's not just about showing up to a meeting. I've seen clubs actively creating opportunities for members to connect on a personal level. Think about those informal social gatherings after meetings, or the joint projects where you really get to know people while working side-by-side. These aren't just "nice-to-haves." They build genuine friendships, and that's a huge reason people stick around and invite their friends to join.
- **A variety of opportunities to get involved.** Whether you're passionate about local community service, international projects, or developing leadership skills, there's a place for you here. I remember talking to a new member who joined because she was clearly drawn to our clean water initiatives abroad. For you, it might be the local food bank drives that resonate. This diversity of action keeps things interesting and allows people to contribute in ways that truly matter to them.
- **An energy and innovation.** There's a willingness to try new things – different meeting formats, engaging online presence, and creative fundraising ideas. It feels like our district isn't stuck in the past but is constantly looking for ways to be relevant and impactful in today's world. I recently visited a club that started a mentorship program for young entrepreneurs, and it was buzzing with excitement!
- **A shared sense of purpose.** We're all here because we believe in Service Above Self. That's not just a

motto; it's something I see in action every day, from the small acts of kindness to the large-scale projects. That shared commitment creates a powerful bond and a feeling that you're part of something bigger than yourself.

Of course, none of this happens in a vacuum. We've got great leadership at the district level that encourages collaboration and provides resources to help clubs thrive. You can see some of their initiatives on the [District 7230 website](#). They're focused on supporting clubs in their membership efforts.

Ultimately, I think the growth we've seen is a testament to the welcoming spirit and the meaningful work happening within our clubs. It's about creating a place where people feel connected, can make a real difference, and are inspired to invite others to join us.

What are your thoughts? Have you seen similar things in your club or other districts? Share your experiences in the comments below. And if you're reading this and curious about becoming part of Rotary, reach out to your local club! Let's keep this momentum going!

Marty Schulman is a member of the Rotary Club of Bronxville, New York, USA since 1983. He has served District 7230 (New York, USA, and Bermuda) as Membership Chair (2018-21), District Governor (2022-23), Zone 32 Ambassador for Empowering Women and Girls (2024-26), Vice Governor (2024-25), and is currently a trustee of the Epic Day of Service Foundation.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
01	02	03	04 Lynn Tully— Regional Economic and Community Development	05	06	07
08	09	10	11 Melissa Woods— Kingsport City Schools	12	13 Kingsport Axemen Game	14
15	16	17	18 Kingsport Public Library Update	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Bud Hulsey— Tennessee State Representative	26	27 Kennedy School Garden Work Day	28
29	30	01	02 No Meeting, July 4th Holiday Week	03	04	05

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

16-Jun—Al Crymble
17-Jun—Aundrea Salyer
28-Jun—Clay Rolston

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

01-Jun Todd Jones—6 Years
03-Jun Bruce Sites—58 Years
05-Jun Kaylee Feathers—4 Years
16-Jun Jennifer Salyer—24 Years
18-Jun Lynn Tully—31 Years
20-Jun Steve Wilson—33 Years
25-Jun John Porter—59 Years

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

01-Jun Paul Montgomery—29 Years
12-Jun Kathleen McLaughlin—12 Years
20-Jun Edna Potts—20 Years
23-Jun Kenneth Calvert—21 Years
28-Jun Bruce Sites—25 Years

Upcoming Events

June 13—A night at the Ballfield—Kingsport Axemen vs Elizabethton River Riders—Hunter Wright Stadium
June 21-25—Rotary International Convention—Calgary, Canada
June 27—Club Project Work Day—Assist with Kennedy School Pollinator Garden Maintenance (8:00-12:00)
July 9—Rotary Club of Kingsport—Officer Installation

HOW TO FIND US

Rotary Club of Kingsport

District 7570 | Area 13 | Club 5739

Meets every Wednesday at Noon
at

The Crown Center inside Food City
1205 N Eastman Road | Kingsport, TN



facebook.com/RotaryClubofKingsport/



@RotaryClubofKingsport



KingsportRotaryClub@gmail.com



KingsportRotaryClub.com

CLUB OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:

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Leslie Lynch | 520.425.2259

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Kandi Douthat | 423-620-0281

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John Fleming | 423.579.0059

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Heather Cook | 423.502.0541

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Todd Jones | 931.224.3761

Sharon Moore | 901.230.3919

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

Heather Cook | 423.502.0541

INTERNATIONAL & DISTRICT OFFICERS:

RI PRESIDENT:

Stephanie Urchick

DISTRICT 7570 GOVERNOR:

Bret Hrbek

AREA 13 GOVERNOR:

Joseph (Joe) Ley

DISTRICT SECRETARY:

Nancy Whitlock

DISTRICT TREASURER:

Jacob Higginbotham

DISTRICT FOUNDATION CHAIR:

Tim Carter



THE FOUR-WAY TEST

OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY, OR DO

- 1 | Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2 | Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3 | Will it build **GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4 | Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

Local Clubs for Make-ups

MONDAY

Noon | Tri-Cities—Northeast State Community College, Pierce Admin Bldg., Room P309, Blountville, TN

6:00 PM | Johnson City Evening—Howard Hunt's Edward Jones Office, 4018 Roan St. Johnson City, TN

TUESDAY

7:15 AM | Scott County—Scott Co. Park & Golf Course Clubhouse, 247 Fore Drive, Gate City, VA

7:30 AM | Bristol Morning VA-TN—The Summit Co-Work Space (Expedition Meeting Room) 1227 Volunteer Pkwy, Bristol, TN

Noon | Bristol VA-TN—Bristol Train Station, 101 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd Bristol, VA

Noon | Johnson City—Johnson City Country Club 1901 E Unaka Ave, Johnson City, TN

Noon | Greeneville—Tusculum University, Niswonger Commons Pioneer Café, 60 Shiloh Road Greeneville, TN

WEDNESDAY

7:00 AM | Greeneville-Morning—Laughlin Memorial Hospital Cafeteria Conference Room, Greeneville, TN

7:30 AM | Kingsport-Sunrise—Food City Press Room, Suite 300, 200 Clinchfield St., Kingsport, TN

Noon | Unicoi County—Town Hall, 211 N.Main St., Erwin, TN

Noon | Elizabethton—First Christian Church of Elizabethton, Fellowship Hall, 513 Hattie Ave, Elizabethton, TN

THURSDAY

7:15 AM | Johnson City Morning—Food City Community Room, 920 N. State of Franklin Rd., Johnson City, TN

Noon | Kingsport-Downtown—Food City Crown Center, 1205 N Eastman Road, Kingsport, TN

AVAILABLE 24/7—

www.RotaryeClubOne.org