



**The Rotary Club of Columbia-Patuxent**  
**[www.columbiarotary.com](http://www.columbiarotary.com)**

**Fridays - 7:30 a.m.**  
**January 17, 2025**

**“The Magic of Rotary”**

**Meeting Location at The Periodic Table**

**(8808 Centre Park Dr., Columbia, MD 21045)**

**Virtual option**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5273487461?pwd=TIZpMUZQREIzL3BRQnJiL0lNZHJQZz09>**

**Meeting ID: 527 348 7461**

**Passcode: op@1234**

**Thank you to Lance and the Periodic Table for hosting our meeting!**

**Happy Dollars Link: <https://columbiarotary.com/virtual-happy-dollars>**

**Club President Karen Mosel - opened the meeting**

**Greeter, Pledge, 4-Way Test, Grace & Vocational Moment - John Moseman**

**For his vocational moment, John said he’s a water guy. If you live on a well, you should definitely test your water on a regular basis. There are funny things in there that come up every now and then. He always asks people on city water, “where is the worst city water you’ve ever tasted?” Some people say New Jersey, some say Ocean City. He said all the construction in Ocean City is taking place north of its sanitation plants, so they pump more chlorine into their city water than any place in the country. Because of that, their water tastes horrible.**

For grace, John said: “Heavenly Father, bless this club and all of those that are in it, and the great things that we do for the remainder of the year. Amen.”

Visiting Rotarians - David Weeks and Martin Nwalal Mi Nyom (members of Central Africa virtual club)

Other Visitors - None

Makeups - Grassroots, Business Roundtable, Interact

Club Announcements:

**Membership Moment** - Linda Ostovitz asked us to think about membership when we're out and about and meeting other people. This week, she had the opportunity to be at two events where she met people she didn't know and people who were new to the area. She simply said, “Come to Rotary, come see us, check us out, see what we do.” The world is very tiny. There are a lot of opportunities to mention Rotary. It's just an invitation. It's not a sales job. It's a calm “join us on a Friday morning to check it out.”

**Endowment Fund Drive Achieves Goal** - Charlie McCabe, Karen Mosel and Mark Stoner displayed the Charitable Trust Endowment Fund Drive thermometer showing that we met our \$50,000 goal. Several members pledged \$25,000 to be matched by \$25,000 from the remainder of the club. This establishes a firm foundation for the club's continuing Grants Day awards for nonprofits in the community. It will be a tremendous fundraising help now and forever into the future. Charlie and Karen helped on the Fund Drive committee. Mark is board chair for our Charitable Trust.



**John Moseman** - the Super Bowl Pool pool is up and running.

With today's contributions, we're probably at about 40 squares sold, halfway through Board Number One. Please send our new flyer to everybody you know - board members, foundation members, anybody else that you know who might want to buy a block. Share it on Facebook. Charlie will be sending out a Pool letter that you can share with your friends. This is an example of what you can send to everybody you know and get more people involved than just the folks in this room.

**Geoff Carton** - on the 15th we put together dinner for 70 people at the Grassroots shelter, and Paul Hanges and his wife were able to go and serve it. That was a rewarding experience. On Feb. 26 we'll help with the Winter Growth dance for memory care folks. I think it's 5 to 7 p.m. Karen will do the photo booth, Charlie will be the music DJ and Beth Harbinson will have Sobar drinks. We've talked with the Interact Club about adaptive toys for children living with disabilities. If you or your family members have battery-operated toys that are no longer needed, let us know. In March we'll be working with Highland House to install a garden, but details are still being worked out. April 26 is Rebuilding Together Day. Put it on your calendar.

## PROGRAM - What Are Lapidary Arts - Geoff Carton

Linda Ostovitz said the District Governor was scheduled to be today's guest speaker, but was unable to attend because of a family emergency. Geoff will take his spot, talking about lapidary, which is essentially the art of cutting gems and creating them into either objects of art or jewelry. The person who does it is a lapidary, and the process is also referred to as lapidary.

Jeff described the different types of lapidary arts, including tumbling, cabochon cutting, carving, faceting and sphere cutting. The process to be followed is based upon how hard the stone is and what you can do with it. In tumbling, rough stones are put through a series of grits to mimic natural processes. It's important to use the right grits so the stones slowly get rounded out. It can take weeks or months and makes a mess that you don't want to put down your drain.

In the cabochon cutting process, a big rock is sliced open like you would cut a loaf of bread, using a diamond saw. As you're looking at the rock, you try to visualize the design within it and see if you can create a picture to work with, using a grinding process to shape it, then sanding and polishing. "A beginner can start from the slab and get to a finished product in about an hour, hour and 15 minutes," Geoff said. "It's really not that difficult, and it's rewarding for somebody just starting out."

Geoff said carving, where layers of stone are ground down to reveal a design, is a technique to be admired. "There's a guy from Germany, he's fifth generation, and he's able to visualize inside a solid piece of rock what will come up," he said. "I've seen dogs that he's done where there will be like a white chest, but the rest of the dogs are brown. How he's able to visualize what's going on inside that stone, to be able to bring that out as he's carving ... I don't know how he does it or how long it takes. It's amazing."



Geoff's Rocks

Geoff explained the faceting process, where flat pieces of stone are cut to reflect light and create a polished surface, and said the angle at which the stone is cut ensures light reflection. "Depending upon the stone, the angle that you cut it at is important, because you've got the light coming in, bouncing around," he said. "If you have the wrong angle, it's dead. The light comes in and either passes straight through or bounces at a weird angle." He showed examples of faceted stones and explained the progressive steps involved in faceting.

Lastly, Geoff discussed sphere cutting, where a big chunk of stone is cut and shaped into a sphere to get the flat spots out. He also passed around various interesting stones including Icelandic spar, coprolite (essentially fossilized fecal matter, supposedly dinosaur), a piece of meteorite, "fools gold" (pyrite), iron pyrite, rough turquoise and laboratory-grown crystals.

**Thank you, Geoff!**

**Happy Dollars:** <https://columbiarotary.com/virtual-happy-dollars>

**Michael Werling led Happy Dollars (for David Mncy):**

**From 17 club members in appreciation for today's program.**

**Michael - my undergraduate was in geoscience at UVA, so there's a lot of nostalgia from this presentation.**

**Rob - I haven't been here for a little while, and I really enjoy seeing everybody today.**

**Dave Bittner - I can see the attraction of a hobby that has cleavage and hardness scales and such heavy stuff. Also, there's a YouTube channel that I follow where people go exploring abandoned mines. The geology is always really fascinating, the beautiful things they see in there. I just wonder if Geoff, when he's walking around taking a hike, is always looking down for the rocks.**

**Charlie - I've been to a lot of Rotary club meetings, but I've never been to one where you discuss battery-operated toys, cleavage, getting stoned and old feces. What a great club this is. You will not find this anywhere else in Maryland; they're all boring compared to our club. Thank goodness for our club and for fascinating people like Geoff. I think we ought to have a program every now and then talking about somebody else's hobbies. We can imagine what other hobbies we could come up with as a club. I also fine myself for not sending the Super Bowl Pool letter out to you, but please support the Pool. It's our number two fundraiser and we really need to make it a success, so let's do it.**

**Linda - thank you, Geoff. You are a gem.**

**Kathy - I'm happy because I'm going to Florida on Sunday and I'll be out of the cold. I'm going for six weeks.**

**Sandy - a happy dollar for Geoff, another for the Ravens and more for all of you for your friendship and concern when I was in the hospital. I'm fine, as you can see. I think it was just a blood pressure medicine thing.**

**San - my grandchild mentioned to me years ago that she really liked rocks. I said something to Geoff, and he said she should come to the club that is really into this. She did two different times, with stars in her eyes. She has a huge rock collection now. She's just wandered around to pick them up, shine them up, and look them up. Now she's in college and still brought an entire little suitcase full of these stones that she picked up. The lapidary club Geoff belongs to is free, very open and interested in new people attending. It is all fascinating.**

**Mark - thank you for the club's stepping up for the Endowment Fund drive.**

**John - for shiny cleavage.**

**Tom - wondered why Linda has so many rocks in her coat pockets from time to time. Linda said Geoff gives them to her, and during the day she might rub them, take them out, look at them, enjoy them, and then put them back in her pocket.**

**Lon - before we started, somebody asked what lapidary was. I thought it was trimming trees, but the program today was much more interesting. I have another happy dollar going back to Christmas presents. I doubt if anybody received what I got for Christmas, so I'll share it with you. I'm now the owner of an elephant. My granddaughter gave it to me after visiting an elephant orphanage in Nairobi.**

**Fred - thanks to Geoff for stepping up at the last minute with a very cool and hands-on presentation. I also have \$1 for our friends at Neighbor Ride. You may remember a few weeks ago, we had the executive director, Bruce, here as guest speaker. A few months before that, Karen, Sandy and I attended their 20th anniversary party. Those two events prompted me to volunteer for my first Neighbor Ride last weekend, which was quite an adventure. In spite of that, I'm going to continue on. I've got two more rides this weekend, so we'll see how that goes.**

**Karen - it's always fun to hear what comes out of Geoff's mouth. A happy dollar for it being a Friday, because I have a weekend with nothing planned, and I'm very excited about that. Go have a fantastic weekend and be somebody that makes everybody feel like they're somebody wonderful.**

**50/50:**

**Ticket Chosen - Karen Mosel**

**San Croson selected this card**



**No winner today!**

**The Club's Calendar is up to date! Check it often for upcoming events, including each Friday's speaker, at <https://columbiarotary.com/events>**

### **[Upcoming Meeting Programs and Other Events](#)**

**1/24/2025 - Wings of Hope Global Cooperative - David Weeks - Periodic Table - 7:30-8:30 a.m**

**1/31/2025 - Classification Talk - Robin Thoms - Periodic Table - 7:30-8:30 a.m.**

**2/7/2025 - Voices for Children - Erica Byrne - Periodic Table - 7:30-8:30 a.m**

**2/21/2025 - Grants Preparation - HarryThompson - Periodic Table - 7:30-8:30 a.m.**

**2/28/2025 - Inner Arbor Trust - Nina Basu - Periodic Table - 7:30-8:30 a.m.**

**3/14/2025 - Interactors Four-Way Speech Contest - Kellie Lego - Periodic Table - 7:30-8:30 a.m.**

**3/21/2025 - Unstoppable Futures - Amelia Stansell - Periodic Table - 7:30-8:30 a.m.**

**3/28/2025 - Howard Hughes - Kristi Smith - Periodic Table - 7:30-8:30 a.m.**

**4/25/2025 - Amended Club Bylaws Discussion - Kellie Lego - Periodic Table - 7:30-8:30 a.m.**

**5/8/2025 - Tour de Vines fundraiser - Wilde Lake Interfaith Center - 6-9 p.m.**

**6/7/2025 - Annual Club Dinner - Details TBA**

### **Community Service Events:**

**2/26/2025 - Winter Growth dance - time TBA**

**3/2025 - Herb Garden at Highland House - Details TBA**

**4/26/2025 - Rebuilding Together - Details TBA**

## **ROTARY INTERNATIONAL**

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

## **ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 7620**

[www.rotary7620.org](http://www.rotary7620.org)

## **ROTARY CLUBS OF HOWARD COUNTY, MD**

**Rotary Club of Columbia-Patuxent**

[www.columbiarotary.com](http://www.columbiarotary.com)

**Fri. 7:30am, Periodic Table, 8808 Centre Park Dr, Columbia, MD 21045**

**Rotary Club of Columbia**



[www.columbiarotary.org](http://www.columbiarotary.org)

**Tues. 6:30pm, Eggspectation**

**CURRENTLY, MEETING VIRTUALLY EACH TUES NIGHT - CALL 410-442-5167 for details**

**Rotary Club of Columbia Town Center**

[www.ctcrotary.org](http://www.ctcrotary.org)

**Wed. 12:15pm, Meets virtually and in person the first three Wednesdays of each month, The Periodic Table, 8888 Center Park Dr**

**Rotary Club of Elkridge**

<https://www.elkridgerotaryclub.org/>

**Wed. 6:30pm, Elkridge Furnace Inn, 5745 Furnace Ave, Elkridge, MD 21075**

**Rotary Club of Ellicott City**

<https://ellicottcityrotary.com/>

**Thurs. 12:00pm, Tersiguel's and Georgia Grace, Downtown Ellicott City: TBD**

**Rotary Club of Ellicott City Sunrise**

[www.sunriserotaryec.org](http://www.sunriserotaryec.org)

**1st & 3rd Thurs. 7:15am, Tersiguel's Restaurant, 8293 Main St, Ellicott City, MD, 21043**

**Rotary Club of Howard West**

[Rotary Club of Howard West](#)

**1st & 4th Monday, 6:30pm, Mission BBQ, 3410 Plum Tree Dr, Ellicott City, MD 21042**