

Rotary Club of Louisville



Note from President Kevin

Derby is only 51 weeks away! Check with Delene for tickets!!! (Just kidding!)

This week's meeting is back at the University Club and features Secretary Lindy Casebier of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet.

We had a couple of major things in last week's meeting! an inspirational talk by Scott Davenport, head coach of Bellarmine University's Men's Basketball Team, and a celebration for the Rotary Honors Scholars and Interact Honorees.



Scott Davenport is the winningest men's basketball coach in Bellarmine University's history, both in percentage and number of wins (74% and 413 wins through last season). He and his wife, Sharon, have 2 sons, Russ and Doug (both Bellarmine graduates), and two grandchildren, Wren and Jake Scott. Scott is a Louisville native and also coached at UofL (assistant coach under Denny Crum and Rick Pitino) and Ballard High School (head coach). Click Read More for the full recap.

[Read More](#)

Chance to Win



Are you reading Sparks each week? From time to time, we will offer a door prize incentive. Those who find and report the "clue" in the weekly newsletter will be entered into a drawing for that week's prize.

The "clue" will be a misspelled word or a special character inserted into a word. Have you found the intentional mistake in this newsletter? Report it [HERE](#) by Monday.

This week's prize, donated by Walt Kunau, is a **\$100 raffle ticket to the West End School Ultimate Bourbon Raffle!** You can read more about it if you scroll down.

Congrats to **Julie James** who won the tickets to the JFCS MOSAIC Awards contributed by Courtney Evans!

If you/your organization would like to donate a door prize to be used for this purpose, email the info to director@louisvillerotary.org.

This Week's Meeting: Secretary Lindy Casebier, Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet



This week's meeting at the University Club featured **Secretary Lindy Casebier** of Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet.

He covered "*Horses, Bourbon and so much more!*"

Watch for the meeting recap early next week.

Click Read More to view Speaker Bio: [Read More](#)

Next Week's Meeting: Lt. Col. Whitney Allen, Commissioner of Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs



The May 23rd meeting at the University Club will feature **Lt. Col. Whitney Allen, Commissioner of Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs.**

The menu will be fried catfish with mac and cheese and collard greens; a salad with grilled chicken or a vegetarian/vegan and/or gluten-free option is available upon advance request.

RSVP by NOON on Monday, May 20th [HERE](#).

There is a \$5 meeting fee for those who choose not to purchase a meal - this will include a dessert and tea/coffee/water and, of course, a fantastic program. You can pay \$5 cash, check or scan the QR code at check-in to pay with a credit card.

Click Read More to view Speaker Bio: [Read More](#)

Rotary in the Spotlight: District 6710 Conference

By Delene Taylor

Rotary was very much in the spotlight this past weekend as our [District 6710 annual conference](#) was held here in Louisville at the Marriott East.





Rotarian **Jean West** kicked things off and served with excellence as our mistress of ceremonies.

Rotarian **Scott Koloms** delivered an inspiring keynote that challenged us to reimagine success beyond the bottom line, to consider how ethical business practices boost profits and purpose, and to unleash our inner Rotarian entrepreneur for a future where good deeds and good business do a victory lap together. He issued a call to action for building a Kentucky (and beyond!) where doing well and doing good are two sides of the same powerful coin. You can view the recording [HERE](#).

Rotarian **Michael Washburn** with Kentucky Waterways Alliance, joined Mark Noll with the Ohio River Way, and Shannon Delahanty with the University of Louisville's Christina Lee Brown Envirome Institute to share the transformative impacts of stewardship for the Ohio River on health, economic growth, and resilience of our lands. Rotarian **Alex Novak** led a panel discussion following the presentations. I wasn't able to record the entire session, but you can view a portion of it [HERE](#).

Rotarian **Whitney Austin** delivered a powerful dinner keynote address about finding common ground when it comes to reducing gun violence. I won't even try to summarize - you just need to go watch it [HERE](#).

Saturday morning, Rotarian **Mike Brumleve** oversaw the District Speech Competition, where the three finalists, Rebecca Kaiser (Bedford), Isabella Burton (Princeton), and Madeline Prichard (Glasgow) delivered impressive speeches with the theme of "Hope". You can watch the speeches [HERE](#) (starts at 5:00 minute mark), [HERE](#) and [HERE](#). Congratulations to Isabella (contestant B) who was chosen as the winner.

And Rotarian **Barbara Sexton Smith** would not accept any answer other than YES as she heeded the call to serve as our auctioneer to raise money for The Rotary Foundation during the live auction. She says it took her out of her "comfort zone" - but I'm not sure that's actually possible. You can watch her auction a week at Jean West's villa in Aruba [HERE](#).

At a special recognition dinner on Thursday evening, Rotarian **Paula Grisanti** and her husband Mike hosted District Leaders and new Major Donors, including **Paula Harshaw** and **Fred Cowan**.





Additional members from our club in attendance were:

- Kevin Lynch**
- Mike Kull** and his wife Kathy
- Roland Blahnik**
- Susan Zepeda**
- Robert Chatham**
- Louis Straub**
- Thom Crimans**

Behind the scenes, Rotarian **Ashley Brauer** very generously contributed her expertise in public relations to help promote the conference.

The star of the conference for me was the Stuckey's pecan log roll...and I'm happy to report that my photos were shared on the social media channels of this beloved national brand (who remembers looking forward to the [Stuckey's](#) stops on road trips?)! Let's show our appreciation - go like the [LinkedIn post](#)!



Next year's conference will be in Hopkinsville May 16-17, hope to see you there!

Rotary and LCCC: Supporting Entrepreneurship

By Kevin Fields



This week marks the graduation of 18 minority entrepreneurs from the Woodforest Foundry entrepreneurial training program, a comprehensive 12-week course delivered by the Louisville Central Community Center's Old Walnut Plaza Business Intelligence Center (BIC). This program, launched in 2022 by LCCC in partnership with the Rotary Club of Louisville, the U.S. Small Business Administration, SCORE, the Kentucky Small Business Development Center, Louisville Metro, the University of Louisville, and others, has been instrumental in fostering business acumen and development among minority entrepreneurs in our community.

Notably, one of our own, Rotarian **Jackie Jones**, was a member of this graduating cohort and has recently announced the grand re-opening of the second season of her business, [Frosty's Frozen Treats](#). A ribbon-cutting celebration was held last Friday at the Big Four Bridge.

Additionally, Rotarian **Johnetta Roberts**, the owner of [The 40 & 1 Company](#), played a pivotal role as the lead training facilitator for the "Entrepreneurship 4 All" course. The BIC continues to be a vital component of our DEI outreach strategy, advancing RCL's efforts to support economic development in west Louisville by nurturing minority business development. Its ongoing operations encompass a wide range of activities, including business development, advanced technology skills training, real estate development training, and various other skill development workshops for adults.

We encourage Rotarians who are interested in becoming SCORE mentors and matching with clients of the BIC to contact **Thom Crimans** or myself for further information and to get involved.

Rotary University: Next Session Tuesday, May 21

By Jay Mallory

Thank you to all who participated in our first two Rotary University sessions. If you are a long-time member but would just like a refresher, feel free to watch the recordings as well.

Session #1 *What is Rotary?* available [HERE](#) passcode to access: @5ZatVk0
To earn credit for Session #1, complete survey with code words [HERE](#).

Session #2 *Service Above Self* available [HERE](#) passcode to access: 0tj&G+^*
To earn credit for Session #2, complete survey with code words [HERE](#).

Please mark your calendars for the next sessions, all at NOON via Zoom. Completion of Rotary University is required for new members, so prioritize these sessions!

Click [HERE](#) to register for the May 21 Rotary Honors Scholars noon Zoom session.

If you have any questions, reach out to me, or Jay Mallory, Co-Chair of the Membership Development & Engagement Committee, jmallory@imagequest.com.

March 19	Session 1 - What is Rotary?
April 16	Session 2 - Service Above Self
May 21	Session 3 - Rotary Honors Scholars
June 11	Session 4 - Committees
July 9	Session 5 - Rotary Beyond the Club
July	New Member Celebration / Mixer (location TBD)

[Read More](#)

Rotary Group Trip to Italy This November

By Kent Oyler



Join your fellow Rotarians on a group trip November 1-9 for only \$3,899 per person (double occupancy) which includes hotels, meals, day trips and airfare from Louisville! You can download the brochure and registration form [HERE](#).

Contact me at kent@oyler.net or 502-550-5102 for more information.

Rotarian in the Spotlight: Kenya Wade

Rotarian **Kenya Wade** will be one of the speakers at the May 20th League of Women Voters Louisville Democracy in Action Forum “YOUTH VIOLENCE IN LOUISVILLE: THE REALITIES, INTERVENTIONS, AND SOME SOLUTIONS.” It will take place at The Main Library, 4th and York Streets, in the Centennial Room (lower level); doors will open at 5:30 and the program is from 6:00-7:30 pm.



Democracy in Action

YOUTH VIOLENCE IN LOUISVILLE

THE REALITIES, INTERVENTIONS, AND SOME SOLUTIONS



Paul Callanan, Director
Office for Safe &
Healthy Neighborhoods



Ida Dickie, Ph. D.
Transformative Justice
Mental Health Clinic



Terry Brooks, Ed.D.
Executive Director
Kentucky Youth Advocates



Joe Bargione, Ph. D.
BOUNCE Coalition



Kenya Wade, CEO
Cycle Breakers



Deborah Yetter, Moderator
Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame

Monday, May 20, 2024 6:00-7:30 pm

THE MAIN LIBRARY 4TH & YORK CENTENNIAL ROOM

Youth violence is a widespread public health problem that negatively affects youth, families, and communities. This free forum is a chance to learn about Louisville's multiple responses to youth violence. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Please join us!

League of Women Voters of Louisville 115 S. Ewing AV Louisville, KY 40206 502-895-5218
LWVLouisville@gmail.com Contact Gail Henson at grhenson@gmail.com for additional information.

Rotarian in the Spotlight: Kim Halbauer

Kim Halbauer will speak at the 1si Pearls of Wisdom event on June 5 from 8:00-10:00 a.m. at the Calumet Club in New Albany. Register [HERE](#).



pearls
OF wisdom
Women. Leading The Way.
A SIGNATURE PROGRAM OF ONE SOUTHERN INDIANA



Kim
Halbauer

Regional President
Fifth Third Bank, N.A. -
Kentucky

June 5, 2024

Rotarian in the Spotlight: Whitney Austin

Rotarian **Whitney Austin** will speak at the June 7th Daughters of Greatness breakfast at the Muhammad Ali Center. The series honors women who are changemakers in the arenas of social philanthropy, activism, and pursuits of justice. Impassioned after surviving the Sept. 6, 2018, mass shooting in Cincinnati, Whitney cofounded Whitney/Strong with her husband. The organization is focused on finding common ground to end gun violence through data-driven, responsible gun-ownership solutions. Learn more and register [HERE](#).



Whitney Austin

Executive Director, Cofounder
WhitneyStrong Organization

Rotarian in the Spotlight: Mark Kull



Rotarian **Mark Kull** was recently featured on WDRB-TV for taking care of a child from Burkina Faso, Africa while he received desperately needed medical treatment in the United States. Four-year-old Nouri was born with a hole in his heart and needed surgery to repair it. He also needed multiple other surgeries to fix his heart, kidney stones and a hernia.

The Kulls won a \$25,000 community service award from Northwestern Mutual for their act of kindness. They in turn donated the money back to [Healing the Children](#), an organization that works to help underserved children around the world get the medical care they need.

"We have more optics into people's lives these days than we ever did, but yet I somehow feel less connected and so my encouragement to everybody is if there is something on your heart or mind charity-wise that you've always thought I want to do that, but that sounds crazy," Mark said. "I think on the other side of it you will say 'man I'm really glad I did that.'"

Watch the story [HERE](#).

Rotarians in the Spotlight: Jeff Underhill & Scott Koloms

Congratulations to Rotarians **Jeff Underhill** and **Scott Koloms** who were both recognized at the Business First of Louisville's Family Business Awards & Excellence Awards, presented by UofL College of Business.

Jeff and Underhill Associates were recognized in the Small Business of the Year category for excellence in strategic planning, employee and leadership development, community involvement and an inclusive, healthy culture. Read more [HERE](#).



LOUISVILLE

Image: Louisville Business First

BUSINESS FIRST

UNDERHILL ASSOCIATES SMALL BUSINESS WINNER

2024 FAMILY BUSINESS AWARDS

Scott was presented the Positive Leadership Award for exceptional courage, compassion, honesty, humility, generosity, resilience, curiosity or another virtue in the workplace and inspired other people to build on it, imitate it or follow along. Scott is president of Facilities Management Services and Founder of Canopy.



Read about all the honorees [HERE](#).

Rotarian in the Spotlight: DeVone Holt



Congratulations to Rotarian **DeVone Holt** who received an honorary doctorate degree from Simmons College of Kentucky.

DeVone thanked Dr. Kevin Cosby and said, "*it was an incredible honor to be bestowed a doctorate degree from one of the greatest comeback schools in modern history.*"

Volunteers Needed for Ohio River Sweep: June 1

By Alex Novak



**Rotary Club of Louisville
Litter Clean-Up Event**
Date: June 1st
9:00 AM-12:00 PM

WHERE EVA BANDMAN PARK
1701 RIVER ROAD | LOUISVILLE, KY 40206

DETAILS DRESS FOR THE WEATHER.
WEAR SUNSCREEN AND BRING A
REUSABLE WATER BOTTLE.

REGISTER EMAIL ALEX NOVAK
ANOVAK@IGLOU.COM
FOR EVENT DETAILS AND REGISTRATION

SPONSORS F-O-R-E Rotary Club of Louisville

Join the Rotary Club of Louisville's Environmental Committee on June 1 from 9 a.m. to noon for a Litter Clean-up Event at Eva Bandman Park.

It's part of the annual [Ohio River Sweep](#) volunteer clean-up that extends the entire length of the Ohio River. Volunteers from six states remove litter at multiple locations along the river and many of its tributaries. The volunteer work makes a positive impact along the entire Ohio River Basin.

Read the full press release, written by our own **Ashley Brauer**, owner of Max Strategic Communications, [HERE](#).

Contact: **Alex Novak**, anovak@iglou.com for details and to register.

New Member Service Project at SOS: June 5 ****NEW DATE****

By Jay Mallory

Join us on Wednesday, June 5th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at [SOS](#) for our new member service project. All are welcome - this is an excellent opportunity to serve alongside and get acquainted with some of our newer members.

We will be sorting and packing supplies to be redistributed to those in need. SOS meets critical health care needs in medically impoverished communities in 106 countries around the world by collecting and distributing surplus medical supplies and equipment. Partnering with hospitals, clinics, and manufacturers to recover and redistribute what would otherwise go into local landfills, SOS promotes environmental stewardship.

Please RSVP [HERE](#).

Craig Scherman's Fabulous House Party: June 9

Craig Scherman will host his annual party for members and their guests at his beautiful home in Anchorage (1208 Evergreen Rd) on Sunday, June 9th, from 4:00-7:30pm. \$30 will cover food from Mark's Feed Store, open bar, live music, beautiful views, great conversation and a whole lotta fun! Click [HERE](#) to RSVP.



Photos of prior year events:

[Read More](#)

Service Projects & Grants due May 30

By Steven Eggers

Committee leaders: Please make note that all information related to request(s) for service projects and/or grants for the 2024-2025 Rotary year must be submitted no later than May 30. Proof of completion of the 9-minute [mandatory training](#) must also be provided to me by that time (seggers@knbarch.com).

Applications for 2024-2025 Service Projects & Grants will need to be submitted in the new electronic format approved by the Rotary Board at the February meeting. Completion of a mandatory training session is required for Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs that plan to apply for projects or grants, or if someone else on the committee will be preparing the project proposal, the Chair can designate that person as the representative for their committee.

Click Read More for the overall schedule for the review and approval of Service Projects & Grants.

[Read More](#)

Events & Opportunities: West End School

By Walt Kunau

What: Ultimate Bourbon Raffle

Organization: West End School

Date/Time: Drawing Thursday, June 20, 11:00am (do not need to be present to win)

Cost: \$100 per ticket



More information and to purchase tickets: click [HERE](#)

Member to contact: Walt Kunau, wkunau@bellsouth.net

Events & Opportunities: Leadership Louisville Center

By Paul Bolton



What: LeadingBetter Summit

Organization: Leadership Louisville Center

Date/Time: May 22, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Location: Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts

Description: This year's LeadingBetter Summit speaker lineup includes Kim Scott, NYTimes and WSJ bestselling author of Radical Candor, as keynote speaker. She joins the author of "Mean Girls" fame and a popular podcast host, author, and educator Matt Abrahams from Stanford University, along with many other speakers. These global leaders will provide valuable leadership training, inspiration, and connection making this an event you won't want to miss!

You can attend in-person or virtually. The day will include content around communicating with greater confidence and clarity, building a culture of accountability and commitment, tackling conflict with tact, and being a better and more inclusive boss.

Save \$100 on tickets with code Rotary100.

More information: [HERE](#)

Member to contact: Paul Bolton, pbolton@leadershiplouisville.org

Note: This section features upcoming events and opportunities to serve with our nonprofit member organizations. Submissions must be from a member (or spouse/partner) of our Club who is either an employee or board member of the organization for which the event/opportunity is being shared. Click [HERE](#) to submit.

Events

May 16th, 10:30-11:30 AM

[DEI Committee Meeting](#)

Comment:

May 18th, 9:00-1:00 PM

[GVR Committee Workshop](#)

Comment: Goodwill Opportunity Campus 2820 W Broadway Louisville, KY 40211

May 23rd, 10:30-11:30 AM

[Lifeline Committee Meeting](#)

May 23rd, 1:00-2:00 PM

[Service Projects & Grants Committee Meeting](#)

May 30th, 11:30-1:00 PM

[RCoL Weekly Club Meeting: Purna Veer](#)

Comment: University Club of Louisville 200 E Brandeis Ave Louisville, KY 40208

Speaker: Purna Veer, V-Soft Consulting Group

May 16th, 11:30-1:00 PM

[RCoL Weekly Club Meeting: Sec. Lindy Casebier](#)

Comment: University Club of Louisville 200 E Brandeis Ave Louisville, KY 40208

Speaker: Sec. Lindy Casebier, KY Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet

May 22nd, 5:30-6:30 PM

[Re:Center Ministries Dinner](#)

May 23rd, 11:30-1:00 PM

[RCoL Weekly Club Meeting: Lt. Col. Whitney Allen](#)

Comment: University Club of Louisville 200 E Brandeis Ave Louisville, KY 40208

Speaker: Lt. Col. Whitney Allen, Commissioner, KY Dept of Veteran Affairs

May 30th, 8:00-5:00 PM

[Service Project / Grant Applications Deadline](#)

June 1st, 9:00-12:00 PM

[Ohio River Sweep](#)

Comment: Eva Bandman Park 1701 River Rd Louisville, KY 40206

June 5th, 5:30-7:30 PM
[New Member Service Project at SOS](#)

June 6th, 11:30-1:00 PM
[RCoL Weekly Club Meeting: Carolyn Tandy](#)
Comment: University Club of Louisville 200 E Brandeis Ave Louisville, KY 40208

Speaker: Carolyn Tandy, SVP - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Humana

June 13th, 11:30-1:00 PM
[RCoL Weekly Club Meeting: Rebecca Fleischaker](#)
Comment: University Club of Louisville 200 E Brandeis Ave Louisville, KY 40208

Speaker: Rebecca Fleischaker, Louisville Downtown Partnership

June 26th, 5:30-6:30 PM
[Re:Center Ministries Dinner](#)

June 27th, 11:30-1:00 PM
[Louisville Weekly Club Meeting Featuring Leadership Transition](#)

June 6th, 10:30-11:30 AM
[DEI Committee Meeting](#)
Comment: University Club 200 E Brandeis Avenue

June 9th, 4:00-7:30 PM
[Rotary Summer Social at Craig Scherman's House](#)

June 20th, 11:30-1:00 PM
[RCoL Weekly Club Meeting: Omar Ayyash](#)
Comment: University Club of Louisville 200 E Brandeis Ave Louisville, KY 40208

Speaker: Omar Ayyash, World Trade Center Kentucky

June 27th, 10:30-11:30 AM
[Lifeline Committee Meeting](#)

June 27th, 1:00-2:00 PM
[Service Projects & Grants Committee Meeting](#)

Birthdays



Bethany Witten
May 16th



Eric Gurevich
May 17th



George A. Brakmeier III
May 17th



Charles Edward
Jungbert
May 18th



Kevin S. Wardell
May 19th



Leroy F. Squires
May 20th



Melissa A. Marvel, MBA,
CPA, CGMA
May 21st



Karen Kurfees Meyer
May 21st



William K. Burke
May 22nd



W. Kevin Smith
May 23rd



Robert W. Rounsavall
III
May 23rd



Henry V. Heuser Jr.
May 25th



Kristofer Twist
May 25th



John R Rickert
May 26th



Clark Orr
May 26th



Carl Kihm
May 26th



R. Wood Northup
June 1st



Steve Jester
June 2nd



James M. Wagner
June 3rd



Cynthia Hutchinson
June 3rd



Daniel K Maloney
June 4th



F. Gerald Greenwell
June 8th



Louis Straub
June 9th



Delene E Taylor
June 9th



Jenifer Frommeyer
June 11th



Robert M. Fink
June 11th



Samuel L. Clemmens
June 13th



Federica (Erica) E Fields
June 14th



Michael B Taylor
June 14th



Sarah Davasher-
Wisdom
June 15th



Mark Kull
June 15th



Anne Marie Zwerg
June 15th

Club Leaders



[Kevin Lynch](#)
President



[Lori Hudson Flanery](#)
President-Elect



[Kevin Fields](#)
Secretary



[Kim Halbauer](#)
Treasurer



[Claire Arnold](#)
Club Director



[Gregory Patrick Braun](#)
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[John M. Bush](#)
Club Director



[Charles D. Hartlage](#)
Club Director



[Jay Mallory](#)
Club Director
Membership Chair



[Kevin J McCarron](#)
Public Image Chair
Club Director



[Craig Mooney](#)
Club Director



[Denise L Sears](#)
Club Director



[Harry Louis Seeger V](#)
Club Director



[Amy Luttrell](#)
Rotary Foundation
Chair



[Steven A. Eggers](#)
Club Service Chair



[Walt L. Kunau](#)
iPast President



[Delene E Taylor](#)
Club Executive
Secretary

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