

Newark Rotary Committees 2024-2025

President	Janice LoRaso	Cell	740-334-9058		
President-Elect	Brendan Underwood	Office	740-450-2265	Cell	740-605-1981
President-Nominee	Nate Adams	Cell	740-323-6824		
Secretary	Tom Slater	Home	740-366-6143	Cell	740-398-1690
Treasurer	Ray Barber	Home	614-834-0657	Office	740-366-4444
Immediate Past President	Jim Cooper III	Cell	740-398-2347		
Club Service					
	Brendan Underwood	Office	740-450-2265		
Fellowship/Logistics	Eric Ricketts	Home	740-344-8709		
Club Programs	Pamela Watkins	Cell	440-264-3213		
Chaplain	Carol Thress/John Wilson	Cell	740-404-9551	Cell	740-877-7581
Music	Tom Slater	Home	740-366-6143		
Sergeant-at-Arms	Pat Jeffries	Home	740-344-3980	Cell	740-334-8302
Communications	Ben Mitchell	Cell	740-334-0510		
Historical	Angie Ryan	Cell	740-258-3498		
Social	Vacant				
Technology	Vacant				
Vocational Service					
	Nate Adams	Cell	740-323-6824		
Membership	Chuck Moore	Cell	740-877-7272		
Orientation	Tom Marcelain	Home	740-344-7895		
	Kate St. James	Home	614-365-1580		
Mentorship	Jeff James	Home	740-587-4447	Office	740-587-2746
Community Service					
	Joe Sinsabaugh	Home	740-501-0875		
Special Needs	Talya Greathouse	Home	614-496-7783		
Rotary Awards	Jerry Besanceney	Home	614-394-3908		
Rotary Volunteers	Deb Tegtmeyer	Cell	740-348-6877		
Engagement	Melissa Owens	Home	740-507-3603		
Newark Rotary Foundation	Jack Neely	Cell	740-641-8197		
Fundraising	Dustin Neely	Cell	740-403-7336		
International Service					
	Jennifer Roberts	Cell	740-403-9552		
Rotary International Foundation	Jim Francis	Home	740-366-7677		
Grants	Pat Jeffries	Home	740-344-3980	Cell	740-334-8302
Global Projects	Joe Sinsabaugh	Cell	740-501-0875		
Polio Plus	Heather Powell	Cell	419-233-2930		
Youth Service					
	Melissa Owens	Home	740-507-3603		
Youth Exchange	Beth Graff	Cell	740-225-9417	Office	740-920-4795
Junior Ethics	Trevor Thomas	Home	740-877-2591	Office	740-788-3118
Student Visits	Barb Quackenbush	Home	740-334-9107	Office	740-670-7041

ALWAYS IN OUR MEMORY 2015-16 PRESIDENT ERIN KENNEDY (1960-2015)

DISTRICT GOVERNORS FROM NEWARK ROTARY

•FRANK L BEGGS: 1927-28 •ROBERT C. BATTAT: 1970-71 •DONN E. ALSPACH: 1988-89
•DARREL JONES: 1957-58 •THEODORE D. GRILEY: 1976-77 •ROBERT H. MCGAUGHY: 2003-2004
GARY BAKER: 2024-25

DIRECTOR, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

THEODORE D. GRILEY: 1990-1992

TRUSTEE, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

THEODORE D. GRILEY: 2001-2005

ROTOGRAM

2024-2025

Rotary



WEEK OF MARCH 30, 2025

All Meetings At Noon Tuesday

THIS WEEK'S MEETING

Innovating Columbus for Tomorrow



ATTENTION ROTARIANS!

We will be meeting at
NCS West Campus:
(Old State Farm, 1440 Granville Rd,
Newark) for the following Rotary
meetings: **April 01, 08 & 15.**

Look for ROTC students to assist
with directions to parking and
entrance.



Presented by Jordan Davis, Executive Director

This week's Rotary meeting will feature Smart Columbus Executive Director, Jordan Davis. Smart Columbus is the Columbus Region's collaborative innovation lab, focused on advancing what is new and next at the intersection of technology and community good.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

April 8 - Roger Geiger- Executive Director of Ohio Small Business Council

April 15 - Mike Davis - President of Junior Achievement of Central Ohio

A ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CLUB

newarkohiorotary.org

District6690.org

[f](#) /NewarkRotaryClub

LAST WEEK'S MEETING NOTES

President Janice LoRaso rang the bell. **Tom Slater** and **Peter Larson** started the group singing R-O-T-A-R-Y. **Tom Hall** led us in the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. **Tom Slater** and **Peter Larson** led the group in singing happy birthday to all Rotarians celebrating March birthdays as well as "Home on the Range".

Guests: **President-Elect Brendan Underwood** introduced today's visiting Rotarians and guests. **Rob Klinger** welcomed Joe Ciminello, Mary Vickner, Peggy Johnson and Eddie Hunt; **Tom Marcelain** welcomed Dan Hoover; **John Paul Munhall** welcomed Cathy Stofac; **Steve Layman** welcomed P.J. Sullivan, Michele Layman, Brittany Misner and Connor McMahon; **Kristen Evers** welcomed Brent Swartz; **Brendan Underwood** welcomed Aaron Ashby and Wendy Gorrell was a visiting Rotarian from Malta-McConnelville.

Student Guests: **Barbara Quackenbush** introduced the students from introduced students from Licking Heights and Northridge High School. Northridge students shared their reflections on the past month of attending meetings.

Sergeant-At-Arms: No fines this week from **Pat Jeffries**. Woo hoo!

Last Week Reporter: **Sally Heckman**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Dave Shull** announced that we are still looking for riders in the Ride to End Polio. Any distance is welcome! We have 8 people so far signed up. See Heather Powell or Dave to express interest.
- **Heather Powell** spoke about Operation Feed. Fun fact: last year the Food Pantry Network served more than 500,000 people in Licking County. Please donate food items or cash directly to the Food Pantry.
- **President Janice LoRaso** invited everyone to participate in our district conference. For the next three weeks, we will be at the State Farm building. Pat Jeffries will fine you if you mess this up!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



Margann Crist



Jay Snyder



Patrick Sullivan

PROGRAM

Fellow Rotarian, **Brad Schumaker**, introduced our speaker, **Steve Layman**, who provided an update on Licking County's ongoing development and expansion. Nearly 19 months ago, Layman addressed Rotary about key infrastructure and economic projects—many of which have since seen major progress. His presentation highlighted the county's rapid growth, infrastructure improvements, and economic investments shaping the region's future.

Transportation projects remain a priority, with Newark's only two-lane roundabout now complete and the bridges over State Route 16 expected to be finished by summer. The temporary bridge that helped with traffic congestion may be repurposed elsewhere. Meanwhile, the historic Arcade renovation is largely complete, featuring a revitalized community space and a popular Friday farmers market. Additional city beautification efforts have addressed small but noticeable details, such as improving the appearance of utility transformers. A long-planned 400-space parking garage is well underway and set to open later this summer, easing parking concerns downtown.

Commercial development is accelerating. PCA is constructing a major facility on Thornwood Avenue, with a new roundabout planned at Thornwood and Faye. Several retail spaces are being repurposed—21st Street's former Kroger is becoming a Goodwill, the Big Lots building will house the nonprofit Furniture Bank, and the former Family Video at West Main and Church is now a Red Cross donation center. A QuickLube is also set to open on 21st Street.

Microsoft is making significant investments, acquiring 200 acres for a planned 1.25-million-square-foot facility. The company has committed \$13–\$17 million toward Heath's infrastructure, including sewer line expansions. Additional land acquisitions in Hebron signal continued economic investment. Meanwhile, housing developments are keeping pace with demand—315 new single-family homes are planned in Hebron, and MI Homes is developing land annexed from Granville into Heath.

Future plans include turning the Van Boris farm into Heath's downtown district, though regulatory challenges remain. Discussions are also ongoing about extending the Heath airport runway. The Intel project remains a wild card, with completion estimated around 2028. However, Layman believes development will progress faster than projected. While Intel's delay has given local leaders time to plan strategically, it has also helped prevent Licking County from experiencing rapid, unchecked growth. With careful planning and continued investment, the county remains well-positioned for sustainable expansion in the years ahead.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Success is not the key to happiness; happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful." –Albert Schweitzer