

## Newark Rotary Committees 2025-2026

<b>President</b>	<b>Brendan Underwood</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>740-450-2265</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>740-605-1981</b>
<b>President-Elect</b>	<b>Nate Adams</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>740-323-6824</b>		
<b>President-Nominee</b>	<b>Joe Sinsabaugh</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>740-501-0875</b>		
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Vacant</b>				
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Ray Barber</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>614-834-0657</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>740-366-4444</b>
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	<b>Janice LoRaso</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>740-334-9058</b>		
<b>Club Service</b>					
	<b>Nate Adams</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>740-323-6824</b>		
Fellowship/Logistics	Eric Ricketts	Home	740-344-8709		
Club Programs	Pamela Watkins	Cell	440-264-3213		
Chaplain	John Wilson	Cell	740-404-9551	Cell	740-877-7581
Music	Peter Larson/Tom Slater	Peter	614-226-2640	Tom	740-398-1690
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		
Technology	Vacant				
<b>Vocational Service</b>					
	<b>Joe Sinsabaugh</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>740-501-0875</b>		
Membership	Chuck Moore	Cell	740-877-7272		
Orientation	Tom Marcelain	Home	740-344-7895		
	Molly Ingold	Cell	740-975-4967		
Mentorship	Jeff James	Home	740-587-4447	Office	740-587-2746
<b>Community Service</b>					
	<b>Jennifer Roberts</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>740-403-9552</b>		
Special Needs	Talya Greathouse	Home	614-496-7783		
Rotary Awards	Susan Leithauser	Cell	614-507-0751		
Rotary Serves	Deb Tegtmeyer	Cell	740-348-6877		
Engagement	Melissa Owens	Home	740-507-3603		
Newark Rotary Foundation	Jack Neely	Cell	740-641-8197		
Special Events	Melissa Owens/Pam Watkins	Melissa	740-507-3603	Pamela	440-264-3213
<b>International Service</b>					
	<b>Melissa Owens</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>740-507-3603</b>		
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		
<b>Youth Service</b>					
	<b>Pamela Watkins</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>440-264-3213</b>		
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
Scholarship/RILA	Janice LoRaso	Cell	740-334-9058		

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

2025-2026



## WEEK OF MAY 03, 2026

Meetings At Noon Tuesday | Double Tree Hilton, Newark, Ohio

### THIS WEEK'S MEETING

## Exploring Art Through Digital Media



### Presented by Kate Shannon, Associate Professor of Art, Ohio State University Mansfield

This week's Rotary meeting will feature Kate Shannon, Associate Professor of Art at The Ohio State University Mansfield. An accomplished visual artist and educator specializing in digitally manipulated photography, she will share insights into her creative process and how her work explores themes of identity, gender, and equity in contemporary visual culture.

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May 12 - Children's Picnic - Rotary Park

May 19 - Sandy Knoesel, District Governor

### A ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CLUB

[newarkohiorotary.org](http://newarkohiorotary.org)

[District6690.org](http://District6690.org)

[f /NewarkRotaryClub](https://www.facebook.com/NewarkRotaryClub)

## LAST WEEK'S MEETING NOTES

**President Brendan Underwood** rang the bell to open the April 28th meeting of the Newark Rotary Club. **Tom Slater** led members in singing "R-O-T-A-R-Y." Fellow Rotarian **Matt Smith** delivered the Moment of Inspiration and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Additional songs included the Birthday Song for April birthdays and "Oh What a Beautiful Morning," led by **Peter Larson** and **Tom Slater**.

Guests: **President Elect Nate Adams** introduced several guests, including Emma Farmer, guest of **Stephanie Crockatt**; Nancy Neely, guest of **Jack Neely**; and Christie Hawthorne, guest of **Jennifer Roberts**. Visiting Rotarians included Mark Van Buren and Assistant Governor Catherine Baird of Pataskala, and David Alspach of Columbus. Students from COTC and OSU Newark also shared reflections.

Recognitions: **Alex Corwin**, Superintendent of the Licking County Board of Developmental Disabilities, delivered his 3-minute speech.

Sergeant-at-Arms: **Pat Jeffries** kept the meeting lively with fines and humor, including fining members without pins or badges and celebrating National Superhero Day. Birthdays were celebrated for **Patty Whisman** and **Chuck Moore**, while club anniversaries were recognized for **Tom Marcelain** (32 years) and **Chris Meyer** (45 years). **Ben Shirley** was also acknowledged for his 9-year wedding anniversary.

Last Week's Reporter: **Lee Heckman**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Ride and Walk for Polio: **Heather Powell** reminded members that the annual Ride and Walk for Polio will take place on June 6. Those interested in participating are encouraged to email Heather or connect with her after the meeting.
- Rotary Awards Nominations: **Susan Leithauser** shared that nominations for Rotary Awards are being accepted through next week's meeting. Members can now submit nominations using a new online form.
- Newark-Granville Symphony Orchestra: **Kevin Connell** highlighted the NGSO concert on May 9 at the Midland Theatre, featuring a triple-header of musical guests, including a composition by fellow Rotarian **Ben Shirley**.
- Youth Exchange Host Families: **Beth Graff** announced that an inbound exchange student from Brazil will arrive in August, and the club is seeking three host families to provide housing through June while the student attends Granville schools.

## PROGRAM

Fellow Rotarian **Pamela Watkins** introduced this week's speaker, Adam Sharp, Executive Vice President of the Ohio Farm Bureau. Adam delivered an insightful and comprehensive presentation on the current state of agriculture in Ohio and across the nation, drawing on more than 30 years of experience in farm policy.

Adam began by sharing his background, noting his upbringing on a family farm in southern Ohio and his long-standing connection to agriculture and The Ohio State University. He highlighted the Ohio Farm Bureau's origins in providing insurance solutions for farmers, which ultimately led to the creation of Nationwide Insurance, and emphasized the organization's continued close ties to Ohio State.

He provided an update on current agricultural conditions, noting an unusually early completion of spring planting this year. Adam discussed several key challenges facing farmers today, including low commodity prices, rising input costs such as fuel and fertilizer, ongoing trade uncertainty, and the complications surrounding the current Farm Bill, which has been delayed by increased political partisanship.

Land use and infrastructure pressures were also a major focus, particularly the growth of solar farms and data centers. Adam explained that while development brings opportunity, it also introduces concerns around land availability, water quality, and water supply, issues that have not traditionally been significant challenges in Ohio. Property taxes were also addressed as an ongoing concern, though he noted the Farm Bureau does not support eliminating them entirely.

Despite these challenges, Adam highlighted several promising opportunities for Ohio agriculture, including advancements in research and education such as the Ohio Department of Agriculture's diagnostic lab, major investments in the Ohio State Fairgrounds, and innovative work at Ohio State University in areas like robotic agriculture and multispecies learning centers.

Adam concluded by addressing broader, long-term concerns about food security, noting that the United States has recently become a net food importer and has lost significant farmland over the past 25 years. He emphasized the importance of protecting domestic food production and shared information about the newly formed Center for American Food Power, which is focused on strengthening the nation's food system for the future.

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

*"You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view...until you climb into his skin and walk around in it." - Harper Lee - Author of To Kill a Mockingbird (in honor of her birthday)*