

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	Pat Jeffries	Home	740-344-3980	Cell	740-334-8302
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	Vacant				
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 MAY 18, 2025

All Meetings At Noon Tuesday

THIS WEEK'S MEETING

Gathering for a Special Cause!



Special Needs Picnic at Rotary Park

This week's Rotary meeting will take place at Rotary Park for our annual Special Needs Picnic. Members are invited to join at 11:30 a.m. to enjoy a meaningful afternoon connecting with the kids and sharing in the fun and fellowship that make this event a Rotary favorite.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May 27 - Rob Montagnese, CEO, Licking Memorial Hospital

June 3 - Jennifer Sansfacon Artistic Director of the Weathervane Playhouse

A ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CLUB

newarkohiorotary.org

District6690.org

[f /NewarkRotaryClub](https://www.facebook.com/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. **Susan Leithauser** led us in the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance. **Tom Slater** and **Peter Larson** then led the group in singing "You are my Sunshine".

Guests: **President-Elect Brendan Underwood** welcomed today's guests and visiting Rotarians. Given the number of attendees, he offered a collective acknowledgment, expressing appreciation for the strong turnout and participation.

Student Guests: **Jennifer Roberts** introduced the Wilson Middle School Interact students and their advisor, Carol Smith.

Sergeant-At-Arms: **Pat Jeffries** reminded members to submit nominations for the annual Rotary awards and then issued fines for those not wearing pins or badges. He also handed out fines for a variety of graduations: **Jack Neely** (35th anniversary), **Deb Dingus** (daughter's graduation from Wooster), **Ed Bohren** (granddaughter's kindergarten), **Dan DeLawder** (granddaughter's high school), **Eschol Curl** (two grandchildren), and others. Pat fined himself for two grandchildren's graduations, and **Rob Montagnese** for his son's business school graduation—though **Dan DeLawder** paid it since the son will join Park National Bank. **Jay Snyder** was fined for a long speech, and **Brent Swartz** and **Cathy Stofac** were fined as new members.

Last Week Reporter: **Lee Heckman**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Heather Powell** announced that Ride for Polio was very successful. More than 61 Rotarians donated to the raffle, which raised over \$1500. The riders/walkers raised over \$6,000, for a total of \$7,621 (which is the equivalent of more than 2,500 polio vaccinations!). The top male fundraiser was **Dave Shull** who raised over \$1,400. **Deb Tegtmeyer** was the top female fundraiser raising \$851.
- **Tony Adams** announced that last week they took a busload of littles from Big Brothers and Big Sisters to a Clippers game in Columbus.
- **Jack Neely** announced that Third Thursday will occur this Thursday, May 15, at Snapshots in Granville at 5:00. Thanks to all who attended!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



Cathy Stofac



Brent Swartz



Ronald Mitchell

PROGRAM

District Governor Gary Baker introduced our speaker, Michael Shearer, Executive Editor of the Columbus Dispatch. A former resident of Newark and past member of this Rotary Club, Shearer also previously served as Executive Editor of the Akron Beacon-Journal and led the Newark Advocate and the Media Network of Central Ohio. He is a graduate of Ohio University and has remained closely connected to the evolving landscape of local journalism throughout his career.

Shearer offered a compelling look into the transformation of the news industry, particularly the shift from traditional print to digital platforms. Both the Dispatch and Advocate now have more digital than print subscribers—a milestone that reflects broader national trends. He discussed the challenges this shift presents, including how shrinking newsrooms and changing reader habits are forcing media organizations to rethink how they deliver credible and timely information.

He also spoke candidly about his concerns for the future of journalism, including the growing polarization of media consumption and the broader public's increasing skepticism toward the press. Still, he remains passionate about the role of journalism in a functioning democracy. Shearer highlighted recent examples of "impactful journalism" from the Dispatch that have led to changes in public policy and state law—demonstrating that strong local reporting can still make a real difference.

He closed by taking questions from the audience, touching on topics ranging from media bias to newsroom operations and the balance between investigative reporting and day-to-day news coverage. His message was clear: while journalism faces headwinds, its role in fostering transparency, accountability, and civic engagement remains as vital as ever.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

"Keep your face to the sun and you'll never see the shadows." –Helen Keller