

#### Walt's Words of Wisdom



Hello Rotarians!

I've got a whale of a tale to tell ya lad, a whale of a tail or two. I am channeling my inner Kirk Douglas from the 1954 version of 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea as we look forward to a tale or two from Gregory Leeson from The Life Chronicler Project. He will attempt to answer, or better yet, have you answer the question, "Do we all live extraordinary lives?" I think I know the answer – how about you?

Thank you to Matt Riggle, Rotary Leadership Fellow, for hosting our latest Business Synergy this evening at Louisville Paving & Construction. This informal networking event included a facility tour, appetizers and a

bartender serving wine/beer. Congrats to Marisa Neal who won the door prize giveaway: LPC branded bourbon bottle and glasses. Our next Business Synergy is February 21st and will be a mixer with Canopy and YPAL hosted by Independence Bank - you won't want to miss it!

One of the benefits of being in our Rotary Club is that we host the Mayor's "State of the City" address. This will be Mayor Craig Greenberg's first SOTC, held at the Americana World Community Center at 4801 Southside Drive. I hope you will attend this meeting – which will be one of the best meetings of the year! So come and hear our new mayor talk about the initiatives that our community will undertake in the months to come. RSVP deadline is THIS FRIDAY: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCLSOTC2023

We have several new announcements in this Sparks, so scroll on down!

Walt's Words of Wisdom:

"Stories are a communal currency of humanity." -Tahir Shah, in Arabian Nights

"There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you." - Maya Angelou

"Sometimes the most scenic roads in life are the detours you didn't mean to take." - Angela Blount

"If you come to a fork in the road, take it." - Yogi Berra

"Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Life is good!

Walt

#### Tomorrow's Meeting: Gregory Leeson, The Life Chronicler



Tomorrow's meeting at Savor at River House will feature **Gregory Leeson**, author, podcaster, speaker, TED Talk nominee and founder of <u>The Life Chronicler Project</u>. His talk is titled "*Ordinary People*, *Extraordinary Lives*".

The menu is Tortellini Primavera, and we have a few extra meals available, so if your schedule has freed up, please join us.

Dessert and tea/coffee will be provided to all attendees; if you are not purchasing a meal, please make a \$5 donation to cover the \$5 per person that Savor charges us for this.

RSVP HERE: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCL012623

For the speaker bio click here: Read More

#### Next Week's Meeting: Mayor's State of the City at Americana World Community Center



Next Thursday we will host the first "State of the City" Address by **Mayor Craig Greenberg** at the **Americana World Community Center** at 4801 Southside Drive.

Boxed lunches provided by Bristol Catering are available for purchase for \$25, or you can pay \$5 to attend without eating.

RSVP HERE by THIS Friday, January 27th: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCLSOTC2023

### Last Week's Meeting Recap - Tammy York Day

I hope everyone enjoyed the healthcare update from Tammy York Day last week...I hate that I couldn't be there but thanks to Tracy Peck, Kevin McCarron, Ashley Brauer, Joyce Seymour, Thomas Stone, Brett Corbin and others who stepped in to help make sure things ran smoothly (and President Walt, of course!)

We recognized **Susan Zepeda** as a Major Donor, and **Steve Rungwerth** with the *Service Above Self* Award.

If you attended the meeting please, please share your feedback: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCLSurvey01192023">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCLSurvey01192023</a>



### February 9th Meeting: Akoy Agau at Savor

The February 9th meeting at Savor at River House will feature **Akoy Agau**, who played three seasons with the Cardinals, and is the owner of the **Derby City Distillers**, a team that will compete in The Basketball League.

The menu will be salad greens with grilled salmon and a vegan veggie plate is available upon advance request.



Dessert and tea/coffee will be provided to all attendees; if you are not purchasing a meal, please make a \$5 donation to cover the \$5 per person that Savor charges us for this.

RSVP HERE: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCL020923

#### **Rotary University - Next Session February 9th**

If you are new to Rotary and/or haven't completed these orientation sessions, or just want to join in the fun with some of our new members, please mark these dates on your calendar. We will meet IN PERSON following our regular lunch meetings on the dates below. **Completion of Rotary University is required for new members**, so please prioritize these sessions!

January 12	Session 1 - What is Rotary?
February 9	Session 2 - Committees
March 9	Session 3 - Rotary Honors Scholars
April 13	Session 4 - Service Projects
May 11	Session 5 - Rotary International
TBD	New Member Celebration / Mixer (location TBD)

Contact Chris Manzo for details cmanzo@sndbx.design

#### West End School Reading Volunteers Needed

#### By Walt Kunau

It's time for Rotary to read with the 8th graders at West End School again. Last year, four of us (Ken Selvaggi, Larry Sloane, Steve Rungwerth and me) read *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stephenson with the soon to graduate scholars. We will be reading weekly starting on **Thursday, February 23 at 9:45 am** and read until 10:40 for about 5 or 6 weeks. You can come as you can or come to all the sessions. The West End School address is 3628 Virginia Ave. Louisville, KY 40211. Please see me to sign up.

This year we will be reading *Pound the Stone* by Joshua Medicaf:

"There's a secret to mastery that you may have never heard, a single little thing that only the very best in the world know how to do. In fact, I believe it is the only thing anyone can do to gain true mastery at anything, and it's an equal opportunity principle. It can be applied to fulfill your potential in business, in sports, in your relationships, as well as your overall life. Do you want to know what it is?"

Come and find out what it is and as you discover it, you will become more hopeful of Louisville's future because of your investment of time with these future leaders of Louisville. I am sending out a special invitation to our women of Rotary to join us. Whoever comes will be enriched and will learn about West End School's plans for a girls' school too – maybe we will be reading with both the boys and girls in no

#### Volunteers Needed for Educational Justice Bourbon Spelling Bee

By Walt Kunau

Educational Justice's **2023 Great Bourbon Spelling Bee** is a truly one-of-a-kind affair that brings together a mix of comedy, bourbon, fun, and spelling for a great cause. On **March 3rd at 6:30pm at the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage**, teams from across Louisville will compete to take home bragging rights as the top spellers. This adults-only (21+) spelling bee competition combines Louisville personalities, bourbon enthusiasts, local businesses and YOU in the most hilarious spelling bee you'll ever see! Teams and guests will enjoy gourmet food reminiscent of a middle school lunch, beverages, test their knowledge, and root on our brave contestants as they try to outlast the competition.

EJ is taking names of folks who have an interest in volunteering. They don't have the full list of final roles in place, but people who can help with setup, check-in, proctoring teams during the games, selling raffle tickets, etc. are needed. For more info email bourbonbee@educationaljustice.org



### **Discount Tickets to Kentucky Opera's Cinderella**

Rotarian **Barbara Lynne Jamison** has generously offered members a discounted rate of \$50 for two upcoming performances of *Cinderella*. If you would like tickets, email rotary@rotary45.org.



#### ShelterBox Event

ShelterBox is proud to be Rotary International's official project partner in disaster relief. Thanks to our club's generous donations through the ShelterBox HERO program, families around the world have received essential aid and technical assistance needed to rebuild damaged homes and lives. To show gratitude, Shelterbox is hosting an exclusive online Rotary Club HERO event on:

Saturday, February 11th, 2023, 12pm EDT

Register here: https://tinyurl.com/2023heroevent

This exclusive event is open to every club member. ShelterBox USA President Kerri Murray and other executives from ShelterBox will deliver reports on their current response work, the impact we make in the lives of those we reach, and how Rotarians make this work possible. There will also be an opportunity for you to submit questions.

# **Rotary Leadership Institute**



Take your leadership skills to the next level by attending **Rotary Leadership Institute** (RLI).

District 6710 is continuing to rotate locations around the district with the next event scheduled in Henderson, KY on Saturday, February 25th from 8:30am-3:30pm.

RLI is a series of fast-paced, interactive courses offered to refine a Rotarian's leadership skills and increase their base of knowledge in Rotary. There are three different sessions which must be taken in order. All three sessions will be offered concurrently on Saturday, February 25th. The in person fee, which includes RLI materials, a Continental breakfast and a hot lunch, is \$50 plus a small convenience fee if paying by credit card. Our District Governor has agreed to **reimburse 50%** 

of the registration fee after session completion. To register, please email rotary@rotary45.org.

# **Update on Dr. Charlie Oberst**

By Delene Taylor

I was able to visit Dr. O recently - he looked great and was his usual ornery self (just kidding Charlie!). He hopes to be back at a meeting soon. We miss you Charlie!



### January Membership Campaign

Our January membership campaign offering half off of the normal one-time entrance/application fee is almost over.

If there is a leader you would like to propose as a new member, please send them this link to the application <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCLApplication</u>. Better yet, invite them to a meeting so they can hear first hand about the club from Craig Scherman.

A refresh on membership criteria:

Candidates must be adults of good character who reflect the rich diversity of leadership in our community and hold a position of significant influence in their organization and/or community. Examples include:

- · CEO or senior leader in a company or non-profit
- · Civic volunteer who chairs a Board or exceptional community endeavor
- Principal, owner, corporate officer or managing partner of a business concern
- Head of a congregation
- Retiree from a position of significant influence

We also offer a select number of Emerging Leader Memberships to individuals 42 or younger who hold an important position in their organization and demonstrate exceptional community leadership. And for organizations that wish to have multiple leaders join the Club, we offer a Corporate Membership; email rotary@rotary45.org for more details.

### **Funds Needed for Ukraine Shipments**

Partnering for Peace - the collaboration between Rotary and the Peace Corps community - has completed the first phase of its initial project by collecting and shipping more than 200 pounds of winter clothing to Ukrainians in their war-ravaged country. We are planning to launch a second round of winter clothing provisions but we will need to raise some dollars for the air freight costs if we are to get clothing to Ukrainians in time to be helpful this winter. Financial donations may be made at this point to the Rotary Fund with the check designation "Ukraine clothing shipment."

### 2023 Rotary Honors Scholars Mentoring Schedule

By Craig Mooney

Please consider volunteering some of your time and expertise to support our signature service project - mentoring Rotary Honors Scholars. No experience necessary!

- Friday, January 27 from 8:15am 9:00am at Western High School Early College at JCTC Southwest Campus, 1000 Community College Dr, SOAR Room, Building A
- Wednesday, February 15 from 7:40am 9:15am at Iroquois High School, 4615 Taylor Blvd
- Tuesday, February 28 from 8:15am 9:15am at Western High School, 2501 Rockford Ln, Shively

These are fun sessions and offer a great opportunity for those that have not participated in the mentoring program yet to come out and give it a try. We always give new volunteers the opportunity to sit with an experienced mentor for the first session or two so that they can get a feel for how it works.

Click Read More below for future dates. Please contact cmooney@bosseconstruction.com to volunteer or with questions.

Read More

#### **Business Synergy Mixer with Canopy and YPAL**



Many of you are aware of the important role that Canopy and the new <u>Canopy Certification</u> launched last June play in putting Kentucky on the map in the good business movement. You will have a chance to hear first hand about the progress being made and from some of the first businesses to obtain

certification, as well as to meet Canopy social entrepreneurs and supporters. An added bonus is that our friends at YPAL (Young Professionals Association of Louisville) will be joining us! Rotarian Louis Straub will be hosting us at Independence Bank and providing bites and beverages!

This is an excellent opportunity to meet leaders and rising stars (and prospective Rotarians!) who care about good business in our community. Please plan to join us from 5:30-7:30pm on Tuesday, February 21st.

#### Save the Date! Rotary Day at the Downs - May 3, 2023

Join on Wednesday, May 3rd for our annual Rotary Day at the Downs! This year we will be in the brand new First Turn Club Dining space, which has access to the rail for great viewing.



Tickets are \$140 per person and include admission, racing program, 4-hour Chef's Table Buffet, coffee, tea and soft drinks, and an OPEN BAR and fun prizes! We will participate in the trophy presentation for a race as well.

Parking has not been finalized but I believe that the free parking included this year will again be at the Kentucky Exposition Center, with continuous shuttles to/from the Paddock Gate at Churchill Downs. Onsite parking passes can be purchased separately once I have that info.

Purchase tickets at <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Churchill050323</u>. If you purchase a table of 10 before the end of January, you will have first choice.

#### March 27 FUNdraiser at Waterfront Botanical Gardens

#### By Greg Braun

Are your calendars marked for this year's Rotary FUNdraiser event on March 27th? It will be a fun night as we honor Rotary's *Past, Present and Future*. We will be selling 111 Golden WALTO tickets! What's that, say you? Tickets will be sold up to the night of the event and one ticket will be pulled that evening. The winner can then select from our list of incredible trips around the world. Yes, I said around the world. The first two experiences are below. But hold on to your hats...in addition to trips,

# Rotary FUNdraiser WALTO Package #1: A Four Night Stay in Cortona Italy

By Greg Braun

Introducing a Rotary FUNdraising experience - a chance to win this Italian travel package.



Picture waking up in beautiful Cortona, Italy. You and a guest are strolling the quaint streets and neighboring villas. What to do today? Maybe check out the artisanal jewelry boutiques that pepper the towns. Or admire the beautiful classic architecture. Or maybe buy a piece of art. Or sit with a bottle of wine and chat with the townsfolk. Or maybe travel to another romantic town that litters the Tuscany Valley. Or go on a chocolate tasting experience at a local farm. That evening, visit a local restaurant, and enjoy farm fresh food and incredible wine. This trip can be yours if you have the selected golden WALTO ticket. There will be only 111 sold. The trip includes lodgings, one dinner for two, 4-night stay, a couple of fun tours and concierge service assistance in planning and booking. Air fare not included. As they say "Buona Fortuna, e acquista il tuo biglietto, Rotariano!" (Good luck and buy your ticket, Rotarian!)

#### Rotary FUNdraiser WALTO Package #2: A 2 Day/3 Night Stay In Romantic Savannah, Georgia

By Greg Braun



Ah, Savanah, Georgia. Home of Kenny Rogers, Forrest Gump, and the Lady Chablis. The oldest city in Georgia, with a downtown historic district holding 22 park squares, from the original design of the city.

Your weekend trip includes airfare and a 3-night stay at a Marriott, Hyatt or Hilton Savannah hotel. Once there, we have scheduled for you and your guest a horse-drawn carriage ride. For an evening, wander past the towering oaks, and the colonial mansions that line the beautiful streets. Known for its fine dining and secluded, mysterious taverns, Savannah offers romance and excitement at every turn. We also have lined up a tour of some of the rich culinary restaurants. You and a guest will visit six selected foodie haunts, which include some of Savannah's best known seafood spots, a celebrated honey store, a Scottish pub, a 1920's speakeasy and the oldest butcher shop in Savanah. Use the incredible Winspire concierge services in planning the rest of the trip...we just gave you a little boost.

And don't forget to sit on your park bench and have a piece of chocolate or two.



This is just another of the incredible prizes you can select – if you have the winning **WALTO GOLDEN TICKET**. Just 111 tickets will be sold at \$111 each. The winner will be selected at the Rotary FUNdraiser on March 27<sup>th</sup> at Waterfront Botanical Gardens.

#### WANTED: Bourbon!

By Greg Braun

Hello Rotarians, Greg Braun here, and I need some of your bourbon!

This year, the Rotary Super FUNdraiser will be on March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at Waterfront Botanical Gardens.

We will be celebrating our past, present, and future at the Rotary FUNdraiser on March 27th at Waterfront Botanical Gardens. I promise a "super-tacular" night for you and your guest, We will be raising money for our local **Rotary Fund** and for the **Louisville Rotary Club** itself – to help recover from the Covid crunch. And one of the many fun things we will offer is a vast array of bourbon to the guests that night.

We need all types of Bourbon (unopened, naturally) and all sizes. Check those shelves for some dusty unopened bourbon and send it my way. You can bring it to a meeting, or I'm happy to come get it from you – you can call me at 502-817-8224 and I can pick it up. Any amount helps – and yes, we will provide a donation receipt for tax purposes.

So **reserve** the date - March 27<sup>th</sup> - and find a **reserve** bottle or two to donate to a great cause!

Thank you,

Greg Braun, Rotary 2023 FUNdraiser Chair

#### Volunteers Needed: Iroquois HS INTERACT Blood Drive, Wednesday, February 8th

By Linda Bartrom-Moore

Our Iroquois High School INTERACT Club is coordinating a Red Cross Blood Drive on Feb 8th from

7:30am-1:30pm in the gymnasium. We need volunteers and donors! Contact me at lbartrom@hotmail.com.



RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS Blood Donor App | Sponsor Code: IROQUOISLOUKY



Warm hearts. Warm thoughts. Give in February for a \$10 Gift Card by email, thanks to Amazon. And, automatically be entered for a chance to win a trip for 2 to Clearwater Beach, FL Includes travel, hotel, gift card and more! Terms: rcblood.org/heart.

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# **Events & Opportunities - The Woman's Club of Louisville**

By Haldane Lamberton

What: Dinner, Presentation & Bourbon Tastings Organization: The Woman's Club of Louisville Event: Whiskey and War Stories Date/Time: February 4, 2023, 6:30-9pm **Location:** The Woman's Club of Louisville, 1320 S. Fourth St.

**Description:** A unique presentation of actual war stories by one of America's first responders to Afghanistan following the 9/11 terrorist attacks. MSG (Ret) Scott Neil served in the U.S. Army Special Forces for 25 years, deploying around the world in efforts to combat foreign terrorists. Scott interweaves his war stories with tastings of Horse Soldier

Bourbon, from American Freedom Distillery, which he cofounded in 2015. You'll want to stay for a Q&A period



following the presentation, as well as an opportunity to meet with Scott and have bottles of Horse Soldier Bourbon personally signed for you.

More information: <u>https://wcl.ticketleap.com/whiskey-and-war-stories/</u> Member to contact: Hal Lamberton or manager@wclouisville.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 <u>HERE</u> to submit.

#### **Events**

January 25th	January 26th
Business Synergy event at Louisville Paving Speaker: Business Synergy Networking	RCoL Weekly Club Meeting Speaker: Gregory Leeson at Savor Speaker: Gregory Leeson, The Life Chronicler Project
	Subject: https://www.thelifechronicler.com/
January 27th ROTARY MENTORING Western Early College	February 2nd Mayor's State of the City Address Speaker: Craig Greenburg Subject: State of the City Address
February 7th <u>Rotary Leadership Fellows Meeting -</u> <u>February</u>	February 8th Iroquois INTERACT Club Blood Drive
February 9th <u>RCoL Weekly Club Meeting Speaker: Akoy</u> <u>Agau</u> Speaker: Akoy Agau Subject: Derby City Distillers Basketball Team	February 9th Rotary University Session 2: Committees Speaker: Rotary U Led by Greg Braun Subject: Committees
February 15th ROTARY Honors Scholars Mentoring Iroquois High School	February 16th International Service Committee Meeting
February 16th <u>RCoL Weekly Club Meeting Speaker: Dr. Kish</u> <u>Cumi Price at Savor</u> <b>Speaker:</b> Dr. Kish Cumi Price, Louisville Urban League	

#### **Birthdays**



**Richard Roth** January 26th

William Andrew

Henry H. Kuehn

Richard D. King

February 10th

February 18th

February 20th

Mitch McConnell

Robert T.

Maddox

January 28th

February 5th

Holden



Sandra Dodge January 27th

Carlos

Hernandez

January 28th Barbara Lynne

February 5th

John R. Gregory

February 13th

February 18th

**Kasey Maier** 

February 23rd

C. Douglas

**Kottke** 

Ocampo

Jamison



Kevin J **McCarron** January 28th

Byron Riggs

January 31st

February 6th

David B. Reed

February 16th

Michael B. Mountjoy CPA

Lewis



January 28th

Sharon LaRue

Larry T. Sloan



February 2nd



February 8th

Jon Salomon



William M. Rue Jr. February 17th















Leo Smith February 25th



Club Leaders







Ginger L.

Wallace

**Kevin Fields** February 24th



Samuel Ward February 25th



**Ruby Becker** February 27th



Kevin Lynch President-Elect



**Barbara Sexton** Smith Vice President



Kim Halbauer Treasurer



Club Director



Kevin Fields Club Director



William K. Burke Rotary Foundation Chair

Michael Parker Assistant District Governor

Flanery Secretary



Charles D.







Club Director











Hartlage Club Director





Kevin J McCarron Public Image Chair Webmaster





Cynthia Miles Brown **Club Director** 

Walt Kunau

President



Paula Grisanti Club Director



Steven A. Eagers Service Projects Chair

Contact Us:

Rotary Club of Louisville 325 W Main Street, Ste. 1808, Waterfront Plaza

Lori Hudson





Thom S.

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**Club Director** 



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