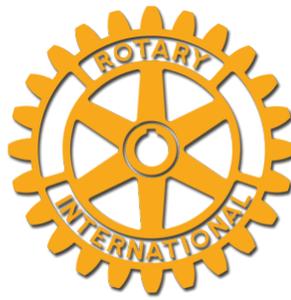


# Rotary Club of Louisville



## No Meeting Tomorrow

Reminder: we will NOT have a regular Thursday meeting this week due to the holiday party.

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## Walt's Words of Wisdom



Hello Rotarians!

I am looking forward to our Holiday Party this evening at Big Spring CC. Party planner Greg Braun and his merry bunch of party elves have fashioned a great evening for your enjoyment. Who is going to take home the prize of best dressed? This is going to be greeaattt! Don't forget to bring cash for the bar. Thanks Greg and crew! **\*\*\*We have a couple of tickets that have become available if your plans have changed and you are able to join us - text/call Delene at 502-295-9290.**

What a timely meeting last week as Dr. Lori Gonzalez gave her "State of the University" program the day after the announcement that Kim Schatzel will become the University of Louisville's 19th president when she begins her appointment in February 2023. We presented Educational Justice with a Big Check too! Your Rotary Club was one of the first supporters of this important work, which also supports our Rotary Honors Scholars at Western and Iroquois. Speaking of supporting our scholars, Kasey Maier at Waterfront Botanical Gardens arranged for these bright young people and their families to be guests at [Gardens Aglimmer](https://waterfrontgardens.org). When you need a dose of Holiday Cheer, visit <https://waterfrontgardens.org> for your tickets. Thank you, Kasey!

We are nearing the New Year. I want to recognize and thank our Speakers Committee for putting together programs that help make Rotary great! Thank you Ashley Brauer and your contingent of committed Rotarians: Vice Chair Angie Bailey, Greg Braun, Alice Bridges, Fred Cowan, Ken Grossman, Rick Harned, Dan Hartlage, Charlie Oberst, Rick Smith, Kirt Jacobs, Steve Kerrick, Kevin Fields, Tawana Bain, and Delene Taylor. If you have ideas for a good program or speaker, please reach out to one of these folks.

Rotary wants to win the KiwaniRotary (KiRo) Cup. We don't want to possess the Turkey Trot Award. George Brakmeier has rung more bells in his long-tenured chair of this important service project benefiting the Salvation Army! We are just getting started, so sign up to ring that bell or make a donation [HERE](#) (change the quantity in increments of \$5.00).

Your Rotary Club leaders convened our annual Leadership Retreat at the Leadership Louisville Center last Wednesday. Rotarian Cynthia Knapek, CEO of LLC, facilitated the program. The theme of the meeting was to identify what puts wind in our sails and what are anchors that may be holding us back. After some fun and effective brainstorming activities, three topics surfaced that folks wanted to invest more time on: how we can "reimagine" weekly meetings, membership criteria, and improved communication of the work of our club - from our committees to the both the Board and to the membership. Be on the lookout for updates to this important work.

We are in the process of amending our Club Bylaws. Many of you have made thoughtful comments as you examined the proposed changes. We will be incorporating some of the changes which we will outline once everyone who wishes to has had a chance to voice their opinion. Then we will present the newest revisions to the Board for approval before presenting to the membership. Once the Board approves, notice will be given, and we need every one of you to vote. You may get annoyed by the number of emails you get to remind you to vote. I need you to participate in this process. I hope you see how this will move our club forward. Here is a [link to my letter outlining the proposed improvements](#) and a [link to the revised Bylaws](#).

WWW

**"The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear."** Buddy the Elf

**"It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving."** – Mother Teresa

**"The proper response, as Hanukkah teaches, is not to curse the darkness but to light a candle."** – Irving Greenberg

**"What I don't like about office holiday parties is looking for a job the next day."** Phyllis Diller

**"I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way [they] handle these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights."** Maya Angelou

Life is good!

Walt

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## December 15th Meeting - Liz Curtis Higgs



Our December 15th meeting at Joe's Palm Room will feature **Liz Curtis Higgs**, award-winning speaker and best-selling author. She will be sharing **"Joy to the World: An Enlightening Look at Laughter."** If you have not heard Liz, just read her bio and you will be amazed that she is coming to our little stage!

Register by noon on Monday, December 12th [HERE](#).

Click for the speaker bio: [Read More](#)

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## Appreciation for Joe's Palm Room Servers

Please consider showing gratitude to our servers this holiday season. We will have envelopes on the tables at our meeting on December 15th if you would like to bring cash. If you prefer to pay with credit card, you can do that here: <https://bit.ly/RCLTips>. Adjust the quantity in increments of \$1 and please make your credit card contribution no later than Monday, December 12th so we have time to

cash it out.

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## Winter Clothing Drive for Ukraine

By Fred Cowan

Final call for winter clothing donations for Ukraine! You can 1) bring to the holiday party 2) deliver to my house or 3) call (502-417-6669) or email me (fjcowan@gmail.com) and I will come pick up the items. We expect to ship next week.



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## We Still Need Bell Ringers!

By George Brakmeier



Please join us for this year's Salvation Army Bell Ringing service project at the Holiday Manor Kroger on US 42. We have several shifts available this Saturday and next.

Register in DaCdb:

December 10: <https://dacdb.com/index.html?EventID=77634316>

December 17: <https://dacdb.com/index.html?EventID=77634318>

For more information, my cell phone is 502-552-2002.

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## Rotary Day at the Opera - December 18, 2pm

Join your fellow Rotarians for a special afternoon at the Kentucky Opera on **Sunday, December 18th at 2:00pm**. Not only will we receive a **discounted rate of \$30** (reg price \$39), but we will also have the opportunity to **meet with cast members** following the performance (thank you Rotarian Barbara Lynne Jamison). The Kentucky Opera will provide wine and light bites if we have at least 25 attending, so let's show out! If you have family/friends in town for the holidays, invite them.

Please click [HERE](#) to RSVP. Note that once you submit the RSVP form, you will be taken to our website where there will be a link and instructions to purchase your tickets directly from the Kentucky Opera.



### The Gift of the Magi

Presented at the Opera Center (708 Magazine Street), this heartwarming holiday classic brings you close to the action. Jim and Della cannot afford to buy each other presents for Christmas; as a result, they pawn their most prized possessions to purchase gifts for each other. However, their surprises go awry in this adaptation of O. Henry's classic story, delivered with beautiful melodies sung in English.

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# Rotary Foundation Month - Matching Points

By William K. Burke

As part of our ongoing "**Every Rotarian, Every Year**" campaign, we ask that each member consider making a voluntary contribution of \$100 or more each year to both our local Rotary Fund of Louisville (which funds all of our local grants and service projects as well as our participation as a Club in District and International grants) and to the Rotary International Foundation (global).

November is Rotary Foundation Month, and what better way to honor it on this last day of the month than by making a donation? As a bonus, if you are working toward achieving your first Paul Harris Fellow award (\$1,000 contributed = 1,000 points), you will receive **matching points** for any donations of \$100 to \$500 made before the end of the calendar year!! We will be recognizing new Paul Harris Fellows in January, so this is a perfect time to earn your pin.

It's very easy. Just click [HERE](#), choose Annual Fund-SHARE (default), then One-Time or Recurring Donation and the amount. You can continue as a guest or login if you have already set up your account. If you have any trouble, please call me and I can help, but if you have used SurveyMonkey to register for a lunch meeting, this should be no problem. This will be a direct gift to the international foundation and your tax receipt will come from Rotary International. If you need to know how close you currently are to reaching 1,000 points, contact me at [kellyburke53@gmail.com](mailto:kellyburke53@gmail.com).

If you prefer to donate by check, of course we won't turn that away! Make your check **payable to the Rotary Foundation** and mail to 325 W Main St, Ste 1808, Louisville, KY 40202.

Our local 501c3 foundation (the Rotary Fund of Louisville) is also in need of donations. Those can be made via check, or online [HERE](#).

[Read More](#)

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## Meeting Recap

Last week's meeting with UofL Interim President Dr. Lori Gonzalez ended up being quite timely with the announcement the day prior of the new President...we had a full house! We also heard a brief update from Educational Justice and presented them with the "Big Check" as well as an actual check for \$3,600 in support of the important work they are doing with students.





## Save the Date for Our Annual FUNdraiser

By Greg Braun



Mark your calendars 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**. I want to tease you with just one of the many prizes we are going to offer.

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 experience is below. But hold on to your hats...in addition to trips, we have bourbon and dinners to give away, and lots of entertainment to keep you jumping. It all adds up to one heck of a night!

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## 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. We call it...



Picture this.

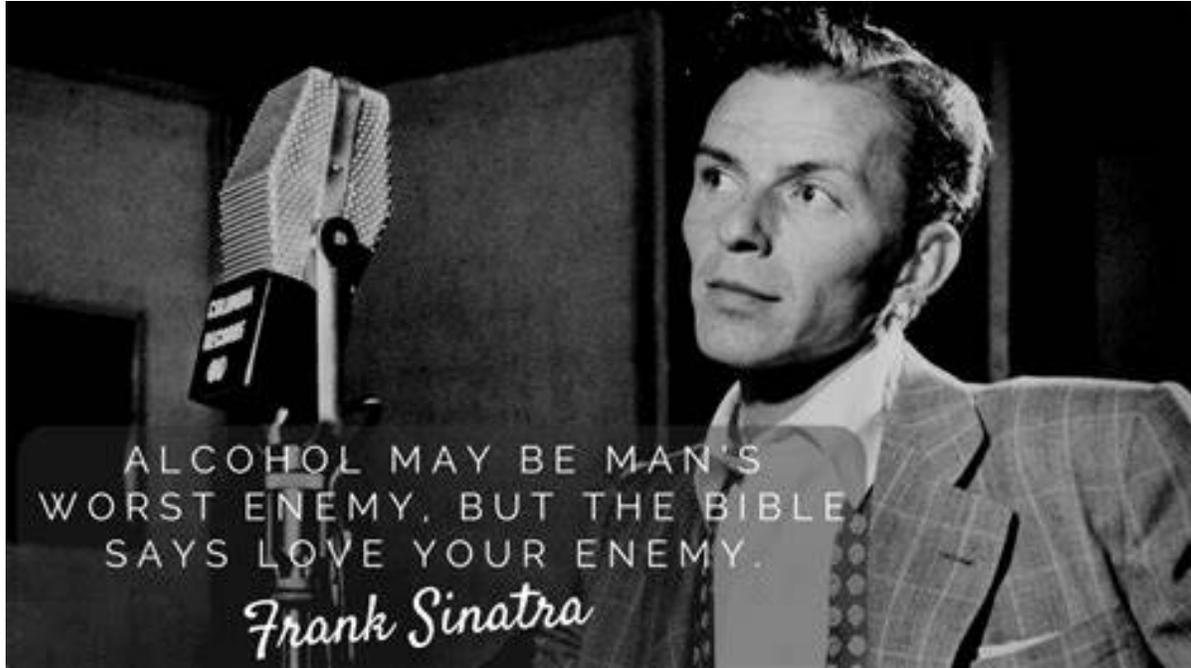
Waking up in beautiful Cortona, Italy. You and a guest are strolling the quaint streets and neighboring villas. What to do today? Maybe check out the artisanal jewelry boutiques that pepper the towns. Or admire the beautiful classic architecture. Or maybe buy a piece of art. Or sit with a bottle of wine 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!)

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## 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. And I promise a "super-tacular" night for you and your guest, so make sure you save the date!

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.

1. For a pre-holiday raffle promo campaign
2. For event day games, prizes, etc.

I'm asking that you 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

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December 7th  
**Rotary Holiday Celebration at Big Spring Country Club**

**Speaker:** Rotary Holiday Celebration

December 10th  
**Bell Ringing Benefiting Salvation Army**

**Speaker:** Bell Ringing / Salvation Army

December 15th  
**RCoL Meeting - Liz Curtis Higgs**

**Speaker:** Liz Curtis Higgs

**Subject:** Joy to the World: An Enlightening Look at Laughter

December 18th  
**Rotary at the Opera**

**Speaker:** Rotary at the Opera

**Subject:** The Gift of the Magi

December 29th  
**NO MEETING - Happy New Year!**

**Speaker:** NO MEETING - Happy New Year!

December 8th  
**NO MEETING due to Holiday Celebration**

**Speaker:** NO MEETING due to Holiday Celebration

December 15th  
**International Service Committee Meeting**

December 17th  
**Bell Ringing Benefiting Salvation Army**

**Speaker:** Bell Ringing / Salvation Army

December 22nd  
**NO MEETING - Happy Holidays!**

**Speaker:** NO MEETING - Happy Holidays!

## Birthdays



Anthony Hammond  
December 7th



Ingrid Hernandez  
December 9th



Scott Neff  
December 10th



Willie Billingslea III  
December 14th



Thomas K Stone  
December 15th



Harry Louis Seeger V  
December 18th



Sam Cilone  
December 19th



Tawana Bain  
December 19th



Tracie Texas Shifflett  
December 20th



Tracy Evette Davis, JD, CDP  
December 21st



Adam Fields  
December 22nd



Jason Pierce  
December 23rd



Anuj Rastogi  
December 23rd



David Y. Wood  
December 23rd



T. Vernon Foster  
December 23rd



Jon Sanders  
December 23rd



Dorn Crawford  
December 25th



Michael B. Vincenti  
December 28th



Lisa DeJaco Crutcher  
December 28th



Kimberly Mallory  
December 31st



David C. Dick  
December 31st

## Club Leaders



Walt Kunau  
President



Kevin Lynch  
President-Elect



Barbara Sexton Smith  
Vice President



Kim Halbauer  
Treasurer

Jean West  
iPast President

Lori Hudson Flanery

Neville Blakemore

Ashley Brauer  
Club Director



[Cynthia Miles Brown](#)  
Club Director



Secretary  
[Frederic J. Cowan](#)  
Club Director



Club Director  
[Thom S. Crimans](#)  
Club Director



[Kevin Fields](#)  
Club Director



[Paula Grisanti](#)  
Club Director



[Charles D. Hartlage](#)  
Club Director



[Jay Mallory](#)  
Club Director  
Membership Chair



[William K. Burke](#)  
Rotary  
Foundation  
Chair



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



[Kevin J. McCarron](#)  
Public Image  
Chair  
Webmaster



[Delene E. Taylor](#)  
Club Executive  
Secretary  
Webmaster



[Michael Parker](#)  
Assistant District  
Governor

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**Email: [rotary@rotary45.org](mailto:rotary@rotary45.org)**  
**Phone: [502-589-1800](tel:502-589-1800)**