

Rotary

Club of Louisville



Walt's Words of Wisdom



Hello Rotarians!

Right at the top of my holiday list for you is to come and hear **Liz Curtis Higgs** tomorrow - we still have a few seats left. You will laugh and you will learn some coping skills for those less than funny moments! This is a fantastic way to close out our time at Joe's Palm Room. You can thank hosts Butch Mosby and Kara Mackey personally and there will be envelopes on the tables if you would like to show your appreciation to the staff who have welcomed us with open arms and big smiles (bring cash)!

Our Holiday Party at Big Spring Country Club had all the energy and excitement that party planners Greg Braun and Barney Sutton could devise. Sunny & Kevin Lynch were awarded the Best Dressed Couple and Robert English, who is always stylish, won a prize too. One of the games was rigged – of course it was – and our Executive Director, Delene Taylor “won” her Rotary thank you gift of a massage. She deserves and needs one almost every week! There were a merry bunch of party elves who fashioned a greeaattt evening for your enjoyment. Thanks Greg and Barney!

Of course, I goofed as I forgot to recognize Ken Selvaggi as a member of our Speakers Committee – mea culpa Ken. This also gives me another opportunity to say thank you again for the great programming we enjoy. I'm excited for our meetings to return in January to **Savor at River House**. Let me say that again - to Savor - I can't wait for our meetings to return in January to Savor. Don't show up at Joe's Palm Room on January 5th - we won't be there. :-)

Kicking off the new year will be speaker **Soozie Eastman**, Chair of the Louisville Film Commission and President of 502 Film, a nonprofit that connects visiting productions with resources in the Greater Louisville region. If you missed the big announcement about the \$65 million investment to develop Louisville Gardens into 40,000 sf of studio space divided amount four stages, you can read about it in [Variety](#). This is a big deal and you'll want to hear more about this and the films coming to Kentucky, so mark your calendar and plan to join us on January 5th.

Let's not tire of doing good. Ring those bells for the Salvation Army...we still have a spot to fill for each shift. Click here to sign up <https://dacdb.com/index.html?EventID=77634318>.

We are in the process of amending our bylaws. Thank you for your comments and suggestions. We are reviewing them a final time, then notice will be given. We need every one of you to vote.

WWW:

"No! No! I want an official Red Ryder carbine-action two-hundred-shot range model air rifle!" – Ralphie in Christmas Story. "Nope you'll shoot your eye out came the reply!"

"Look at how a single candle can both defy and define the darkness." – Anne Frank

"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness." - John Steinbeck

"To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake, it is necessary to stand out in the cold."- Aristotle

"I wonder if the snow loves the trees and fields that it kisses them so gently? And then it covers them up snug, you know, with a white quilt; and perhaps it says, 'Go to sleep, darlings, till the summer comes again.'" - Lewis Carroll

Life is good!

Walt

Re:Center Ministries Dinner Today!

By Larry Sloan



Please join us **TODAY at 5:30pm** at Re:Center Ministries, 733 E. Jefferson Street, next door to The Rabbit Hole Distillery. It will be an early opportunity to celebrate Christmas with our friends going through the rehab program. The Holiday Season is a tough time for many, including those with addictions. Joining these men makes me grateful for all the gifts of God's grace. We would love to have a few more Rotarians to participate in serving the meal and sitting down with the men to break bread. Let me know if you can help. larry.sloan@yahoo.com or 502-552-3990

Tomorrow's Meeting - Liz Curtis Higgs



Tomorrow's 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!

The menu will be a buffet with Hearty Beef Stew, Mashed Potatoes, Salad and Turtle Cheesecake. You can also choose salad with grilled chicken, or a vegetarian option if you prefer. There will be a cash bar from 11:30-noon and following the meeting. Soft drinks are available for purchase.

Register [HERE](#)....we still have a few seats available.

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

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 tomorrow 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).

IN MEMORIAM: Helen Palmer-Ball

We have lost another member of our Rotary community. **Helen Buchanan Howell Palmer-Ball** - wife of Past

President (1985-86) Shirley Palmer-Ball and mother-in-law to current member John Bush - passed away on December 11 at the age of 90. She and Shirley were married for 57 years when he **passed away** in August 2012. He was a Paul Harris Fellow and an L. L. Anderson Fellow (named after our first President in 1912, recognizing those who make bequests of at least \$10,000 to the Rotary Fund as part of their estate plan).

The funeral service is at 11 a.m. Friday, December 16 in the Sanctuary at Second Presbyterian Church, with burial to follow in Cave Hill Cemetery. Visitation is 4-7 p.m. Thursday, December 15 at Pearson's, 149 Breckenridge Lane. In lieu of flowers, the family requests expressions of sympathy in the form of donations to Second Presbyterian Church, 3701 Old Brownsboro Road 40207 and UCHM, 150 State Street 40206 or the charity of your choice.

You can read the full obituary [HERE](#). We will have a moment of silence in her memory at our meeting on Thursday.



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.

Register in DaCdb:

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

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

FINAL CALL Rotary Day at the Opera - This Sunday, December 18, 2pm

This is your final call for tickets - we need a couple more people to reach our 25 minimum for the reception with the cast following the performance! If you need help with purchasing tickets, just call/text me and I can do it for you. The regular price is now \$81.76 for this performance, so we are getting a real deal at \$30.

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.

Rotary Foundation Month - Matching Points

By Kelly 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).

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 to the Rotary International Foundation 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. 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.

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](#)

Rotarians in the Spotlight : Barbara Sexton Smith and Nicole George

Congratulations to **Barbara Sexton Smith** and **Nicole George** for being [appointed to Mayor-Elect Craig Greenberg's senior leadership team](#)...Barbara as Deputy Mayor and Nicole as the Deputy Mayor of Public Health and Services.



Rotarian in the Spotlight: Kelley Spillson

Congratulations to **Kelley Spillson** on the opening of [Epiphany](#), a fun cocktail bar with a community-driven, farm-to-table vision to support local farmers. It's located at 1525 Highland Avenue, on the corner of Bardstown Road and Baxter Avenue. During the [grand opening this weekend](#), they will be offering drink and gift card specials - go check it out and support one of our Leadership Fellows!



January 5th Meeting: Soozie Eastman at Savor at River House



Kicking off the new year on January 5th at Savor at River House will be **Soozie Eastman**, Chair of the Louisville Film Commission and President of [502 Film](#), a nonprofit that connects visiting productions with resources in the Greater Louisville region. If you missed the big announcement about the \$65 million investment to develop Louisville Gardens into 40,000 sf of studio space divided amount four stages, you can read about it in [Variety](#). This is a big deal and you'll want to hear more about this and the films coming to Kentucky, so mark your calendar and plan to join us on January 5th.

Soozie is also a documentary filmmaker and made her directorial debut with [Overload: America's Toxic Love Story](#).

RSVP HERE: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RCL010523>

[Read More](#)

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! We need mentors for our three January dates listed below:

- Wednesday, January 18 from 7:40am - 9:15am at Iroquois High School, 4615 Taylor Blvd
- Tuesday, January 24 from 8:15am - 9:15am at Western High School, 2501 Rockford Ln, Shively
- 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

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

questions.



[Read More](#)

Rotary Friendship Exchange to New Zealand

By Susan Zepeda

We would love to have another couple or two join us for the District Rotary Friendship Exchange to New Zealand. We'll cross the international date line and arrive in Auckland on March 19, then head home on April 4. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about Rotary Friendship Exchange or contact me (502-554-4505 or sgzepeda@aol.com) or Thom Crimans (502-767-8723 or tcrimans@gmail.com) for details.



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!

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...

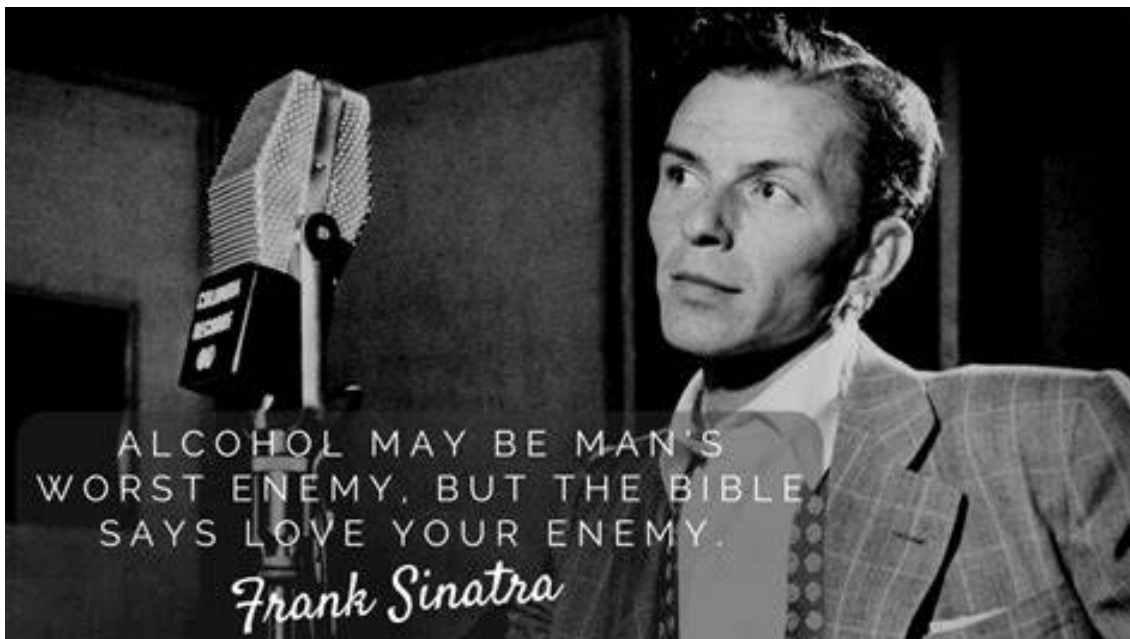


Picture this.

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!)

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 27th, 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 27th - and find a **reserve** bottle or two to donate to a great cause!

Thank you,

Greg Braun, Rotary 2023 FUNdraiser Chair

Rotary 2022-23 Speech Contest

By Karen Morrison

Each year our club hosts a speech contest open to all Louisville area high school students (private, public, independent and home taught). The winner will advance to the sectional competition followed by a regional competition. Finalists from each region in the district will compete at the annual Rotary District 6710 Conference to be held in Bowling Green, KY on May 12-13, 2023.

The contest offers students an opportunity to speak on a meaningful topic, to sharpen their speaking skills, and to gain recognition in addition to monetary rewards. By participating, they will learn about Rotary, our history, and our worldwide mission. Students will also have the potential of establishing a more meaningful relationship with members of our club.

The topic for this year's competition is **Imagine Rotary**.

Click here for more info and to download an entry form:

<https://louisvillerotary.org/speech-contest/>

Events

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!

January 5th

[RCoL Weekly Club Meeting Speaker: Soozie Eastman at Savor](#)

Speaker: Soozie Eastman

Subject: Exciting Film updates in the Community

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!

Birthdays

	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		Jon Sanders December 23rd
	T. Vernon Foster 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		Bethany Witten January 1st		Benjamin W Taylor January 1st
	Sarah Hugenberg January 1st		Brandalynn Davis January 1st		Robert L. Royer January 2nd		David B. James January 4th
	Jeremy Vokurka January 4th		Charles Lambert January 5th		Rudolph Spencer January 5th		Carl Coslow January 5th

Club Leaders

	<u>Walt Kunau</u> President		<u>Kevin Lynch</u> President-Elect		<u>Barbara Sexton Smith</u> Vice President		<u>Kim Halbauer</u> Treasurer
	<u>Jean West</u> iPast President		<u>Lori Hudson Flanery</u> Secretary		<u>Neville Blakemore</u> Club Director		<u>Ashley Brauer</u> Club Director
	<u>Cynthia Miles Brown</u> Club Director		<u>Frederic J. Cowan</u> Club Director		<u>Thom S. Crimans</u> Club Director		<u>Kevin Fields</u> Club Director
	<u>Paula Grisanti</u> Club Director		<u>Charles D. Hartlage</u> Club Director		<u>Jay Mallory</u> Club Director Membership Chair		<u>William K. Burke</u> Rotary Foundation Chair
	<u>Steven A. Eggers</u> Service Projects Chair		<u>Kevin J McCarron</u> Public Image Chair Webmaster		<u>Delene E Taylor</u> Club Executive Secretary Webmaster		<u>Michael Parker</u> Assistant District Governor

Contact Us:

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