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# CHRONICLES OF THE ROTARY OF MURRAY

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# Quote of the Day

"It may be that when we no longer know what to do, we have come to our real work and when we no longer know which way to go, we have begun our real journey. The mind that is not baffled is not employed. The impeded stream is the one that sings."

Wendell Berry

### This Week

Dave Winder will introduce the Murray State Women's Volleyball Coach, Dave Schwepker, as well as the Murray State Women's Soccer Coach, Matt Lodge.

#### Last Week

Pete Lancaster, who firmly believes that "anyone without a dog needs a dog," introduced Kathy Hodge, who spoke to us about the activities of the Humane Society of Calloway County. This essential organization has come a long way since 1975. Perhaps the most telling statistic given by Ms. Hodge was the ratio of euthanasia to adoption cases, which over a twenty-year span was actually stood upon its head! In 1995, the ratio of animals killed out of necessity to those adopted was 82% to 12%, while in 2015, the ratio was 12% to 82% respectively. As if that alone was insufficient to demonstrate the effectiveness of this crucial agency in a county wherein animals outnumber people seven to one, Ms. Hodge went on to delineate a host of other helpful and proactive programs. Our local Humane Society orchestrates approximately 500 adoptions per year; arranges the foster placement of numerous animals with those who are in a position to provide companionship without commitment; provides a certified training curriculum for pet assisted therapy; conducts a feral cat program; assists with supplies for animal care to those in financial straits; marshals a good Samaritan venture for wounded animals; assembles obedience classes, supplies transportation for rescued animals; organizes a lost and found; and perhaps most importantly, educates! That is not all; more information on the terrific work being done by this volunteer association is to be found at their website: www.forthepets.org. There is an actively collaborative relationship between the Humane Society, the Animal Shelter, and Animal Control, which is fostered by mutual support between county and city governments. Of course, like all effective leaders, Ms. Hodges focused not on success but on what was yet needed. She lamented that there was yet a long way to go with cats; the adoption rate was not much over 50%. When asked, what might you be able to do to help, her response was adopt, foster, sponsor, volunteer, donate, or educate. Of course, \$2000 for a new microchip reader wouldn't hurt. Membership in the Humane Society is scaled but generally it's \$25.

#### Next Week

Carmen Garland will introduce our 2018 endowed Rotary Scholarship recipients just weeks before they begin classes as Murray State Racers.

Our Guests Last Week

Jessica Rojas, Tracy Lawrence, Jon Mercado, & Kathy Hodge

#### Club Member Birthdays This Week: Stuart Poston & Rick Dye

**Club member anniversaries this month**: Patrick Newcomb ('15), Johnny Bohannon ('88), Bernie Prince ('12), Chris Wooldridge ('05), Joshua Vernon ('16), John Rainey ('16), Matt Imes ('16), Matt Sullivan ('17), Yvonne Vogt ('05), Bonnie Higginson ('10), Bobby Workman ('14)

TODAY'S AGENDA	The Four Way Test of the Things We Think, Do, and Say	
Songsters: Asia Burnett & Jayne Crisp Rotary Four Way Test Invocation: Rick Dye Songs: Sing Rotarians & Hey, Look Me Over Sergeant at Arms: Alice Rouse Introduction: Ed Marlowe Speaker: Dave Schwepker & Matt Lodge	1. Is it the truth? 2. Is it fair to all concerned? 3. Will it build good will & better friendships? 4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?	

#### **Rotary Rumors**

James Gallimore called us to order and swiftly demonstrated that, as an assembly, we had not memorized The Four Way Test of the Things We Think, Do, and Say quite as well as we might have thought. Roger Reichmuth attempted to salvage our self-esteem with song only to discover, sadly, that we had apparently misplaced our rhythm as well. Given the dearth of announcements, Kelly Forster was called to the podium as Sergeant at Arms. She rapidly advanced the meeting's program. Unfortunately, heavy absenteeism thwarted any attempt to levy fines from those among us who were in the news. Nonetheless, Terry Little paid a dollar, again, for his role as a Murray icon for unconventional and patriotic wardrobe choices. Although he avoided the camera lens, the United Way conducted two events caught in the VUE magazine. So of course Gerald Washington was penalized. This same publication caught Jayne Crisp, Kay Zweedyk, Steven Hunter, Bill Marcum and the author (who usually eschews the focal point) at the last Bill Wells Make a Difference Day, which serves as a reminder that the next one is approaching! Gary Brockway was captured in color and above the fold for celebrating his birthday. Ron Allbritten continues to make headlines as part four of the series on recycling made it in print. Of course, Diana Thomason handing to Pat Harrington the Humanitarian Service Above Self Award was worthy of note. Happy Dollars was somewhat more successful; appreciation for the day's speaker was the dominant theme. Kelly concluded with a poem addressing the surprising similarity between love and dog ownership.

Our recent Bass Fishing Tournament fundraiser witnessed significant success. Dennis Heskett has been organizing this annual event for eight consecutive years! This year 33 boats entered the competition. The cumulative winnings totaled over \$1500 in prizes and cash. The biggest haul was measured at 23lbs 1oz, while the single largest bass weighed 6lbs 8oz. More to the point, over \$4700 was raised, which was added to the \$5400 raised from the golf tournament, for the general philanthropy fund. A lot of hard work went into a successful month. Well done all!

## What's Coming Up?

Bill Wells Make a Difference Day is Saturday morning, August 4th. Please come!