

SPARKS



Next Meeting: Thursday, April 30, 2015

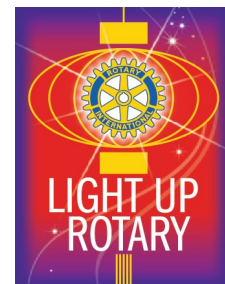
Guest Speaker: John Asher

Churchill Downs Racing Communications Vice President

Introduced by: Dr. Charles Oberst

Archibald Room, Galt House West, 3rd floor

Buffet Opens: 11:30 am / Meeting Begins: 12:10 pm



John Asher, Vice President of Racing Communications at Churchill Downs, has worked in the Thoroughbred racing industry as an award-winning journalist and publicist for more than 30 years. He joined Churchill Downs, home of the world famous Kentucky Derby and the flagship operation of Churchill Downs Incorporated ("CDI"), in January 1997 and has served in his current position since March 1999.

As a radio journalist at WHAS-AM and WAVE-AM in Louisville, Asher earned five Eclipse Awards for "Outstanding National Radio Coverage of Thoroughbred Racing." His general reporting was recognized with national honors. He has been the recipient of multiple awards in the horse industry as well as reporting, too numerous to mention here. In March 2010 Asher was selected from a pool of more than 5,500 regional nominees as one of 128 individuals recognized as Connectors by the Leadership Louisville Center ("LLC"). Connectors were described as individuals that are successful in getting things done because of their distinctive style of "trusted leadership."

He serves on the board of trustees of WLKY-32's "Spirit of Louisville Foundation," which oversees the annual Bell Awards for community service, and the boards of directors GuardiaCare Services and Simmons College of Kentucky. He previously served on the board of directors of the Kentuckiana Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International and was honored as its "Volunteer of the Year" in 2004, and the boards of the Catholic Education Foundation and Presentation Academy.

Asher is a native of Leitchfield, Ky. and a graduate of Western Kentucky University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Journalism. He lives in Louisville with his wife, Dee, and they have three daughters.

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Birthday Table

Don Kohler	Apr 27
Robert Chatham	May 2
Bob L. Maddox	May 2
Jerry Clanton	May 3
John Hampton	May 3
J.R. Curtin	May 5
Terry Tyler	May 5

**Please sit at the Birthday
Table on April 30.**



View past meetings on

You Tube

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Who is the next

2014-15 ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR?

Nominate a Rotarian whose actions demonstrate the 4-Way Test in professional, Rotary and civic activity. The form is at [THIS LINK](#). Please submit before May 21. Thank you!



Rotarian of the Year

Business Synergy Kickoff Event

May 21 5:30-7:30

Join other Rotarians at the new 8-UP Restaurant at 350 West Chestnut Street for this kickoff event planned by the Rotary Business Synergy Committee. Enjoy a great evening, meet other Rotarians, and share info about your business.

Questions? John Jennings (489-6455 / johnj@uscky.com)



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

May 7 — John Walczak (Director of Louisville Zoo)

May 12 at 5:30pm — FUNdraiser Event!

May 14 — Dennis Petrullo (General Manager of KFC YUM! Center) *Tentative*

May 21 — Wil James (President, Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Kentucky, Inc.)

May 28 — Raza Ahmad Rumi (Pakistani Policy Analyst)

June 4 — Ray Burse (President of Kentucky State University)

June 25 — Rotary Leadership Turnover Extravaganza! *You won't want to miss this one!*

Nov 5 — District Governor Mike Kull (District Assembly)

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Questions? Email Debe Skidmore at rotary@rotary45.org.



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"THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!"

May 12, 2015 (Tuesday) — FUNdraiser Event at Copper & Kings; fundraiser for 'Rotary Fund of Louisville'; \$75/person; incredible auction items; this will be an exciting, fun evening. All guests are welcome!

May 21, 2015 (Thursday) 5:30—7:30 — Business Synergy Event at 8-Up Restaurant, 350 West Chestnut Street

May 30 (Saturday) — Garden Party at Boone Gardiner (jazz band, food, etc.)

June 16 at 7:00 pm (Tuesday) — Rotary Evening at the Ballpark — FREE tickets! Only 32 available. Dinner is on your own.

July 15 (Wednesday) — Zoo After Hours Event at Louisville Zoo for a 'behind the scenes' tour led by Director John Walczak

September 27 (Sunday) — End of Summer Farm Party at Stet Stetten's Springdale Woods Farm (Details coming soon.)

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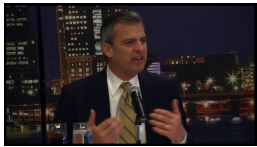
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April 23, 2015 Rotary Meeting

With much media coverage, the GOP Gubernatorial candidates greeted Rotarians and guests in the packed Archibald Room as President Kevin Wardell called the meeting to order. The invocation was provided by Bill Roby, and Past President Randy Coe led the Pledge of Allegiance and 4-Way Test. With too many guests to introduce individually, President Kevin welcomed them and encouraged guests interested in membership to join Penny Gold at a designated table for a 'What is Rotary' session after the meeting. The panel discussion guidelines were provided by President Kevin and the official timekeeper, Doug Myers, was introduced. Each candidate was given three minutes to present opening statements. Mary Michael Corbett, Chair of the Speakers Committee, introduced committee members who would present the questions (selected from those previously submitted by Rotarians), and candidates were provided two minutes to answer.

The candidates basically agreed that change is needed in Frankfort and that they want tax reform with lower tax rates. They also agree on most of the issues, such as opposition to Kentucky's 'Obamacare', support of charter schools, and too much partisanship but not enough progress in Frankfort. Scott suggested that political leaders should just "sit down together, tell a couple of jokes and have a few drinks."



Some of Kentucky's state retirement plans are among the nation's worst-funded pensions, and the candidates suggested somewhat different solutions. Bevin reminded us that he is the only candidate with years of experience in pension investment management. Comer stated that we must change retirement benefits for new hires going forward and that he will push to privatize the management of our state pension systems. Heiner accused Governor Beshear of ignoring the pension crisis and promised to tackle the state pension woes head-on. He also discussed the fact that Kentucky is losing jobs to surrounding states, businesses are going elsewhere because they don't like Kentucky's tax structure, high taxes, inventory taxes and high personal income taxes. Scott says that he would push to pass casino gambling and use the revenues to fund the pension system.

Each candidate responded to the final question by providing reasons for selecting their running mate. President Kevin and Mary Michael Corbett thanked them for their participation on the panel. We were reminded to vote in the primary election on May 19, and the meeting was adjourned.

All four candidates support passing a right to work law. Scott was adamant that Republicans should not run on this issue. He said, "The Republican Party got killed running on right to work in state races." He said, "Don't run on an issue you can't pass in the (Democratic) House." The other three promised to pass it and shared how they would achieve it. Heiner shared his plan to take it to the public and put pressure on the legislators. He expressed how he is a 'Frankfort outsider' and said that he would conduct a public education campaign with a clear vision and plan, and that people would get involved and demand that lawmakers pass the right to work law. Comer displayed his confidence to pass it by reminding us about his hemp legislation passing in spite of bi-partisan opposition by key leaders. Bevin says that he will not attempt to bust unions but will create more jobs and a better business environment.



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President Kevin Wardell Interviewed on Louisville Life TV Program!

President Wardell shared info about the **Rotary Promise Scholarship Project** in an interview which aired on April 3 & 4. [VIEW IT AT THIS LINK](#). It will air again multiple times on the **KET KY Channel** (also on KET's website, featured on the American Graduate Education section).

Rotary Club Service Day and Outdoor Lunch with Food Literacy Project - Saturday, May 30 at 10 am

Bring family/friends for a fun morning of Rotary service on an agricultural oasis between Oxmoor Country Club and I-64. This project connects underserved children with fresh foods, the people who grow it, the land, and each other. Angelique Perez, MPH, FLP's assistant director said: "Through these direct experiences, they are empowering themselves with skills to make a lifetime of healthy choices." Please volunteer to maintain the farm's 'outdoor classroom' (mulching, weeding and harvesting). **Enjoy lunch** — Individual pizzas prepared in FLP's cob oven, using ingredients that you pick from the field!

Contact Alice Bridges (alicebridges@kentuckyonehealth.org) or 502-587-4603.

Annual Rotary Evening at the Ballpark Tuesday, June 16, at 7pm A few FREE tickets left!

Contact Joey Bailey
joeybaileycpa@gmail.com



Behind the Scenes Tour

Join Rotarians/guests for a 'behind the scenes' tour led by Louisville Zoo Director/Rotarian John Walczak on **Wed., July 15**.



JOIN US at the ROTARY DISTRICT CONFERENCE in PADUCAH MAY 15-17

This year's conference coincides with the Lower Town Arts and Music Festival and conference organizers are working hard to make sure there is plenty of free time for you to enjoy the festival and other things that Paducah offers, as well as making the conference interesting and relevant. **Our own Club's Past President Stuart Alexander will preside over the Awards Brunch on Sunday!**

Make plans to spend the weekend in Paducah. A flyer with details is available at [THIS LINK](#). Access the online Registration (with additional hotel info) at [THIS LINK](#).

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