SPARKS



Next Meeting: May 1, 2014

Guest Speaker: John Asher

Title: Churchill Downs Vice President of Communications

Buffet Opens: 11:30 am / Meeting Begins: 12:10 pm Galt House West, 3rd Floor, Archibald Room





John Asher, Vice President of Racing Communications at Churchill Downs Race Track ("CDRT"), 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.

A native of Leitchfield, Ky., Asher is 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.

Who will be the next ROTARIAN OF THE YEAR? Birthday Table The Awards Committee seeks nominations for Rotarian of the Year. Please identify and nominate Rotarians whose actions demonstrate **Robert Chatham** the 4-Way Test in professional, Rotary and civic activity. The dead-May 2 line to submit nominations is June 6. Access the form at THIS LINK. **Rotarian of the Year Bob L. Maddox** May 2 **May 10 is Rotary Volunteer Day!** Jerry Clanton May 3 Inside this issue: The Food Literacy Project has reserved May 10 for Ro-John Hampton May 3 tarians to volunteer at the Oxmoor Farm on Limehouse That's Entertainment -Volunteer 2 Lane. If you can volunteer from 10am-1pm on May 10, New Exciting Events! J.R. Curtin May 5 Dav or to volunteer on another day, SIGN UP HERE April 24 Mtg w/ Guest **Terry Tyler** May 5 Speaker Neville Pinto, 3 Ph.D. Tony Kemper May 7 Rotary DAY at the 3 BATS - Free Tickets! Please sit at the Birthday Gen. Elmus Ussery Table on May 1. 3 Rotary Reach Out You can also support the Smart Food Project by ordering strawberries for the 3 New Member Initiative Jamm Fest in May. Order deadline is May 16. Access the order form HERE. Contact Info / Website 4 a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a



April 24, 2014 Rotary Meeting

The weekly meeting began with a welcome from incoming President-elect, Kevin Wardell. Kevin announced that, based on two member engagement surveys, the meeting agenda would be modified somewhat to include the following: new podium setup with Lavaliere, new backdrop with new RI club logo, self-introductions by Rotarians when introducing their guests, and reciting the *4-Way Test* at the end of each meeting. Kevin also noted that we are a diverse club with over five generations, and it is critical that we adapt to be relevant to all members. In addition, he mentioned the club's beautiful new backdrop, thanking those who made it possible: Henry Heuser, Jr., Ray Schuhmann who photographed the Louisville skyline, and Don Cherrie whose company (Nimlok) provided their services to create the three-panel backdrop.



President-elect Kevin Wardell, Dr. Neville Pinto and Henry V. Heuser, Jr.

The pledge and song was led by member, John Evans and the birthday table hosted by Michael Vincenti. Party planner enthusiast and Club President Nominee, Greg

Braun, announced upcoming exciting events while wearing a light-up hat. We all know what a fun guy he is! Please check the details out in today's newsletter, *That's Entertainment* section on page two. The events promise not to disappoint!

Dedicated member Henry Heuser, Jr. introduced Neville Pinto, Ph.D., Dean of University of Louisville Speed School of Engineering. Dr. Pinto's very informative speech began with information about the school itself. The Speed School is a five-year program with the opportunity to complete a Master's Degree. Their objective is to advance basic engineering in an innovative way which includes the recent announcement of the University of Louisville Research Park. This park will have an industry located within it and will be a hub for thought leaders. It will maximize the student experience while being open to the community for global cocreation. The objective will be to Design, Build and Sell. GE Corporation has committed to be the anchor sponsor and will work hand in hand with the students. They will have their product testing located within the park. Other partners include Local Motor (LM) and 1B – First Builders.

Dr. Pinto ended his speech with additional details regarding the Institute for Product Realization. A special Rotarian thank you to Dr. Pinto for spending his afternoon with us. The meeting concluded with the reciting of the *4-Way Test* and a reminder that next week's meeting will feature John Asher, Churchill Downs Vice President of Communications. - Stacy Funk



Rotary Day at the BATS

Wednesday, June 18 - FREE!

Two suites are available for Rotarians on Wednesday, June 18. Tickets are FREE, but food will be on your own. Approximately 32 tickets will be available.

Rotarians with reservations will be entered into a drawing at the June 12 Rotary meeting and the winner will have the privilege of throwing out

the ceremonial First Pitch! Contact Joey Bailey directly via email at

joeybaileycpa@gmail.com and reserve



General Elmus Ussery ROTARY REACH OUT

Thursday, July 17

Have you reserved your booth?

Exhibit opportunities are available to showcase businesses, nonprofits, Rotary Committees, Service Projects, or Rotarians can share information about their hobby or collection. Door prizes and special entertainment are planned! This will be a fun, exciting event that you won't want to miss!

Access registration form with details at <u>THIS LINK</u>. Registration Deadline: May 22

Questions? Contact Theresa or Lee Theresa Raidy: 637-7696 / traidy@kosair.org Lee Squires: 451-5630 / cavehillcemetery.com



your ticket(s) today!

Thank you for responding! The initiative to add new Club members is underway.

Continue to contact your friends or business acquaintances with qualifications to become a Rotarian. Please do your level best to identify, recommend for membership, and then support them as a proposer. The list of past programs at **THIS LINK** may be helpful to use as a selling tool.

If they are interested in joining, they should attend a '*What is Rotary?*' session (offered every 1st and 3rd Thursday each month in the Rotary office conference room). Questions? Contact Debe Skidmore at 589-1800. Thank you, in advance! Your efforts are making a difference!

- Nelson Auge, Membership Development Committee Chair

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Rotary Club of Louisville, Inc.

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> **CLUB WEBSITE** www.louisvillerotary.org

MEMBERSHIP DATABASE www.dacdb.com/rotary

View Historic SPARKS newsletters at www.louisvillerotaryclub.org

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