

Rotary



Club of Louisville

Sparks Newsletter - February 22, 2021

Weekly Zoom Meeting - Register [HERE](#)

Thursday, February 25, 2021

11:30 am - Networking

11:40 am ♦ Pre-meeting

12:00 pm - Meeting

This Week's Speaker: Sarah Davasher-Wisdom, CEO, GLI & Karen Williams, CEO, Louisville Tourism



Presentation Title: "Lou Needs You"

This presentation will focus on restarting business and tourism economies in downtown Louisville and surrounding areas in the wake of a pandemic.

Since January 2020, Sarah Davasher-Wisdom has served as President & CEO of Greater Louisville Inc. In this role, Ms. Davasher-Wisdom provides strategic leadership of the organization, which consists of 36 professionals who develop and implement the strategies, objectives and policies. Greater Louisville Inc (GLI) was named national Chamber of the Year in 2019.

In March 2014, Karen was named President & CEO of Louisville Tourism and is responsible for all administrative, operating, sales and marketing functions including 130 full and part-time staff members and an operating budget of \$22 million. Louisville Tourism represents the city of Louisville at industry tradeshow and markets the area as a premier venue for conventions, meetings, and leisure travelers

To read Sarah's entire bio, click [HERE](#).

To read Karen's entire bio, click [HERE](#).

Pre-Meeting Conversation - 11:40 am

Please join us for conversation and updates from fellow Rotarian **Kevin Fields**, President and CEO, Louisville Central Community Centers, Inc.



Meeting Recap - February 18, 2021



The February 18th Rotary Club of Louisville Zoom meeting featured Eric Friedlander, Secretary, Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services. His presentation **◆ Vaccination Distribution Across Kentucky, ◆** focused on the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out strategy, which includes regional, high capacity and local sites to meet the differing needs of Kentuckians. Secretary Friedlander also discussed the ramping up of infrastructure so that as vaccine supply increases, Kentucky is prepared to vaccinate as many people as possible. Click [HERE](#) to watch the presentation.

Business Synergy Virtual Event **◆** March 16th at 5:30 p.m.



After being shot 12 times on the morning of Sept 6, 2018, in Cincinnati, Ohio and miraculously living to tell about it, Whitney Austin, created Whitney/Strong. Join the conversation with Whitney about gun violence and find out what makes her organization's call to action so unique.

To register, contact the Rotary office at 502-589-1800 or rotary@rotary45.org.

Collecting Items for our Rotary Promise Scholars

We are currently collecting items to make "goodie bags" for our Rotary Promise Scholars at Western and Iroquois High Schools. This has been a difficult school year and we would like to show these students our support by providing them with items that will help them finish strong and look towards the next chapter of their education. And a big THANK YOU to those Rotarians who have already donated!

Needed items:

Hand sanitizer

Wipes

Lotion

Water/ sports water **◆**

Granola/breakfast bars

Candy

\$10 gift cards for Heine Brothers coffee, Amazon/Target/Kroger, etc.

Motivational Quotes and generic notes of support and well-wishes.

Anything else you think our scholars would need.

If you have any questions, please contact Rotary Promise Scholars chair, Walt Kunau at wkunau@bellsouth.net.

Donation to the Black Community Development Corporation for the Hope Wellness Center



The Hope Wellness Center received a \$10,000 grant from the Rotary Fund of Louisville for the purpose of improving health outcomes in West Louisville. Dana Smith, founder of HWC and nurse practitioner at the VA Hospital, recognized the need of the people in the area that do not have readily available access to quality healthcare took action. The Hope Wellness Center "provides affordable and quality care in an efficient and effective manner" by offering "shared contracted space to medical professionals who provide high quality care, prevention, and educational programs to residents in West Louisville. To learn more, click [HERE](#).

What is the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund?

The Annual Fund is the main source of unrestricted support for the programs of the Rotary Foundation. Projects like our own Club's clean water efforts in Uganda, Kenya and El Salvador. From digging clean water wells for villages in Africa to providing needed equipment and supplies to clinics in Central and South America, during any given day, our own Club's members are joined by thousands of Rotarians around the world who volunteer their time and expertise to ensure that all contributions to the Annual Fund are spent wisely on quality, sustainable projects.

The Annual Fund is made up of donations from Rotarians, friends of Rotary and corporations and can be matched by corporate matching gifts to leverage your donation. There's an online resource that lets you see if your company has a charitable matching program - check it out at www.rotary.org/matchinggifts.

Thank you for supporting the Rotary Foundation and its work! To learn more about the Rotary Foundation, click [HERE](#).

Membership Dues

We appreciate receiving your dues. Invoices have been sent for the first quarter. In order to keep administrative costs down, please make sure the Rotary office has your credit card information for Automatic Recurring Billing. As always, if you have any questions, please contact the Rotary office at rotary@rotary45.org or 502-589-1800.

DG February Message: Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution

By Jo Ann Heppermann on Sunday, February 7, 2021



Happy February! Thank you for continuing to lead the charge in addressing the needs of our communities. This month's theme is **Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution**. Often times Rotarians aren't sure just how they can have an impact in this arena. But the truth is, when the basic needs of our fellow men, women and children are met, there is less conflict. And existing conflict is easier to resolve. So, assess the needs of your community and then go meet those needs. While you are at it, remember to tell your stories often and tell them well. When others in your community see that your Rotary Club makes a difference, they will want to join you. The money will follow. Trust me on this.

Thanks to all of you who came to the first four Idea Exchanges! All of you who participated did a marvelous job. We have one more to go—the Community Service Idea Exchange on Monday, February 8. See info and link in the article below. Look for more such exchanges in April! And read the rest of *Spectrum*. It is chocked full of information related to the Speech Contest, the iRYLA Mashup, the Attraction Challenge and more. And listen to the video!!

Be safe, stay well. We need you. There is work to do. But the effort is worth it. **Service, done well, will change your life and transform the life of others. Be inspired. Serve. Inspire Others to Serve. Let's make 2021 a year to remember for all the right reasons!**

Jo Ann Heppermann
District Governor 2020-21



Events

February 25th

[Lifeline Committee meeting](#)

March 4th

[RCoL Zoom Meeting - James Miller & Liz Palmer, Manual HS](#)

March 11th

[Rotary Foundation Meeting](#)

March 16th

[Virtual Business Synergy Experience - Whitney Austin](#)

March 18th

[RCoL Zoom Meeting-Jeana Dunlap, Community Investment Specialist](#)

March 25th

[Rotary Foundation Meeting](#)

February 25th

[RCoL Zoom Mtg - GLI and Louisville Tourism](#)

March 8th

[Rotary Leadership Team Update Meeting](#)

March 11th

[RCoL Zoom Meeting-James O'Connor & Christy Holly Racing Lou FC](#)

March 18th

[International Service Committee meeting](#)

March 25th

[Lifeline Committee meeting](#)

March 25th

[RCoL Zoom Mtg-Jerilan Greene, PA Officer, Yum! Brands](#)

Birthdays



[Gregg T. Cobb](#)
February 23rd



[Kasey Maier](#)
February 23rd



[Kevin Fields](#)
February 24th



[Samuel Ward](#)
February 25th



[Leo Smith](#)
February 25th



[Ruby Becker](#)
February 27th



[Norbert O. Grohmann](#)
February 29th



[William A. Stone](#)
March 1st



[Gregory Patrick Braun](#)
March 2nd



[Thomas Allen](#)
March 2nd



[Doug Scott](#)
March 3rd



[Cheryl Creech Kersey](#)
March 4th



[David Laird](#)
March 8th



[Robert C. Ewald](#)
March 8th

Club Leaders



[Julie H. Schmidt](#)
President



[Jean West](#)
President-Elect



[John Jennings](#)
Vice President



[Chris Whelan](#)
Secretary



[Tony H. Coffey](#)
Treasurer



[Luke B. Schmidt](#)
iPast President



[Barry Glen Allen](#)
Club Director



[Alyssa Evans-Tourinho](#)
Club Executive Director
Virtual Meeting Coordinator



[Cheryl Creech Kersey](#)
Club Director



[Mike Richardson](#)
Club Director



[Julie Scoskie James](#)
Club Director

[Ken Selvaggi](#)
Club Director



Barbara Sexton Smith
Club Director



Larry T. Sloan
Club Director



Todd Warren
Club Director



Steven A. Eggers
Service Projects Chair



Jay Mallory
Membership Chair



Betty Russo
Rotary Foundation Chair



Kevin J. McCarron
Public Image Chair
Webmaster

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