

# SPARKS

**Next Meeting: Thursday, January 29, 2015**

**Guest Speaker: Greg Fischer**

**Title: Louisville Mayor**

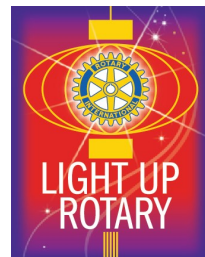
**Annual State of the City Address**

**Introduced by: Pres. Kevin Wardell**

**!! OFFSITE LOCATION !!**

**Southwest Library — 9725 Dixie Highway**

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



Greg Fischer is a businessman and entrepreneur who is dedicated to bringing those skills to his role of mayor. Elected in 2010 and re-elected to a second four-year term on Nov. 4, 2014, Mayor Fischer has pursued three top goals for his hometown: making Louisville a city of lifelong learning and great jobs, a much healthier city, and an even more compassionate community. He was named a 2013 "Public Official of the Year" by *Governing Magazine*, the only U.S. mayor to earn the distinction.

Using many of the performance-improvement approaches he used as a businessman, he has instituted a data-driven approach to city government with a goal of making it more efficient and accessible -- and making sure that every taxpayer dollar is wisely spent. Mayor Fischer has achieved many accomplishments, too many to list here, resulting in multiple improvements and positive changes throughout the Louisville community.

Greg chairs the U.S. Conference of Mayors' Metro Economies Committee which addresses economic problems facing the nation's cities and their citizens. He was also honored by the Kentucky League of Cities as top "Large City Mayor" for 2013. Fischer is an entrepreneur who started several businesses including SerVend International and Iceberg Ventures, a private investment firm. He also co-founded bCatalyst, the first business accelerator in Louisville.

Greg is married to Dr. Alexandra Gerassimides, and they have four children, George, Eleni, Nick and Mary.

***We anticipate a great crowd on January 29 at the beautiful Southwest Library, 9725 Dixie Highway!***

Directions: head south toward 9725 Dixie Highway (Valley Station area); look for a Rotary sign and blue/gold balloons on the corner and turn left. (The library is behind a Fifth Third bank, and just before you get to the Meijer's store. If you pass Meijer's, you've gone too far.) Parking is available at the library, but space is limited. You may need to park next door in the Meijer's parking lot.



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**If you have RSVP'd to ride the bus to the SW Library, free Rotary parking is available as usual at Galt House East. Board the bus (at GH East) by 10:45am. The bus leaves promptly at 11:00am.**

**Thurs, JAN 29**  
**6:00-7:30 pm**  
\$10/person  
**Register Online**  
**at THIS LINK**

You're invited to a  
*Wine Tasting*  
Join YPAL & Rotary Young Professionals at Filson Historical Society

**Check out the Strategic Plan Summary Report for the 2nd Quarter of FY 2014-15 at THIS LINK!**



## B i r t h d a y s

Connie Cheak	Jan 29
Joan Frey	Jan 30
Barbara Lankford	Jan 30
Deborah Dietzler	Feb 1
Kathy Minx	Feb 1

***Due to the off-site meeting on Jan 29, please plan to sit at the birthday table at the Feb 5 meeting.***



## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**February 5 — Jonathan Wolff** (Louisville Native and Seinfeld Composer) *'I Got a Call From This Comic Named Jerry ... Louisville to Hollywood and Back Again'*

**February 12 — Ted Smith** (Chief Economic Growth & Innovation, Louisville Metro Govt) *'Institute for Healthy Air, Water & Soil'*

**February 19 — Wil James, Jr.** (CEO, Toyota Georgetown) *'Toyota'*

**March 5 — Ray Burse** (KY State University President / Recently Featured on NBC Brian Williams) *'Making a Difference'*

**March 26 — Unsung Heroes Program**

**April 9 — Tom Jurich** (tentative)

**April 16 — Speech Contest**

**April 23 — Jamie Comer** (Comm of AG & Candidate for Governor)

**April 30 — John Asher** (Vice President of Racing Communications at Churchill Downs)

## PAY YOUR DUES

This is a friendly reminder to pay your quarterly dues for January-March 2015. Invoices have been emailed. If you don't remember receiving it, check your SPAM folder, or contact the office at 589-1800 ASAP and it will be re-sent. Thank you!



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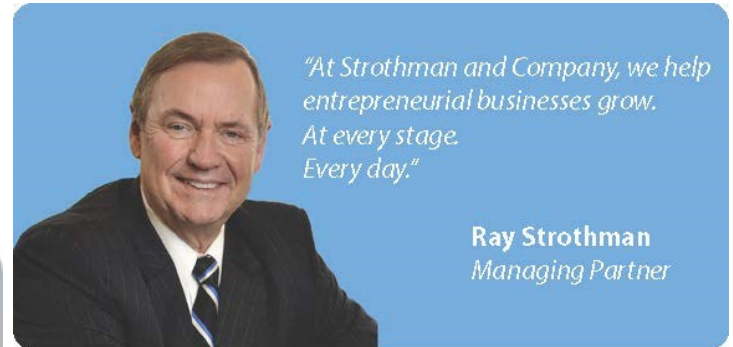
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## "THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!"

View a meeting on YouTube to receive a meeting makeup. It's easy to enter at the online database: [www.dacdb.com/rotary](http://www.dacdb.com/rotary).

Questions? Contact Debe at 589-1800 or at [rotary@rotary45.org](mailto:rotary@rotary45.org).



**January 29 (Thursday at 6:00) — WINE TASTING** at Filson Historical Society, 1310 South Third Street, 40208; Register online at [THIS LINK](#). Join the YPAL and Rotary Young Professionals. (6:00 Networking; Wine Tasting 6:30-7:30)

**February 7 (12noon - 3:00pm) — Rotary Bowling Event** (Kingpin Lanes, 9525 Taylorsville Rd) \$15 per Adult / \$10 per Child; Reserve your spot by Feb 5; Contact Jeff Hadley ([jhadley@boyshaven.org](mailto:jhadley@boyshaven.org) or call 287-8693)

**February (Date TBA) — Trivia Night** (Location TBA)

**2015 (Date TBA) — Louisville City FC Soccer "Opening Night"**

**May (Date TBA) — Garden Party** at Boone Gardiner

**May 12, 2015 (Tuesday) — FUNdraiser Event** at Copper & Kings

**June (Date TBA) — Wine Swapping Event** at Barney Sutton's residence

**July (Date TBA) — Zoo After Hours Event** at Louisville Zoo

## January 22, 2015 Rotary Meeting

The third meeting of 2015 began when President Kevin Wardell rang the bell at 12:10. Lynn Ogden provided the invocation. Board Member Mike Shackelford led the pledge and Rotary 4-Way Test. There were no visiting Rotarians. President Kevin introduced Debra Hoffer who performed "Let 'Er Rip", accompanied by Debe Skidmore on vocals, and backed up by the Rotary Rockin Band. It was quite a treat!

Rotarians introduced their guests; prospective members were directed to the 'What is Rotary' table. There were no birthdays to be celebrated at the birthday table. President Kevin reminded us that the January 29 meeting with Mayor Fischer is at the Southwest Library in Valley Station located at 9725 Dixie Highway. The Mayor will present the "State of the City" address. RSVPs are required. Most members plan to drive or car-pool, and approximately 30 plan to ride the bus. Free Rotary parking as usual for the bus riders at Galt House East garage. Load the bus by 10:45. The bus will leave promptly at 11:00 am.



President Kevin Wardell,  
Scott Colosi and Lukas Dwelly

A \$50 Texas Roadhouse Gift Certificate will be given away at the end of the meeting. Special thanks to Kelly Burke for organizing a great Rotary Night Out last night (Jan 21) at the Bristol and the "ONCE" performance afterwards at the Kentucky Center. John Jennings promoted the Wine Tasting Event on January 29 from 6:00-7:30 at the Filson Historical Society. Jeff Hadley promoted the Fourth Annual Bowling event to be held on February 7.

Pres Kevin called for any Rotarians interested in club leadership or to learn more about Rotary, to attend the next Rotary Leadership Institute in Lexington on February 21 from 8:00 to 3:00. Breakfast and lunch are included, and the Club pays the \$70 registration fee. If you want to go, please let Debe know and she will get you registered. President Kevin recognized two members who have recently passed their 50<sup>th</sup> year in Rotary! Niels Ewing (Past President, 1912 Society Member and Paul Harris Fellow) and Bill Kelly Jr. (1912 Society Member and Paul Harris Fellow). They were both presented with 50-year Rotary pins – *Congratulations!* President Kevin shared memories and highlights of his visit to the Rotary International Convention held in Sydney Australia. The 2015 RI convention will be in São Paulo, Brazil, and it will be in Seoul, Korea in 2016 and in Atlanta, Georgia in 2017.

Lukas Dwelly introduced speaker Scott Colosi, President of Texas Roadhouse. Lukas ended his introduction with a video about Colosi, "The Most Interesting Man in the World". Scott shared the history of Texas Roadhouse, and how founder Kent Taylor's brilliance and tenacity were key to its success. In 1993, the first store opened in Clarksville, Indiana, and now there are 450 restaurants (441 in the U.S. and 9 international). Scott attributes the great success of Texas Roadhouse to its simple, main mission: "Legendary Food, Legendary Service", and its core values: *Passion, Partnership, Integrity and Fun ... All with Purpose!* He said the operational model is centered around the managing partners. Their food is made from scratch every day with their own special blend of seasonings, and Scott mentioned that a 6 oz. hand-cut sirloin dinner (including salad, baked potato, yeast rolls and peanuts) only cost \$9.99 ... an example of their 'legendary food'. He also said that each server waits on only three tables, which enables them to provide the best service possible to every customer ... an example of their "legendary service." Texas Roadhouse has experienced impressive sales growth for the past five years, sustaining profits even during 'sky-high meat prices'. Clearly, Texas Roadhouse has enjoyed great success due to their dedicated delivery of "legendary food and legendary service"! A few questions were answered, and the meeting was adjourned.

- Submitted by Jean West Losavio



Interested in club leadership positions or learning more about Rotary? Consider attending the Rotary Leadership Institute in Lexington on Feb 21 (8a-3p). Breakfast/lunch included. The \$70 registration fee is paid by the Club. Email Debe: [rotary@rotary45.org](mailto:rotary@rotary45.org).

## 4th Annual Rotary Bowling Event

February 7 (12 noon to 3:00 pm)

Kingpin Lanes - 9525 Taylorsville Road

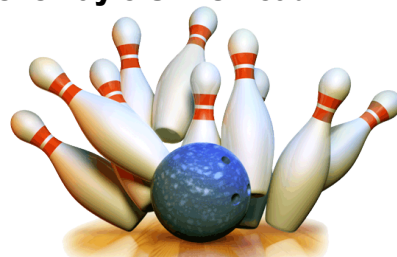
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