SPARKS



Next Meeting: Thursday, October 4, 2012 Speaker: *Brooks Wicker, 3rd District Congressional Candidate*



Buffet Opens: 11:30 am / Meeting Begins: 12:15 pm Galt House West - Second Floor - Daisy-Sunflower Room



Brooks Wicker, the Republican nominee for Congress from Kentucky's Third Congressional District, has 30 years of experience turning around businesses, creating jobs and helping companies grow. A practicing CPA, Mr. Wicker still runs his own small business, Wicker Strategic Wealthcare Group, which he started 19 years ago.

Mr. Wicker believes that service to your community need not be political, but he felt compelled to run for office because he disagreed with the path our current representation was taking the country, and Louisville. His campaign highlights the individual American spirit that has helped make our nation the envy of the world, and the

promotion of freedom and leadership that have marked our greatest successes.

Originally from Lyon County, KY and a graduate of the University of Kentucky, Mr. Wicker has been married for 29 years to his wife, Lynda, and they have one son, Sam, who is in his freshman year at UK.

Brooks is a member of the East Louisville Rotary Club and has long been active in his church and the Jaycees, among other groups. Additional info may be accessed at: www.brookswicker.com.





Continued from Page Three ...

John spoke in a very detailed way about the math behind the growing income disparity between the rich and everyone else and feels it is necessary to understand the detailed mechanics of this area if you are serious about balancing the budget. He reviewed increases in Federal spending from President Johnson to President Obama. Under President Obama, Federal spending increased the lowest amount (8%) from all previous presidential administrations.

John suggested the American people are growing increasingly frustrated by the lack of compromise occurring by elected officials and indicated he suspects we'll see some change following the election. He feels America's problems are real, but they are not unsolvable. John asked for our votes as we head to the polls on November 6. - Chris Padgett

Rotary Meeting - September 27, 2012

Past President Henry Heuser, Jr. gave the invocation, Barbara Collins led the pledge, and Rotarians sang "Look to the Rainbow" with Mary Means at piano. President Stuart welcomed guests and Sidonna Cox acknowledged birthday celebrants.

President Stuart reminded us of the Rotary Golf Scramble, organized by the Sports Committee, on October 8, at Oldham County Golf Club. Contact Sports Chair Lucas Dwelly to sign-up. You are encouraged to save the date for Rotary Tailgating Party on November 3, before the U of L and Temple match-up (details to follow).

Rotarian volunteers are in demand for the Patriot Games at Ft. Knox on Oct 12 and 13. Volunteer for Patriot Games **HERE** or call Stew Byrne at 262-3099. Greg Braun announced the Membership Cocktails After Hours on October 9, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at **St. Charles Exchange**. This event is a new, casual and fun way for you to introduce our club to prospective members. Each Rotarian who brings a prospective member receives two free drink tickets. Please use this as an opportunity to think about someone in your network who may be a good Rotarian and invite them as your guest.



President Stuart E. Alexander, III

Past President and District Governor Woody Northup provided us some Rotary 101 about Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation. As a Rotarian, you belong to an organization of 1.2 million people globally who pledge to uphold the Rotary Four Way Test and support the Five Avenues of Service. There are 34,000 clubs with an average size of 35 members.

The Rotary Foundation, a 501c3 nonprofit, enables Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education and the alleviation of poverty. *You are encouraged to contribute \$100 annually to support the Foundation.* Have you made your gift this year?



Bill Lamb, President and General Manager of **WDRB**/WMYO-TV, introduced Ken Selvaggi, our club's newest Rotarian who you need to meet. Ken is vice President and General Manager of **WAVE-TV**, and a 15-year member of Rotary. Outside of family and work, Ken's biggest passion is baseball. He has 40 years of league play under his belt. Batter up!

President Stuart introduced **U.S. Congressman for Kentucky's Third District** and Honorary Rotarian John Yarmuth, our keynote speaker. John shared a bird's eye view of insights as to what's happening in Congress, the state of the economy, American politics and how all of it is impacting Louisville. While activity in Congress is limited these days

in advance of the election, John expects two big items related to the "Fiscal Cliff" we've been hearing a lot about in the media lately will come to a head, and choices will need to be made. Sequestration will force an automatic, 9% across-the-board, spending cut to the Federal budget as part of the Budget Control Act of 2011 (which John reminded us he voted against). Cuts would impact all aspects of government spending except for Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. John suspects the lame duck Congress will likely take action to prevent this. The second big item is the Bush era tax cuts set to expire January 1. John supports extending the tax cuts to cover 98% of the American people and 97% of small business owners. According to John, letting the Bush era tax cuts expire for the wealthiest 2% will raise \$930 billion in revenue over 10 years and help to bring down the national debt. — *Continued on Page Two* —



ROTARIANS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

On September 10, Rotary Fellows Heather Fetner and Casey Urschel, along with John Shetler and the 45 & Under Committee, started a Running and Fitness Club at the Boys Haven.

Boys Haven houses at-risk youth, many of whom have been in dozens of different placements even before arriving in their facility. Boys Haven CEO **Jeff Hadley** agreed that this was an excellent opportunity to teach his kids the importance of eating healthy, staying active, achievement, and goal setting. During the 10-week program, Heather, Casey and several other Rotarians will help more than 20 Boys Haven kids get physically prepared to run in the upcoming Home Run for Kids 5k and 10k, which takes place on October 27 in Bernheim Forest. The event is organized by the Home of the Innocents.

The Running and Fitness Club meets on Mondays and Thursdays, 5-6:30pm. The program consists of running, fitness tests, and games like

dodge ball and kickball. In addition, participants receive sports drinks, healthy foods, running shoes, socks, tshirts, and water bottles! Any Rotarian wishing to help or participate can contact **Casey Urschel** at 357-1853 or **Heather Fetner** at 205-792-5372.



