# **SPARKS**



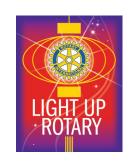
Next Meeting: September 25, 2014

**Guest Speaker: Neville Blakemore** 

Title: Chair, Centennial Festival of Riverboats — October 14-19

Introduced by: President-elect Greg Braun

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



Mr. Blakemore serves as Chairman of Great Northern Building Products, LLC, a holding company with a portfolio of specialized, niche products in the construction industry. Prior, Mr. Blakemore started his own consulting company, was Director of Marketing for a 120-attorney law firm in Boston, taught high school history, and worked as a political organizer for a presidential campaign.

In addition to serving as Chair of the Centennial Festival of Riverboats, a centennial celebration for the Belle's 100th birthday, Blakemore also serves on the Development Committee of the Olmsted Parks Conservancy, the

Advisory Board for GLI High Impact Program, the Advisory Board for YMCA Safe Place Services, and the Board of Governors for the Speed Museum of Art. A graduate of Macalester College with a major in History, he holds an M.B.A. from Boston University's School of Management. Mr. Blakemore is married to Jessica Bird, a #1 New York Times bestselling author, and they have one daughter.

From Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, celebrate America's rich Southern heritage with a cruise on the mighty Ohio River during Louisville's Centennial Festival of Riverboats. In October 2014, historic riverboats will provide the backdrop as Louisville plays host to a six-day festival of food, bourbon, music and art at the internationally-acclaimed Waterfront Park. Enjoy live music, sample the finest spirits in the world and experience history firsthand as we celebrate The Belle's Big Birthday Bash and enjoy all that life on the river has to offer.

The Belle's Big Birthday Bash is the featured event of the Centennial Festival of Riverboats. Everything has been leading up to her 100th birthday celebration, and we're going out with a bang! Enjoy entertainment like the riverboat parade, live concerts, the Old Forester Bourbon Landing and a grand firework show to end the celebration. A party like this will only happen once, so don't miss your opportunity to attend. A few more tickets may still be available for the October 14 Dinner Cruise. Also, our Thursday (October 16) Rotary meeting on the River Queen requires registration by ALL Rotarians who plan to attend!

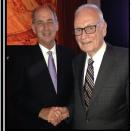
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On <u>Tuesday SEPT 23, 5:00pm</u>, <u>be at the Louisville Free Public Library</u>. **Mitch Rue** (Promise Scholarship Committee Chair), along with other community leader panelists, will focus on the challenge of adult dropouts, the need to improve college and career readiness, and high school dropout prevention.

## **Past President Randy Coe Receives Award**

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars welcomes outstanding and award-winning scholars, practitioners, journalists and public intellectuals to take part in its non-partisan dialogue. The Center enriches crucial policy debates and provides a platform for scholars in the tradition of President Wilson to bring the worlds of policy



and ideas together. Woodrow Wilson Awards are given to leaders ... exemplary individuals who are thinkers, doers, and risk-takers who have overcome adversity, found success and stood up for the common good.

Past President Randy Coe and Ed Glasscock are the latest recipients of this prestigious award. In addition to Mayor Fischer, Lt. Gov. Abramson and many other community leaders who attended the awards event, Lee Hamilton was there to personally congratulate Randy and Ed.

## **Birthday Table**

Phil Johnston	Sept 25
Steve Tarver	Sept 25
Jimmy Bornstein	Sept 27
Gant Hill	Sept 27
Robin Jennings	Sept 27
Steve Payne	Sept 27
Michael Strickland	Sept 27
Marie Humphries	Sept 28
Pat Payne	Sept 28
Di Nelson	Sept 29
John Nerlinger	Sept 30
Phil Tamplin Jr	Sept 30

Please sit at the Birthday

Table on September 25.

www.louisvillerotary.org Page 2

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

October 2 — District Governor Jayne Crisp "Light Up Rotary"

October 9 — Hood Harris (President & CEO of AT&T Kentucky)

October 16 — Rotary Meeting on the River Queen ALL Rotarians must register to attend. CLICK HERE

October 23 — Senator Mitch McConnell (LOCATION: Louisville Marriott Downtown, 280 W. Jefferson Street, Kentucky Ballroom, first floor)

October 30 — Ed Hart (CEO of Kentucky Kingdom) Special entertainment has been planned!

November 6 — Teddy Abrams (Music Director of the Louisville Orchestra: Music Director and Conductor of the Britt Classical Festival)

November 20 — Ralph de Chabert (Brown-Forman Chief Diversity Officer)

November 26 (Wednesday) — Rev. Robin **Jennings** (Joint Meeting with Kiwanis)

December 4 — Circuit Court Judge Angela Bisig & Stoll Keenon Ogden Member Tom Williams - Program Topic: 'Restorative Justice'

December 18 — Holiday Program

**December 25 — Christmas Day (No Meet**ing)

January 1 — New Year's Day (No Meeting)

January 8 — Bob Bordogna (Chairman of Todd Asset Management) 'Annual Stock Market Program'

January 15 — Mayor Greg Fischer 'State of the City Address' (date is tentative)

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- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build GOOD-WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4. Will it be BENEFI-CIAL to all concerned?"



Ray Strothman



1600 Waterfront Plaza

Louisville, Kentucky 40202



September 23 (Tuesday) — Fall Golf Scramble (1:00 tee time) at Harmony Landing See details on page three.

September 27 (Saturday) — Football Tailgating at 1:00 pm — UofL vs Wake Forest See details on page three.

October 14 (Tuesday) — Dinner Cruise on the Belle of Cincinnati Board at 5:30 pm \$66/person (includes tax & gratuity) cash bar. Enjoy the cruise, dinner buffet and entertainment. A parade of riverboats will be on the Ohio for the following weekend's celebration of the Belle of Louisville's 100th year! Your guests are welcome. Make your reservation/payment today! Sign-up link is on the Oct 14 date at our online calendar (www.louisvillerotary.org).

**December 4, 2014 (Thursday)** — *Holiday Party* at St. Charles Exchange! Prepare for a fun evening!

January 14, 2015 (Wednesday) — Horseshoe Casino \$45/person (includes tax & gratuity) 6:00 Bar / 6:30 Buffet — Free Valet — Free \$10 token for each attendee. Tour facility afterwards or hit the tables. Your guests are welcome.

January 21, 2015 (Wednesday) — Award-winning Musical "ONCE" at the Kentucky Center! Optional dinner at the Bristol before the musical. Additional details/reservations at THIS LINK.

May 12, 2015 (Tuesday) — FUNdraiser Event at Copper & Kings (Details to follow.)

## September 18, 2014 Rotary Meeting

On September 18, 2014, we met at the Galt House West Fountain Room. President Kevin Wardell rang the bell at 12:10 p.m. New *Member-To-Be-Introduced-Today* Jean West Losavio gave the Invocation, and Board Member Tom Bohnert led us in the Pledge. Glenn Price announced that ace chanteuse Bobbie Rafferty is departing for the Chicago Symphony, whereupon Charlie Castner and the Rotary choristers hopped onto "I Got Rhythm." President Kevin welcomed ten guests, and John Jennings introduced two birthday Rotarians.

We will meet in the Archibald Room on September 25. Neville Blakemore, Chair of the upcoming (10/14-19) Centennial Festival of Riverboats, will speak. President Kevin updated us on the Foundation Football Fundraising competition. Alice Bridges has a comfortable lead (211 points) trailed by President Kevin (175) and Jay Davidson (173). Sean Letwat won the draw-



President Kevin Wardell, Karen Williams and Karl Schmitt

ing for a signed football, and Laura Crahan talked up the September 23 Tailgating Event. Carol Nord reminded us to support the Middle School Connection; and Rick King urged us to mentor Iroquois and Western High School students.

Mitch Rue will be a panelist at the Town Hall Forum to be held on September 23 at the Louisville FPL. Alice Bridges told us about the "pre-diabetes" explosion in our state, and showed the "Rotary Apple of the Day" slides. Ken Grossman introduced our two newest members, Jean West Losavio and Todd Lanham. Jean is host and producer of Faceswest Productions, which develops health care-related media. Todd is Commercial Account Executive at USI Insurance.

Karl Schmitt introduced our speaker, Karen Williams. Karen has been President and CEO of the Louisville Convention & Visitors' Bureau since March, but her preparation for the job began 14 months earlier, with "due diligence" securing revenue streams to support the Commonwealth Convention Center expansion. When she went to Frankfort in January, the hoped-for state funding suddenly evaporated. But preparation paid off, and a \$56 million item appeared in the state budget. The expansion adds contiguous space (no columns!) on a single floor, accommodating 25 percent more business. Five new hotels are coming: Hilton Gardens, Embassy Suites, Aloft, AC Hotel Marriott, and an Omni. Karen is high on the future. Medicine, sports, and food are huge drivers, as is our central location. But Louisville's singular, distinctive hook is Bourbon, hip and cool. Led by Board Member Julie Schmidt, we closed by saying the Four-Way Test. - Stan Whetzel

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL CONNECTION

#### Volunteer Opportunity!

It's time (October 1-31) for the annual Middle School Connection project. This is an opportunity for seventh graders to interact with a community leader for one hour, and we hope that you can participate. You will meet with two or three seventh grade students to share about your profession, encourage them to stay in school, and emphasize the importance of doing well in order to graduate prepared for college. You can choose among eleven middle schools with dates and various one-hour timeslots. We ask that you provide a first-choice as well as a second choice school/date/time. Please contact Bob Niblock (wrn2@earthlink.net) with your name, email, phone number, and your first and second choices. Access the list of schools and dates at THIS LINK.

#### Sept 23 Fall Golf Scramble

\$75 per person

(cart/green fees/drinks/appetizers)



Contact Gary Noel

585-3600

gnoel@rhcgroup.com



#### **ROTARY TAILGATE PARTY**

September 27 at 1:00 pm UofL vs. Wake Forest

Tailgating: 1:00pm / Game Time: 3:30pm 331 Boxley Avenue (F.W.Owens), One Block from

Papa Johns Stadium *Enjoy camaraderie, drinks, food by Bootleg BBQ.*Game & Tailgating: \$75 Tailgating Only: \$40 Access Flyer HERE

#### Oct 10 PRESENTATION SKILLS

You are invited to attend, <u>at no charge</u>, a 'Presentation Skills' class on October 10 (9:00 — 11:00) at



the Sullivan University campus on Bardstown Road.

SIGN UP HERE!



Join other Rotarians and guests for dinner at the Bristol followed by awardwinning musical 'Communication of the state of



winning musical 'ONCE' at the Kentucky Center. For further details and to make reservations, check out THIS LINK.





Annette Grisanti



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