
THE FLAGSHIP



Sept. 24, 2023

Tom King, Editor

Coming Up!!!

Sept. 27: Farragut Mayor
Ron Williams

Oct. 4: Board of
Directors, 11 a.m.

Oct. 4: Club Assembly;
PP Ed Jones on Rotary
DEI

Oct. 11: Doug Lawyer,
VP/Economic
Development, Knox
Chamber

Oct. 18: Monica
Lebron, UT Deputy
Athletics Director

(All meetings begin at
12:15 unless noted
otherwise)

It's Another Mayor On Wednesday: Farragut Mayor Ron Williams

From one mayor to the next mayor! The venue is the same. The audience too! A week after Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs spoke to us, Farragut **Mayor Ron**



Williams gets the Rotary Club of Farragut microphone this week. What can we expect to hear? "Mainly the updates of current and future projects and happenings and the location of a new school," he said.

Ron is a Knoxville native who grew up in Powell and Fountain City and received his education at the Knoxville State Area VoTec, SME and the University of Tennessee. In 2016

Ron ran for and was elected South Ward alderman and he stepped up and ran for mayor in 2018. He won again in 2022. There is nothing happening in Farragut that he does not know about. Ron also served two terms on the Farragut Board of Zoning Appeals and is a 2015 Introduction to Farragut graduate.

He spent a number of years in Southern California managing a large manufacturing plant that produced aircraft and race engine parts. He returned home to accept a position as a machine tool sales engineer for Sunnen Products. After 28 years, he retired in 2015. He stays current with today's technology by helping race teams with special projects. In his spare time, Ron is often in his garage with friends restoring old cars and trucks.

Ron and his wife, TC, have been married for more than 30 years.

Jacobs Promotes 'Read City USA'

"The Big Guy" dropped in on us Wednesday to discuss a really big issue — the importance of reading proficiency for our children. **Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs** asked everyone where our entertainment came from as kids?



"It's from reading. One third of the 3rd graders across the U.S. read at a third-grade level and in Knoxville and Knox County that statistic is 40%," he said. "If you can read at a 3rd grade level in 3rd grade you are nine times more likely to graduate high school."

His program "Read City USA" was launched here to establish goals for the community to read more. The program can be viewed at readcityusa.com. "There are ways we as a community can track the hours read, and through this application milestones are set to track the progress of the

community reading program,” he explained. “The education of our kids has a direct impact on our workforce. Education is not just about the kids but also about our community.”

He asked the question: How do we reach the children who are in underserved areas, those who may not have a great home life and support? He mentioned supporting the Boys & Girls Club and Big Brothers/Big Sisters. “If you know of any other organizations that we know of to help reach those children, share that with my office.”

Stephanie Markowitz asked how she could help and how her Rotaract Club at Pellissippi State could help. “You can mentor the children through Read City USA at the Boys and Girls Club,” he said.

Someone asked if he will run for governor in 2026? He said it’s a big decision and he mentioned the uncertainty with the upcoming elections in 2024. Bottom line: no definitive answer.

Wednesday’s Meeting Wrapup!

Secretary Sonya Ford is accustomed to taking notes at our Board of Directors meetings. This past Wednesday she “covered” our meeting at the Farragut Community Center (FCC) and did a great job. PP Tom King missed the meeting. He’s been home all week, laid low by ragweed allergies since a week ago Saturday. Sonya deserves a standing ovation for stepping up!!! Here are her meeting notes:

- Inappropriate humor was had... as per usual. No names mentioned!
- **Adam Brock** promoted the upcoming Knoxville Challenger Professional Tennis Tournament at the University of Tennessee Nov. 6 through Nov. 12. If anyone wants tickets, get in touch with him.



- PP Jim O'Brien thanked **Adam Brock** and his wife, **Jenny**, for their recent \$2,000 donation to the Rotary Club of Farragut Foundation. Jim is president of our Foundation.
- **Tom Woodbery** is still looking for more volunteers to speak to the 9th graders at Farragut High School on Oct. 3. Get with Tom if you want to participate.
- **VP Scott Bertini** announced his wife, **Sara**, will be getting her Doctorate in Nursing (a 2-year program) beginning in January.
- And **September's Third Thursday** was at Calhoun's Turkey Creek this week but only five people (three members) showed up. Enjoying the social time were Terry and Pam Kerbs, Jeanne Faber, and Mike and Anita Singletary.

The Visitors & Guests Report

It was another big day for V&Gs. Of the nine guests, four were member spouses and three are Prospective Members, including a spouse. Let's meet 'em all!!

- Jay Povlin's guest was **Farragut Vice Mayor Louise Povlin**, his wife of course.
- Brian Walker's guest again was his wife Jennifer and she is a Prospective Member (PM).
- **Brent Markowitz** was treated to lunch by his wife, Stephanie (pictured here).
- Scott Brockamp's meeting date was with a woman named **Cassie**, his lovely wife.
- Mayor Ron Williams also had a



Four-Way Test

Rotary's Four-Way Test of the things we think, say or do:

- 1) Is it the TRUTH?
- 2) Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Find Us On Facebook

If you have not visited our Facebook page, give it a try!

Stephanie Markowitz does a great job of keeping the page updated. If you have not visited our page, we invite you to do so and to also LIKE the page!

Here is a [LINK](#) to our page.

guest — **Rick Yakubic**, Executive Director of the East Tenn. Development District. Ron is the district's chairman.



- Jared Greene (at left) introduced his guest, **Ben Gregg**. Jared said he is a PM. He also is General Manager of Units Mobile Storage here in Farragut. He graduated from ETSU and he is Jared's brother-in-law!

- Bill Nichols had **Craig Donnachie** as his guest for a second time and says he is also a PM.

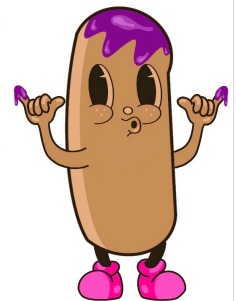
- Candace Viox had a guest — **Hannah Maher (pictured here)**. Hannah is member Jonathan Jackson's oldest daughter from a previous marriage.

"She is interested in opening her own business one day and I was introduced to her by Jim O'Brien. She is mentoring with me for a little while," Candace said.

- Vicki Williams' guest was **Cindy Bush**, Divisional Marketing Leader at Movement Mortgage.

How 'Bout Some Purple Pinkie Donuts?

If you've not ordered your Purple Pinkie Donuts from Dunkin' Donuts, well, what are you waiting for anyways?? Rotary's 6th Annual Dunkin' Purple Pinkie Donut Day campaign is underway. This is our Dist. 6780's major fundraiser for World Rotary Day and the money raised is earmarked for the eradication of polio.



The club form for ordering donuts will be available at the meeting this week. The pick-up day for your donuts is October 25 (we meet that day)!

Fast Facts for You:

- We have raised just under \$5 million for the eradication of polio and our goal is to add another \$1.5 million this year. If you donate \$25 when ordering donuts that becomes \$187.50 with matching funds.
- PP Leah Berry says we have the option to order Pinkie Donuts from the Hardin Valley Dunkin Donuts location and the HVA Interact Club members will take care of donating the donuts if someone doesn't want them. Leah explains: "Bottom line is people can purchase the donuts. I will take them to the school and they will sell them to other students and then make a donation at the District 6780 Interact Conference to Polio Plus so our club member purchases them and funds are raised, and then further funds are raised." Works for me!
- The pick-up day for your donuts is October 25 (we meet that day)!
- You must preorder donuts by Wednesday October 16th to earn Paul Harris Foundation and Eradicator Club credit.
- Online orders can be placed immediately at this [LINK](#) along with an additional \$25 donation (or more).
- Club (group) orders can be placed using the Club Group Order Form we will be using.

Today's Family of Rotary News

Dr. Jack Faber is still recovering at home from a bad fall he took at home earlier this week. He dislocated his left shoulder and wife Jeanne tells us today that he also suffered two cracks in his left femur. She said he's having a lot of pain. "I'm going to try to get him in with an orthoped as soon as possible. Yes, he can walk with his walker, but then he can't have on the brace they gave him for the shoulder. So he doesn't wear his brace!" she said.



PP Jim O'Brien says he has begun started feeling the effects of his proton therapy treatments for prostate cancer. "But they're not severe. My radiation oncologist told me Friday that if I'm going to have more serious side effects (most often fatigue), they'll start appearing after week 3 or 4. While I can, I'll continue attending RCF meetings and help with projects," Jim said.

PP Tom King is beginning to emerge from seven-plus days of being basically useless with his allergies. Not realizing that we are having a major problem with ragweed these days, he was riding around in his convertible with its top down much of the previous week. The allergies struck a week ago yesterday. "It's not over yet," he says. "But I am starting to see better through my swollen and watery eyes."

The Latest Update on Our Foundation

At this month's Club Assembly, PP Jim O'Brien provided us with an update on our **Rotary Club of Farragut Foundation (RCFF)**. If you haven't seen Jim's presentation, click on the document in the newsletter email to watch it. As we saw, the Foundation is financially sound with \$36,530.09 in the Operating Fund and \$70,216.00 in the Endowment Fund.



Jim is president of the RCFF Board of Directors.

When the Foundation was established (on Sept. 23, 2019), the Board of Directors set a goal to increase the Endowment Fund to \$500,000 by April 2030, the 50th anniversary of the Rotary Club of Farragut's charter. "We have a long way to go to achieve this goal, but it is possible if we all pitch in as best we can. The principle of the Endowment Fund will never be spent, but the dividends and capital gains that its investments generate will fund charitable projects in the future (like most foundations)," Jim said.

If you'd like to make a pledge to donate to the RCF Foundation, a copy of the Pledge Form is available here at this [LINK](#) If you'd rather make a one-time donation, please mail your check to The Rotary Club of Farragut Foundation, 10805 Kingston Pike, Ste 200, Farragut, TN 37934.

If you're required to withdraw funds from your retirement account(s) each year (known as a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)), please consider donating all or part of your withdrawal to the RCF Foundation. When you contribute directly to a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization (which the RCF Foundation is), your withdrawal is non-taxable! The entire amount is donated, and you'll get to claim a Qualified Charitable Deduction (QCD) on your federal income tax return. If you don't do this, you'll be required to pay taxes on your RMD(s). Here is a [LINK](#) that explains more about this.

However you choose to donate, please write on your check (or in an accompanying note) whether your donation is intended for the Endowment Fund or the Operating Fund. If the latter, please let the Foundation know whether your donation is intended for a particular purpose or if it's unrestricted (to be used as determined by the Board of Directors), Jim added.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact PP Jim at (865) 218-9802 or email him at this [LINK](#)

Farragut Rotary At RYLA 2023

Tory Kinson and **Julie Tryukan** were busy yesterday, speaking to 170 high school students at the 2023 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA 6780) Conference in Crossville at Camp Nakanawa. And Tom Woodbery, Co-Chair of our Youth Service Committee, also attended.

“Tory Kinson started the morning off with a rousing talk about his opportunity and his experience learning about Rotary and how it has touched his entire family,” Tom said. “He told the students about his RYE



year in Ecuador in the late 1980s. Then Julie and her children closed the day with her story about Ukraine and her Rotary family bringing her to live in the U.S.”

Tom says their presentations were memorable and well received by the students. Plus, our RYE student from Korea who lives with the Kinson family, Choi Junoo from Seoul, was

there for the day.

Final 4 Clues for the Mystery Wine!

Today our **September Mystery Rotarian** shares their final four clues for one and all. So far “one and all” has not a clue who is sending these clues. Hopefully these clues will help our baffled sleuths!

- Major pet peeve — people eating apples during meetings.
- All-time favorite movie is “Hitch” starring Will Smith.
- Hates going to the dentist.
- Have hiked portions of the Appalachian Trail.
- Bonus Clue: Has 4 kids including twins!



Can the Mystery be solved? The first correct submission emailed to TOM KING will win a bottle of superb wine. Otherwise, the Mystery Rotarian wins the wine!

A Thought for Your Week

“Patience is a necessary ingredient of genius.” — Benjamin Disraeli