

WELCOME NEW MEMBER
AND BOOKKEEPER
DOROTHY MAYE!



Managing the finances of a large Rotary club such The Rotary Club of Lexington is not an easy task.

DOROTHY MAYE We are fortunate to have Dorothy Maye join us both as a Club member and as our bookkeeper. Dorothy has been providing accounting and book-keeping services since 2001. Currently she is the accounting/operations manager for SL Designs. Her professionalism and expertise has been a tremendous help navigating our finances since joining us in Dec. 2024. Welcome, Dorothy!

SOWING ROTARY SEEDS IN WOODFORD COUNTY

Our Rotary Club of Lexington is not just pollinating at Kenawood Park. In keeping with District 6740’s new club initiative, did you know that we are sponsoring a new Woodford County Rotary Club? Two evening organizational meetings have been held at KCTCS; a third is scheduled for noon on May 6th in a private room at Versailles Brewing Co. District Governor Xandy Stewart, former DG Jeanne Clark, Paul Chewning, and Susan Adams have been working on building interest in a club among Woodford County professionals. Bill Wilson and Bret Anderson have also supported the organization of a new club. The Woodford Sun weekly paper has embraced this initiative with postings in the Community Calendar for several weeks and a large 3 ¾” by 10 ¼” color photo of a meeting on the back page of the paper. Based on the significant interest shown to date, the plan is for them to charter their new club in June! Thanks to all of those working on this important activity.

– Susan Adams

CHARITABLE GIVING APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE!



We are now accepting applications for the endowment’s Charitable Giving Program for 2025. If you know of a 501(c)(3) organization that could benefit, please direct them to our website rotarylexky.org. Deadline for applications and supporting documents is May 23rd and should be emailed to the rotary office. Questions? Buzz Carmichael: buzzcarmichael@gmail.com

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS		UPCOMING EVENTS/ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	
May 8	Tommy Bell Award, Bruce Bell	May 10	Dancing with the Lexington Stars, Carrick House, 6:00-11:00pm
May 15	Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting	May 21	Rotary Town Hall, 46 Solutions, Members Only, 5-6:30pm
May 22	Patrick Wesoloshy, Lafayette Chapter Kentucky Society Sons of the American Revolution	May 29	5th Thursday Social, Lexington Legends, Legends Ballpark 5:30pm
Jun 5	Scholarship Program	May 30	Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8-9:30am
Jun 12	Steve Gardner, Update on Coal in Kentucky	Jun 21	Coffee and Donuts at Pollinator Garden, Kenawood Park, 9 - Noon
Jun 19	Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting		
Jun 26	President’s Day, Bret Anderson		

The ROTARY Club of Lexington

WHEEL HORSE

May 1, 2025
— TODAY’S PROGRAM —

Presiding: President Bret Anderson
Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Sharon Reed
Introduction of Guests: Tom Merritt
Introduction of Speaker: Matt Tabb

Speakers: Shannon Arvin, President & CEO , Keeneland with Tom Leach, CEO Tom Leach Productions and Voice of the Wildcats
Program: Keeneland Update with Oaks and Derby Picks
Location: The Mane on Main

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MEET OUR SPEAKERS



SHANNON BISHOP ARVIN

It’s the 1st of May, the Keeneland Spring Meet is over, and all eyes turn now to Louisville, Kentucky, where on May 3 we will witness the 151st running of the famed Kentucky Derby. But not before hearing from Keeneland President and CEO and noted media personage Tom Leach.

Shannon Bishop Arvin has been Keeneland’s eighth President and CEO since 2021. She began practicing law in 2002 at the Lexington firm Stoll Keenon Ogden (SKO), where she represented Thoroughbred owners and industry organizations in Kentucky and around the world. As an SKO member, in 2008 she began serving as corporate counsel to Keeneland, and she has been corporate secretary and advisory member of Keeneland’s Board of Directors since 2015.



TOM LEACH

Arvin serves on the boards of UK’s Gluck Equine Research Foundation and Stock Yards Bancorp and is the Chair of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association. She is a Trustee of the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association and is President of the Board of The Lexington School. She became a member of The Jockey Club in 2019 and a Trustee of The Jockey Club Safety Net Foundation in 2021.

She has several notable links to Keeneland. Her grandfather W.T. “Bish” Bishop began working at Keeneland before the track opened in 1936 and served as General Manager until 1971. Her father, the late William T. “Buddy” Bishop III, grew up at Keeneland, living in an apartment next to the Clubhouse. Buddy Bishop’s lifelong service to Keeneland included

positions as Director, Secretary, Trustee, and Counsel. He was also a partner at SKO, where he and Shannon worked together at the firm until Buddy’s passing in 2008.

Shannon and her husband, Will, have two daughters, Bishop and McCutchen.

Tom began his work on the UK Radio Network in 1989 as host of the postgame scoreboard and call-in shows. Eight years later, he was named the play-by-play voice for Kentucky football and he added the basketball responsibilities in 2001. Tom has been at the mic for many memorable moments for UK sports, including the 2012 national championship for the Kentucky basketball team and the call of the 2019 Citrus Bowl win over Penn State, which marked the first 10-win season for UK football in more than 40 years. Tom has worked four Final Fours with the Wildcats and 13 bowl games.

Another Bluegrass tradition is part of Tom’s broadcasting resume--thoroughbred racing. Tom is a two-time winner of the prestigious Eclipse Award for excellence in coverage of the sport and he covers racing throughout the year through his association with Keeneland. He has also worked as a reporter on the Westwood

SPEAKERS, 2

The Rotary Club of Lexington
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Set up & printing by Lynn Imaging
Editorial Standards: *Chicago Manual of Style*, 17th ed.

FROM PAGE 1

SPEAKERS

One/NBC Sports national radio broadcasts of the Triple Crown races.
Tom is a 6-time winner of the Sportscaster of the Year award for Kentucky from the National Sports Media Association. Others honors including being named a Distinguished Alumnus by the journalism school at the University of Kentucky and winning the Tom Hammond Media Award from the Bluegrass Sports Commission, for career achievement. He is also a member of the 10th Region Hall of Fame as a contributor, for his high school play-by-play work with the Bourbon County Colonels and Paris Greyhounds.
Tom is married to Robyn Rabbeth, a former anchor for WLEX-TV. They have two children--Connor and Caroline.

ROTARY STRONG: FOUR LEADERS. ONE MISSION. ZERO DOUBTS.

When a curveball came our way, as happened when current President-Elect Laurel Martin elected to step away from the Club, Rotary did what Rotary does best — we adapted, we rallied, and we moved forward. Fast.
Rather than asking one person to run an untrained marathon, four of our best have laced up for a series of sprints. Each quarter will have a powerhouse past president at the helm:



Q1: Jamie Schrader



Q2: Jim Richardson



Q3: Bill Wilson



Q4: Dean Hammond

These aren't just familiar faces — they're proven leaders ready to push us further and faster. Fresh legs. Fresh ideas. Full speed ahead.

Now, We Need You
We're launching a club survey and hosting a town hall to make sure every member has a voice in shaping our future. This is your moment to help chart the course for 2025 and beyond. Stay tuned — we're just getting started.
Let's show what happens when leadership is a team sport. Let's make 2025-26 a year to remember.

— Bret Anderson

Rotary in Review

LEXINGTON CELEBRATES A BIRTHDAY 250 YEARS IN THE MAKING

In 2025 we will celebrate the 250th anniversary of Lexington's founding. In September 2023, Mayor Linda Gorton announced the members of the Mayor's 250 Lex Commission. The commission is planning an entire year's worth of events honoring the cultural and historic significance of Lexington's past, present, and future.

Lexington was founded in 1775, one year before the signing of the Declaration of Independence, by William McConnell and frontier explorers who set up camp near a natural spring, now known as McConnell Springs. In honor of the American Revolution battles in Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, the frontiersmen named their site Lexington.

To support a celebration worthy of this event, Mayor Gorton established the 250 Lex Commission and chose as its co-leaders Eunice Beatty and today's presenter, Kip Cornett.

It has been said that true leaders are those whose actions speak louder than their words. Very few live up to that adage more than Kip Cornett. As the founder of the advertising firm CORNETT, Kip early on demonstrated

his business acumen by building one of the leading agencies in the region. Kip's passion for our city has been evidenced throughout his time in Lexington. In 2015 he served as the chair of the Breeders Cup Festival Committee. In addition, he has been actively involved in The Fayette Alliance, YMCA of Central Kentucky, The Lyric Theatre, and the Picnic with the Pops Commission.

As Co-Chair of the 250th Anniversary of Lexington, Kip and his fellow Commission members have put together a year-long list of events that will tell our city's story and involve virtually every aspect of what Lexington has to offer. Each month has a specific theme: April was the Music and Written Word Month; May is Diversity Month. The month of June is especially meaningful as the month in which Lexington was first established and has been designated as Come Home Month. All of the themes, history, and events can be found on 250lex.com. The events will be educational and include both indoor and outdoor concerts and wellness activities for every age group and meet the needs of all inter-

est groups.
I personally have been involved by writing the "official" 250th Anniversary song with Devine Carama and I will be hosting an Arty Party soiree for LexArts on June 20 with other songwriters.

At the end of his presentation Kip provided some 250Lex merchandise to winners in a Trivia Contest. He also encouraged Rotarians to visit 250Lex.com often to learn more about the countless activities in which we can all participate, noting that his presentation was only an overview. We in Lexington should be thankful to have a leader who truly knows what it means to serve. Well done Mr. Cornett and Happy Birthday Lexington!

— Jim Richardson



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