

REMODELING? A WIN – WIN RECYCLING OPPORTUNITY

Planning a remodel? **This local program**, now serving Fayette, Scott, and Bourbon counties, offers a unique way to save money, reduce waste, and support our community.

The **Lexington Habitat for Humanity Deconstruction Program** provides a professional, fully-insured team to carefully uninstall and remove items like kitchen cabinets, countertops, working appliances, vanities, and more — at no cost to you.

From demo to donation

Instead of sending these materials to the landfill, they’re given a second life at the Lexington Habitat ReStore. They’re resold with proceeds supporting Lexington Habitat’s mission of building homes, communities, and hope.

By using the deconstruction service, Lexingtonians can save on costly demolition while keeping usable items out of the waste stream, making the remodel **both eco-friendly + cost-effective**.

How does it work?

- 1. **Schedule a consultation:** The team completes a walk-through of your project.
- 2. **Project evaluation:** The Deconstruction Manager assesses the needs and sets a project timeline.
- 3. **Expert removal:** The team uninstalls items and provides an itemized list for tax records.
- 4. **Sustainable reuse:** Salvaged materials go to the ReStore for resale, with proceeds directly supporting Lexington Habitat’s mission.

Taking the next step

Kitchen uninstalls are scheduled Monday through Friday, with the team typically arriving by 9 a.m. and finishing in the afternoon.

Reach out at <https://www.lexingtonrestore.com/deconstruction>.

– Excerpted from LEXTODAY

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 15	Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting	May 10	Dancing with the Lexington Stars, Carrick House, 6:00-11:00pm
May 22	Patrick Wesolosky, Lafayette Chapter Kentucky Society Sons of the American Revolution	May 21	Rotary Town Hall, 46 Solutions, Members Only, 6-7:30pm
Jun 5	Scholarship Program	May 29	5th Thursday Social, Lexington Legends, Legends Ballpark 5:30pm
Jun 12	Steve Gardner, Update on Coal in Kentucky	May 30	Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8-9:30am
Jun 19	Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting	Jun 11	Around the World Dinner, Signature Club, Club Fundraiser, Evening
Jun 26	President’s Day, Bret Anderson	Jun 14	Celebrating our Rotary Foundation Event, TBD, 6-8:30
		Jun 21	Coffee and Donuts at Pollinator Garden, Kenawood Park, 9 - Noon

The TARY Club of Lexington

WHEEL HORSE

May 8, 2025

— TODAY’S PROGRAM —

Presiding: President Bret Anderson
Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Phil Gray
Introduction of Guests: Brad Blain
Introduction of Speaker: Bruce Bell

Speaker: Gordon Walls, Ministry Staff, Southland Christian Church
Program: Tommy Bell Award
Location: The Mane on Main

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MEET OUR SPEAKER



GORDON WALLS

Each year, our Club sets aside a lunch meeting to honor the legacy of one of our own, Tommy Bell, and to present the Tommy Bell Award. More on Mr. Bell below.

Assisting with today’s program is featured speaker Gordon Walls. Born in Campbellsville, Kentucky, Mr. Walls has been a resident of Lexington from an early age. He graduated from Tates Creek High School, where he met his future wife, Karen Rogers. Gordon attended UK and was a member of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity. He has two children, Nathaniel Walls and Megan Walls Heidemann and six grandchildren. In 1985 he became the owner of Cockrell’s Collision Repair where he actively worked until he felt called into the ministry. He currently serves on the Ministry Staff at Southland

Christian Church and has been on staff at Southland since 2000. Gordon enjoys playing golf and watching his grandchildren play sports. He also enjoys cheering on the Wildcats at any event. His greatest desire is to serve others, be an encourager to others, and spread the love of Jesus.

Tommy Bell was born in Lexington, Kentucky on July 2, 1922. He graduated from Henry Clay High School in 1939 where he was all-state in football and track. He then attended the University of Kentucky, but he was called to serve the United States Air Force in World War II. Thereafter, he graduated from UK in 1948 and obtained his law degree from UK in 1950.

Tommy Bell’s chosen profession was that of a lawyer, and he was a good one; so respected by his peers that he was chosen in 1966 as the Henry T. Duncan Memorial Outstanding Lawyer in Lexington. Mr. Bell was one of the founding partners of the law firm now known as Fowler Bell. He was general counsel for Citizens Union National Bank, Fasig Tipton, Don Jacobs Auto Dealerships, and Telecable of Lexington.

Mr. Bell is a member of the University of Kentucky Hall of Alumni, Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity Hall of Fame, the Kentucky High School Athletic As-

sociation Hall of Fame, the Kentucky Athletic Hall of Fame, and Kentucky Pro Football Hall of Fame. He also received the Brotherhood Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He served on the University of Kentucky Board of Trustees and the University of Kentucky Athletic Association Board and was a member of the University of Kentucky Development Council and chairman of their Fellows program. He was state chairman of the Character and Fitness Committee for the Kentucky Bar Association, past president of the Greater Lexington Chamber of Commerce, and state chairman of the Easter Seals.

He served on the board of directors of the Heart Association, March of Dimes, Rotary Club, Junior Achievement, Cancer Crusade,



BRUCE BELL
SPEAKER, 2

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FROM PAGE 1

SPEAKER

St. Joseph Hospital, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and Urban League.
His hobby was sports officiating, which he did at both the collegiate and professional levels. Some people are probably not aware of his refereeing two NCAA championship basketball finals in 1956 and 1959, before joining the National Football League, where he officiated eight championship games and two Super Bowls, Super Bowl III and Super Bowl VII.
Finally, Mr. Bell was in heavy demand as a public speaker, having spoken in many countries and most of the United States. Tommy Bell believed in God, the church, family, education, marriage, honesty, respect for the law and order, authority, America, and hard work. By any measuring device, Tommy Bell was a success.

ROTARY CLUB OF LEXINGTON LUNCH SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Support the Rotary Club of Lexington and gain visibility for your organization by sponsoring a month of lunches for \$1,000! Your sponsorship helps subsidize lunch costs for our members and provides:

- Prominent Display: A table near the check-in area with signage and space for your brochures.
- Complimentary Meals: Six lunches for you, your team, or guests.
- Newsletter Exposure: A banner ad in the *Wheel Horse*.
- Spotlight Moment: A 10-second elevator pitch at the podium during the lottery.

Showcase your organization to our vibrant community of professionals while supporting our mission. Contact us at [insert contact info] to reserve your sponsorship today!

CHARTING A PATH FORWARD FOR ROTARY

As was famously noted in Alice in Wonderland, “if you don’t know where to go, then it doesn’t matter which path your take.” At the Rotary Club of Lexington, we prefer to know where we are going and why. And you can help us with that.
The “Fantastic Four” leadership team for next year invites you to a Town Hall meeting on Wednesday, May 21st from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM at 46 Solutions in Lexington Green. This engaging forum welcomes all members to share their thoughts on the Club’s current path and future vision. That forum, along with a member survey you will receive in the near future, will help us gather data to support the Club’s goals for next year and beyond. Refreshments will be served.

Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details on the meeting structure in the coming weeks. We look forward

to seeing everyone there!
If you plan to attend, please let us know by email to jschrader@schrader-

commercial.
– Jamies Schrader, Jim Richardson, Bill Wilson, Dean Hammond

Rotary in Review

ANNUAL DERBY PREP MEETING WITH SHANNON ARVIN AND TOM LEACH

Last week’s meeting of the Rotary Club of Lexington brought the energy of Derby Week straight to the club as members gathered for our always-anticipated Annual Derby Program. This year’s featured guests were Shannon Arvin, President and CEO of Keeneland Association, and longtime Voice of the Wildcats and Keeneland handicapper, Tom Leach.
Shannon Arvin opened the program with a behind-the-scenes look at how Keeneland navigated a challenging start to the spring meet. Facing unseasonable weather, the team made the rare decision to shift opening day to Sunday. “It was not a decision that was made based on economics,” Arvin emphasized. “It was the right thing to do—for our patrons, our equine athletes, and our community.”
Arvin also shared exciting updates on Keeneland’s much-anticipated paddock building project, which blends historic limestone and new architectural features. “We were able to use about 80% of the stone from the building we took down,” she said, preserving a deep connection to Keeneland’s legacy. One of the most memorable discoveries was a steel beam signed by founder Jack Keene—spelled

“Keen”—dating back to the 1920s or ’30s. “We thought that was pretty cool,” Arvin said.
The presentation included a breakdown of Keeneland’s remarkable economic impact: a \$1.6 billion footprint across Lexington and surrounding counties, fifty-two countries represented at its sales, and tourism draws from all fifty U.S. states. “It’s not just owners and trainers—it’s everyone from feed growers to hoteliers,” Arvin noted. She also encouraged members to check out Netflix’s new docuseries Race for the Crown, which she believes could help bring horse racing to a broader audience. “It introduces you to the characters of the sport,” she said. “I think it’s incredible.”
Then came Tom Leach with his annual Derby picks, backed by stories, stats, and a touch of humor. “If you think of the Derby like you think of March Madness,” he said, “this is a year for one of the one-seeds to win.” Leach highlighted Journalism, Sovereignty, and Burnham Square as his top contenders, citing their preparation, training, and past performances. “Journalism looks magnificent,” he noted, adding that the horse had to overcome a

tough post and tactical adversity to win the Santa Anita Derby.
Leach didn’t miss the opportunity to entertain with anecdotes—like the rise of Sandman, a Derby contender partly owned by a TikTok influencer with 17 million followers. “That’s great for racing,” he quipped. “It’s bringing in a whole new crowd of fans.”
In his Kentucky Oaks picks, Leach leaned on La Cara and Take Charge Lady, both of whom impressed during the Ashland Stakes at Keeneland. “Hopefully I gave you at least one winner,” he joked. “And if not—you’ve got 365 days to forget who I picked.”
Thank you to Shannon Arvin and Tom Leach for delivering another memorable Derby Program. Their shared knowledge, insight, and stories remind us why Lexington proudly holds the reins of Thoroughbred racing.
– Dan Koett

[Ed. Note: Credit where credit is due. Tom Leach had Sovereignty and Journalism in his top three. In an excellent race over a sloppy track, Sovereignty edged out Journalism. Well done, Mr. Leach!]

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