



FROM PAGE 3  
**ROTARY IN REVIEW**

Rashaad Faulkner, and Nakari Ellington.

He closed be encouraging us to go forward encouraged, inspired, and resolved to continue this good work—because when we lift up young people, we lift up the future: Service Above Self Personified.

(Editor’s note: Today’s Rotary in Review reflects Scott Neal’s remarks at last week’s Rotary Scholarship Day. To review the detailed biographies of the three recipients, please refer to last week’s Wheel Horse.)





**What’s the buzz?**  
Let us tell you what’s a-happening at the...  
**ROTARY POLLINATOR/RAINWATER GARDEN**  
Kenawood Park | 612 Bryanwood Parkway  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm, June 21, 2025  
Join us for Coffee\* and Donuts with the pollinators  
\*orange juice or lemonade

**SCOUTING AMERICA INVITES ROTARY TO CAMP MCKEE**

Members of our Club are once again invited to attend the June 26 dinner meeting of the Blue Grass Council - Scouting America Board in Keeneland Hall at McKee Scout Reservation. This meeting occurs during summer camp allowing us to see the youth enjoying the camp facilities. Our Club can be proud that it has served thousands of youths and changed lives for over sixty-five years. Proceeds from the sale of our Camp Offutt were used to develop Camp McKee and then-Rotary President W.T. Bishop led the fundraising campaign for the new camp that opened for summer camp programs in 1960. We will meet at Eastland Shopping Center in front of Kentucky for Kentucky (stop in and see cocaine bear!) at 4:30 pm. Make reservations to attend by Monday June 23 to AnnaMarie.Jackowski@scouting.org. Uniforms are optional. Join the Scouting America Committee on this mission and see the results of our longest running community project – support of Scouting – one that dates back over 100 years.

# The ROTARY Club of Lexington

# WHEEL HORSE

June 12, 2025  
— TODAY’S PROGRAM —

Presiding: President Bret Anderson  
Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Phil Gray  
Introduction of Guests: Jim Martin  
Introduction of Speaker: Laurel Martin

Speaker: Steve Gardner PE, SME-RM, President, American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers  
Program: The Past, Present, and Future of Coal  
**Location: The Mane on Main**

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS		UPCOMING EVENTS/VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	
Jun 19	Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting	Jun 14	Celebrating our Rotary Foundation Event, The Cellar at The Signature Club, 6-8:30
Jun 26	President’s Day, Bret Anderson	Jun 18	Military Missions, Summer Operation Send, 570 Delzan Place, 6-7:30pm
Jul 3	No Meeting, 4th of July Holiday	Jun 21	Coffee and Donuts at Pollinator Garden, Kenawood Park, 9 – Noon
Jul 10	Installation of Officers and a Look at the Year Ahead	Jun 27	Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8-9:30am
		Jul 3	Patriotic Concert, Gratz Park, Free, Evening

**PRIDE MONTH, ROTARY, AND BEING FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED**



In much of the world, June is celebrated as Pride Month. Did you know that the LGBT+ Rotary Fellowship is a group in the family of Rotary dedicated to promoting global friendship, service and education? The fellowship aims to create an inclusive, understanding, and welcoming community, fostering goodwill and peace, and realizing a world that achieves fundamental fairness and equality for LGBT + people. For more information, go to [rotarylgbt.org](http://rotarylgbt.org).



**STEVE GARDNER**

As noted by the Kentucky Geological Survey, Kentucky has historically been one of the top three coal producing states in America, currently ranking third. Quoting the Kentucky Department of Mines and Minerals, “more than 8.36 billion tons of coal have been produced from the two Kentucky coal fields for the past 200 years.”

So, regardless of one’s feelings about coal, no one can deny its importance to our state. With us today to talk about the past, present, and future of coal is Steve Gardner, PE, SME-RM, 2025 President of the American Institute of Mining, Metal-

lurgical, and Petroleum Engineers.

At one time coal and Kentucky were almost synonymous as the Commonwealth led the nation in production in 1990. In Western Kentucky, coal mining began in the early 1800s and expanded tremendously with the expansion of railroads into both east and west Kentucky. As the US industrial capacity expanded, hundreds of thousands of people came to the Appalachian Mountains to work the mines in Eastern Kentucky, including many immigrants fleeing wars and famines in Europe, along with tens of thousands of African Americans from the south seeking a better life. Coal camps sprung up throughout the coal fields with ones in the mountains by necessity having to be self-sufficient communities that depended on one thing: coal.

With the decline of coal in recent decades, Kentucky coal fields communities turn their eyes to other economic opportunities, such as tourism, to help fill the void left by closed mines, especially in Eastern

Kentucky. There are numerous attractions throughout the region that already exist. The Kentucky Coal Heritage Trail is designed to become the link between these attractions and sites, giving tourists or those that are looking for their heritage numerous places to visit while in Kentucky.

But what of the future? Coal is a finite resource, yet the US still has more coal left than any other country in the world. As the world turns away from fossil fuels due to their impact on climate change, what does the future hold? What are the real alternatives?

Much research has been done in recent decades to find alternative uses for coal, from gasification to liquefaction to rare earth minerals recovery from coal wastes. Steve’s presentation will include reflections on the last century of mining in Kentucky and the world, focusing on what has happened in the last few decades, with a bit of historical context and a look at what the future may hold.



AN ANNUAL TRADITION: THE ROTARY  
PAST PRESIDENT’S DINNER

The club held its annual Past President’s Dinner, Tuesday, June 3, at The Lexington Club. As is customary, the immediate past president “hosts” and all past presidents of the Rotary Club of Lexington and members who served that role at other Rotary clubs are invited.

This year Kim Johnson presided and engaged all past presidents by asking each what was their high, low, and surprise while they were in office. It was wonderful to hear from twenty-one past presidents as they did a quick review of their year. It was remarkable to hear of all things accomplished by this esteemed group. To close out the night, incoming presidents Jim Richardson, Bill Wilson, and Dean Hammond set the stage for the coming year and asked for support from the group.

It was a great evening of memories and camaraderie, and all left with a sense of pride and excitement about the direction in which the Club is heading.



L to R Bruce Bell, Kim Johnson, Jim Richardson, Bob Milward, Bret Anderson, Jack McAllister, Peggy Trafton, Bill Wilson, Tom Ashford, Sharon Reed, Gordon Patterson, Rob McGoodwin  
Top to Bottom: Kevin Weaver, Dean Hammond, Paul Stanley, Dave Blondell, Paul Chewning, Lyle Hanna, Darrell Ishmael, Jim Martin, Bobby Owens, Gerry van der Meer, Darby Turner  
Photo Credit Bill Straus

The Rotary Club of Lexington  
401 W. Main, Ste. 305  
Lexington, KY 40507  
Phone: 389-8100

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WHEEL HORSE  
CONTRIBUTORS

Joe Bark Paul Chewning John Meyers  
Robert Mucci Jim Richardson  
Jenny Schnurr Bill Straus Peggy Trafton  
John Wharton, Editor  
Dan Koett, Assistant Editor  
Set up & printing by Lynn Imaging  
Editorial Standards: *Chicago Manual of Style*, 17th ed.

Rotary in Review

ROTARY SCHOLARSHIP DAY: SERVICE ABOVE SELF PERSONIFIED

Last week’s program was the renewal – following a year’s absence – of our annual Rotary Scholarship Day, which provides the Club an opportunity to recognize deserving high school seniors from Fayette County. The program, chaired by Rotarian Scott Neal, was a change from previous years. Last year, no scholarships were awarded due to budgetary constraints, as well as the loss of several key committee members and institutional technical expertise. Neal took time to acknowledge new committee member, RG Conlee, and offered thanks to him and to his senior engineer, Michael Scott, for sharing their technical skills and streamlining the online application process.

Neal said that the Club’s gathering in support of rising young scholars is, for many of us, one of the most meaningful things we do all year as a Rotary Club. It allows us to witness the intersection of two powerful forces: the **GENEROSITY** of a committed community and the **DETERMINATION** of exceptional students who are preparing to make their mark in the world. He reminded attendees that Rotary was founded on the idea that service—selfless, principled, enduring service—can change the world. Whether digging wells in developing nations, eradicating disease, mentoring

youth, or supporting education, Rotarians believe in investing where it counts most: in people.

Neal added that nowhere is that investment more **IMPACTFUL TO OUR FUTURE** than in education. Education does more than prepare someone for a job—it equips them to think critically, to solve problems, to lead with empathy, and to serve the common good. In Rotary, we often say, “Service Above Self.” That’s not just a motto—it’s a compass, and today that compass points us toward three young people who embody the very best of what we hope the future holds.

Before introducing this year’s deserving scholarship recipients, Neal noted that the scholarship program was established by the Club in 1960 and historically a greater number of scholarships were awarded, albeit in smaller amounts. This year, the committee wanted to focus on having fewer scholarships with larger award amounts. Applications received demonstrated academic excellence, integrity, and perseverance. In some, the quiet courage of facing personal or financial hardship was described. The review committee valued the “character” that was evident in the students’ essays. **CHARACTER**—that

intangible quality that tells us that a student is ready not just for success in their chosen field, but to serve.

From the crop of very deserving high school seniors this year, three students emerged who impressed the committee deeply—not just with their achievements on paper, but through the stories behind them and the futures they are determined to pursue.

Neal posed a question: why does this matter? He answered by noting that for himself and many of us, there were likely moments when someone stepped in, offered encouragement, a helping hand, an open door. All it took was one person believing in us. Through Scholarship Day we have a chance to become that person for someone else. Imagine the ripple effect that happens when we invest in a young person’s future. Think of the teacher she might become, shaping hundreds of young minds. Or the nurse he might become offering care in a time of crisis. Or the businesswoman, or artist, or scientist who finds a solution the world didn’t even know it needed. That’s what we’re doing here—not just awarding a scholarship to unleash a lifetime of potential for Cerise Archer,

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Financial Advisor  
444 East Main Street  
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+1 859 231-9527  
James.A.Richardson@ms.com  
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