

ROTARIANS LAID BACK AT MALIBU JACK’S

Rotary’s July fifth Thursday social was a return to a familiar and popular location: Malibu Jack’s on Nicholasville Road. A somewhat small but nonetheless enthusiastic group of Rotarians gathered there for an evening of fun and getting to know one another. Susan Adams reports on the night:

I knew it was going to be a good night when Bill Wilson was already in the parking lot of Malibu Jack’s upon my arrival at 4:45pm. It was a great time to get to know new members like Andie Bryan and Michael Thompson, to hear Sharron Townsend share about when women were first allowed into Rotary and how she was the first woman in our Rotary Club and to learn more about Jim Richardson’s wild years of traveling and playing music. So much fun was had that six of us didn’t leave what was supposed to be a 5 to 7pm social until almost 8pm!

The evening was also informational as it was learned UK has an exhibition basketball game that conflicts with our 5th Thursday gathering on October 30th. We are all set up for a “spooky” Trivia Night at Columbia’s Steakhouse on Richmond Road but the Social Committee is concerned about going up against UK. Options include moving Trivia to Wednesday the 29th or keep the date and make it a game watching party in a restaurant private room? Contact Susan at telico@aol.com or 859-539-4969 to let her know your thoughts!



FINISH THE SUMMER DOING ROTARY DIFFERENTLY!

Join Rotarians and friends on the 3rd Thursday, August 21, for a Rotary Picnic at Waveland

Picnic begins at 5pm in the Waveland barn with tours for those interested at 6:30.

The Club will provide Blue Door Smokehouse BBQ pulled pork and chicken and soft drinks. Bring your favorite potluck dish to share. BYOB

225 Waveland Museum Lane \$5/person

Sign up here: <http://e.givesmart.com/events/Jjp>



IF YOU ARE READING THIS, YOU SHOULD BE ADVERTISING!

Advertising spots available in the Wheel Horse!!!!

Your spot will run for a year, appear on the inside cover of our roster book, and featured in our rotating PowerPoint shown during our lunch meeting. And there’s more! The Wheel Horse is electronically sent to over a 100 others interested in Rotary each week! This is an opportunity to promote your business and help offset the cost of printing the newsletter. Ads are only \$360. Contact trafton@rotarylexky.org to reserve your spot!

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| UPCOMING PROGRAMS | | UPCOMING EVENTS/VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES | |
|-------------------|---|---|--|
| Aug 14 | Mitch Barnhart, Director of Athletics, University of Kentucky | Aug 7 | Blood Drive with American Red Cross, Mane on Main, 10-4pm |
| Aug 21 | Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting, See Upcoming Events | Aug 21 | Doing Rotary Differently, Picnic at Waveland, BBQ Picnic at 5:00, Tour 6:30pm, \$5 |
| Aug 28 | Phil DeSimone, <i>They Said it Couldn't Be Done in Kentucky- Successful Winery in the Bluegrass</i> | Aug 22 | Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8-9:30am |
| Sep 4 | Mélissa Brunet, Music Director & Brooke Raby, Executive Director, Lexington Philharmonic | Sep 6 | Toyota Bluegrass Miracle League, Opening Day 10:00am-2pm |
| | | Sep 12 | Lexington Sporting Club Match, Soccer Stadium, Shives Drive, 7 pm, \$10 |
| | | Sep 26 | Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8-9:30am |
| | | Oct. 8 | Keeneland Outing, Lexington Room, Tickets \$125 |
| | | Oct. 11 | Rotary Leadership Institute, Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Newtown Pike, Free |
| | | Nov 15 | CHANGE OF DATE, Pickle & Pints, Club Pickleball Tournament Fundraiser |

The ROTARY Club of Lexington

WHEEL HORSE

August 7, 2025

— TODAY’S PROGRAM —

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| Presiding: President Jamie Schrader | Speaker: Dale Henley, Former President of the Lafayette Chapter of the |
| Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Cheyenne McBride | Sons of the American Revolution |
| Introduction of Guests: Trey McCallie | Program: The Man, the Myth, the Legend: General Lafayette in |
| Introduction of Speaker: Chris Aldridge | Lexington, Kentucky |
| | Location: The Mane on Main |

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MEET OUR SPEAKER



DALE HENLEY

You likely first heard his name when studying the American Revolution back in your earliest school days. It is estimated that thirty-six cities and towns across America are named after him, along with a local high school. He even visited Lexington two hundred years ago, an event that was recently immortalized via a recently unveiled interpretive sign in Gratz Park.

So, who exactly was Gilbert du Motier, better known to us as the Marquis de Lafayette?

To answer that question, Rotarians will today hear from Dale Henley, past President of the Lafayette Chap-

ter, Sons of the American Revolution, in Lexington, and a member of the Society, American Friends of LaFayette.

Dale is a French instructor in the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at the University of Kentucky, and has a special interest in French General Lafayette’s significant participation in America’s War of Independence.

Our speaker is a member of the Kentucky Bar Association’s Ethics Committee and an Ethics Hotline Lawyer. He is a graduate of the University of Kentucky College of Law and formerly General Counsel for East Kentucky Power where he worked for thirty years. After retirement, he was adjunct faculty at the University of Kentucky College of Law for five years, and earned a Masters degree in French from the University of Louisville in 2010.

Mr. Henley is a Vietnam War veteran (thank you for your service!) and retired Navy Commander. His naval service includes serving as Assistant Naval Attaché in the US Em-

bassy in Rabat, Morocco.

The aforementioned Gratz Park unveiling and related celebration activities were organized by Mr. Henley and included a reenactor portraying the Marquis. The new sign, which features photos of several items related to Lafayette’s visit, states, “General Lafayette was dedicated to the principles of liberty, equality, and human rights. He was not only a hero of the American Revolution but also a lifelong advocate for abolitionism, religious freedom and women’s equality.”

Rotarians, please give our speaker a warm Rotary welcome! Or, as the Marquis himself might have professed, *bonjour monsieur!*





NEW MEMBER DEEP DIVE: ABBY VAUGHN



I'll admit, I tend to form my initial impressions of people based on their treatment of animals. Based on that metric, I'm ready to nominate Abby Vaughn for sainthood! She has three rescue cats now but that is just the tip of the iceberg.

ABBY VAUGHN A good example of the lengths to which she goes to help animals involves a stray beagle that was running loose in her neighborhood a few years ago. Once he was captured, the neighbors contacted Abby for help (even though she was out of town at the time). She paid a neighbor \$50 to take the dog to the vet for care until she returned. The dog turned out to have severe social anxiety and the vet ended up taking it home with them every night for thirty days to help it adapt.

Abby's efforts are not limited to the mundane cats and dogs, however. She once rescued abandoned baby squirrels and through that process learned that there is actually a service that will provide a mother squirrel to nurse and care for orphaned babies. Who knew?

A veteran of the financial industry, Abby has been married for thirty-nine years with an adult daughter and 2 grandchildren. Her husband, Bart, is in the real estate business and she frequently helps him out by staging homes, among other things. Abby and Bart have a 100-acre farm north of Lexington where they enjoy riding 4-wheelers and target shooting. She also enjoys reading books and taking a monthly "girls' trip" to Nashville.

Abby has found that she has numerous friends and clients in Rotary, and she is excited about giving back to the community and networking with new friends.

– John Meyers

GET "WRITE" WITH ROTARY; JOIN THE WHEEL HORSE TEAM

Looking for a way to contribute to Rotary? Like to write? If so, consider joining us on the Wheel Horse/5th Page team. There are many ways to contribute: as a writer of the Rotary in Review in a regular rotation or as a substitute, an interviewer for Living Legends, a reporter at Club events or a content creator. If you are interested or would just like to learn more about what we do, reach out to Editor John Wharton at wootsw@h@gmail.com or 859-230-2892.



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|----------|------------|----|----------|---------------|----|
| Chris | DeHoag | 2 | Chris | Campbell | 19 |
| Garland | Barr, III | 3 | Greg | Meegan | 21 |
| Alisha | Chaffin | 3 | Matthew | Valentine | 22 |
| Virginia | Carter | 6 | Shelby | Kinthead, Jr. | 24 |
| Cassi | Kline | 7 | Gerry | van der Meer | 24 |
| Franklin | Thompson | 7 | Cheyenne | McBride | 24 |
| Jon | Larson | 9 | Chris | Peck | 30 |
| Lyle | Hanna | 14 | Larry | Cowgill | 31 |
| Jack | McAllister | 19 | Peggy | Trafton | 31 |

RYLA MARKS A DECADE OF INSPIRING FUTURE LEADERS

[Editor's Note: RYLA is one of the most important annual programs that takes place within District 6740. While it took place in April and is only being reported on now is only a function of available space].

On Saturday, April 26, the District 6740 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) 2025 program took place at the Life Adventure Center in Versailles. This milestone event marked the ninth RYLA program sponsored by District 6740 and orchestrated by the Rotary Club of Lexington since 2015. Rotary Clubs from Morehead, Pikeville, Richmond, and Lexington supported 8th graders in experiencing an outdoor adventure challenge designed to strengthen their leadership skills, resilience, and confidence - helping them become future leaders in their communities.

In its early years, RYLA was a multi-day program, lasting four days at first, then three. However, since the pandemic, we have adapted to a one-day format, a change that balances affordability, student and Rotarian time commitments, and the busy schedules of all involved. While the duration has shifted, the adventure challenges remain as engaging and impactful as ever.

A Day of Leadership and Adventure

The event began with a discussion on leadership, covering various styles and the importance of an ethical code. We used the "Code of the West" as our guiding philosophy. The students then rotated through multiple challenges, including:

- A 60-foot climbing and rappelling tower
- Archery
- Team-based low-rope challenges
- Canoeing
- Navigation exercises with maps and compasses

The day concluded with a thrilling, two-hour Amazing

Race, where teams competed to find over a dozen points around the Life Adventure Center, completing challenges at each location. The students were awarded the coveted RYLA coin with the RYLA vision on the front and the Code of the West on the Back as a token of their accomplishment.

A Community Effort

I would like to sincerely thank the leadership of District 6740 for supporting RYLA through a generous grant, along with the Rotary Clubs throughout the district for their ongoing dedication. A special thank-you goes to the Rotary Club of Lexington and its leadership for their continued assistance. Additionally, I extend my gratitude to our RYLA team leaders—or “Wranglers”—Edwin Gibson and Kimberly Steel from Lexington. Edwin, an Army veteran, has

been a part of RYLA since 2018, bringing invaluable experience from his years as a leader mentoring Boy Scouts. Kimberly, a former Fayette County Public Schools educator and new Rotarian, has infused the program with her deep knowledge of working with students.

Looking to the Future

As we enter RYLA’s second decade, it’s time to reflect on our successes, assess the evolving landscape, and make strategic improvements for the future. I encourage all Rotarians who are passionate about shaping future leaders to get involved. We welcome volunteers during the event, but we especially need help spreading the word to middle schools across the district—ensuring that more students have the opportunity to experience RYLA.

Together, we can continue inspiring and equipping young leaders for years to come!

– Christopher Hickey, District 6740 RYLA Chair



ROTARIAN DYLAN HARPER LAUNCHES NEW INITIATIVE

In July 2025, fellow Rotarian Dylan Harper launched the Association of Marketing Managers (AMM) to address the unique challenges faced by in house marketing professionals.

As a former marketing manager, Harper saw firsthand the unique challenges of the role. Marketing managers wear countless hats, often serving in poorly defined positions with no clear objectives, working under leadership with unrealistic expectations, or feeling isolated without access to peers who truly understand marketing. They frequently have limited resources to succeed, juggle entry level titles with senior level demands, or are so inundated with daily tasks that finding time to sharpen their skills feels nearly impossible. Harper founded the AMM to solve these exact challenges by providing a safe, supportive, and private space where marketing managers, marketing directors, and other in house marketers can connect, grow, and thrive.

At the heart of the AMM is a virtual community that serves as the hub for discussion forums, video tutorials, event recordings, templates, and other valuable resources. The AMM also delivers fresh and relevant programming designed to keep members sharp, inspired, and ahead of the curve. Members enjoy free access to live virtual panels, webinars, peer groups, and interviews with industry experts, technology representatives, and fellow marketers.

In just its first month, the AMM has already grown to 50 members. Membership is completely free, and joining takes only a moment. To learn more or become part of the AMM, please visit www.marketingmanagers.org or contact Dylan Harper directly at dharper@marketingmanagers.org.

