Wheel Horse Page 4

WELCOME, NEW ROTARIANS

Marianna Taulbee

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Email: taulbeemarianna@

gmail.com

Ph: 260-241-8097

Hospitals & Clinic, Adminis-

tration

Department of Veterans Affairs the group sales window for the April meet. Sponsor: Alisha Chaffin

John Rich

Contact Information Home Address: 131 Clay Ave.,

Lexington, KY 40502

Email: j.rich@svmfireandwa-

ter.com

Ph: 859-447-2889

Service Industry, Fire & Water

Restoration

ServiceMaster Fire & Water

Restoration

Sponsor: Bob Milward

Look for their bios in an upcoming issue of *The 5th Page*.

FALL KEENELAND OUTING



Ryan Ray, treasurer of the Rotary club of Woodford County, Susan Adams, Virginia Carter, Susie Basham, Jim Richardson, Sarah Diener, Sharon Reed, Bret Anderson

As we walked through the new Keeneland entrance, between the new buildings, we knew it was going to be a great day! Twenty-four Rotarians, spouses, and friends enjoyed a great day at the races. Getting to know new members and long term members alike, is always a fun part of a leisurely afternoon of great food and betting on the horses. We sold out really early this time. If you missed out and want to go in the spring, please let Susan know. More tickets can be requested in February during

Susan Adams

SPIN TO WIN RIDE TO END POLIO



Jenny Schnurr, Lyle Hanna, Susan Adams, DG Linton-Gridley

A hearty group joined Instructor Extraordinaire Jenny Schnurr in a ride to raise money for the Rotary Foundation's efforts to end polio.

New member Leah Anderson jumped (rode) right into being an Active Rotarian by joining DG Linton-Gridley, Lyle Hanna and Susan Adams, along with two other riders from CycleYOU in riding with Jenny Thursday evening, October 16. A big thank you to all of them on behalf of Cycling to Serve and to all of you who donated to this cause. All donors

will receive Rotary Foundation credit and there is still time to donate! These donations will go three times as far due to the generous 2 to 1 match by the Gates Foundation. Please donate by November 1st and support these riders! https://raise.rotary.org/Susan-Adams/challenge666#

- Susan Adams













UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Oct 30 5th Thursday, Social Event, See Upcoming Events
Nov 6 Lyndy Franklin Smith & Jeromy Smith, Co-Founders,
Lexington Theatre Company

Nov 12 Wed., Governor Andy Beshear, Registration Required, Details to Follow, 4:30-5:30pm

Nov 13 Jack Givens and Rob Bolton, 1978 National Championship, Men's Basketball, University of Kentucky

Nov 20 Stockyard Lunch and Tour, See Upcoming Events

Nov 27 HAPPY THANKSGIVING

UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct 24 Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, 161 Lexington Green, 8:00 - 9:30am

Oct 27 Backpack Pack-Up, God's Pantry Food Bank, Winchester Rd., 1:00-2:30pm
Oct 30 UK Men's Basketball game watching vs Georgetown Roosters Richmond R

Oct 30 UK Men's Basketball game watching vs Georgetown, Roosters, Richmond Rd., 6:30pm

Nov 6 Screening *Join or Die,* a film about why you should join a civic club, Kentucky Theatre, 7:30pm

Nov 12 Governor Andy Beshear, Registration Details TBD, Mane on Main, 4:30-5:30pm, Social Hour 5:30-6:30pm

Nov 15 Pickle & Pints, Club Pickleball Tournament Fundraiser, 4:00pm

Nov 20 Field Trip, Blue Grass Stockyards, Lunch and Tour, Iron Works Pike, 11:30-1:00pm

Dec 18 Annual Holiday Party, Campbell House, 6pm

The ROTARY Club of Lexington WHIELL HERSE

October 23, 2025

TODAY'S PROGRAM —

Presiding: Past President Bill Wilson Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Jack McAllister Introduction of Guests: Rod Hartzler Introduction of Speakers: Bret Anderson Speakers: Bob Quick, President, Commerce Lexington and Ashli Watts,

President, Kentucky Chamber of Commerce

Program: Building a Stronger Kentucky - Commerce Lexington and the

Kentucky Chamber of Commerce

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MEET OUR SPEAKERS



BOB QUICK

Few topics are of more interest to Rotarians than the economic health and vitality of our community and Commonwealth. And who better to address those issues with us than the leadership of two of Kentucky's pre-eminent economic development entities: Commerce Lexington (CL) and the Kentucky Chamber. Bob Quick, Chief Executive Officer of CL, along with Ashli Watts, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Kentucky Chamber, will address all things economic in a panel format, with Andi Johnson, Chief Policy Officer of Regional Engagement for CL serving as Moderator.

Bob Quick has more than thirty-six



ASHLI WATTS

years of experience in the Chamber profession. Bob has led CL to receive many awards and recognitions. In 2018, 2020, and 2021, CL was named a Top 20 Mac Conway Economic Development Agency by Site Selection Magazine. In 2016 it was named Chamber of the Year by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives and in 2014 and 2015, CL was recognized among the top three chambers of commerce by the Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE). In 2022, the organization was presented with the Unity Award, which recognizes individuals and organizations that have carried out the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King

Jr. In 2023, the Greater Lexington Region was named a top place for business and industry, according to Site Selection Magazine's annual rankings of the top metros based on economic development activity. The region achieved a significant move up the rankings in both total projects (10th) and projects per capita (7th), jumping into the Top 10 nationally for Tier 2 Metros with a population between 200,000 and one million. Bob serves on numerous boards and is an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Lexington.

Bob is a 1985 graduate of the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. He is also a cancer survivor. In his spare time, he enjoys participating in outside sports and reading political memoirs. He is married to Julie Quick and has three adult children: Kierstin, Andrew, and Morgan, and two grand-daughters. They reside in Lexington.

Ashli Watts was named the President and CEO for the Kentucky Chamber, the state's largest business association, in November 2019. Ashli

SPEAKERS, 2

Visit our website at http://www.rotarylexky.org for all of the Rotary Club of Lexington updates.

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The Rotary Club of Lexington Lexington, KY 40507 Phone: 389-8100

2025-2026 OFFICERS

Iim Richardson - President Lyle Hanna - President-Elect Bret Anderson - Past President Susan Adams - Secretary Bruce Daily - Sergeant- at -Arms Peggy Trafton - Executive Director (Staff) Trafton@rotarylexky.org

DIRECTORS

Susie Basham (2026) Edwin Gibson (2026) Shawn Lyons (2026) Brigitte Blom (2027) Dylan Harper (2027

Chris Peck (2027) Chris Aldridge (2028) Eric Brooks (2028) Alisha Chaffin (2028)

LEXINGTON ROTARY CLUB ENDOWMENT

2025-2026 ENDOWMENT BOARD

Paul Chewning - Board President (2028) Jamie Schrader - Board Vice- President (2026) Dean Hammond (2026) Thom Hathaway (2026) Kent Hisle (2026) Laura Mobley-Corn (2026) Roger Baird (2027) Buzz Carmichael (2027) Michael Morrill (2027) John Wharton (2027) Sharon Reed (2027) Mike Baker (2028) Eileen O'Brien (2028) Tom Lester (2028) John Meyer (2028) Jim Richardson- Club President Jenny Schnurr-Treasurer

WHEEL HORSE / 5TH PAGE

CONTRIBUTORS

Paul Chewning Jaron Johns John Meyers Jim Richardson 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.

SPEAKERS

joined the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce in November of 2012, and during her tenure as Senior Vice President of Public Affairs at the Chamber, she has led efforts in passing significant pieces of legislation such as felony expungement, right to work legislation, workers' compensation reform, unemployment insurance reform, and tax reform. Prior to joining the Chamber, she worked at the Kentucky Bar Association and the Legislative Research Commission. Ashli graduated from Campbellsville University with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and History in 2004 and holds a Master's Degree in Public Policy and Administration from the University of Louisville. Ashli is a 2016 graduate of Leadership Kentucky and currently serves on numerous boards. She serves on the Kentucky Energy Planning and Inventory Commission, where she was also elected Chair in 2025. She currently resides in Frankfort with her husband Ryan and two children, Emma and Carter.

Moderator Andi Johnson is CL's full-time lobbyist, representing the concerns of its 1700 members at the local, state, and federal level.

5TH THURSDAY SOCIAL UK GAMEWATCHING OCTOBER 30TH

Come out to Roosters on Richmond Rd to enjoy a relaxed and fun way to enjoy good conversation, dinner and cheering on the UK Wildcats!! We will be in the private room to watch UK take on Georgetown University in their second exhibition game. Game time is 7pm. We have the room from 6:30pm on. If you don't have tickets to the game- JOIN US! No need to sign up but letting Susan know would be great! She can be reached at telico@aol.com or 859-539-4969 Everyone – friends, families and prospective members – are welcome!



Kimberly V. Johnson

im.Johnson@OCWFG.com

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Rotary in Review

LEXINGTON AND FAYETTE COUNTY ARE ON THE MOVE

The October 9 Rotary speaker was Linda Gorton, Mayor of Lexington and Honorary Rotarian. She is the longest continuously serving member of the Lexington-Favette Urban County Council (LFUCG) and is serving her second term as Lexington Mayor. Before she provided an update on LFUCG, she commented that she enjoys coming to Rotary meetings because of the distinguished history of the Rotary Club of Lexington and its service to the community for more than one hundred years. She noted the Rotary motto, Service Above Self, and the recent pollinator garden that Rotarians recently developed at Kenawood Park.

Wheel Horse

Mayor Gorton observed that the 250th anniversary of the city of Lexington, along with the myriad activities planned throughout the year, presents an opportunity to look at and honor the past, address parts of our history that were not good, celebrate accomplishments, and plan for the future. She said that the local economy is the strongest it has ever been: the population has increased by 11,000 people in the past four years, the median income is \$71,000 and the GDP is \$1.4 billion. While the national economy is slowing with layoffs,

businesses closing, and lack of funding, the local economy remains strong due to its diversity. She mentioned new investment opportunities at Coldstream Park and a new business partnership with Madison and Scott Counties. Alltech, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Fayette County, and the University of Kentucky are collaborating in agriculture technology and supporting farm businesses that add \$2.6 billion annually to the economy.

Public safety is the number one job noted the Mayor, because people will not support the arts, enjoy local parks, or dine out if they do not feel safe. Unlike other cities that defunded police departments in 2020, Lexington has improved recruiting efforts for fire, corrections and emergency medical services and increased salaries. She reported that the Flock LPR (license plate reading) cameras have been a major crime solver, cutting in half the time it takes to recover a stolen vehicle. Clearance of homicides has risen to 95% and twenty-nine missing persons have been located. Overall, she reported a 61% decrease in homicides and a 62% decrease in overall shootings. Unfortunately, gun violence is no longer a random act and she noted

that the majority of gun violence crimes are being committed by individuals who are between the ages of nineteen and twenty-nine.

She then talked about the improvement in the quality of life resulting from the development of several new parks. Kelly's Landing is the area's first river park with canoeing, kayaking, and paddle boarding. A new pool opened at Douglas Park and the grand opening of Gatton Park at Town Branch was a huge success. Finally, the Cardinal Run North Park opened in the Parker's Mill area.

Mayor Gorton concluded her remarks by addressing the issue of homelessness, noting that many of the homeless are veterans. The City funds the Hope Center and has worked hard to build affordable housing. A task force has been formed to examine the homeless issue and investigate how northern Kentucky and Bowling Green have reduced homelessness. She emphasized that partnerships make us run better and address complex issues, as evidenced by Lexington's partnership with the Rotary Club of Lexington since 1915.

- Paul B. Chewning





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