**Wheel Horse** 

# **RETURNING MEMBER PROPOSAL**

The following individual is returning to Rotary:

#### **Carson Evans**

Classification: Insurance. General Sponsor: Joe Evans

Objections should be made in writing within seven (7) days to The Board of Directors. Rotary Club of Lexington, 401 W. Main Street, Suite 305, Lexington, KY 40507. Objections are kept in strict confidence.



## JOIN ROTARY FOR MLK UNITY BREAKFAST AND FREEDOM MARCH



Members at Freedom March 2025

The Rotary Club of Lexington will once again participate in The Freedom March and Celebration, which brings Lexington's leaders, organizations, and community leaders together to honor Martin Luther King's legacy of freedom, justice, peace, and equal opportunity for all Americans. The March takes place on Martin Luther King Day, Monday, January 19, 2026 beginning at 11:00 from Heritage Hall. Members are also encouraged to join our table(s) for the Unity Breakfast earlier that morning. Details on the time and tickets will be coming soon!

#### **ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY**

Baby, it might be cold outside but come December 18 it will be warm and cozy at the annual Rotary Christmas Party!

Join Rotary for some holiday cheer on Thursday, December 18th at The Campbell House! We will begin at 6pm with cocktails, then enjoy a wonderful all you can eat buffet that even a grinch will like. During cocktails and dinner, we will be treated to live music by a UK Jazz Trio. Following that, Ryan Filchak will serve as our DJ for dancing, spinning actual records! Want to make sure your favorite songs are on the playlist? Let Susan know ahead of time or talk with Ryan that night. Tickets: \$60 each. Tickets costs have been kept at the same price as last year thanks to Rotarian Jennifer Ambs at The Campbell House. To order tickets, go to https://e. givesmart.com/s/:WgZ8pMWOrRK/e/Jjp/?isOrderFormActive=true











# hinking clearly. Caring deeply.







#### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Dec 25 Christmas Day

Happy New Year

Eli Capiluto, President, University of Kentucky

Jan 22 Tina Nance, Museum Director, Aviation Museum of

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

ROTARYLEXKY.ORG

Dec 15 God's Pantry, Backpack Pack-Up, 817 Winchester Rd., 1:00-2:30pm

Dec 18 Annual Holiday Party, Campbell House, Harrodsburg Rd., 6pm

Jan 19 MLK Breakfast and Freedom March

Jan 23 Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8:00-9:30am

Jan 26 God's Pantry, Backpack Pack-Up, 817 Winchester Rd., 1:00-2:30pm

Around the World Dinner Event, Mane on Main, 6:00-8:30pm

Feb 19 Trivia Night, Details Coming

# The RWTARY Club of Lexington

December 11, 2025 TODAY'S PROGRAM —

Presiding: President Jim Richardson Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Alisha Chaffin Introduction of Guests: Trey McCallie Introduction of Program: Jim Richardson

Program: Annual Holiday Party with Booker T. Washington Students and Santa **Location: The Mane on Main** 

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#### PRESIDENT JIM'S HOLIDAY MESSAGE



JIM RICHARDSON

It IS the most wonderful time of the year. As we approach this joyous holiday season, I want to take a moment to reflect on the remarkable year we have had at the Rotary Club of Lexington. It has been a year filled with service, camaraderie, and meaningful contributions to our community.

This festive season is a time for gratitude and giving, and I am incredibly thankful for each of you and the dedication you have shown in living out our Rotary motto, "Service Above Self." Your commitment to our projects and initiatives has made a significant impact, and together, we have touched many lives.

As we gather with family and friends to celebrate, let us also remember those in need and continue to extend our hands and hearts to make a difference. The spirit of Rotary is alive in each act of kindness and generosity, and I am proud to be part of such a compassionate and driven group.

May this Season bring you and your loved one's peace, joy, and happiness. I look forward to another year of service and fellowship with all of you.

It is always so appropriate that our last meeting of the year is spent with the children of Booker T. Washington and Santa Claus, who might just be the ultimate poster boy for "Service Above Self." I have spent much of my life focused on working for the chance to provide a better life for our children and today certainly symbolizes that effort.

Our commitment to serving the community is unwavering, and this program is a testament to our dedication to nurturing the well-being of our youngest members.

Looking to the future, the Rotary Club is committed to expanding our efforts in addressing the needs of our community.

As my time as President (temporary) ends please know that my "intentional engagement" does not. I believe in this Club and in each of you to "change the world" by "Serving"). Thank you for being a part of making our city a better place.

On behalf of Jamie, Bill, Dean and me, God bless each of you and we wish all a prosperous New Year!

- Jim Richardson

# **ARE YOU HUNGRY YET? ROTARY'S AROUND** THE WORLD FOODFEST **AWAITS!**

The second installment of Lexington Rotary's Around the World Fundraiser is just around the corner and bigger and better. Join us Friday, January 30 at The Mane on Main from 6:00 to 8:30 pm. Enjoy tastes from across the globe, live energy, and a great cause all in one unforgettable evening. Mark your calendar now for this signature Rotary experience. Know a great local restaurant that should be featured? Send your referrals to Bret Anderson at banderson@cohesion.com.

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

# The Rotary Club of Lexington Lexington, KY 40507

# 2025-2026 OFFICERS

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

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

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

#### LEXINGTON ROTARY CLUB ENDOWMENT

#### 2025-2026 ENDOWMENT BOARD

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## WHEEL HORSE / 5TH PAGE

#### **CONTRIBUTORS**

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# ROTARY HITS A WINNER WITH INAUGURAL PICKLEBALL FUNDRAISER!

The Rotary Club of Lexington's Pickle N Pints fundraiser served up a great night of fun, connection, and easygoing competition. Hosted by PKL Lex and fueled by beer from Country Boy Brewing, the event brought together Rotarians, business leaders, sponsors, and friends around pickleball, pints, and community.

One of the most popular parts of the night was the beginner tournament, designed for those who had never played before or had only stepped on a court once or twice. It proved to be the perfect on ramp for new players and a reminder that pickleball really is for everyone. The mix of learning, laughing, and light competition kept the energy high all evening.

A special highlight featured Rotarian Eric Brooks playing alongside his dad. They were the only Rotarians competing this year, and watching a father and son share the court together was one of the night's most memorable moments. Based on the buzz it created, we are already expecting more Rotarians to jump into the brackets next year.

Generous support from Gold Sponsors Cohesion and Schooley Mitchell, along with our Court Sponsors, helped make the evening possible. Special thanks also go to cochair Susie Basham for going above and beyond to help coordinate the event and provide the custom pint glasses that gave the night its signature touch.

Proceeds from Pickle N Pints support Rotary service initiatives across Lexington and beyond, funding education, youth leadership, community outreach, and international service projects

- Bret Anderson



Social Play tournament winners, mother son duo, Claire and Daniel Davies.



Competitive Play tournament winners, Dan Ewing and Angela Hickey. Winners each received \$100 Country Boy gift cards, 1-year membership to PKL Lex, and bragging rights!

Morgan Stanley



# Rotary in Review

Last week, Lexington Rotarians welcomed Dr. Donald "Don" Colliver, we've added to the atmosphere."

Professor Emeritus of Biosystems Engineering at the University of Kentucky and one of the nation's foremost experts on climate, energy efficiency, and environmental systems. In a presentation titled "Does the Earth Have a Fever? – The Science of Climate Change," Dr. Colliver offered a clear, data-driven look at one of the most consequential issues of our time. Dr. Colliver opened with a

foundational premise affirmed by decades of research and leading scientific institutions: the Earth is warming, and the pace of that warming is unlike anything seen in recorded history. "When you step back and look at the convergence of data," he said, "you see the same story being told a thousand different ways. The planet is warming, and it's warming fast." He walked Rotarians through

Wheel Horse

multiple independent indicators, rising global temperatures, shrinking glaciers, increasing ocean heat content, and sealevel rise, all of which point toward a rapidly changing climate system. What makes the trend especially compelling, he noted, is that "the physics hasn't

Rotarians Since 1915

changed. What has changed are the concentrations of greenhouse gases

DOES THE EARTH HAVE A FEVER? THE SCIENCE BEHIND CLIMATE CHANGE

A major portion of Dr. Colliver's talk centered on why the planet is warming. He explained the greenhouse effect in accessible terms and noted that while natural climate cycles exist, today's dramatic acceleration correlates directly with human activity. "Carbon dioxide levels were incredibly stable for hundreds of thousands of years," he shared. "In the last century and a half, we've pushed them into territory the Earth simply hasn't seen in modern human history.'

Drawing from his forty-five years of work in energy systems and climateresponsive building design, Dr. Colliver illustrated how climate change is no longer an abstract concept, it influences everything from infrastructure and agriculture to public health and local weather extremes. He emphasized that communities like Lexington must be prepared for these shifts, both economically and environmentally.

But Dr. Colliver did more than diagnose the problem; he also offered a hopeful pathway forward. He highlighted the progress being made

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in energy-efficient building design, decarbonization, and renewable energy, areas where he has been a national leader. As former president of ASHRAE, he helped launch the Advanced Energy Design Guides, now used globally to reduce energy consumption in commercial buildings. He also shared his personal experience installing solar panels at his home, noting with a smile, "Before I moved, the highest electric bill I ever saw was twenty-one dollars."

Dr. Colliver closed by reminding Rotarians that climate action is not a partisan stance but a practical and moral one. "This isn't about politics," he said. "It's about stewardship of our resources, our communities, and the world we leave to the next generation."

By the end of his presentation, Rotarians walked away with a deeper understanding of the Earth's "fever" and a clearer picture of the solutions already within reach. His message was grounded, pragmatic, and ultimately hopeful.

Thank you, Dr. Don Colliver for a timely and insightful discussion that both challenged and inspired.

- Dan Koett

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