

NEW MEMBER PROPOSALS

The following individuals have been proposed for membership in Rotary:

- Gary Crisp**  
Classification: Consulting, Cost Consulting  
Sponsor: Jenny Schnurr
- Lori Donaldson**  
Classification: Assn & Orgs, Easterseals Bluegrass  
Sponsor: Jim Richardson
- David Levin**  
Classification: Financial, Retirement Specialist  
Sponsor: Lyle Hanna

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.

THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION: WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DOLLAR MAKES

The Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world. Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects. Together we can make an impact in your community and around the world. The Rotary Foundation helps Rotary members advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty.

\$3 is the average cost to fully protect a child against polio.

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\$200 to develop work opportunities by replacing livestock for people impacted by disasters.

For information on how YOU can support the Rotary Foundation, reach out to Foundation Committee Chair Paul Stanley at [pspaulstanley@gmail.com](mailto:pspaulstanley@gmail.com) or go to <https://my.rotary.org/en/donate>.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW 2026-27 ROTARY LEADERSHIP!

- President- Lyle Hanna
- President-elect—Barry Stumbo
- Secretary—Jarred Paull
- Treasurer-Jenny Schnurr
- Sergeant at Arms—Susie Basham

- Directors:
- Chris Anderson (2029)
- Cheyenne McBride (2029)
- Don Tharpe (2029)

- Directors:
- Dylan Harper (2027)
- Chris Peck (2027)
- Chris Aldridge (2028)
- Eric Brooks (2028)
- Alisha Chaffin (2028)



Lyle Hanna, President and Barry Stumbo, President-elect

These new board members will join for 2026-27: Past-Presidents — Jamie Schrader, Jim Richardson, Bill Wilson, and Dean Hammond

The ROTARY Club of Lexington

WHEEL HORSE

January 8, 2026  
— TODAY'S PROGRAM —

- Presiding: President Bill Wilson  
Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Leah Anderson  
Introduction of Guests: Mike Baker  
Introduction of Speaker: Lyle Hanna
- Speaker: Dr. Eli Capilouto, President, University of Kentucky  
Program: University Update: Advancing Kentucky  
**Location: The Mane on Main**

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MEET OUR SPEAKER



DR. ELI CAPILOUTO

Dr. Eli Capilouto became the 12th President of the University of Kentucky on July 1, 2011. Under his leadership, the Commonwealth's flagship and land grant research university has grown from \$2.7 billion to nearly \$8.6 billion in total operations and has gained significant momentum in advancing Kentucky – the institution's singular yet multifaceted mission.

During his tenure, President Capilouto has led a nearly \$7.6 billion transformation of the campus, aimed at enriching the living-learning experience of UK's students, ensuring their success; strengthening the

university's research infrastructure dedicated to solving Kentucky's most intractable health and economic challenges, and expanding UK HealthCare's capacity to teach, heal, and serve. Through partnerships with the private sector, increased philanthropy, and effective financial management, UK is self-financing much of this aggressive infrastructure development with the purpose of equipping the next generation of leaders who will impact our world for the better.

Under his leadership, the priorities outlined in "The UK-Purpose (Plan for Unprecedented Research, Purposeful and Optimal Service and Education)" and the innovation of the campus has resulted in historic student success, improved care of our people, unrivaled ingenuity; greater trust, transparency, and accountability; and a strong, vibrant community. The progress on campus is resulting in a high-quality workforce and improved well-being for the Commonwealth UK has served for nearly 160

years — all essential to advancing Kentucky.

A native of Montgomery, Alabama, Dr. Capilouto previously served as provost of the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) and dean of the UAB School of Public Health – a period of remarkable growth and transformation at one of the leading academic and health sciences institutions in the South. Dr. Capilouto holds several undergraduate and graduate degrees from schools within the University of Alabama system, a Doctorate of Dental Medicine from UAB and a Doctorate in Health Policy and Management from Harvard University. He and his wife, Dr. Mary Lynne Capilouto (D.M.D.) a former Dean of the UAB School of Dentistry, have one daughter.



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UPCOMING PROGRAMS		UPCOMING EVENTS	
Jan 22	TBA	Jan 19	MLK Breakfast and Freedom March, Breakfast \$50, 7:30; Freedom March - Free, 1:00 pm
Jan 29	5th Thursday, Field Trip, Aviation Museum, Tina Nance, Museum Director, Box lunch	Jan 23	Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8:00-9:30am
Feb 5	TBA	Jan 26	God's Pantry, Backpack Pack-Up, 817 Winchester Rd., 1:00- 2:30pm
Feb 12	Brent Seals, Ph.D., Principal Investigator, Pigman College of Engineering, University of Kentucky	Jan 30	Around the World Dinner Event, Mane on Main, 6:00-8:30pm
Feb 19	Doing Rotary Differently, See Upcoming Events	Feb 19	Trivia Night, Details Coming
Feb 26	Humanitarian Cup Award Presentation		



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

**2025-2026 OFFICERS**  
Bill Wilson - 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@rotarylexky.org

**DIRECTORS**  
Susie Basham (2026) Chris Peck (2027)  
Edwin Gibson (2026) Chris Aldridge (2028)  
Shawn Lyons (2026) Eric Brooks (2028)  
Dylan Harper (2027) 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)  
Bill Wilson - Club President  
Jenny Schnurr - Treasurer

**WHEEL HORSE / 5TH PAGE  
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Editorial Standards: *Chicago Manual of  
Style*, 17th ed.

IF WHAT YOU WANTED WAS GOOD COMPANY,  
FOOD, AND DRINK . . .

then the Rotary Social Committee delivered with our annual holiday party at the Campbell House on December 18. A good crowd came out of the cold to enjoy the warm camaraderie that the holidays bring out in all of us.

Live jazz from the UK Jazz Trio kicked things off for the lively gathering; that was followed by a buffet dinner that included desserts to die for! Beth Carroll won the Rotary raffle with a prize of a Powerball ticket and a chance to win 1.5 billion dollars. Your editor is assuming that did not pan out for Beth, but you gotta play to win! Jim Richardson took the mike as one of his last official duties as Club President to address the party goers, thank the UK Jazz Trio, and draw the raffle winner. A DJ took it from there. Proving that nothing comes easily, Susan Adams reports that the day before the party the scheduled DJ called to let her know he tested positive for covid and felt awful. Thankfully, he found a replacement and the music went off without a hitch!

Thanks to the Social Committee for another great year of advancing Rotary connections outside of our weekly meetings. Make a resolution to join them in 2026!



WELCOME, TRANSFERRING ROTARIAN

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Rotary in Review

ROTARY SHARES HOLIDAY CHEER WITH DESERVING STUDENTS

The Rotary Club of Lexington's annual Holiday party with deserving students from Booker T. Washington Elementary School took place during the last meeting of the year on December 11. Eighteen students were hosted by Rotarians to a delicious lunch of chicken strips, mac and cheese and Christmas cookies. The Holiday Luncheon committee, chaired by Carrie Patterson, provided each student with a gift bag (for their toys), crayons, coloring book, and juice boxes! Several Rotarians, dressed in the Holiday spirit, served as table hosts to make sure each student was well cared for.

Before Santa, played wonderfully and enthusiastically by Rotarian Winn Stephens, arrived to conclude the program, President Jim Richardson concluded his last meeting as interim president, and thanked everyone for giving him the opportunity to reconnect with the Club. He originally served as President in 2000-01. Jim noted that the past three months have been very rewarding and that he experienced the "Apex of Humanity." As his last official duty, he gave the oath of office to Bill Wilson, who will serve

as interim president from January to March, 2026. Ex-president Jim then got Rotarians, guests, and students into the Holiday Spirit—as if they weren't already - by singing such songs as *Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer*, *Let it Snow*, and *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*. Enter Rotarian Santa Wyinn and the fun began in earnest with each child receiving two gifts that were coordinated by our beloved Resource Officer at Booker T. Washington, Monica Hall. Good food and good fun was had celebrating the Holiday Season with deserving students - the Apex of Humanity indeed.

— Paul B. Chewning



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# The 5th Page

## NEW MEMBER DEEP DIVE: KRISTIE WOODRUM



**KRISTIE WOODRUM**

It is not an exaggeration to say that 2026 will be a very big year for new Rotarian Kristie Woodrum. To begin with, she is celebrating one of those "milestone" birthdays – her 50th. On top of that, she and husband Rodney are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary.

Kristie graduated from Morehead State University and began working at a business in Georgetown, Architecture Plus. This turned out to be a fortuitous choice as she was employed alongside a young man named Rodney (yes, that Rodney – her future husband). Kristie next went into sales at several local hotels before moving into her current position, Investor Development Manager for Commerce Lexington.

In her present job one of her roles is running the Ambassador Program for Commerce Lexington. These individuals are active members of Commerce Lexington who volunteer their time to assist with member relations and retention efforts. The Ambassador serves as a mentor to members and meets them at events and encourages their involvement and participation. Kristie says that this is the most satisfying aspect of her job – helping to connect businesses with each other. She absolutely loves musicals (Rodney does not). Some of her favorites are Wicked, Hadestown, and Hamilton. She even attended a performance of The Curious Case of Benjamin Button with her daughter, Aubrey, in London (they cried). Kristie also enjoys traveling in the U.S. on "girls' trips" with friends. She currently has Hawaii, Greece, and Italy on her bucket list.

Kristie was introduced to Rotary by Crystal Newton who invited her to a networking event. She then attended a lunch and immediately connected with some of the members that she met. Kristie says that Rotary's message definitely resonates with her as she wants to explore new ways to be of service to the community.

– John Meyers

## NEW MEMBER DEEP DIVE: MONICA OWENS



We all know that Monica Owens is a great dancer – after all, she just won the latest season of Dancing with the Lexington Stars. But she also is a very accomplished basketball player. Attending Lincoln Memorial University (LMU) in Harrogate, Tennessee, Monica was a

standout performer, setting multiple records and earning a spot in the LMU Athletics Hall of Fame in 2009. Monica passed her basketball talents on to her daughter, Maaliya, a 2019 Miss Kentucky Basketball Finalist and 2023-24 Preseason Women's Basketball OVC Player of the Year. Maaliya now coaches the Great Crossings junior varsity team and is an assistant coach for the varsity team. When Maaliya was a senior in high school, Monica took Maaliya to various college campuses for recruiting visits. While there, Monica joined Maaliya in games against the varsity players until ankle injuries put an end to Monica's basketball days.

Monica was attracted to Rotary as she has been living the "service above self" creed herself. She loves working behind the scenes to help young women along their life journeys. Mentoring is one of her life passions. Monica is actively seeking other avenues that will allow her to continue her service.

She has served as a senior manager for a Georgetown automotive parts manufacturer, International Crankshaft, and has worked for Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky as well. I would be remiss to not mention several of her other accomplishments involving pageants and singing. While in college, she was selected Miss LMU and competed in the Miss Tennessee pageant. She loves to sing the national anthem and her goal is to sing it at an LMU game. As successful as she has been in achieving her other goals, it is only a matter of time before she achieves this one!

– John Meyers



Don	Tharpe	1	Bill	Craycraft, Sr.	15
Chris	Hickey	1	Gregory	Turay	18
Michele	Ripley	2	Graham	Marks	18
Sayre	Combs, Jr.	4	Kim	Hammond	20
Harry	Richart, III	5	Kevin	Weaver	24
Dan	Dorsett	6	Dick	Carroll	24
Guy	Bradley	9	Michael	Stutland	28
John	Shaw	10	Kaye	Hughes	30
Steve	Keller	12			

## LEXINGTON ROTARIANS GRADUATE FROM LEADERSHIP KENTUCKY



**ALISHA CHAFFIN & CANDRA BRYANT**

Congratulations to Rotarians Alisha Chaffin and Candra Bryant for their recent graduation from the prestigious Leadership Kentucky (LK) program. Since 1984 LK has been engaged in preparing participants to, as their motto states, “advance the state for the common good.”

This is done through seven months of two-day sessions held throughout the Commonwealth, with each session focusing on an important facet of our state. Asked to share their experience with the Wheel Horse, Alisha and Candra responded with the following:

Over the past seven months, we have had the privilege of traveling across Kentucky as members of the LK Class of 2025. The experience was both eye-opening and deeply meaningful, and we proudly graduated in Lexington during the second week of December, carrying forward lessons and relationships that will stay with us for a long time.

LK offered a front-row seat to the people, places, and issues shaping our Commonwealth. From early mornings and long days on the road to immersive site visits and thoughtful dialogue, each session expanded our understanding of Kentucky’s strengths, challenges, and possibilities. We witnessed innovation in rural communities, resilience across industries, and leaders who are deeply committed to the future of this state.

One especially meaningful stop was our visit to The Center for Courageous Kids (CCK) in Scottsville. The experience was even more impactful knowing that our friend and classmate, Darren Dannelly, serves as CCK’s President and CEO. Seeing Darren lead with authenticity and purpose brought the mission to life. CCK provides life-changing camp experiences, at no cost for children living with serious illnesses or disabilities, creating a place rooted in joy, confidence, and belonging.

Just as memorable were the moments between sessions, especially the bus rides. Laughter was a constant companion, thanks in large part to Kenny Boyd, President of Baptist Health Paducah, whose humor and storytelling kept spirits high and reminded us that leadership can be both serious and joyful.

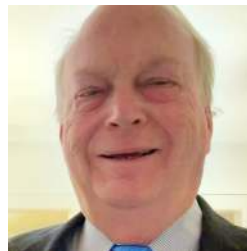
Most of all, it was the relationships that defined the experience. The connections we formed challenged us, supported us, and helped us grow. LK strengthened our ties to one another and to the Commonwealth, and its impact will continue to shape how we lead long after graduation.

– Alisha D. Chaffin and Candra Bryant

## ROTARIANS PLAY VITAL ROLE AS COMMERCE LEXINGTON AMBASSADORS

In this issue’s Deep Dive featuring Kristie Woodrum, it is noted that one of her roles with Commerce Lexington is running the Ambassador Program. Ambassadors are active members of Commerce Lexington who volunteer their time to assist with member relations and retention efforts. Ambassadors serve as mentors to members, meet them at events, and encourage their involvement and participation. We would be remiss if we failed to note that Rotarians Trey McCallie, Laura Mobley-Corn, Crystal Newton, and Sam Overbee will be supporting Kristie by serving as Commerce Lexington Ambassadors in 2026. Thanks to them all for their Service Above Self.

### NEW MEMBER DEEP DIVE: RICHARD C. CARROLL



**RICHARD C. CARROLL**

When you hear that new Rotarian Dick Carroll used to work in the Kentucky Attorney General’s Office you probably conjure up an image of days filled with researching case law, preparing briefs and other pleadings, maybe attending a deposition – right? Well, not entirely. For example, Dick was involved in representing

KET in an OSHA claim involving cell tower climbers. In order to better understand their jobs, Dick donned a hard hat and climbed a tower (he confesses that he didn’t go very high)! Another interesting experience involved working with stewards and starters at Keeneland which gave him the opportunity to go behind the scenes at the track.

But Dick is probably best known as the former Executive Director of the State Board of Accountancy. While at the Kentucky Attorney General’s Office, Dick served as the Board’s general counsel for over fourteen years. In November of 2002, he became the Board’s Executive Director, a position he held until August of 2020. In that role he furthered the Board’s mission of protecting the public interest through its oversight of certified public accountants.

Dick is a native of Louisville and attended the University of Dayton, achieving a degree in Political Science and a Juris Doctor degree. He has two children, one in St. Louis with twins (one boy, one girl) and one in Boston. In 2019, Dick married Beth Robinson who has two daughters – one in Lexington and one in Seville, Spain. Dick has enjoyed their travels to Spain and Portugal and looks forward to future travels. His bucket list includes Paris, Italy, and Croatia. Also high on his list is taking a train across Canada. But, staying closer to home, he absolutely loves entertaining friends on the covered porch on the back of their home!

– John Meyers