

Join the Rotary Club to walk in the 2026 Alltech Lexington **ST. PATRICK'S PARADE!**



Meet: 12:30-12:45 PM at Midland Ave by Thoroughbred Park
Parade: 1 PM down Main Street from Midland to Mill, behind our Rotary Club of Lexington banner!

DETAILS:
Wear your green attire!
Family and guests are welcome.
Feel free to bring candy or small giveaways to pass out along the route.

RSVP:
Let us know if you'll be joining the group.
Contact Susan at telico@aol.com or 859-539-4969.

FESTIVAL:
Enjoy the Festival at Henry A Centennial Park (5th/3rd Bank Pavilion) from 10:45 AM to 5 PM.

COME AND JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN AND CELEBRATION!

ENJOY HORSE RACING AS IT WAS MEANT TO BE!
Join Fellow Rotarians, Friends and Potential Members for a Fun Day at the Races!

Our Keeneland Spring Meet Outing will be in The Lexington Room on Wednesday, April 22. The gates open at 11am. The buffet is open until 4pm. We have 4 six top tables.

Races start at 1pm

The dress is business formal, including a tie for gentlemen, and NO denim of any kind-for anyone.

Only 18 tickets left! \$125/ticket. Tickets need to be purchased by April 7.

Have fun betting from the comfort of The Lexington Room! You can also come and go, so you can watch races from the rail as well.

Get your tickets now!

<https://e.givesmart.com/events/Jjp/>



The ROTARY Club of Lexington

WHEEL HORSE

March 12, 2026

— TODAY'S PROGRAM —

Presiding: President Bill Wilson
Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test: Bill Byrd
Introduction of Guests: Barry Stumbo
Introduction of Speaker: Bret Anderson

Speaker: Robert Mucci, Author
Program: Garvice Kincaid Life and Success
Location: The Mane on Main

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MEET OUR SPEAKER



ROBERT MUCCI

Today Rotarians will hear from fellow Rotarian Robert Mucci about Lexington business legend Garvice Kincaid. In 2025 Mucci authored *Ahead of the Pack, Garvice Kincaid and his Empire: A Southern Legacy*.

Anyone who has spent much time with Robert Mucci understands quickly how much he loves Kentucky. Robert was raised in Paris, Kentucky, just a few miles from the home of Secretariate. He grew up living over the family's hardware store on Main Street and readily admits that his smalltown roots and early experiences working in the family hardware store instilled a strong work ethic in him,

along with an appreciation of how business works. In addition, because he was raised by his adopted parents - his great aunt and uncle - he also learned to respect the importance of history and its lessons. His parents lived through two world wars and the great depression and often exposed him to stories about how those times affected them and life in general. Those stories also made him understand and respect that history is the foundation of our future.

Robert began his investment career at Kentucky Central Life Insurance Company (KCL) in 1981 and worked there until it was sold in 1995. In his youth, he was introduced to the Kincaid organization by a relative and worked at KCL during college. Robert has a business degree from Transylvania University and is a Chartered Financial Analyst. His extensive knowledge of the company and his long association with many of its former employees has provided him with a remarkable amount of personal information about Mr. Kincaid

and the various individuals that were important participants in the building of his empire and later in its destruction. His professional background and personal history with the organization provided him with background needed to tell the story of one of Lexington's most important figures from the 1950s to the 1970's.

Robert retired as executive vice president of a Midwest life insurance company in 2020 after a forty-year career managing insurance company assets. In addition, he has been a Rotarian since December 2001 and transferred to the Rotary Club of Lexington in January 2020. Robert and his wife live in Lexington, Kentucky.

Robert prefers to say he is more of a storyteller than an author and his book demonstrates this. He says, "it's not just a dry history, but the history woven together with stories, that helps the reader appreciate who Mr. Kincaid was and how he created his \$500 million empire."

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Mar 19 Doing Rotary, Differently
Mar 26 Ed Holmes, AICP, Principal, EHI Consultants, Affordable Housing
Apr 2 Chris McCarron, Hall of Fame Jockey

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 14 St. Patrick's Parade, Meet on Midland Ave., 12:30 pm
Mar 23 God's Pantry, Backpack Pack-Up, 817 Winchester Rd., 1:00- 2:30pm
Mar 27 Early Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8:00-9:30am
Apr 22 Keeneland Outing, Lexington Room, \$125

ROTARY TRIVIA: SIZE MATTERS!

The Rotary Club of Lexington is considered to be a "large club" by Rotary International, with a membership of 212 as of July 1, 2025. The largest club in the world is the Vijayawada Midtown Club (India) with 760 members! The largest US club is Birmingham (Alabama) at 575. Our club comes in at number 67. Fifty-three of the 100 largest clubs are in the US.

EDWIN GIBSON HONORED WITH THE CLIFF DOCHTERMAN AWARD



Each year, Rotary Clubs and District Governors around the world present the **Cliff Dochterman Award** to individuals who exemplify outstanding service to both Rotary and Scouting. Recipients are selected for their meaningful contributions to Scouting and for demonstrating exceptional leadership.

Our club has a long tradition of supporting Scouting. From the early days of owning the first Scout camp—Camp Offutt on the Kentucky River—to later helping develop Camp McKee, and even sponsoring a troop for disadvantaged youth, Rotary has proudly supported the Scouting movement.

This year, we are honored to recognize **Edwin Gibson** for his dedication to Scouting and youth development. Edwin served as a Scouting leader at Christ the King Cathedral, where his son earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Even after his son completed the program, Edwin continued his commitment by serving as Scoutmaster and mentoring countless young Scouts.

Today, Edwin remains an active supporter of the Blue Grass Council of Scouting America. Along with fellow Rotary members, he helped local Scouts earn the Aviation Merit Badge last year. Edwin also currently chairs our club's Scouting Committee. We congratulate Edwin Gibson on this well-deserved recognition and thank him for his continued leadership and service to both Rotary and Scouting.

Rotary in Review

KENTUCKY AEROSPACE EDUCATION CENTER CHARTS NEW COURSE FOR AVIATION EDUCATION

Last week our club heard from Tina N. Nance, J.D., Executive Director of the Kentucky Aerospace Education Center (KAEC), who shared an exciting vision for the future of aviation education, workforce development, and tourism in the Commonwealth. Located at Blue Grass Airport, the

Kentucky Aerospace Education Center is home to the Aviation Museum of Kentucky and the Commonwealth's official Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame. Under Nance's leadership, the organization is undergoing a strategic transformation, from a traditional museum into a dynamic aerospace education and workforce development hub designed to inspire the next generation of aviation professionals.

"We spent 30 years as the Aviation Museum of Kentucky and did a lot of things really well," Nance said. "But looking at the state of the aviation and aerospace economy right now, there is a shortage of talent. We realized this was a prime opportunity to pivot and help fill those gaps for the aviation community."

One major driver of that transformation is the center's planned relocation to a prominent site at the intersection of Man O' War Boulevard and Airport Road. The new state-of-the-art facility will significantly expand exhibition space and educational programming while providing greater visibility and accessibility for visitors.

The project, which is expected to cost approximately \$32 million, will include immersive exhibits, interactive displays, flight simulators, and dedi-

cated classroom and training spaces designed to support STEM learning and career exploration.

"Our goal is to have every sixth grader within a fifty-mile radius visit this facility," Nance explained. "We want students to see that aviation careers exist right here in their backyard."

The center already operates several programs aimed at introducing young people to aviation and aerospace careers. Its aviation summer camps, which attract 400-500 students annually across multiple Kentucky communities, allow students to learn about aeronautics, navigation, and flight simulation before experiencing a supervised introductory flight with a certified instructor.

According to Nance, the impact of these programs is already evident. A recent survey conducted by Fayette County Public Schools found that approximately seventy-five percent of students enrolled in the district's aviation program first discovered their interest through one of the center's summer camps.

The organization is also expanding partnerships with schools, educators, and industry leaders across the state to help strengthen Kentucky's aviation

workforce pipeline.

"Kentucky's aerospace economy is an \$18 billion economic engine for the state," Nance said. "It's actually larger than horses and bourbon combined, but it's a story that many people still don't know. Part of our mission is helping change that narrative."

Beyond workforce development, the new facility is expected to significantly increase tourism and community engagement. Currently welcoming about 15,000 visitors annually, the center anticipates attracting between 80,000 and 100,000 visitors each year once the new location opens.

Nance also highlighted the critical role of volunteers in supporting the organization's work including that of Rotarians Gerry van der Meer, Dean Hammond, Chris Campbell, and Bobby Owens.

As the Kentucky Aerospace Education Center prepares for its next chapter, the organization's work reflects Rotary's own commitment to education, workforce development, and community impact, helping inspire future generations while strengthening Kentucky's economy and opportunities for years to come.

- Dan Koett

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