

ROTARIANS JUST WANNA HAVE FUN!

If you missed it, you really missed it! In what was both their first and last Lexington appearance, the Quad Squad delighted the crowd at Presidents’ Day by serenading the Fab Four with a medley of Beatles classics featuring lyrics cleverly rewritten just for the occasion.

As one Rotarian put it, “It was so bad, it was good!”



Pictured in front of the Fab Four, from left, are Sharon Reed, Susan Adams, Susie Basham, and Peggy Trafton. Not pictured but singing back-up, Jenny Schnurr.

PATRIOTIC CONCERT

Rotarians brought their blankets and lawn chairs and braved the summer heat last Friday evening to enjoy the Lexington Philharmonic’s annual Patriotic Concert celebrating America at Gratz Park. Among those in attendance were _____.



PAUL HARRIS FELLOW RECOGNITION



Paul Stanley, The Rotary Foundation Chair, recognized David Jones who reached Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) recognition + 1. PHF recognition goes to individuals who contribute, or who have contributions made in their name of, \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation with the “+” signifying multiple donations of \$1,000. Congratulations David!

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- Jul 16** Doing Rotary Differently, No Meeting
- Jul 23** Mary Quinn Ramer, President, Visit Lex, with Lisa Brim, FilmLex
- Jul 30** 5th Thursday, No Meeting
- Aug 6** Roger Weaver, Rare Coin Expert
- Aug 13** Eric Frankl, Executive Director, Bluegrass Airport
- Aug 20** Third Thursday, See Upcoming Events
- Aug 27** Jarrett Milsaps, President, St. Joseph East & Saint Joseph Mt. Sterling

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Aug 20** Third Thursday; The Mercy Men, Thursday Night Live, 5/3 Pavilion, 5:30-7:30 pm
- Aug 22** Rotary Leadership Institute, BCTC Newtown Campus, 9:30 am-4:30 pm, Free
- Aug 28** Early Morning Mixer, Lexington Green, 8-9:30 am
- Sep 10** Pollinator Garden Tour, Kenawood Park, Evening Social, Free
- Sep 27-30** Rotary Large Club Conference
- Oct 15** Keeneland Outing, Lexington Room, 11- 6:00 pm, \$125

The ROTARY Club of Lexington

WHEEL HORSE

July 9, 2026
— TODAY’S PROGRAM —

Presiding: President Lyle Hanna
Inspiration, Pledge, & 4 Way Test:
Introduction of Guests:
Introduction of Program: Dean Hammond

Program: Installation of Officers and President Lyle Hanna’s Vision for the Year Ahead
Location: The Mane on Main

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE: INVOLVEMENT IN ROTARY
CAN LEAD TO A BETTER LIFE EXPERIENCE!



LYLE HANNA

I got involved in Rotary in the early 1990s because my father-in-law had been a member for many years and regularly encouraged me to join. He told me it would be a rewarding life experience. Bill McCord was a dedicated Rotarian with more than 50 years of perfect attendance, and he was right.

I became involved early, serving on the board and helping establish our early endowment fund. Like so many things in life, we get more out of it when we put more into it.

One of the greatest things about Rotary is that we are surrounded by strong, intelligent, hard-working, and dedicated people. When you can work alongside individuals like that, they set a high

standard and inspire exceptional work. The beauty of Rotary is that our entire organization is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of others, our neighbors, our community, and people around the world.

Rotary opens countless doors for each of us to make a difference. And that’s a worthwhile thing to do.

In our earlier days, we were expected to attend Rotary every week. If we couldn’t attend our home club’s meeting, we were encouraged to make up the meeting at another Rotary club. As a result, I had the privilege of attending Rotary meetings around the world. Whether I was traveling for work, vacation, or with Habitat for Humanity, where I served as Vice Chair of the International Board, I always tried to attend a local Rotary meeting.

You can imagine what a pleasure it is to walk into a Rotary meeting in the Philippines, Australia, Ireland, or South Africa and have people greet you with open arms, asking, “Where are you from? How can we enhance your visit? How is your Rotary club doing back in Lexington?”

There is an immediate connection

among Rotarians, and that connection quickly opens doors and enriches your life. Here in Lexington, we have been making a difference for 111 years.

The joy of Rotary isn’t just what we accomplish - it’s how we accomplish it. Our club continues to make a meaningful impact through service, fellowship, and community engagement. From supporting initiatives like Dancing with the Lexington Stars and the Miracle League to educating, feeding, and improving lives, we are making a real difference.

This year, we’ll offer outstanding weekly programs, strengthen relationships with new and long-standing members, and continue attracting exceptional community leaders. We’re also excited to host North America’s largest Rotary clubs this September, showcasing the very best of Lexington, Kentucky’s hospitality, bourbon, horse industry, and innovation.

Is this your year to step up and make an even greater contribution to our club, our community, and our world?

I know we will continue to make a positive impact. But we’ll accomplish even more if you - and your friends - join us.

— Lyle Hanna

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

2025-2026 OFFICERS

Lyle Hanna - President
Susie Basham - President-Elect
Past Presidents: Jamie Schrader 1Q, Jim Richardson 2Q
Bill Wilson 3Q, Dean Hammond 4Q
Jarred Paull - Secretary
Sam Overbee - Sergeant-at-Arms
Jenny Schnurr - Treasurer
Peggy Trafton - Executive Director (Staff)
Trafton@rotarylexky.org

DIRECTORS

R G Conlee (2027) Alisha Chaffin (2028)
Chris Peck (2027) Chris Anderson (2029)
Linda Weaver (2027) Cheyenne McBride (2029)
Chris Aldridge (2028) Don Tharpe (2029)
Eric Brooks (2028)

THE ROTARY CLUB OF LEXINGTON CHARITABLE FUND

2026-2027 BOARD OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Jamie Schrader - Board President (2029)
Bret Anderson (2027)
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Michael Morrill (2027)
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Susan Adams (2029)
Bruce Bell (2029)
Kim Johnson (2029)
Bill Wilson (2029)
Lyle Hanna- Club President
Jenny Schnurr- Treasurer

WHEEL HORSE / 5TH PAGE CONTRIBUTORS

Paul Chewning Louis Hatcher Jaron Johns
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Bill Straus Peggy Trafton John Wharton
Chris Aldridge, Editor
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Set up & printing by Lynn Imaging

NO ANTS, PLENTY OF FELLOWSHIP AT ROTARY'S SUMMER PICNIC



One thing noticeably absent from our Rotary Picnic at Gatton Park on June 11 was the ants! Social Committee Chair Susan

Adams theorized that dining on the stage, as we did, kept them from finding us. Fortunately, plenty of Rotarians, guests, and even two prospective new members had no trouble finding us.

Everyone enjoyed an evening of delicious food, relaxed conversation, and beautiful surroundings, with the amphi-

theater's grassy terraces and the Central Bank Center providing a perfect backdrop. Adding to the festive atmosphere was a great summer playlist curated by Jim Richardson.

Our apologies to those who heard the opening song a few more times than intended due to a little "operator error." Fortunately, the issue was quickly resolved when Susan set down her fork and subscribed to Apple Music!

Special thanks to the Gatton Park Board for generously providing the venue at no cost. Park representatives also expressed their appreciation for Rotary's continued support of Gatton Park.

- Social Committee

NEW AND TRANSFERRING MEMBER PROPOSALS

The following individuals have been proposed for membership in Rotary:

NEW MEMBER

Elysse Arrington

Classification: Bookkeeping, Accounting
Sponsor: Markus Cross

TRANSFERRING

MEMBERS

Jimmy Leon

Classification: Education, Retired
Sponsor: Transfer, Peggy Trafton

M. Enayet U. "Enam"

Chowdhury

Classification: Health Care
Sponsor: Transfer, Peggy Trafton

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.

Rotary in Review

THE FAB FOUR SING THEIR ROTARY SWAN SONG ON PRESIDENT'S DAY

According to Father Maurice Emelu, the number four symbolizes completeness, stability, and solidity. Whether or not those qualities inspired then-President Bret and his leadership team to appoint the "Fab Four" to fill a vacancy in the Club presidency, the arrangement proved to be a tremendous success.

The Fab Four - Past Presidents Jamie Schrader, Jim Richardson, Bill Wilson, and Dean Hammond - each returned to serve one quarter of the 2025-26 Rotary year. Having previously worked in the bright lights of Rotary leadership, the four shared the responsibilities of the presidency and, at last month's President's Day celebration, each reflected on the year from his own perspective.

Just as this past year's presidency was a team effort, so was last month's celebration of our traditional President's Day, with each taking a few minutes at the podium to reflect on the 2025-26 Rotary year.

Jim Richardson (2000) opened the program by emphasizing the importance of involvement. "Rotary is at its very best when each of us chooses to be involved," he said, adding that strong clubs "aren't built by a few people doing everything; they are built by a few people doing something."

Jamie Schrader (2020) humorously referred to himself as the "Ringo Starr" of the Fab Four ("can't sing, can't write songs"). He observed that he and his cohorts "had a lot of fun" and said that fun is something we should all seek in our Rotary journeys.



He offered encouragement to President-Elect Lyle Hanna. He reminded members that every Rotary president enjoys the support of fellow Rotarians, "Everybody wants you to succeed," he said. "They have your back."

Schrader also reflected on the Club's four priorities for the year: outstanding weekly programs, sound finances, a major service project, and membership growth. He credited Lyle Hanna for excellent programming, Chris Ander-

son and Jenny Schnurr for the Club's strong financial position, and noted that hosting the Large Club Conference this fall reflects Rotary's commitment to service. Membership, he added, is everyone's responsibility.

Bill Wilson (2021) praised his fellow presidents and the Club by highlighting what he called the four "Cs": character, courage, commitment, and compassion. He challenged members to build stronger relationships by getting to know one another better.

"What we need to do to move our humanity forward," he said, "is to get to know the best of one another."

Dean Hammond (2014) concluded the program by reflecting on the teamwork that defined the year. He noted there was never disagreement among the four presidents and compared the Club to a nest - "It's warm, it's strong, it's intelligent."

"Anything we do," he said, "you have another fifty people trying to make sure it's successful."

The Fab Four demonstrated that leadership is most effective when it is rooted in collaboration, service, and trust. Judging by the success of the past year, they provided exactly that.

- John Wharton



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Jim Richardson CFP®, CLTC, CPM®
Senior Vice President
Financial Advisor
444 East Main Street
Lexington, KY 40507
+1 859 231-9527
James.A.Richardson@ms.com
NMLS #1255648

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