

WELCOME, NEW ROTARIAN
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Classification: Religion, Ecumenical
Sponsor: Franklin Thompson

NEW MEMBER PROPOSALS
The following individuals has been proposed for membership in Rotary:
Starr Horn
Classification: Service Industry, General Contractor
Sponsor: Lyle Hanna
Alexander Wheeler
Classification: Law, Asst. County Attorney
Sponsor: Jim Dundon

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.



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UPCOMING PROGRAMS		UPCOMING EVENTS	
Oct 15	Doing Rotary Differently, No Lunch Meeting	Oct 9	Miracle League 20th Anniversary Celebration, CommonSpirit Ballpark, 6:30 pm
Oct 22	Derrick Ramsey: 1976 University of Kentucky SEC Football and Peach Bowl Champions	Oct 15	Keeneland Outing, Lexington Room, 11- 6:00 pm, \$125
Oct 29	5th Thursday, NO Lunch Meeting, See Upcoming Events	Oct 22	Rotary Blood Drive, Mane on Main, 10 - 3:00 pm
Nov 5	Wilfred Reilly, Associate Professor of Political Science, Kentucky State University	Oct 22	Spin to Win the Fight Against Polio, CycleYOU Fitness & Sauna, 165 Midland Ave., 6:30-7:15 pm
Nov 12	Foundation Day with Everett McCorvey, University of Kentucky Opera	Oct 23	Early Bird Morning Mixer, 46Solutions, Lexington Green, 8 – 9:30 am
		Oct 26	God’s Pantry Food Bank, Backpack Pack-Up, CHANGE, 2201 Innovation Drive, 1:00-2:30 pm
		Oct 29	Around the World Social Event Potluck, Base 110, 110 W Vine St, 6:00-8:00 pm



SPIN TO WIN: RIDE TO HELP END POLIO

Join us at CycleYou a on Thursday, October 22, for a 45-minute cycle class benefiting The Rotary Foundation’s PolioPlus fund, which has supported worldwide polio eradication efforts since 1985.

Proceeds will be matched 2-to-1 by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, tripling your impact! Suitable for all ages and fitness levels, this workout offers a chance to move your body for those whose mobility has been affected by polio—and help make a difference.

The class begins at 6:30 p.m. Please arrive by **6:15 p.m.** at **CycleYOU Fitness & Sauna, 165 Midland Avenue, Lexington.** **RSVP to Jenny Schnurr at jenny@rotarylexky.org.**

Can’t join the class? You can still make a difference by donating through the Lexington Rotary Ride to End Polio fundraising page at raise.rotary.org. This year, all gifts support a shared team effort, so there’s no need to sponsor an individual rider. Donors will still receive Rotary Foundation credit.

Let’s fill the room, rally our friends, and keep Rotary’s mission moving forward. Ride, donate, or do both—and help us Spin to Win!

GIVE BLOOD. SAVE LIVES.

OCTOBER 22nd
10 AM–3 PM

BEFORE AND AFTER THE ROTARY MEETING
THE MANE ON MAIN



American Red Cross



The ROTARY Club of Lexington

WHEEL HORSE

October 8, 2026
— TODAY’S PROGRAM —

Presiding: President Lyle Hanna
Inspiration, Pledge, & Four Way Test: Eric Brooks
Introduction of Guests: Trey McCallie

Introduction of Program: Tom Leach, Voice of the Wildcats
Speaker: Mark Pope, University of Kentucky Men’s Basketball Head Coach
Program: 2026-2027 Basketball Update

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MARK POPE

Mark Pope, a captain of the University of Kentucky’s 1996 national championship team, returned to Lexington in April 2024 as the 23rd head coach of the Wildcats’ storied men’s basketball program. His first two seasons brought NCAA Tournament appearances, victories over highly ranked teams, and an offense built around ball movement, balanced scoring, and 3-point shooting.

Kentucky finished 24-12 in Pope’s inaugural season and advanced to the Sweet 16 of the 2025 NCAA Tournament. Working with an entirely new roster, he guided the Wildcats to the tournament’s second weekend despite injuries that repeatedly disrupted the lineup. Kentucky became the first team in more than 20 years with no returning

points from the previous season to reach that stage.

The Wildcats recorded eight victories over Associated Press Top 15 teams, matching the highest single-season total in college basketball history. Five wins came against top 10 teams, setting a Kentucky record. The Wildcats remained in the AP Top 25 throughout the season and finished ranked No. 12.

Pope’s offensive approach produced results across several measures. Kentucky finished among the nation’s top 10 teams in offensive efficiency, ranked seventh in scoring, and set a school record with 341 made 3-pointers. For the first time in program history, six Wildcats averaged double figures, underscoring the depth and balance of the attack.

In his second season, Kentucky went 22-14 and reached the NCAA Tournament’s second round. Injuries again limited the roster for much of the year, but the Wildcats continued to compete successfully against top competition. They earned five victories over AP Top 25 teams and were among just five teams nationally with at least five wins over teams in KenPom’s top 20, with only one loss to a team ranked 40th or lower. Kentucky also went 7-3 in games decid-

ed by two possessions or fewer.

Before returning to his alma mater, Pope spent five seasons at BYU, compiling a 110-52 record and earning two NCAA Tournament appearances. He guided the program through its first season in the Big 12 Conference, maintaining the productive offense and emphasis on passing and perimeter shooting that became hallmarks of his teams.

His head coaching career began at Utah Valley University, where the team improved its win total in each of his four seasons, culminating in a school-record 25 victories in his final year. Across 11 total seasons as a head coach, Pope has compiled a 233-134 record, with at least 20 wins in eight of the last nine seasons.

Pope began his collegiate playing career at the University of Washington before transferring to Kentucky. Selected in the second round of the 1996 NBA Draft, Pope played professionally through 2005. He completed two years of medical school at Columbia before assistant coaching stints at Georgia, Wake Forest, and BYU, then becoming a head coach.

A 1996 Kentucky graduate with an English degree, Pope and his wife, Lee Anne, have four daughters.

The Rotary Club of Lexington
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OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



October 3 Jeff Piccoro
October 6 Wanda Bertram
October 8 Susan Adams,
Mark Holcomb,
Naresh Shah,
Wallace Barber
October 9 Chris Anderson
October 10 Eric Brooks, Ike Lawrence
October 11 Susie Basham

October 12 RG Conlee
October 14 Jaron Johns
October 15 Lauren Monnet,
Gary Crisp, Jim Dundon
October 20 Bruce Daily
October 25 Cathy Stafford
October 29 Martha Riddell,
Pete Perlman, Paul Chewning

MEET FRANKLYN POTTORFF



FRANKLYN POTTORFF

Franklyn Pottorff is the senior pastor at Lexington's First Presbyterian Church, the oldest continuous church community in the city. After graduating from divinity school, he served his first call in Mount Sterling for five years, followed by seven years as an associate at a large church in Philadelphia. Frank, his wife, Abby, and their sons, Charlie and Ollie, moved to Lexington two years ago and love the community and their neighborhood.

First Presbyterian is home to many Rotarians, and Franklin Thompson introduced Frank to Lexington Rotary. After attending a couple of lunches together, Frank knew he wanted to continue his community service by joining Rotary, and Franklin agreed to be his mentor.

Frank grew up in Indiana on a farm

that has been in his family since 1837. Quite a few family members still live in the area, and Abby is from nearby Greenwood, Indiana. They met at Franklin College (there seem to be a lot of Franks, Franklyns, and Franklins in this story!).

Frank enjoys long walks with the family dog as well as reading, but his real passion is coffee. Both he and Abby are big coffee fans, and his favorite spot is Old School Coffee in Dudley Square. Frank says it has a "cool vibe," and he has met many nice people there for early morning conversations.

As an undergraduate, Frank had the opportunity to study in Italy, visiting Rome, Florence, and Siena. One morning, while working on a paper in a café in Venice, he thought, "I could just live here." I truly think that all of us who have visited Italy have thought the same thing at some point!

We're glad Frank's calling led him to Lexington—and Rotary!

— John Meyers



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LOCAL COMPANY, BIG ORBIT: SPACE TANGO'S EXPANDING MISSION

Twyman Clements, co-founder and president of Lexington-based Space Tango, began his presentation by explaining how the company is expanding from research aboard the International Space Station (ISS) into deep-space missions and future commercial space manufacturing.

Space Tango employs approximately 40 people, primarily in Lexington, and has completed more than 300 International Space Station missions. Most employees are graduates of the University of Kentucky, the University of Louisville, Morehead State University, and Western Kentucky University. Clements described Space Tango's growth as the result of long-term support from Kentucky's higher education institutions, state government, and the University of Kentucky's College of Engineering.

The company's work was represented on the Artemis II mission through a biomedical experiment studying human health during deep-space travel. Clements emphasized Space Tango's role in demonstrating that Kentucky can support globally significant space companies.

Space Tango enables research and manufacturing in microgravity, where the absence of buoyancy, sedimentation,



convection, and hydrostatic pressure changes physical and biological processes. The company automates terrestrial scientific protocols for operation aboard the ISS and remotely monitors and controls experiments from its Lexington office. Key applications include brain organoids for accelerated research into neurodegenerative diseases, retinal implants, nerve-growth scaffolds, tissue chips, plant science, and thin-film manufacturing. Clements noted that medical and pharmaceutical applications currently offer the strongest commercial potential for space-based manufacturing.

Headquartered near Winchester Road, Space Tango is expanding into a larger facility at Greyline Station that will accommodate manufacturing, mission operations, engineering, and design. The first phase of the Greyline Station expansion is complete, and additional facilities are under construction.

The ISS is scheduled to be deorbited around 2030, although that could occur in 2033 or 2034. Space Tango is exploring opportunities involving future

commercial space stations and reentry vehicles that could operate as small orbital factories and return manufactured products to Earth.

Clements identified volumetric efficiency—the effective use of available space—as a key constraint because current ISS equipment devotes substantial space to structures, circuit boards, safety systems, and power systems. Space Tango's longer-term objective is to improve payload efficiency and establish economically viable space-based production.

Clements encourages students and aspiring entrepreneurs to take calculated risks, noting that Space Tango developed through experimentation, persistence, and an initial willingness to pursue an unconventional path.

Kris Kimel, co-founder of Space Tango, introduced Clements. Kimel recently launched Kentucky Space Futures to help grow Kentucky's space industry and expand its participation in the global economy. The organization will host a space summit in Lexington on November 13, bringing together participants from across the state.

— Jim Richardson

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