

## Upcoming Speakers

9/6 - Mr. Eric Grogan, Topic: Fellowship of Christian Athletes

9/13 - Mr. Bjarne Hansen, Executive Director, Topic: Oscar Cross Boys & Girls Club

9/20 - Speaker to be announced, Topic: United Way Reading Pals

## Club Leaders



**Melanie W. McNeill**  
President



**Dee Dee Whittaker**  
President-Elect



**Shawn Turner**  
Secretary



**Randy Bridges**  
Vice President



**Thomas Scott Taylor**  
Treasurer



**John A. Williams Sr.**  
Rotary Foundation Chair



**Joe Framptom**  
Membership Chair



**Don Barger**  
Sergeant-at-Arms



**Glen Anderson**  
iPast President



**Denise A Chapman**  
Club Executive Secretary

## Board of Directors

### Currently Serving

Barry Smith

Bruce Akin

Clay Howerton

Emerson Goodwin

Laurie Latham

Glen Anderson

Brad Clark

Zach Hosman

David Hutcheson

Maurie McGarvey

Terry Reeves

Dee Dee Whittaker

Randy Bridges

Scott Taylor

Shawn Turner

# GearTeeth

## The Rotary Club of Paducah



**August 30, 2017 Issue 79, Number 9**

Website: [www.paducahrotary.org](http://www.paducahrotary.org) Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/rotaryclubofpaducah>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RotaryOfPaducah> Facebook: [www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofpaducah](http://www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofpaducah)

*Gearteeth is published weekly except New Year's, Easter, Quilt Week, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.*

## Fighting Drug Abuse with Education

August 30, 2017

**Speaker: Will Black, Assistant Superintendent of Paducah Independent Schools.** Black was introduced by Dr. Pat Withrow.

**Topic:** "Research-based Substance Abuse Prevention in Paducah Public Schools"

### Top Ten Takeaways for Rotarians:

-Paducah Public Schools is currently in the third year of a Strategic Plan to address substance abuse among its students. The plan includes conducting on-going community assessments that measure: Patterns & extent of local drug use; existing prevention efforts; community

risks; and community resources.

-A statewide survey in 2016 showed that "in the previous 30 days of the survey", 13.5% of high school sophomores used marijuana in the far western Kentucky region. In the neighboring Pennyroyal District (east of the lakes), the number was 14.7%. Data for the use of other substances was not included in this particular survey, but many feel pot use is a first step toward abuse of other substances.

-Paducah's plan centers on addressing Risk Factors and Protective Factors. Risks include such factors as: aggressive behavior; poor social skills; academic difficulties; truancy; peer pressure; and perceiving drug abuse as socially acceptable. Protective Factors include observations of students': self-control; emotional awareness; communication skills; social problem solving; academic support (especially reading); and effective parental support.

-Black said the schools' role should include the Vision to recognize each student by name and need, using the criteria mentioned in the Risk and Protective Factors above. Schools should also enact a "whole-child approach" that promotes academic skills, and, "soft skills", i.e., how well students handle self-management, perseverance, collaboration, social skills, character, etiquette and leadership. Black added that Soft Skills are the "bedrock" of prevention skills.

-Strategic Planning Goal #1, Black said, is that 100% of PPS graduates will be college or career-ready by the year 2020. PPS has shown a continual climb in that category, going from 48% for the class of 2012...to an estimated 82% for the class of 2017.

-Strategic Planning Goal #2 is to "engage students in opportunities to develop Soft Skills for leadership in work and life (see "soft skills" above).



## **Birthdays**

**Jane N. Martin**

September 02

**L. V. McGinty Jr.**

September 04

**Lorraine Schramke**

September 07

**Eileen Duobinis-Gray**

September 07

**Ken Knapp**

September 12

**C. Robert Shelton**

September 17

**David R. Perry**

September 18

**Craig Guess**

September 18

**Jessica Toren**

September 20

**Terry Reeves**

September 22

**Mark Hequembourg**

September 25

**Gayle Martin**

September 27

**James Dennis Johnston**

September 29

**Lydia May**

October 02

-Strategic Planning Goal #3, Black concluded, is to implement the new Paducah Innovation Hub as a showcase to teach students “what professionals do” by integrating real-world experience and examples.

-For K-8th grade students, PPS has adopted the Positive Action Program. The program focuses on improving students’ self-concept; responsible self-management; treating others as you’d like to be treated; telling yourself the truth; and continuous improvement. The program has a track record of reducing substance abuse by 30% in other school systems, with higher percentage reductions in various disciplinary issues.

-For middle and early high school students, PPS has adopted the Botvin LifeSkills Training program. This program is geared more toward substance abuse prevention, and reinforces other efforts.

-For more information on Paducah Public Schools, visit <http://www.paducah.kyschools.us/Default.aspx>.

## **Announcements**

August 30, 2017

-President Elect Dee Dee Whitaker, in President Melanie’s absence, presided over the meeting. She began by thanking and recognizing all Rotarians who helped distribute dictionaries to the many third-grade classrooms during this year’s project. All dictionaries are now in the hands of students. Word of the day: “grat-i-tude”. Noun. The quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness.

-P.E. Whitaker also reminded the club to sign up NOW for a shift to park cars at the upcoming Fall AQS Quilt Show. Rotary projects will benefit from proceeds derived from parking cars September 13-16 in the parking lot behind the floodwall near the new boat dock. Several of your fellow Rotarians are already hard at work organizing the project. As of Friday, there were still a total of 73 slots to be filled. There are four shifts per day, starting at 7am and ending at 4pm. Shifts are either two or three hours long and involve collecting money and/or directing traffic to the parking slots. Please sign up for your shift as soon as possible at [bit.ly/signup.com/go/EZLrvSK](http://bit.ly/signup.com/go/EZLrvSK), or see Dee Dee or Denise at next Wednesday’s meeting.

## **Guests**

August 30, 2017

Laura Todino – guest of Dee Dee Whittaker

Chris Roty – guest of Mike Muscarella

Hannah Clark – guest of Rayla Bridges

Daniel Roe – guest of Basil Drossos

Nancy Black, Laurel Black, and Billy Harper – guests of Dr. Pat Withrow