

Upcoming Speakers

1/3 - Happy New Year Social

1/10 - Rotarian Speaker Panel

1/17 - **Brandon Barnhill**, Paducah Chief of Police

1/24 - **Bob Thompson**, Author - "The Hitchhiker"

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GearTeeth

The Rotary Club of Paducah



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The Nature Conservancy: Western Kentucky Projects

December 20, 2017



The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

-Speaker: Shelly Morris, Western Kentucky Project Director for The Nature Conservancy.

Morris was introduced by Rotarian Dan Key

-Topic: The Nature Conservancy world-wide overview, and Western Kentucky Projects

-Top Ten Takeaways for Rotarians:

-Morris received a BS in Biology from Murray State and MS in Biology from the University of Louisville. She started with The Nature Conservancy in 2003 and became Western Kentucky Project Director in 2010.

-Morris said with the world's population approaching nine billion people, the Conservancy's mission of "balancing people's needs versus those of nature" is more important than ever.

-The Nature Conservancy works toward improving water quality, increase the amount of wildlife habitat, and work toward improving the condition of all natural resources for people and wildlife.

-In Western Kentucky, the Conservancy's projects cover 6,100 acres of protected wetlands.

-Morris presented an overlay slide showing where Kentucky has gradually lost 90% of its natural wetlands since pre-settlement in the 1800's.

-A particular area of interest for the Conservancy is the "old" Lock & Dam on the Green River. Morris says that location is one of the most bio-diverse areas of the United States.

-The "upper bottoms" area of Fulton and Hickman Counties in Western Kentucky are a priority for the Conservancy, Morris said. The area contains hundreds of acres of farmable land, but is frequently flooded by the high water from the Mississippi River. The flooding, she said, results in flooded farm fields, as well as, disruption of natural wildlife areas.

-The Kentucky Nature Conservancy owns and protects the Mantle Rock Archeological District near the Joy community in Livingston County. The area features a natural sandstone arch, several springs and woodlands. Because of its location on the Cherokee Trail of Tears, Mantle Rock was listed on the National Register of Historic

Birthdays

George G Sirk Jr.

January 06

James Smolen

January 11

Joni F. Goodman

January 11

John R Anderson Jr.

January 15

Robert E. Finney

January 20

Charles O. Heyduck

January 20

Donald I. Shively

January 24

Megan Thomason

January 25

Edward A. Hely

January 25

Roger L. Kellner

January 27

James A. Harris Jr.

February 01

Places in 2004.

-In addition to protecting wetlands in rural areas, the Conservancy helped established parts of the city of Louisville as an Urban Conservation Area. Developing natural resources in the area near Churchill Downs is a specific project for the Conservancy. Louisville is one of only five Urban Conservation Areas in the United States.

-Morris's office is at 5-H Technologies in Paducah. She is one of 15 Conservancy employees statewide. The agency is a 501C-3 corporation and exists through donations and grants from the USDA. For more information, visit www.nature.org.

Announcements

December 20, 2017

-Happy New Year Rotarians! As we start the new year, here is a reminder of some important dates all Paducah Rotarians should have on their calendar:

January 29: Red Cross Blood Drive, all day, Broadway United Methodist Church

February 22: Paducah Rotary Speech Contest, 4:00pm, Rosenthal Hall at WKCTC

April 17-21: 30th Annual Rotary Antique Quilt Show

-Rotarian Jamie Futrell gave the monthly attendance report. November showed a slight uptick in attendance from 46.5% in October to 47.8% in November.

-Charity Donations were made to the Market House Theatre, and to the Family Service Society.

New Member Proposal

December 20, 2017

Upon recommendation of the Membership Approval Committee and the Board of Directors the following people have been proposed for membership in the Rotary Club of Paducah:

Morgan Hall, Dave Carroll, and Eric Straub.

Objections must be filed in writing to the Club Secretary within seven days. It is not necessary to respond if you do not object to this recommendation.

Guests

December 20, 2017

Stephanie Young – guest of Ralph Young

Dave Carroll – guest of Ed Hely

Lora Croley – guest of Mike Muscarella

Kathy Montgomery – guest of Gerry Montgomery

Candace Melloy – guest of the Club