

## Upcoming Speakers

Ashley Wright, Vice President of Industrial Advancement, WKCTC

January 22

Brandon Barnhill, Paducah Chief of Police

January 29

Bob Stewart - Secretary of Tourism, Arts & Heritage

February 05

Elaine Walker, Commissioner of Parks

February 12

## Club Leaders

**Chris McNeill**

President

**Jamie Futrell**

President-Elect

**Phyllis B. Russell**

Secretary

**John A Williams Jr.**

Vice President

**Thomas Scott Taylor**

Treasurer

**Missy R Eckenberg**

iPast President

**Michael A. Muscarella**

Membership Chair, Past President

**Debbie DeWeese**

Club Executive Secretary

## Birthdays

**Charles O. Heyduck**

January 20

**John W. Harris**

January 21

**Kenneth M. Schuppert Sr.**

January 24

**Tommy E Nuckolls**

January 25

**Edward A. Hely**

January 25

**Roger L. Kellner**

January 27

**James A. Harris Jr.**

February 01

**Kelly Nuckols**

February 03

**Alex Edwards**

February 05

**Michael A. Muscarella**

February 06

**Walter Allen Qualk**

February 09

**John Hodges**

February 10

**Dane M Blythe**

February 11

**Missy R Eckenberg**

February 12

**Sandra Wilson**

February 14

**Charles R Moffitt**



# GearTeeth

**The Rotary Club of Paducah**

Website: [www.PaducahRotary.org](http://www.PaducahRotary.org)

**January 15, 2014 Issue 75, Number 24**

*Gear Teeth is published weekly except New Year's, Easter, Quilt Week,*

*4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.*

## River Industry Vital to Paducah



Rob Korte, senior engineer of the American Electric Power Company, spoke to the Rotary Club of Paducah on the importance of the river industry to our area and about the need for concern within the United States over the generation of power.

AEP employs over 18,000 people and is one of the largest utilities in the United States. In addition to providing power, it serves as its own transportation company as well. Most of the 60 towboats operated by AEP are managed and maintained out of Paducah. One of their rail-to-river facilities in Metropolis is the busiest inland river terminal in the nation. This facility has transported over 375 million tons of coal since it was built in the mid 1970's and

employs 80 people directly.

Most citizens do not realize the importance of the river in the transportation business. The U.S. Inland Waterways System has over 12,000 miles of waterways maintained by the Army Corps of Engineers. Over 600 million tons of cargo travel each year through these waterways. Of that, 75 million tons were transported by AEP in 2012, he said.

AEP transports coal, agricultural products, and is looking to diversify with tank barges in the near future. They have even transported wind mills over the waterways. Water transportation is a very safe way of moving goods from one location to another, yet it is much slower than other means. All modes of transportation must work together to be efficient and cost effective.

The river industry faces many challenges, including weather issues and EPA standards, Mr. Korte said. For example, China and India are increasing their use of coal tremendously while the United States may never see another new coal-powered energy producing plant. Air quality is affected by these foreign plants as well as those within the U.S. Floods and droughts have long-term effects on the river industry and significantly impact our local economy, he added.

Korte, a 23 year veteran of AEP who resides in Metropolis, studied electrical engineering at SIU and has been involved in many phases of work at AEP.

## Announcements

January 15th, 2014

January is Rotary Awareness month when we highlight our core values of service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership.

John Williams, Sr. welcomed our newest Paul Harris Fellows – Lynn King, Bonnie Schrock, and Dr. Dan Tkach.

We also congratulate the following Rotarians for achieving the Paul Harris Fellow +1 level: Hal Sullivan, Glen Anderson, and Dan Key. Congratulations on this achievement.

Michael Cochran was accepted a charity check on behalf of Market House Theatre.

**Rotary Foundation Status:**

Every Rotarian Every Year - 98% of Club

Paul Harris Fellows - 75 members, 42% of Club

Paul Harris Society - 33 members, 19% of Club

**Guests**

January 15th, 2014

Student Guests: Ashton Crawford, Commonwealth Middle College; Michaela Jones, St. Mary High School; Nicole Germain, Quinn Lambert, and Ansley Sims, McCracken County High School; Caleb Jones, Community Christian Academy, and Jordan Riley, Paducah Tilghman High School.

Stanley Wallace and Andy Gates – guests of Ken Wheeler;

Andrew Scott – guest of Jessica Toren;

Kelsey Holland – guest of Jody Stivers;

Tracy Jones – guest of Allen Treece;

Dave Gilman – guest of Judge Bill Howerton;

Dave Hoffman, Rachael Gower, Kristyn Hager, Ryan Jones, Daniel Justice, and Monica McNatt – guests of Mike Muscarella.