

## Upcoming Speakers

6/21 - Dr. Shiraz Patel, Orthopaedic Surgeon,  
The Orthopaedic Institute

6/28 - PRESIDENT'S DAY

7/5 - U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell, Senate  
Majority Leader

## Club Leaders



**Glen Anderson**  
President



**Melanie W. McNeill**  
President-Elect



**Shawn Turner**  
Secretary



**Thomas Scott Taylor**  
Treasurer

**Mardie R. Herndon**  
Rotary Foundation Chair

**Don Barger**  
Sergeant-at-Arms



**John A Williams Jr.**  
iPast President

**Denise A Chapman**  
Club Executive Secretary

## Board of Directors Currently Serving

Barry Smith

Bruce Akin

Clay Howerton

David Hutcheson

Dee Dee Whittaker

Don Barger

Frank Bennett

John Williams, Jr.

Lewis Carr

Maurie McGarvey

Melanie McNeill

Randy Bridges

Scott Taylor

Shawn Turner

Susan Carr

Terry Reeves

## Birthdays

Dee Dee Whittaker

June 19

Steve Shrewsbury

June 20

Ashley Grooms

June 24

Debbie Wattier

June 25

Richard R. Veazey

June 29

Wes H Kramer

July 01

# GearTeeth

## The Rotary Club of Paducah



**June 14, 2017 Issue 78, Number 47**

**Website:** [www.paducahrotary.org](http://www.paducahrotary.org) **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.*

## Paducah's Gaseous Diffusion Plant: The Next Phase

Jun 14, 2017



**-Speaker: Jennifer Woodard, US Department of Energy Site Lead for the Paducah DOE Site** Woodard was introduced by Rotarian Don Barger.

**-Topic:** A history of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, and the timeline for its Deactivation

**-Top Ten Takeaways for Rotarians:**

-Approximately 29,000 workers were hired to construct the Paducah uranium enrichment plant, and the TVA power plant, starting in 1951. The first phase of construction was completed in less than two years, and enrichment began in 1952. Construction of the \$800 million project was complete in 1956. In today's economy, the cost would have equaled more than \$7 billion.

-Woodard noted that the Paducah plant ran continuously (no shut downs) from its start in 1952 until enrichment ceased in 2013. The plant was designed to be a "self-sufficient community" with its own law enforcement, medical facility, library, etc.

-Initially commissioned to enrich uranium for nuclear weaponry, by the mid-1960's the Paducah site produced uranium for nuclear fuel.

-In the late 1980's, trichloroethylene (TCE) contamination was discovered in residential water wells around the plant site in West Paducah. Municipal water lines were extended to the affected homes, and by 1994 the Paducah site was declared a "Superfund Site" by the Environmental Protection Agency. Woodard noted that since 1990, the DOE has invested \$1.9 billion in site cleanup projects. The projects included treating over four billion gallons of contaminated groundwater; removal of almost 7,600 gallons of TCE and other compounds from the environment; and removal of 66 million pounds of contaminated scrap metal.

-From 1998 through 2013, the DOE contracted with the United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) to oversee plant production. USEC returned control of the plant to the DOE in 2014 to begin the deactivation process.

-At the present time, four contractors are active at the Paducah site, collectively employing almost 1,500 people to perform the plant deactivation. The longest of the contracts (through 2021) is with Mid-America Conversion Services to convert the remaining inventory of depleted uranium hexafluoride (DUF6) to "sellable" material.

-Woodard said the process of deactivation of the Paducah plant is to "put a building that is no longer operational in a continued safe, stable condition." A major part of the deactivation process is to "right-size" the plant's utility needs...particularly downsizing electricity, water, steam and plant air requirements. The process also includes stabilizing, repairing, or eliminating parts of the plant's current infrastructure. The DOE's 2018 federal budget request is for \$270 million to continue the cleanup and deactivation process. Woodard said the Paducah site team is mindful that these are "100% taxpayer funds", and try to be as efficient as possible.

-Woodard recognized the Paducah Citizens Advisory Board members involved in working with the DOE on community issues connected to the site.

**J. Lee Powell**  
July 04  
**Barbara Veazey**  
July 05  
**Hal N. Sullivan**  
July 06  
**Dia Mitchell Canter**  
July 07  
**Jamey R. Brown**  
July 08  
**David Morse**  
July 08  
**William E. Pinkston**  
July 10  
**Walter C. Howerton**  
July 11  
**Kenneth A Wheeler**  
July 11  
**John A. Williams Sr.**  
July 14  
**Glen Anderson**  
July 14  
**Emerson Goodwin**  
July 17

-The DOE continues to be active in the community through activities such as participation in local science fairs, career days, charitable giving, and summer internship programs for college students.

-In 2016, the DOE began offering public tours of the site to help educate community members on the plant's current operations, and the deactivation process. More than 350 people were part of 11 tours in 2016. 2017 public tours are currently booked to capacity, although more tours may be added.

-For more information on the Paducah site, visit <https://energy.gov/pppo/paducah-site>.

## Announcements

Jun 14, 2017

-Saturday night June 17 is "Rotary Night with the Paducah Chiefs". First pitch is at 6:30 at Brooks Stadium in Paducah. Free Admission to the game and the Party Deck for Rotarians and their families, plus \$1 discounts on hamburgers and hot dogs. Rotarian Shay Morgan will sing the National Anthem. Just give your name to the gate attendant, who will have a Rotary roster. Many thanks to Rotarian Zach Hosman for coordinating the special event, and to the sponsors for the event: Bikeworld; KeeForce; Midas Hospitality; and Paducah Bank.

-As a precursor to "Rotary Night with the Chiefs", members of the Paducah Chiefs Baseball Team and management joined us for our weekly meeting. Rotarian Don Barger (who, along with his grandchildren, treated everyone to Peanuts and Cracker Jacks!) introduced the "starting lineup" for the Pledge of Allegiance, 4-Way Test, Prayer, and led us in "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." President-elect Melanie McNeill (pinch-hitting for President Glen Anderson this week), threw a ceremonial "first pitch" to start the meeting. It was our pleasure as Rotarians to meet the team members, a number of them local, but several from other states. The young men are all college-aged and as they continue their baseball and career plans, we look forward to seeing them as next generation Rotarians!

-The Rotary Board of Directors meets Wednesday, June 21 at 5:15 PM at the McCracken County Public Library.

-To address both financial challenges and the need to improve service to clubs, Rotary International has increased dues by \$4 for each of the next 3 years. The 2017-18 Rotary dues will therefore increase from \$215/year to \$219/year. The increase will be reflected on the upcoming July invoice for semi-annual dues in the amount of \$109.50. Semi-annual dues were previously \$107.50.

## Guests

Jun 14, 2017

Greg McKeel – guest of Melanie McNeill  
Renie Barger, Judy Clayton, Buz Smith and Jim Etheridge– guests Don Barger  
Tammy Courtney – guest of Bill Holsapple  
Faith Mackin, Wes Welch and Raquel Ziegler – guests of Mike Muscarella  
Paducah Chiefs 2017 Baseball Team – guests of the Club