

Upcoming Speakers

6/13 - **Dr. Robert Davies**, President Murray State University
6/20 - **Monica Bilak**, Sprocket Innovation Hub
6/27 - **Club President's Day** - 2017-18 Club President Melanie passes the gavel to incoming 2018-19 Club President Dee Dee Whittaker
7/4 - **NO MEETING** - In Observance of July 4th Holiday

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 Whitaker
Randy Bridges

GearTeeth

The Rotary Club of Paducah



June 6, 2018 Issue 79, Number 45

Website: www.paducahrotary.org **Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/rotaryclubofpaducah>

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Creating Local Technology Leaders

June 6, 2018

-Speaker: Dr. Michael Ramage, director for the Center for Telecommunications Systems Management at Murray State University



-Top Takeaways for Rotarians:

-Dr. Ramage is a graduate of Reidland High School (he was a former Rotary Club of Paducah student of the month!) He earned his doctorate in technology management from Indiana State University, and holds MS and BS degrees from Murray State University. For five years he worked in the tech sector in Nashville before he returned home to west

Kentucky.

-He serves as the board chair of Sprocket Paducah, and is president of the Technology Council of West Kentucky.

-The Telecommunications Systems Management program at Murray State is a "program of distinction." The program is meant to create technology leaders who also understand business. CSI is a major employer of the program's graduates.

-Information technology (IT) students are in great demand after graduation. Dr. Ramage stressed that we need these graduates to stay and work in west Kentucky. The lack of a qualified technology workforce, he said, is a barrier to the region's economic development.

-The Technology Council of West Kentucky was formed recently to improve the local IT workforce. The mission of the council is "to build a unified catalyst for the growth and influence of Western Kentucky's technology industry focusing on the four pillars of Unifying, Advocating, Growing and Connecting." To learn more about membership, visit <http://www.http://www.tcwk.org>

-Dr. Ramage said the IT workforce needs diversification – more women and more people of color. He has two young daughters, and he hopes that his girls would be welcomed into the IT professions and have opportunities available to them.

-He spoke of initiatives in the region to raise interest and identify young talent in technology to create a future workforce pipeline. He mentioned Sprocket, the community makerspace located at the Coke Plant. He also spoke about an "Innovation Station" in Madisonville and plans for the WK&T Tech Park in Graves County.

Scott Taylor
Shawn Turner

Birthdays

Ryan Long
June 11
Richard J. Grana
June 13
Joe Framptom
June 14
Jill T. Chambers
June 16
Dee Dee Whittaker
June 19
Steve Shrewsberry
June 20
Ashley Grooms
June 24
Debbie Wattier
June 25
Richard R. Veazey
June 29
J. Lee Powell
July 04
Barbara Veazey
July 05
Hal N. Sullivan
July 06
Dia Mitchell Canter
July 07
David Morse
July 08
William E. Pinkston
July 10
Kenneth A Wheeler
July 11
Walter Clay Howerton
July 11

-Dr. Ramage was among the lead organizers of Tech Mania, an event aimed to encourage students to pursue IT careers. The first annual event held in March attracted 130 high school students from around the region and 30 adult mentors.

Announcements

June 6, 2018



New Members - Please welcome our new fellow Rotarians, Joelle Long and Ryan Long, owners of Texas Roadhouse. They were inducted into membership and were sponsored by Rotarian Clay Howerton.

A Night at the Ballpark - Saturday, June 30 is Rotary Night at the Paducah Chiefs game.

District Conference - District Governor Missy thanked everyone for their help in making our District Conference in Paducah a great success. The presentation at the Carson Center by Andy Andrews was extremely popular, with about 1300 Rotarians and community members in attendance. Our club won numerous awards at the conference, including the Star award for charitable giving. Our club is the most generous club throughout the district, with per capita giving at \$212.



Community Donation - President Melanie presented a charitable donation to the Paducah Symphony Orchestra. The check was received by Reece King, PSO Executive Director.

Guests

June 6, 2018

Bill Carr – guest of Lewis Carr
Bill Evans – guest of Dee Dee Whittaker
Doug Truitt – guest of Roger Truitt
Kassidy Miller, Kaitlyn Lentz, Kristen Harris and Philip Dale – guests of Mike Muscarella
Makiya Woods – guest of the Club