

Upcoming Speakers

May 2014

05/28 - Barbara Veazey

June 2014

06/04 - Mary Hammond

06/11 - Mitch Barnhart, UK Athletic Director

06/18 - Kentucky Historical Society

06/25 - President's Day

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

Andrew Carliss

May 24

Wally Montgomery

May 24

Roxanne L Wendling

May 26

Jim Dudley

May 28

Richard J. Grana

June 13

Joe Framptom

June 14

Jill T. Chambers

June 16

Dee Dee Whittaker

June 19

Steve Shrewsbury

June 20



GearTeeth

The Rotary Club of Paducah

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

Bright Forecast for Kentucky Tourism



Tourism continues to be a bright spot for Kentucky's economy. "It is an economic driving force, and Paducah gets it," said Bob Stewart, Secretary of the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet. Stewart, a veteran of state government, was appointed secretary a year ago, and under his leadership tourism grew by 2.6% statewide. Tourism is a \$12.5 billion industry that brings in \$1.3 billion in state and local taxes. Stewart noted Paducah tourism grew by 2.8% in the same period.

The cabinet oversees 16 state agencies, which Stewart said is a collaborative model other state are adopting.

Another innovative program passed by the state

legislature, the Kentucky Tourism Development Act, provides qualifying tourism businesses a sales tax rebate of up to 25% of the initial \$1 million investment. It has led to new attractions, such as the Newport Aquarium and Levee, new visitor centers at bourbon distilleries and newly improved Kentucky Kingdom theme park. Some 16 other states have now adopted similar programs due to its success.

Stewart has high praise for the Paducah Tourism and Convention Bureau under the direction of Rotarian Mary Hammond. The Lowertown Arts District, the Paducah Red Coats and a recent UNESCO designation as an international city of crafts and folk art means, "Paducah is years ahead of other communities. Kentucky is well positioned to grow and Paducah is ideally positioned," he said.

Announcements

May 21st, 2014

Missy Eckenberg gave a report of the Summer Backpack reading program that provided backpacks of books to 100 students in the 3rd to 5th grades. Rotaract, Interact and the United Way partnered with the Club to bring the project to fruition. It was funded with a matching district grant for a total of \$4,000. Rotarians are also invited to participate in the Partners in Literacy Support (PALS) by reading to students. Classes for participating in PALS will soon be available at the United Way office.


Community Donation

Bill Baxter accepted on a donation from the Club on behalf of the Tilghman Heritage Center. Debbie Adams also accepted a donation on behalf of the Dream Factory.

Rotary Foundation Status:

Every Rotarian Every Year - 98% of Club

Paul Harris Fellows - 77 members, 44% of Club



Paul Harris Society - 33 members, 19% of Club

Guests

May 21st, 2014

Student Guests: Trae Hampton – Paducah Tilghman; Olivia May and Brandon Morehead – McCracken County;

Angela Everette – guest of Scott Davis;

Laura Schaumburg, Fowler Black, Robin Melpass, Glen Malone, and Jill Jones – guests of Mary Hammond;

Brandon Morgan – guest of Chris McNeill;

Matt Cherry – guest of Jamie Futrell.