

## Upcoming Speakers

5/31 - **Betsy Burkeen**, Resource Development Manager, United Way of Paducah-McCracken County

6/7 - **Thomas B. Russell**, Senior District Judge, U.S. District Court, Western District of Kentucky

## 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

Guthrie H. Allen III

May 27

Jim Dudley

May 28

Richard J. Grana

June 13

Joe Framptom

June 14

Jill T. Chambers

June 16

Dee Dee Whittaker

June 19

# GearTeeth

## The Rotary Club of Paducah



**May 24, 2017 Issue 78, Number 44**

**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.*

## A Faith Journey: From Paducah to Carnegie Hall and Beyond

May 24, 2017



Rotarians enthusiastically welcomed Paducah native **Steven Curtis Chapman** with a standing ovation as he stepped to the podium at Wednesday's meeting. Rotarian Monique Zuber introduced him as the most awarded Christian music artist with 58 Dove Awards, five Grammy awards, 48 #1 singles and over 10 million records sold. Chapman has recently published his autobiography titled "Between Heaven and The Real World: My Story".

Despite his enormous success, he said he still feels like the kid from Paducah that God blessed beyond what can be measured. He recounted some of his memories of growing up in Paducah, from mounting an over-sized bicycle from the porch of his home on Holt Road, to watching his older brother learn to ski behind a john boat in the Ohio River, to getting his first guitar and learning to play it from his Dad.

At the age of 8, with his family attending Olivet Baptist Church, Steven accepted Christ and began his faith journey. He witnessed the power of God as they brought prayer into their decisions and saw how it transformed their family. He and his brother Herbie began performing together as The Chapman Brothers, with one of their first gigs at Concord Elementary School. The audience there reacted so positively to his musical skill that it helped to cement his desire for music.

While singing backup and playing guitar in his group, he began to write songs. After graduating from Heath High School, he enrolled as a pre-med student at Georgetown College. That summer he and his brother got hired to perform at Opryland USA. While there, a man heard some of Steven's songs and said he knew someone that might be interested in them. That someone turned out to be Bill Gaither, and before long Steven Curtis Chapman had entered into a publishing contract with Gaither Music. He soon transferred to Anderson College in Indiana, where he met his wife Mary Beth. Soon thereafter, he and Mary Beth married and moved to Nashville to continue to further his career in music.



Chapman read an excerpt from his new autobiography. He recalled the moment when he stood in Times Square in New York City and saw his name on the marquee at Carnegie Hall. He remembered how it felt to stand on that stage for sound check, and seeing the five tiers of seats that extend up to the rotunda ceiling. Although it seemed

Steve Shrewsberry

June 20

Ashley Grooms

June 24

Debbie Wattier

June 25

Richard R. Veazey

June 29



smaller and more intimate than he had imagined, the majesty of the concert hall, and of all the great artists that had stood in that same spot, led him to wonder, “how does a kid from Paducah get here?” Addressing all the Rotarians and guests in the room, he said, “You all have your own Carnegie Hall in your lives.”

After Steven and his wife had their three children (he jokingly referred to them as Eeny, Meeny, Miney and no Mo’) they decided to adopt three little girls from China. In a tragic accident, their youngest adopted daughter Maria lost her life nine years ago and Steven stated that he would give back all the awards and accolades if it would turn back the hands of time on that day. Steven and Mary Beth are strong advocates for adoption through their charity organization [Flow Hope](#) which assists individuals with the international adoption process and places orphans into loving homes in the United States.

Chapman closed by saying that we all have mountaintops, and deep, deep valleys in our lives. He said while on the top he felt encouraged and cheered, and while in the valleys he felt loved and supported. Quoting from Proverbs 16:9, he said “The mind of man plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps”. He ended by singing his song, “My Redeemer is Faithful and True”.

## Announcements

May 24, 2017

Another reminder that the Paducah Chiefs ROTARY NIGHT is June 17th so please plan to enjoy an evening of baseball at Brooks Stadium with your families! This event is being sponsored by Paducah Bank, KeeFORCE, BikeWorld and Midas Hospitality. Admission particulars for members will be given in a couple of weeks.

BIG thanks to Bill Robertson for his leadership and all the Rotarians that served in assembly and delivery of Summer Reading backpacks to area 2nd graders!



CONGRATS to Rotarian Michael Cochran for being selected as a winner in the National AACT New Playfest 2018. His winning play will premiere at Stage III Community Theatre in Casper, Wyoming. (The actual production date is to be determined)

## Guests

May 24, 2017

Aubrey Morse and Jesse Morse – guests of David Morse  
Don Peck, Trevor Peck, Brandon Peck, Maggie Peck and Jeff Canter – guests of Kevin Peck  
Bobbie Wrinkle, Erin Lewis and Patti Sallee – guests of Susan Baier  
David Latham and Tony Watkins – guests of Laurie Latham  
Vicki Anderson and Kelly Walden – guest of Glen Anderson  
Jim Lewis, Sr., Hazel Lewis and Jim Lewis, Jr. – guests of Randy Bridges  
Weston Jones and Faith Mackin – guests of Mike Muscarella  
Ricky Turner, Leigh Anne Fugate, Barry Chapman, Donna Chapman and Howie Ohman – guests of Shawn Turner  
Sam Whittaker – guest of Dee Dee Whittaker  
Betsy Burkeen – guest of Monique Zuber  
Shelia Tucker – guest of Shay Morgan  
Heather Jackson – guest of Clay Howerton  
Barbara McGinty – guest of L.V. McGinty  
Nancy Powless – guest of Steve Powless  
Rev. Lora Jean Gowan – guest of Bob Johnston  
Will Denton – guest of Dave Denton  
Herb Chapman and Rep. Gerald Watkins – guests of speaker, Steven Curtis Chapman