

Upcoming Speakers

11/8 - Judge John Bush, US 6th Circuit Court of Appeals

11/15 - Scott Wendelsdorf, Esq. - Federal Public Defender, Western District of Kentucky

11/22 - Thanksgiving Week, NO MEETING

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

Scott Taylor

Shawn Turner

Birthdays

GearTeeth

The Rotary Club of Paducah



November 1, 2017 Issue 79, Number 18

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

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RotaryOfPaducah> Facebook: www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofpaducah

GearTeeth is published weekly except New Year's, Easter, Quilt Week, 4th of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

New US Attorney 'Knows' Western Kentucky

November 1, 2017



-Speaker: Russell Coleman, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky. Coleman was introduced by US District Judge, and fellow Paducah Rotarian, Thomas Russell.

-Topic: United States Attorney (USA) Coleman's priorities in serving the Western District of Kentucky.

-Top Ten Takeaways for Rotarians:

-Coleman began his duties in September 2017. US Attorneys are considered the chief federal law enforcement officer for their respective districts. His background includes positions as Sr. Advisor and Legal

Counsel to US Senator McConnell, FBI Special Agent, Briefing Coordinator to two US Attorneys General at the US Department of Justice, and as a senior partner at a Louisville law firm. He is a native of Logan County, KY, and has relatives in Mayfield.

-The USA-Western District office covers 53 counties from Jefferson to Fulton, serving a total of approximately 2.2 million Kentuckians. The District has federal courthouses in Paducah, Owensboro, Bowling Green and Louisville. USA Coleman's staff includes 36 attorneys, 39 support personnel, and 7 federal contractors.

-Coleman referred the Western District he serves as a "diverse" district, encompassing both urban and rural areas. "I recognize how disconnected far western Kentucky is from Frankfort and D.C.," Coleman said, "and my first priority is to demonstrate my commitment to the region." Two full-time federal prosecutors have been appointed to the Paducah office by Coleman.

- "Prosecuting corrupt public officials was almost unheard of in western Kentucky," Coleman said, "just recently we've successfully prosecuted several public corruption cases in far western counties, and, are pursuing three embezzlement cases in the district involving more than a half million dollars in theft."

-Another priority for Coleman's office is drug abuse. He cited statistics that show Kentucky in the top three states in the nation in drug overdoses per capita with 1,404 drug-related deaths recorded in 2016. "It's a horrendous problem, and our goal is to use all our law enforcement tools to push back on these statistics," he added.

-Continuing on the drug abuse issue, "It's morally imperative that we address this problem by starting a dialogue with young people," he said, "there is no margin of error when we're dealing with drugs so potent that tiny amounts are actually killing people."

Birthdays

Jamie B. Futrell

November 03

Zachary G.J. Hosman

November 04

Ronald S. Bacon

November 05

Julian M Carroll

November 05

Joe A. Powell

November 05

Bill Robertson

November 06

Dann Patterson

November 07

W David Denton

November 08

Brad C Clark

November 12

Thomas B Russell

November 15

Ashley Wright

November 17

Randy Bridges

November 25

George B. Shaw

November 27

Coleman said that In Jefferson County alone, an average of one person per day dies of a drug overdose. He cited crowded detox centers and slower ambulance response times for other patients as secondary effects of drug abuse. He cited the western district of the state as a “ripe market” for tech and marketing-savvy drug dealers.

-Referring specifically to Kentucky’s opioid epidemic, Coleman applauded the five programs on the topic presented at August Rotary meetings. He urged anyone interested in the problem potential of opioids to read the book “Dreamland”, to become acquainted with the “United” program in eastern Kentucky, and to read the story of high school and college (Auburn, Murray State) football standout Zeke Pike. Pike became addicted to drugs and alcohol, entered recovery, and is now a noted speaker.

-USA Coleman’s next priority is to address the number of violent crimes committed in Kentucky, particularly gang-related violence in Jefferson County. “46% of violent crime in Kentucky happens in Jefferson County, a county that represents only 15% of the state’s population,” he said.

-Economic development is adversely affected by the violent crimes, Coleman said. He added that when outside companies consider Kentucky for relocation, recruiters constantly have to field questions about the crime rate.

-For more information on the US Attorney’s office for the Western District of Kentucky, visit: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdky>.

Announcements

November, 2017

-December 6 is the day Paducah Rotarians will station themselves at **Salvation Army Red Kettles** to collect donations for the local charity. Rotarians Joni Goodman and Bruce Akin are again heading up the Rotary project which, last year, raised \$7,100. “We have two goals for this year’s drive,” Goodman said, “one is the fill all 128 volunteer slots for December 6th, and two is to exceed last year’s total.”

An anonymous donor has “sweetened the kettle” by offering to match the amount collected IF it exceeds \$12,000 for that day. To volunteer for a bell-ringing slot, use the sign-up sheet at the club meetings, or, simply visit <http://signup.com/go/wDerSJe>. You be taken directly to the sign-up sheet...no login or password required. Let’s fill up those slots quickly so we can focus on reaching the \$12,000 mark!

-After the **October 25th Club Assembly**, many Rotarians had questions about volunteering to serve on various committees. Sign-up sheets will be available on the back table during club meetings that offer more information on the committees that need your help.

Guests

November 1, 2017

Morgan Alvey and Martie Wiles – guests of Ken Wheeler

Heather Jackson – guest of Clay Howerton

Morgan Hall – guest of Susan Carr

Savannah Allen – guest of Jon Deaton

David Carroll – guest of Hardy Roberts

Drew Veazey – guest of Barbara Veazey

Seth Hancock – guest of Tom Russell

Hon. Tony Kitchen – guest of Lanny King

Eric Straub – guest of Shay Morgan

Amy Bontrager, Jennifer Johnston and Abbie Allen – guests of Mike Muscarella



Student Guests - Taylor Willis and Kaleb White – Paducah Tilghman, Hope Eason, McKenzie Moss and Samuel Powless – McCracken County, Lauren Tidwell – Community Christian Academy, Caroline Veatch – student guest from St. Mary