

## Upcoming Speakers

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

11/22 - **Thanksgiving Week, NO MEETING**

11/29 - **Hon. Tony Kitchen**, McCracken County Circuit Court Judge

## 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 8, 2017 Issue 79, Number 19**

**Website:** [www.paducahrotary.org](http://www.paducahrotary.org) **Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/rotaryclubofpaducah>

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/RotaryOfPaducah> **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.*

## Justice John Bush: US Circuit Court of Appeals Overview

November 8, 2017

**Speaker: Justice John K. Bush, Sixth US Circuit Court of Appeals.** Judge Bush was introduced by Rotarian Lanny King.

**Topic:** Workings of the US Court of Appeals and his experience of the confirmation process.

### Top Ten Takeaways for Rotarians:

-A native of Arkansas, Bush is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and received his Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School. He later practiced law at firms in Washington, DC and Louisville. In May of this year, President Donald Trump nominated Bush to a seat on the Sixth US Circuit Court of Appeals based in Cincinnati. His

nomination was confirmed by the Senate in July.

-Sixteen justices serve on the Sixth Court of Appeals. The court has appellate jurisdiction over US District Courts in Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky, including the Western District of Kentucky. There are 13 US Circuit Courts of Appeal nationwide.

-The Court meets seven times per year, usually hearing cases in small panels of three judges. Those panels can send cases to the entire 16-member panel for an "en banc" session.

-Federal Court cases heard at the District level may be appealed to the Court of Appeals. The appeals court determines whether a lower court decision was in violation of applicable law. Appeals of rulings by the Court of Appeals go before the US Supreme Court. Bush said approximately 85% to 90% of US District Court rulings appealed to the Sixth Circuit are upheld.

-Defendants that come before the court upon appeal include those charged with drug offenses and violent crimes. The court also hears cases relating to maritime law, anti-trust, and intellectual property.

-Bush said he felt fortunate that his nomination and confirmation process took only a few months compared to other nominees whose process sometimes languish for years. He said many of the nominations get mired by politics. "That just shouldn't be," he said, "it is important to keep politics and the judicial nominating process separated."

- "I'm not casting stones," Bush said, "but going so quickly from the private sector to

## Birthdays

Brad C Clark  
November 12  
Thomas B Russell  
November 15  
Ashley Wright  
November 17  
Randy Bridges  
November 25  
George B. Shaw  
November 27  
James A. Sigler  
December 08  
Ronald Jackson  
December 10  
Kevin Shannon  
December 10

becoming a public figure was jarring.” When asked later what lessons he learned from observing the news process during his nomination period, Bush said he came to realize that it has become difficult for people to distinguish between actual news reporting and commentary.

-Bush complimented the competency of Kentucky’s US District Judges, saying it was gratifying to see such a “top notch group of justices capable of high level decision making.”

-Bush said he will, no doubt, cast many unpopular decisions in his role. “Our job is to honor the meaning of statutes as they were passed by elected officials.”

-For more on the function and history of the Sixth US Circuit Court of Appeals, visit: <http://www.circuit6.uscourts.gov>

## Announcements

November 8, 2017

-A big Rotary thank you for the members of the Paducah Tilghman Choral Department for entertaining us with selections from their upcoming fall musical Bye Bye Birdie.

-Rotarian Jamie Futrell reported that Rotary attendance in October declined for the third consecutive month, with an average of only 45.6% of the club in attendance.

-Rotarian John Williams, Jr. presented the club the “NAACP Community Service Award” he and other Rotarians accepted at the association’s recent Freedom Fund Banquet. The local NAACP chapter recognized our club for work on the Rotary Playground Project.

-December 6th will be the day the club volunteers to ring the bells and collect donations for the Salvation Army’s annual Red Kettle drive. Visit this site to sign up online, or sign-up at the club meeting <http://signup.com/go/wDerSJe>

-Members of the Downtown Kiwanis Club will join us this week (11/15) for our annual joint luncheon. Let’s give them a warm, friendly Rotary welcome!

## Guests

November 8, 2017

Mark Bryant and Tom Miller – guests of Ken Wheeler

Heather Jackson – guest of Clay Howerton

LaVonna Willingham – guest of Debbie Wattier

Jennifer Sanders and Judge Alan Stout – guests of Lanny King

Jason Coltharp – guest of Shay Morgan

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

Taylor Willis and Kaleb White – student guests from Paducah Tilghman

Hope Eason, McKenzie Moss and Samuel Powless – student guests from McCracken

County

Caroline Veatch – student guest from St. Mary