





# **Kevin Kruger**

UNLV Men's Basketball Coach



Kevin Kruger was appointed head coach of UNLV's men's basketball program on March 21, 2021. A former Runnin' Rebel student-athlete and assistant coach, Kruger quickly made an impact, leading the team to 18 wins in his first season. The Runnin' Rebels exceeded preseason expectations, finished fifth in the Mountain West, while three players earned All-MW accolades under his leadership.

In his second season, Kruger guided UNLV to 19 wins, including two over ranked teams, and the team's best non-conference record in 32 years. The team started the season 10-0 and received votes in the national polls, earning Kruger ESPN National Coach of the Week honors.

In the 2023-24 season UNLV returned to the postseason for the first time in 11 years, won its first postseason game in 16 years, and recorded two postseason wins for the first time since 2007 as it advanced to the quarterfinals of the NIT. UNLV also defeated four ranked teams, including a top-10

victory over No. 8 Creighton. They won12 of their last 16 games, and recording their best MW record in four years at 12-6.

Kruger, the point guard on UNLV's 2007 NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 team, returned to his alma mater after stints as an assistant coach at Oklahoma and Northern Arizona. He played professionally from 2007-13, including in Bulgaria, Italy, and the NBA D-League.

Off the court, Kruger emphasizes academic success, with the Runnin' Rebels achieving their highest-ever semester GPA of 3.57 with him on staff.

He earned his bachelor's degree from Arizona State in 2006 and a master's degree from Oklahoma in 2017.

Kruger is married to the former Allison Gerding, and they have two daughters, Cameron (5) and Vivienne (2), along with a son, Maxwell, born in January 2024.



The love for basketball, something Coach Kruger focuses on 24/7 and leads his team with the fervor his Father taught him.

The film Love and Basketball explores the challenges and sacrifices the characters face in balancing their love for the game with their personal lives.

Sanaa Lathan, a highly educated actress with a master's degree in drama from Yale University, made a major breakthrough in her career while starring in the romantic drama, Love & Basketball in 2000. Her accolades include the NAACP Image

Award for Outstanding Actress in a Motion Picture for her role in this movie. She performed in the Broadway play, A Raisin in the Sun in 2004 and won the NAACP Image Award for her Broadway theater performance.

Sanaa Lathan's charitable contributions primarily focus on educational initiatives and community outreach. She is actively involved in various organizations that promote education and empowerment, particularly for young women and girls. Both Coach Kruger and Sanaa Lathan teach youth to succeed though education and life skills development. Some great people doing great things. Just our kind of folks.

Be recognized by your peers for what you have accomplished without expecting anything in return. Realize your charitable heart and do something great with it. Get involved with Rotary in a big way, spread your wings a bit.

Let's Build Something Together!

August 29, 2024

## WHAT IS ROTARY?

Rotary is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

## What We Have Accomplished.

# DID YOU KNOW? JUNE

- Community Grant issued to Nevada Blind Children's Foundation \$5,000 for See the Possibilities, a library refresh.
- Community Grant issued to Junior Achievement \$4,600 for Financial Literacy / Workforce Readiness.

### **JULY**

- Community Grant issued to Las Vegas Natural History Museum \$1,000 for Enhancing So. Nevada students' STEM Education Outreach Program.
- Community Grant for \$2,000 Issued to Opportunity Village for Their Pre ETS Program.
- Community Grant for \$2,500 to the CORE organization for their educational building kits.

# THE LAS VEGAS ROTARY CLUB'S MISSION:

Teaching Youth to Succeed through Literacy, Education & Life Skills Development

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## THE LAS VEGAS ROTARY CLUB



Speaker Ron Futrell Receiving His "Happy Feet" Sole Power Award



Speaker Ron Futrell Has the Membership in Stitches.



John Williams Sharing His Let's Build Something Together Rotary Moment.



Markus Bohi Introduces His Guest.



Pete Samoulis Wins the Lawry's Bucks.



Susan Ziobro Draws for a Joker. Not Today! Next Time...



Melanie Muldowney Introduces a Guest of the Club.



Our Speaker Introducing
His Guests.



First Meeting in Years Since the 2020 Event Director of Youth Programs, David Jones, Chair, Liz Rothwell and PP Toni Kern and LuAnn Wagner, Clark HS Teacher.

## **SCRIBE – AUGUST 22, 2024**

Meeting called to order by Kirk Alexander at 12:15 PM

Invocation: Randy Campanale • Song Leader: Tonya Wagle • Sergeant at Arms: Karen Whisenhunt

Set up: Bob Werner & Demitris Kouris • Warm Welcomers: Suzette Wheeler & Aaron Campillo

Raffle Sales: Bob Peiser & Debi Howard • Marketing & Presentations: David Jones & Stu Lipoff

Closing Team: Aaron Campillo & Michael Williams • Recording/Scribe: Rodney Tucker & Andrew Thurlow

Photographer: Debi Howard

**President's Table:** Ron Futrell, guest speaker; Jim Boshnick (SP?), Air Lingus; Suzie... (Rebel Bball?);

**Rotary Moment:** John Williams shared that he is moving to Prescott, AZ but will continue to stay connected.

Guests: 2 guests, no visiting Rotarians or International

**Announcements** 

Rod Tucker reminded us of the upcoming canned food drive & the Alpine Picnic on 9/21

Rosalee Hedrick debriefed the club on the engaging RTC "FAST" facility tour

Rene Gamero hopes you can join him on 9/23 at 8am for the next SOAR presentation.

**PP Toni Kern** has your t-shirts and hopes you will join the Green Our Planet ...?

**Karen Whisenhunt** says even bad golfers welcome at the golf putting tourney on 9/23 at 5:30pm

**Raffle:** Susan Ziobro helped us all by reducing the deck by one card...and Pete Samoulis won the Lawry Bucks.

**Speaker:** Ron Futrell, long-time local sports journalist, entertained us all with a lively walk through Vegas sports history, and he shared his vision for Vegas to continue to grow as a worldwide sports mecca.

Speaker Ron Futrell lds mission Ireland

## LAS VEGAS ROTARY FOUNDATION 2024-2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## **PAST PRESIDENTS**

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Joseph J. Buckley*	1982-83	Steve Casey	2004-05
Irwin Kishner*	1983-84	Ned Phillips	2005-06
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M.J. Wiens, Jr.	1987-88	Karen Whisenhunt	2009-10
Keith W. Bassett*	1988-89	Tom Axtell	2010-11
Kenneth E. Miller*	1989-90	Sharon McNair	2011-12
James M. Gamett	1990-91	Randy Donald	2012-13
Robert L. Moore	1991-92	Ginger Anderson	2013-14
Robert L. Forbuss*	1992-93	Steve Linder	2014-15
Gary A. Martin	1993-94	Mary Ann Avnet	2015-16
John A. Smith	1994-95	David Thorson	2016-17
Caty Crockett	1995-96	Dr. Michael Gordon	2017-18
Clifford R. Beadle	1996-97	James Kohl	2018-19
Ralph J. Rohay	1997-98	Jacqueline Thornhill	2019-20
Dr. James M. Jones*	1998-99	Richard Jost	2020-21
Tom A. Thomas	1999-00	Mike Ballard	2021-22
Tom J. Krob	2000-01	Caty Crockett	2022-23
James E. Hunt	2001-02	Toni Kern	2023-24

## **CALENDAR**

August 22 - 40+ Years in Sports in Las Vegas, Ron Futrell

August 29 - UNLV Basketball, Kevin Kruger

**September 5** – Pioneering Real Estate Development, Bob Schulman

**September 9** – 25 Club Meeting

September 12 – Election Commentary, Jon Ralston

**September 19** – First Amendment & Religious Freedom, West Allen & Mujahid Ramadan, LV Interfaith Council

**September 21** – Alpine Picnic

September 23 - Rotary Putting Tournament

September 23 – SOAR, Safety Officers Award Recognition, 8:00 am City Hall

**September 26** – Reimagining Chinatown, Minjia Yan

October 11 – Influence of Irwin Molasky on Vegas Real Estate

October 17 – Wetzel Award Program at Nellis Air Force Base 3:00 pm.

# **Current Raffle Amount \$1300.00**

The Four-Way Test OF The Things We Think, Say Or Do.

1. Is it the TRUTH?

Rita Burton

- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



August 30

# August Rotarian Birthdays August 2 Lin Ng

Virgina Knudsen August 27 Matthew Phillips August 19

James Kohl August 18 Raymond Allen Wagner August 23

Steven Latta August 8 Susan Ziobro August 6

Melanie Muldowney August 12



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