

The RIM Newsletter

Rotary

In Motion



Club 16 (2809) District 6290, Chartered May 1, 1916
<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



Celebrating the people, events, and actions of the Muskegon Rotary Club, August 20, 2026

August 27, 2026, Chicken Parmesan at the Lake House
Program – Building Muskegon County – Turning Data into Action

What's Coming

August 27 – Building Muskegon County – Turning Data into Action

Upcoming Birthdays

August 29 Kayla Kolbe
August 31 Lori Doriot
September 2 Kimberly Taylor



Caring Connections Fund
[Click here to donate](#)

Stage Manager This Week

Rem Sprague

Greeters This Week

Greg Borgman
Mary Boyd

Reflector This Week

Heidi Sytsema

RIM Reporting this Edition

Photographer – Jackie Farrar
RIM Reporter – Jackie Farrar
RIM Editor – Jackie Farrar

Muskegon Rotary August 20th
YouTube Video:
[CLICK HERE](#)



President Roger starts the meeting.

Muskegon Rotary Board

Roger Morgenstern, President
Lisa Tyler, President-Elect
Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga & Arlen-Dean Gaddy, President Nominees
Dave Alexander, Past President
Kimberly Taylor, Treasurer
Joanie Smith, Secretary
Kim Boersema, Club Coordinator
Directors:
Esther Ricco Lisa Kraus
Melissa Moore Samantha Scott
Dimitri Poland Kelly DeVos
Martha Fohlbrook John Selmon

Please email Club Board Members through this [link](#):

Reflection



Heidi Sytsema provides the reflection.

RIM Reporting Team

Editors: Susan Besteman,
Jackie Farrar, and Ginny Sprague

Reporters: Kathy Moore, Roger Morgenstern, Meredith Smillie,
Sue Samaniego, and Ginny Sprague

Photographers: Wyatt Huggett,
Brock Johnson, and Emily Morgenstern

Visitors and Guests



Chad Lawie and guest Mom Shelley.



Emily Morgenstern and guest Olivia Brown.



President Roger and guest Amy Plaster.



Debra Bechtel and guest Trisha Mayse.



Jill Bonthuis and guest Kathy Rohlman.

Member Transfer TJ Simmons



This Week's Program:

What's New for School

Presenters: **Aaron Maike, Bill O'Brien, Ben Kalb, & Kristin Tank**

Introduced by: **Dave Alexander**

RIM Reporter:
Jackie Farrar



Dave Alexander introduces the speakers.

In today's presentation, we had the opportunity to hear from four strong and compassionate leaders in our community: Baker College, Mona Shores School, Muskegon Area Intermediate School District (MAISD), and Muskegon Community College (MCC)

All four speakers are deeply committed to supporting the students in our community.



Aaron Maike with Baker College.

Aaron shares highlights from Baker College

- Celebrating the 115th Anniversary
- How Baker puts students first
- Economic Impact in the community
- Multiple Community Partnerships



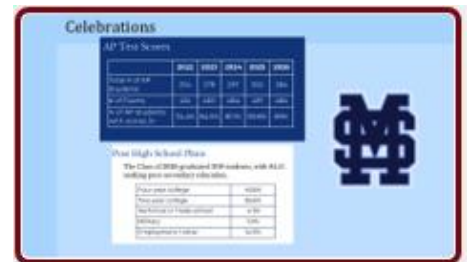
- Also, adding Athletics – Cross Country, Basketball, and Soccer



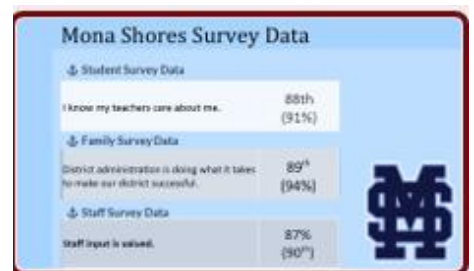
Bill O'Brien with Mona Shores School.

Bill shares highlights from Mona Shores School

- Several reasons to celebrate



- Reviewed Survey Data from Student, Family, and Staff



- Art, Academics, and Athletics for all Kids



Ben Kalb from MAISD.

Ben Highlights from Muskegon Area Intermediate School District (MAISD)



Kristin Tank from MCC.

Kristin shares highlights from Muskegon Community College (MCC)



QA for the Presenters.

This Week's Birthdays



Updated Mission

- A huge thank you to those who attended the evening with MCC



Upcoming events include

- Steps to the Strategic Goal include; Partnerships, Wellbeing, Engaging and Learning, Thriving Workforce, and Family & Community
- Reflections on 9/11 25 Years later 9/2/2026 7:00PM Stevenson Center
- The Newt 100: AI, Leadership, and the Future of Opportunity 10/15/26 6:30pm – Overbrook Theater
- The Big Read – Your Choices Matter 11/17/2026

ReWine Meeting Schedule
5:00pm social time - meeting starts at 5:15pm

- * Thursday September 3rd at Lake Effect Bistro & Lounge (located off the main lobby of the Shoreline Inn)
- * Thursday September 17th at Socibowl
- * Thursday October 1st at Lake Effect Bistro & Lounge (located off the main lobby of the Shoreline Inn)
- * Thursday October 15, at Pigeon Hill Brewing Company

RSVP by Wednesday at 5pm prior to each meeting by contacting Kaytie Drake at kaytieely@aol.com

(Total # attending including guests

Announcements



President Roger reminds members of the next ReWine meeting, thanked all who attended the amazing BBQ courtesy of Da Kidd BBQ & those who attended the Muskegon Lake celebration last week, the Raffle Committee is looking for members, also the club is looking for a new President for July 1, 2029, and lastly to sign up for the next Aquastar cruise on September 2nd



Missy Horton shares the next Coffee Connect, September 9th from 8:00am to 9:am at 430 W. Clay Ave.



Lisa Kraus is looking for help with decorations for Harvest Fest and shares information on four raffle items this year (Beer Bundle, wine, spirits, and a fall themed flavors) Please bring donations to Lisa.



Jamie Sowa shares they raised \$2,875.00 from the 5k Arts and Drafts run last weekend and how they are distributing the money.

Adopt-A-Highway Program Looking for Volunteers



Our next pickup for the Muskegon Rotary stretch of highway on I-96 will be on Saturday, September 26.

Volunteers will meet promptly at 7:30am for a short safety talk, then head out on the road to pick trash. (We will finish no later than 10am, sooner if we get a lot of help 😊).

I am also looking for two drivers to drive along with the volunteers who are picking trash. If you can help, please contact Esther Ricco, estherricco@hotmail.com or 616-283-1810 and she can provide you with details.

Be a part of keeping our adopted stretch clean and taking action to protect our environment!

District 6290 Midweek Connections

Your quick stop for timely reminders, upcoming events, important deadlines, and valuable Rotary resources.

We know your time is valuable, so we'll bring you the information you need in one convenient place, helping you stay informed, connected, and ready to create lasting impact throughout our district.

*Published Every Other Wednesday to keep Rotarians informed about district events, deadlines, opportunities, and Rotary news



Registration is now open to join your fellow Rotarians on a Sunset Cruise in September.

Muskegon - September 2, 2026
- [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)



Muskegon Rising

REMINDER

The first day of Fall
is September 22nd

There's still time
to check off those
last few items on
your summer
bucket list!

Rotary in Action Steve Olsen



Steve Olsen reflects on the value of Rotary as more than a weekly meeting—it's a network of community leaders making a meaningful impact throughout Muskegon. Having joined Rotary in 2019, Steve shares his vision for engaging programs that highlight local businesses, discusses the importance of adapting to the community's changing workforce, and celebrates the many ways Rotarians serve beyond Thursday luncheons. His message is a reminder that Rotary's greatest strength is its members' willingness to get involved and make a difference where it matters most.

Watch the full video [here](#)