

# The RIM Newsletter

# Rotary InMotion



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

July 10, 2025

**Next Meeting (July 17, 2025, 12-1:30pm) — Honey Glazed Pork Loin at the Lake House**  
**Program Topic – State Rep Will Snyder, Legislative Updates**

## What's Coming

July 17 – State Legislative Updates

July 24 – Observations on Eastern Europe

July 31 – Kids Food Basket

## Upcoming Birthdays

July 17	Karen Hayslip
July 19	Bill Marietti
July 19	Andrea Riegler
July 20	Richard Houtteman
July 20	Courtney Lohman
July 21	Jessica Kauffman
July 22	Dwana Thompson

## Caring Connections Fund



[Click this link to donate \\$10 on your birthday](#)

## Greeters This Week

Greg Borgman  
Pat Shafer

## Reflector This Week

Bill Erickson

## RIM Reporting this Edition

Photographer – Mark Alpher  
RIM Reporter – Kathy Moore  
RIM Editor – Jackie Farrar

7/10/2025 Muskegon Rotary  
YouTube Video Link: [Click here](#)



President Dave Alexander opens the meeting



Member inductions Dimitri Poland, Lisa Kraus, Melissa Moore, and Brandon Turnbull

## Visitors & Guests



Mehean Quinn and guest Brock Johnson

## Reflection



Bill Erickson provides our Reflection



Inbound and Outbound Students





**Parker Aerts** and guest **Karen Kekelik**



**Kat Hyder** and guest **Tracy Deneen**



Visiting Rotarians **Matt and Rebecca**



**Melissa Horton** and guests **Morgan Witmer & Erin Schmitz**



**Lisa Kraus** and guest **Kaylee Maddox**

### **Muskegon Rotary Board**

Dave Alexander, President  
 Roger Morgenstern, President-Elect  
 Lisa Tyler, President Nominee  
 Tim Arter, Past President  
 Kimberly Taylor, Treasurer  
 Jane Clingman-Scott, Secretary  
 Kim Boersema, Club Coordinator  
 Directors:  
 Esther Ricco Tom Palmer  
 Melissa Moore Dimitri Poland  
 Arlen-Dean Gaddy Lisa Kraus  
 Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga

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

## **This Week's Program: Youth Exchange Students Farewell**

**Presenters:**

**Appolline Balayet, Michelle Mbashall, Laura Resende, & Cornelius Redhead**

**Introduced by:**

**Dom Bunker**



**Dom Bunker** introduced the program and commented that most of us – when we were 15 & 16 years old, probably did not have the same experience as Youth Exchange students. Travelling to a foreign country to live with strangers. Learning and adapting to a different language, culture, and (possibly) perspective. Participating and studying for a year in an educational environment entirely different from their own. Adhering to numerous conditions and requirements (meetings, reports, etc.). While also helping students in our community prepare for an outbound experience. And topping it off today with a presentation to more than a hundred business and community leaders.





"helped her grow." She participated in track and cross-country team activities. She informed us that her favorite food was, specifically, host Kim Sims' mac and cheese. Michelle ended by saying "thank you very, very, very much!" to the families who hosted her and to Rotary for the opportunity to gain new insight into how people from other cultures live, act, and view the world.

Apolline Pasteau Balayet (France) was first to speak about her experience while sharing numerous pictures. She travelled with her host families to numerous cities and states throughout the U.S. including visits to Niagara Falls and the Grand Canyon. Apolline said that she absolutely loved attending North Muskegon High School and was involved in many activities there. She participated in homecoming dance, graduation, cheerleading, and soccer; and her favorite subject was art. She finished by saying "I could never hope for a better experience. Thank you so much for changing my life!"



Then Laura Resende (Brazil) came to the podium and excitedly reported that she prepared a slide for every month of her youth exchange visit. As she clicked through pictures that captured special moments from her arrival in August of last year through her high school graduation in June, Laura expressed that "it was an incredible experience". She participated in track, went to prom, travelled to Florida on spring break with her host family, attended a concert, and enjoyed numerous visits to the beach. Laura thanked her grandparents, mom, and Rotary for "helping to make her dreams come true."



Next Michelle "Mitchie" Mbashall (Nigeria) told us that she "was very scared at first, to be so far from home". She said that the experience



And lastly, Cornelius Redhead (Denmark) presented an entertaining video of special moments and memories during his stay. The clips were funny, colorful, and definitely TikTok or Instagram worthy. It highlighted his participation in football, prom, fishing, fireworks, graduation, and much, much more. Cornelius travelled with his host family on a trip to the West Coast and another to South Carolina. His most cherished experience was going hunting with his host dad and getting a deer. He wrote a story about it as a school project; and the article was published in two outdoor magazines. Cornelius said that he was very grateful for the opportunity and thanked his host families and Rotarians for the awesome experience.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### President Elect Roger

**Morgenstern** shared that even during a perfect summer day, it's not too early to be thinking about Harvest Fest 2025! That's right, our Muskegon Rotary Foundation's premiere fund raising event is Thursday evening, Oct. 23, at Baker College's downtown Culinary Institute of Michigan and tickets are on sale starting TODAY (July 10). You can purchase them by simply clicking on the Calendar/Events tab on our clubs website (Muskegon Rotary dot org) or click [here](#). Tickets are the SAME PRICE as last year, \$85. You'll have unlimited delicious creations from the CIM students, a seasonal gift provided by Barry's Greenhouses and Landscaping plus a free drink ticket. Enjoy an evening with great food and drinks, live music, a 50/50 raffle, silent auction and more!

Harvest Fest volunteers will be able to purchase up to two discounted tickets for \$45 each. Stay tuned on how to sign up to volunteer.

Harvest Fest will raise money for the great programs the Muskegon Rotary foundation funds, plus scholarships for CIM students and support for the Baker Rotaract Club.

Sponsorship information is also available at the same website tab.

**\*\*\*July 17<sup>th</sup> is the next ReWine Meeting**

### Rotary ReWine

ReWine meetings are every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month

5:00-5:15pm Social time

5:15pm Meeting start time

At Core Plaza (Vault)

Contact Kaytie Drake  
at [kaytieely@aol.com](mailto:kaytieely@aol.com) for more information

### RIM Reporting Team

Co-Editors: Susan Besteman &  
Jackie Farrar

Reporters: Kathy Moore, Roger  
Morgenstern, Meredith Smillie,  
Sue Samaniego, Ginny Sprague,  
& Craig Person

Photographers: Mark Alpher, Wyatt  
Huggett, Roger Morgenstern,  
& Claire Ritter

Contributors: John Noling, Mike  
Vogas, & Doug Wood

## Muskegon Rising Podcast S2E27: Dave Alexander Muskegon Rotary Club



In the latest episode of the Muskegon Rising Podcast, host Aaron Maiké sits down with Dave Alexander, incoming President of the Muskegon Rotary Club, to talk about what's ahead for one of the most engaged service organizations in the region.

Dave shares how the Rotary's legacy of "Service Above Self" is being reimagined through hyperlocal action, youth leadership development, and cross-sector collaboration. With more than 250 active members, the Muskegon Rotary Club continues to shape the future of our community by putting time, talent, and resources to work.

This conversation is full of insight, energy, and vision. If you care about Muskegon's future, you'll want to listen.

Tune in at:

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2269729/episodes/17472261-dave-alexander-muskegon-rotary-club>

[CLICK HERE FOR ALL PODCASTS](#)



## **Rotary In Action**

**D.J. Hilson**



D.J. Hilson explained that “thanks to the support of Rotary” this podcast has produced inspiring videos that showcase the heart of Muskegon through powerful stories of local residents making a difference. From grassroots initiatives to creative collaborations, these everyday heroes are working to uplift neighborhoods, support youth, spark economic growth, and create a stronger, more vibrant Muskegon. It’s a celebration of resilience, innovation, and community spirit – all moving Muskegon forward in a positive light. He asked for our continued support and that members agree to be interviewed, if asked.

To watch his video, click [here](#).

# Three Opportunities To Volunteer

## **MicroForest**



The Microforest is amazing in its diverse beauty and big growth spurt going on now!

But we still need to help get after some weeds...please join in for whatever time you can spare

**Monday, July 14**

**8:30-10:30 am**

**Park on Ducey Avenue, one block south of Marquette off Creston**

## **Putting flags up and/or taking them down**



- \* Memorial Day
- \* Flag Day
- \* July 4<sup>th</sup>
- \* Labor Day
- \* Veterans Day

For more information, please email

**John Noling**

[johnnoling65@gmail.com](mailto:johnnoling65@gmail.com)

**Cynthia Maynard**

[catcd526@comcast.net](mailto:catcd526@comcast.net)

**Carim Calkins**

[carimcalkins@gmail.com](mailto:carimcalkins@gmail.com)

## **Greeters are Needed**

This is an easy and great way to meet your fellow Rotarians. We ask for a one-month commitment to greet our members and guests, check them off, scan badges, and ask guests to fill out cards for our information.

\* We usually have two people at each meeting.

\* We currently need people for these months: July, August, September, November, March, April, and May.

Again, we ask that you commit to a month, as much as possible. Once the schedule is set Lisa will send out instructions; Kim Boersema usually helps find new members to assist the main greeter for the month.

Any questions, please reach out to Lisa Tyler!