

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, June 25, 2026


**July 2, 2026, Honey Glazed Pork Loin & Cake at the Lake House
Program – Passing of the Gavel & Induction of new Officers & Directors**

What's Coming

July 2 – Passing of the Gavel &
Induction of new Officers & Directors

Upcoming Birthdays

July 3 Michael Apostle
July 4 Chris Nance
July 4 Sue Samaniego
July 6 Bob Irwin
July 6 Mary Beth Ramos
July 7 Andy Buelow
July 7 Tom Foupht
July 8 Mary Boyd



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

Stage Manager This Week

Emily Morgenstern

Greeters This Week

Dimitri Poland
Jennifer Bruin

Reflector This Week

Joanie Smith

RIM Reporting this Edition

Photographer – Jackie Farrar
RIM Reporter – Sue Samaniego
RIM Editor – Jackie Farrar



President Dave starts our meeting

Reflection

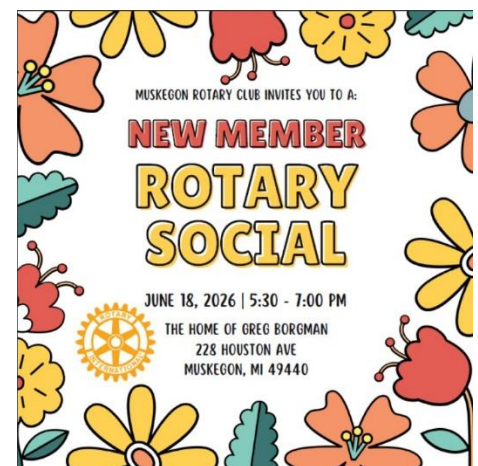


Joanie Smith Provides our reflection

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 Brandon Turnbull
Melissa Moore Samantha Scott
Arlen-Dean Gaddy Dimitri Poland
Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga Lisa Kraus

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



Visitors and Guests



Laketa Alexander guest of **Kathy Moore**



Interns Ally and Marin guests of **Greg Sischo**



Alyssa Noe guest of **Meredith Smillie**

Muskegon Rotary June 25th
YouTube Video:
[CLICK HERE](#)



Angelina Mosher Salazar guest of **Rachel Gorman**



Joy Gordon guest of **Marianne Bockheim-Verhil**



Ralph Wellington guest of **Annette Jack**



Andrea Yost guest of **Emma Schroeder**



Kristin Schaub guest of **Rita Caviness**



Ava Williams and **Stephanie Tushek**



Sara Azriel Schaub guest of **Theresa Bernhardt**



Martha Brown Guest of **Pete DeBoer**



Martha Brown, Ava Williams, and **Stephanie Tushek**

This Week's Program:

President's Year in Review

Presenter: **President Dave Alexander**

Introduced by: **Rachel Gorman**

RIM Reporter:
Sue Samaniego



Rachel Gorman Introduces **Dave** after sharing an email she wrote to several Muskegon Leaders.



President Dave shares his year in review

The Year in Review

2025-26 President Dave Alexander began the presentation with a photo presentation from the past year. He offered thanks to **Susan Besteman** and the photographers who contributed photos over the year.

“The state of the Muskegon Rotary club is strong,” said Alexander, adding that the club is leading the district in many ways including size. We have dynamic weekly meetings, and strong community leadership, fundraising, and volunteerism.

We have a strong legacy of youth development and have been attracting younger members to the club. Our lunches are a fun place to be every Thursday. This year, classic rock was featured at the start of each meeting.

The accomplishments of the Muskegon Rotary club this year were because of all of us.

Foundation and Club assets increased to \$957,000. \$585,000 is in the Rotary endowment at the Community Foundation for Muskegon County.

Our Foundation fundraising was robust: Harvest Fest, Pours for Community, and Parties in the Park all contributed funds.

We had a 6.8% increase in membership (42 new members, 25 lost), which is currently 266. Forty-nine percent of members are women, and our diversity continues to grow to match our community.



Highlights of this year:

- 110th year as a club
- 220 students involved through Rotaract, Interact and Early act chapters.
- 3 outbound and 3 inbound exchange students
- Braver Angels dialogs
- Seaway Drive beautification
- El Salvador and Honduras trips

- Volunteering with the Feeding America food trucks, Kids Food Basket, and the Muskegon Rescue Mission to combat food insecurity
- Mingling was a theme – volunteering is mingling!
- **Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga** and **Arlen-Dean Gaddy** were elected as the first pair for president elect, in line after **Roger Morgenstern** takes the reins next week and **Lisa Tyler** the following year.

President Dave Alexander closed with a thank you to the Club for Uniting for Good.



Emily Morgenstern thanks **President Dave** for all the work he did for the club this past year.

Announcements

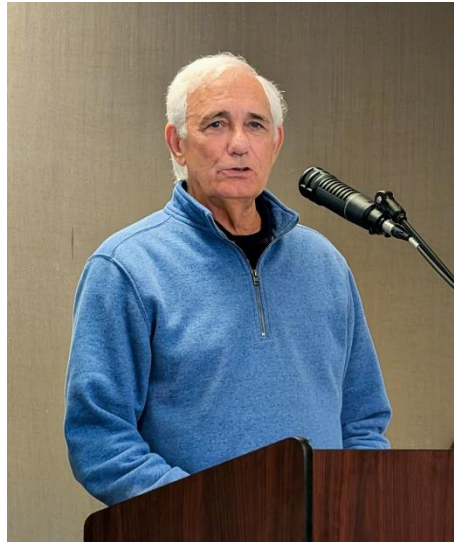


President Dave shares two announcements – First is the next ReWine meeting on July 2nd and we still need volunteers to sign up to help put up and take down flags on July 4th Two shifts to pick from



Doug Wood shares that him and **John Noling** are stepping back “retiring” **Tennelle Woodward** and **Greg Sisco** are taking the lead with Rotary Students.

Social Committee Event - Evening Cruise on the AquaStar



Tim Lipan shares that 91 of the 140 slots have been filed. Be sure to sign up soon!



Tennelle Woodward shares that the next Kid’s Food Basket event is Monday July 7th at 10:00am. She also shared information on last week’s Life Leadership Conference and a possible fall version in Muskegon.

Grand Haven Rotary Foundation, Inc.

2026 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT 2 DOOR RAFFLE



Proceeds go to Grand Haven High School Aquatic Center Enhancements

Drawing to be held at
Central Park Place, 421 Columbus Ave, Grand Haven, MI 49417
July 6, 2026 @ 12:30 PM

TICKET PRICE: \$100

Contact any Grand Haven Rotarian to purchase tickets or to purchase online, please visit grandhavenrotary.org/product/jeep-wrangler-raffle

If 400 tickets are not sold the drawing will revert to a 50/50



License # R84889 Brook Bisonet • 616.350.6232 • brook@thirdcoastsw.com

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, Emily Morgenstern, and Roger Morgenstern

Adopt-A-Highway Program Looking for Volunteers

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY



Our next pickup for the Muskegon Rotary stretch of highway on I-96 will be on Saturday, July 11.

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!

Muskegon Rising Podcast S3E12: Neve McGinn – Muskegon High Schools



In the latest episode of the Muskegon Rising Podcast, host DJ Hilson sits down with Muskegon High School sophomore Neve McGinn, who is preparing for a year studying abroad in Denmark through the Rotary Youth Exchange program.

Neve walks through the selection process, the cultural adaptability the program demands, and the personal growth she's already experiencing before her departure. She also shares how the exchange connects to her interest in culinary arts and global learning.

It's a great look at one of Rotary's most impactful youth programs and a reminder of how exchange opportunities help young people grow into confident global citizens while representing Muskegon County abroad.

Listen: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/269729/episodes/19330373-neve-mcginn-muskegon-high-school>

Watch: https://youtu.be/oOwMP_8NDxU?si=KcBDxQpJ2mQAWdyh

[CLICK HERE FOR ALL PODCASTS](#)

Rotary in Action Kenya Blake



In this inspiring interview, Kenya Blake, a student leader at Orchard View High School and active participant in Rotaract, shares her journey of overcoming challenges, growing up in a large single-parent family, and balancing three jobs while remaining dedicated to community service.

Kenya discusses the impact of volunteer projects, including community beautification efforts, her life-changing service trip to El Salvador through Rotary, and her vision for engaging more students and exchange participants in meaningful service opportunities. Her story highlights youth leadership, community engagement, volunteerism, and the transformative power of service learning in Muskegon County.

Watch the full video [here](#)

Rotary Board Updates

Rotary Board of Directors recently approved a fiscal 2026-27 Club budget which takes effect July 1. This budget will result in a 4.9 percent increase for regular members, from \$187 to \$196 a quarter.

The Board continues to be mindful of keeping annual increases at or near the cost of inflation, while having to respond to other cost increases:

- Beginning Jan. 1, 2027, our new two-year contract for meals at The Delta and Lake House will increase about 6 percent. There will be another increase in meal costs in calendar year 2028.
- The budget does not include an increase in guest/satellite member lunches, which remain at \$20.
- Rotary International (RI) Dues have increased 2.4 percent.
- RI District 6290 Dues have increased 7.1 percent.

With the Club budget now completed, the President Elect Roger and the Finance Committee are finalizing the Foundation budget, which includes costs for most of our committee work, as well as revenue from fundraisers.

Committee budgets are expected to be nearly in line with the current budget. If anyone has questions on the budget or would like more information, please see President Dave or President Elect Roger.

ReWine Meeting Schedule

**5:00pm social time -
meeting starts at
5:15pm)**

Thursday, July 2 at Puerto Vallarta Mexican Grill, 292 W. Western Ave

Thursday, July 16 at Wonderland Distilling, 1989 Lakeshore Dr.

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

(Total # attending including guests)

This Weeks Birthday Slide!



Thanks Muskegon Rotary




Ava Williams, North Muskegon junior

RIM Newsletter Volunteers Needed

- * Reporting – Overview of meeting
- * Taking Pictures and writing captions
- * Rotation is once every 4 to 6 weeks
- * Bonus is - you get to work alongside a GREAT group of Rotarians





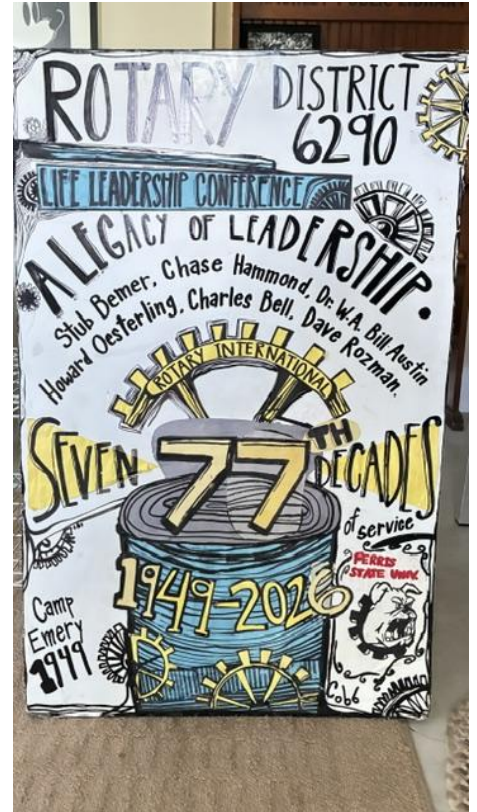
Rotary  The Rotary Foundation
7 Areas of Focus

1. Basic Education & Literacy
2. Maternal & Child Health
3. Peace & Conflict Prevention/Resolution
4. Water & Sanitation
5. Community & Economic Development
6. Disease Prevention & Treatment
7. Supporting the Environment


Rotarians are people, who, through the efforts...

- Dig wells from which they will never drink
- Vaccinate children they will never meet
- Restore eyesight for those they will never see
- Build housing they will never live in
- Educate children they will never know
- Plant trees they will never sit under
- Feed the hungry, regardless of color, race or politics
- Know real happiness found by helping others

Co-Director Contact Information:
John Noling 231-670-3740
Rhonda Lamberg 989-329-6795



Name _____

Rotary  Life Leadership Conference
International District 6290

Life Leadership Conference 77th Year

“Building Future Leaders Today”

June 17-20, 2026

Ferris State University
Big Rapids, Michigan

*Sponsored by Rotary International District 6290
Western lower Michigan, Eastern U.P. and North
Central Ontario—an international Rotary District*



It was a great 77th LLC!

We were able to send many (14) extra students this year and afford a bus thanks to the generosity of Muskegon Rotarians and your community connections.

128 Youth Leaders from 27 Clubs We had 38 from Muskegon



Shared with permission by Olivia Yonkman from Reeths-Puffer Interact Club

Recently, I attended the Life Leadership Conference (LLC), a four-day event focused on leadership, personal growth, and building connections with others.

Throughout the conference, I participated in activities and discussions that challenged me to think differently about leadership and the way I interact with people.

One of the biggest lessons I learned was that leadership starts with leading yourself. We talked a lot about perspective and how our thoughts influence our actions.

Something that really stuck with me was the idea that while we can't control what other people do, we can control how we respond. This encouraged me to be more intentional with my attitude and the choices I make every day.

Another topic that stood out was the difference between being a leader and being a boss. A leader supports others, takes responsibility, and helps people succeed, while a boss is often more focused on themselves and assigning blame.

We also discussed simple ways to make others feel valued, such as listening carefully, giving genuine compliments, and making everyone feel included.

Overall, LLC helped me see that leadership isn't about being in charge or having the loudest voice in the room. It's about serving others, building strong relationships, and making a positive impact on the people around you.

I'm thankful for the experience and excited to apply what I learned in school, my community, and future rotary events.

Terrific staff from Muskegon Rotary Club include:

***Kaytie Drake**

***Tennille
Woodward**

***Stephanie
Tushek**

***John Noling**