

Muskegon Rotary in Motion

Susan Crain, President Josh Wallace, Pres-Elect Cathy Brubaker-Clarke, Pres Nominee Pam Babbitt, Secretary Tim Arter, Treasurer Brianna Scott, Imm Past President

Muskegon Rotary Club

Club 216 (2809) - District 6290, Chartered May 1, 1916 February 18, 2016 12:10pm

Lake House Waterfront Grill http://www.muskegonrotary.org

Ed Hendrickson, Director Linda Juarez, Director Kathy Moore, Director Jason Piasecki, Director Diane Van Epps. RIM Reporter Bill Johanson, RIM Editor

Rotary 2014-2014 Distinguished Service Cit



Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?



Program: "Junior Achievement" Stacie L Stevens-Venhuizen

MEETERS / GREETERS

Jenna Blamer

INVOCATION - REFLECTION

Kathy Moore

THIS MEETING'S MENU

Chicken Marsala, roasted redskins, fresh vegetable offered with garden salad bar, and brownies

STUDENT GUESTS

Muskegon Big Reds

NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Roger Andersen Feb 18 **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

02/25 Rebound Brazil Student (Meet at Watermark 920)

03/03 Rotary Presentation TBD

03/10 Step Up

03/17 Life Circles/PACE

03/24 Silent Observer

03/31 Club Assembly

04/30 100 YEAR CELEBRATION

Muskegon Rotary Board

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Plan Your Escape Early



As September 21 slowly creeps closer and closer, opportunities abound to benefit the Club that offer tremendous experience and recognition for management and teambuilding skills. That said...

Grape Escape Co-Chair **Deni Hunter** is searching for energetic volunteers to add luster and bluster to the Club's largest fundraiser in 2016. Her plan for the party is already solid to its core, needing only a titch of tweaking. Add to that, the banquet environment is superb:

Bella Maria's Ristorante & Event Center (same as last year), and her award-winning **GE** team is forming and soon in place.

"Grape Escape Team Member" will look great on anyone's resume. Contact Deni as soon as convenient - deni@ilikemg.com - to join up as a big part of the excitement.

This Week On Stage

"Our programs help prepare young people for the real world by showing them how to generate wealth and effectively manage it, how to create jobs which make their communities more robust, and how to apply entrepreneurial thinking to the workplace. Students put these lessons into action and learn the value of contributing to their communities." - Junior Achievement of the Michigan Great Lakes

Visiting Rotarians & Guests

City of Coopersville Manager Steve Patrick and Ass't Manager Jonathan Seyferth, and MOCAP Executive Director Kiesha Guy (Rich Houtteman); Orchard View Schools Superintendent Jim Nielsen and prospective member (Doug Wood); Presenters Joe Clifford, Eli Fox, and Dr Mira Krishnan (CLUB); Kids Food Basket Satellite Manager Destinee Sargent (Brianna/Asaline Scott); Waddell & Reed Financial Advisor and prospective member Rose Madl (Bill

Loxterman); and visiting Grand Rapids Rotarian Paul Keep. Student guests from Muskegon Catholic Central were Erin Ladd, Cruz Russick and Jake Schulte introduced by Principal Allison Grinnell.



Last Week's Program

Rotary Diversity & Inclusion Committee's LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, **Queer/Questioning) Panel Discussion** by Diane Van Epps



Rotarian Tamera Collier introduced LGBTQ panelists, above from left, Dr Mira Krishnan, Eli Fox and Joe Clifford. Each panelist gave a personal story of emotions, struggles and accomplishments before opening up to Rotarians for questions.

Joseph identified himself as a gay man



who "came out" at an early age, about 20 years ago. Family and friends were supportive and knew and accepted that he was gay. It became a "freeing experience." he stated. He didn't deal with bullying or a lot

of the negative struggles that others may have had to encounter. He feels that last year's Supreme Court marriage equality ruling really helped get information to the general public. He always encourages questions for better understanding by straight people; by now, there are few

sensitive questions he hasn't heard.

Eli identifies with "Queer." She's an employee of Muskegon Community College and works with military veterans to help them get GI Bill



benefits. She had a lot of support in college. The identifier Queer for her is an empowering term. She said, though, that it can be used in a derogatory way. Two years ago, she bought a home in downtown Muskegon with her partner. For the most part, dealing with their realtor was positive but, in disclosing lead paint in the home, the realtor made a hurtful comment suggesting that there might only be children in the home if they were nieces or nephews, negating the possibility that she could have her own children. Don't make such assumptions, she added.

Dr. Krishnan, identifies as a trans person. She is a consultant doing work in Diversity & Inclusion who spent the last five vears at the HOPE Network. She talked about a **Grand Rapids** study that asked



the LGBTQ community how they feel about acceptance. Some 95% reported feeling support in the workplace; however, only 20% said they felt support in their neighborhoods.

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

In Q&A, Dave Alexander asked what else do we need to do to support the LGBTQ community and the panel suggested: 1) celebrate with us and don't keep us in the shadows; 2) introduce school children at a younger age to what the LGBTQ community is; and 3) embrace our talents and seek opportunities to bring us in with our strengths to share and educate.

Where can young women and men in the community get information, counseling, etc? was another question. HealthWest, formerly Muskegon County Community Mental Health. Most High Schools have a Gay/Straight Alliance, verified by the Mona Shores Interact attendees.

What is helpful / hurtful? It's OK if someone is a little nervous and not sure how to ask questions, and perhaps uses an incorrect word. It's helpful that they want to educate themselves. It's hurtful to make assumptions, for example, that one would have or not have children.

RIM Correspondents

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This publication, Muskegon Rotary in Motion (RIM), is intended for the private, non-commercial use of our members and friends. RIM content includes correspondents' reports, meeting announcements, satire sort of, and Club- or member-related social media items. The deadline for RIM announcements is Thursday noon for the following week's issue. Submit brief announcements in writing to Editor Bill Johanson or one of the RIM Correspondents above. © 2016 Rotary Club of Muskegon



Round Rotary's

Mona Shores Interact Club's INTER-ART event is Thursday, Feb 25 from 6-8 pm at Mona Shores High School Media Center. Muskegon Rotarians are invited to attend, munch on great appetizers, listen to home grown Mona Shores musicians, and bid on a variety of silent art auction items plus gift baskets featuring super local coupons and gifts.

Anyone in our Club wishing to donate a piece of art (painting, pottery, other art items, etc) to Mona Shores Interact for this event, please contact John Noling at 670-740. Proceeds will be donated to Kids Food Basket and our Club's Polio Plus campaign. Plan now to be part of a great service club's community and international outreach!!



From left, Mona Shores students Avery Reiter, Caroline White and Isabel Grace will visit our Japanese Sister City this spring.



The ancient and mystic Rotary pinning ceremony during new member inductions never seems to get its due so we've put up a large, exciting pinning photo, above, instead of the typical smiley-faced posed pic. Here's what you're looking at: once the pins were removed from their hermetically sealed packaging, they're now being properly placed upon, from left, Brian Springer by sponsor Rem Sprague; Lisa Hegenbart by Dawn

Johnson; and Tom Keenan by Bob Scolnik as President Susan is said to be singing something sweet into the mike that sounds a bit like "Meet Me in St Louie, Louie." Boo-yah! to our new members and their sponsors.

INSET: New Rotarian and former Continental Motors and General Dynamics chief Tom Keenan, back in Muskegon, expresses delight at local improvements since he left.

Randy Lindquist said the Third Annual Rotary Interact District Conference will be held March 5 at the North Muskegon High School.

This event will start at 9am and will end no later than 3pm. Participants can wear Interact shirts otherwise dress is casual. The cost is \$5.00 per person which will help to cover the lunch cost.

ALL Rotary Interact members are urged to attend. ALL officers of a Rotary Interact Club are strongly urged to be present.

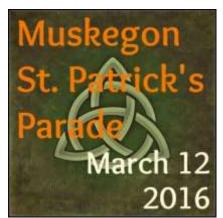
Reservations need to be made by February 26th. with the

number of individuals attending (for the lunch count).

Secretary Pam said that the three surviving Cootie players – Tom Ludwig, Orville Crain and Ed Hendrickson – rather than taking the contest to the bitter end, would prefer to bestow the Cootie's Paul Harris Fellowship upon a deserving but yet unnamed person.

President's Report

There will be a New Member Get Together, February 18, 5:00pm at **Susan** and **Orville Crain**'s home. Snacks and wine will be served. Committee chairs are invited to come share about their committees.



Great viewing from the Lakeshore Museum Center sidewalk. Then come in and check out the history of the Irish lumberjacks.

- Annoesika (there's really only one)

Committee Reports

Alan Alpert complemented Jane Clingman-Scott's reflection and passed around an invocation sign-up sheet for March meetings. Remember that we are non-denominational. Rabbi Alan also talked about a program for 6th and 7th graders with studies on the Holocaust and a trip to Washington DC in the fall.

End Polio NOW: **Jane Clingman- Scott**, below, announced a contest to see who can guess when the Crain's will be in their new home: winnings will total \$270.





Phil Friedrick, above, related the predicament of a Youth Exchange student from Mexico who lost his Grand Rapids host family through July. Grand Rapids Rotary asked us for help placing him in Muskegon. The call went out and former member Ellen Berends and her family answered swiftly. We thank them very much. It meant the student could complete his year in America.

Lake House this Week