





# “Service Above Self”

# Muskegon


# Rotary in Motion





<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>

**Jane Clingman-Scott, President**  
**Ginny Sprague, President-Elect**  
**Tim Arter, President Nominee**  
**Jason Piasecki, Past President**  
**Kristi Nagengast, Treasurer**  
**Don Hutchins, Secretary**  
**Kim Boersema, Club Coordinator**



## Muskegon Rotary Club

Club 16 (2809) – District 6290, Chartered May 1, 1916

Next Mtg—April 20, 2023, 12-1:30pm

The Delta – Hybrid

ReWine Sat Club—Next mtg 4/20/23 5:15 pm

Walker's (in the Delta)

**IMAGINE ROTARY**

**Marty Gerencer, Director**  
**Aaron Maiké, Director**  
**Roger Morgenstern, Director**  
**David Ramos, Director**  
**Asaline Scott, Director**  
**Marty Sytsema, Director**  
**Roger Morgenstern, RIM Reporter**  
**Roger Morgenstern, RIM Photographer**  
**Susan Besteman, RIM Editor**



**THE FOUR WAY TEST THAT ROTARIANS USE IN MAKING ETHICAL DECISIONS:**

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

## Next Meeting (4/27/23) — Interact & Life Leadership Updates

This is it: the absolute edge of no return: to turn back now and make home or sail irrevocably on and either find land or plunge over the world's roaring rim” - William Faulkner

### MEETER - GREETER

Missy Horton

### REFLECTORS

Darlene Collet                      Apr 20  
 Emily Morgenstern                Apr 27  
 (Contact Alan Alpert if you can help)

### NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Doug Wood                         Apr 30  
 Tony Johnson                      May 2

[Caring Connections Fund](#)

[\(Remember to donate \\$10 on your birthday for this great cause!\)](#)

### PROGRAMS / EVENTS

Apr 20—Muskegon County Biking Coalition  
 Apr 20—**ReWine at 5:15 pm**  
 Apr 27—Interact & Life Leadership Updates  
 May 4—Muskegon's New City Manager  
 May 4—**ReWine at 5:15 pm**  
           **Meet at Pigeon Hill**  
 May 11—A Kid Again

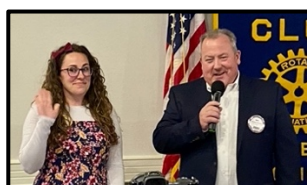
Missed the meeting on 4/20/2023?  
[-Click here for the recording-](#)

Meetings will be at the Lake House again beginning May 4th

### VISITORS & GUESTS



**Mary Anne Gorman** with guest **Jerry Kuester**



**Mike Weessies** with guest **CeCe Riley**



**Rob Taylor**, far right, introduces his guests and fellow members of the Muskegon County Bicycling Coalition (MCBC). From left: Tom Lindrup, Chris Mendels, Raymond McLeod and Aaron Bodbyl-Mast



**Larry Sanders** with his two guests, from left, **Cloey Buzzell** and **Kesha Sanders**

**John Noling** with guest and recently approved new member **Stacey Kennedy**



**Annette Jack** with guest **Pastor Bill Uetrict**

**Melissa Moore** with guest and visiting Rotarian **Tom Moore**, her husband.



## STUDENT GUESTS



**Marty Systema** always having fun introducing our student guests; this week from Montague. Counselor Rob Patton introduced two outstanding students, Jack Arrigotti and Dania Ibarra.

## Making a Difference Spotlight:



This week we heard from long-time White Lake environmental champion Tanya Cabala is the Muskegon County representative of the West Michigan Environmental Action Council. WMEAC is currently working to assess and improve recycling efforts in Muskegon County. Tanya is a lifelong resident of Muskegon County and lives in Whitehall. She attended Muskegon Community College and Grand Valley State College, graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree. After teaching first grade for several years, she started a concerned citizen group to focus on cleaning up pollution in her hometown, and in 1991, was hired as Michigan director of the Lake Michigan Federation. She opened an office in downtown Muskegon with a focus on water quality and lakeshore issues, including helping to launch local advisory groups for White Lake and Muskegon Lake that would work for decades with the state and federal government on environmental restoration. White Lake was removed from the hotspot list in 2015 and Muskegon Lake is due in several years. As a self-employed consultant, Tanya assisted numerous local, state, and Great Lakes environmental organizations with research, writing, grant proposals, and education and outreach efforts. See the complete video [here](#).



## THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM: Muskegon County Bicycling Coalition



Speakers: Aaron Bodbyl-Mast, Ray McLeod, Chris Mendels, and **Rob Taylor**

Introduced by: **Dave Alexander**

RIM Reporter: **Roger Morgenstern**

We learned all about the Muskegon County Bicycling Coalition, a volunteer organization that's been in existence for seven years. Its mission statement aptly describes what they do: To create an inclusive, diverse, and accepting community where people of all ages and backgrounds bicycle for transportation, errands, and for fun and health, and where bicycling brings people and neighborhoods together across Muskegon County."

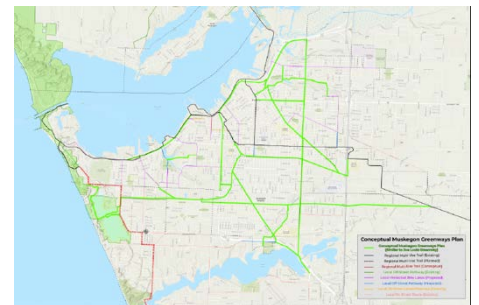
Ray McLeod, president of the organization, is a retired educator and shared the group traces its roots back to a weekly bicycle group he helped establish in Whitehall nine years ago, riding from Fetch Brewery. "As a cyclist I thought it was safer to ride as a group." That 6 p.m. Thursday Whitehall group is still riding. McLeod then worked with Unruly Brewing in downtown Muskegon to begin a 6 p.m. Tuesday ride.



"We go out for a ride, then refresh ourselves," McLeod said, joking "some people say we're drinkers with a biking habit." These group rides are open to everyone, and Coalition members help organize cyclists based on speed and interest level. "We're doing a lot of good things in the community that we're very proud of," McLeod said. "What we're really trying to do is make our neighborhoods more neighborly."



The group has also helped establish 6:30 p.m. Monday rides leaving from the Muskegon Farmers Market. Other activities include one-day bike rodeos, working with community groups to teach kids safe riding skills, assisting on trail maintenance, and working with local governments to promote and enhance the biking ability across Muskegon County. For example, they have had five local communities – Muskegon, Muskegon Heights, Norton Shores, Roosevelt Park, and Montague – pass a "5-foot rule" to mandate a safe distance between bikes on the road's edge and cars.





## Initiatives



Their newest initiative, launching June 1 at the Muskegon Heights District Library, is a "Bike Library," which received a \$2,000 grant from our Club recently. Rotarian and Coalition Treasurer Rob Taylor wrote the grant. Coalition member Chris Mendels thanked Unruly for donating space within their Muskegon Heights brewing facility to store and repair donated bikes for the library. In addition to work in individual communities, Mendels said the coalition is working with the West



Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission on the concept of a

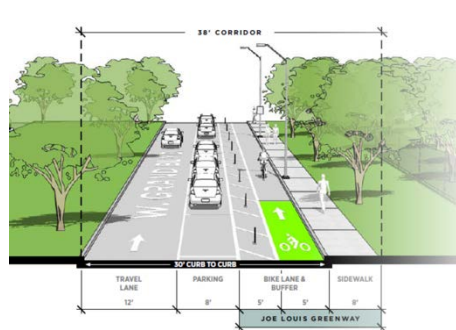
"Greenway" of connected bicycle paths around Muskegon County. Funding is being sought to pay for a detailed study.



Aaron Bodbyl-Mast, coalition member and a planner for the Ottawa County Parks and Recreation Commission, has been working on the Urban Greenways

concept for Muskegon County. "The way a lot of our infrastructure is designed, it's more car-centric.... Cars are great but we want to give people

choices. That means creating mobility for all, especially in our urban core," Bodbyl-Mast said.



An "Urban Greenway" is defined as a protected, connected community wide mobility network, including off-street linear parks and on-street protected lanes that links neighborhoods with key destinations according to Aaron. A relatively close example of a successful urban greenway is the Joe Louis Greenway in Detroit, which has attracted \$100 million in public and private funds as a way to improve equity and the overall quality of life through improved mobility.

How did the Joe Louis Greenway plan work?

- Retrofitting overbuilt or underutilized infrastructure to make it people-centered



The Muskegon coalition can be reached via e-mail at [bicyclemuskegon@yahoo.com](mailto:bicyclemuskegon@yahoo.com) and has a Facebook page under "Muskegon County Bicycling Coalition."

## Muskegon Rotary Board

Jane Clingman-Scott	Ginny Sprague
Tim Arter	Jason Piasecki
Kristi Nagengast	Don Hutchins
Marty Sytsema	Kim Boersema
Jeff Lewis	Asaline Scott
David Ramos	Marty Gerencer
Aaron Maike	

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

## INDUCTION – Erik Vogas



Erik Vogas was born in Grand Haven and raised in Norton Shores, attending Mona Shores High School. An enthusiastic musician, he was assigned to the snare-drum line in the marching band as an incoming sophomore and was awarded the Louis Armstrong Jazz Award for his work in the Jazz Ensemble.

After graduation, he attended Hope College and though he ultimately did not pursue music as a major at that time, was awarded and maintained the "Distinguished Artist Award" Scholarship to play drums for various school bands until he graduated in 1994.

Destiny struck when he was inspired to spend his junior year as an exchange student in Tokyo, Japan, studying Political Science at highly competitive Waseda University. Through his study there, immersion with his homestay family, and intensive Karate training, he learned to speak Japanese fluently. This was a skill that would strongly influence the trajectory of his career as an international businessperson.

After graduation, he worked in the automotive industry as a technical liaison in Japan for the Quality groups of both Johnson Controls, and then Eagle Ottawa Leather Company, which at that time still had the original tannery in Grand Haven.

It was clear to him that he wanted to leverage creativity more in his profession, and so went back to school to study Industrial Design at the Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California, where he graduated with honors in 2003.

Professionally Erik has lived over two decades in Japan, wearing various hats as his career evolved. Other than founding and working as a consultant for the Vogas Consulting group since 2011, he has worked as a Senior Designer in Advanced Design for Panasonic, established the business entity and Japan office as the General Manager for Mackevision Media Design headquartered in Stuttgart,

## (Induction Continued)

Germany, and most recently worked as the Director of Design, Asia, for the PANGEA leather company, overseeing all Design team efforts in China, Korea, and Japan.

A special note on Mackevision: If you have ever seen any episodes of "Game of Thrones", you have witnessed lots of their hyper realistic digital 3D work in creating the dragons, cities, huge armies, and castles in the CGFX for that series.

In his free time, Erik is an avid CrossFitter and Martial Artist. He is a Certified Trainer for Pekiti-Tirsia International, and recently he conducted a free two-hour self-defense seminar in Muskegon. He also enjoys fishing with his dad, Mike, and is an avid motor-cyclist.

Back from Japan after so many years, Erik is enjoying being again part of the Muskegon community and is appreciative of the opportunity to reconnect with his home after so many years as an expatriate. He is working to expand his consulting business in Michigan and beyond, and very grateful and excited to have a chance to be part of and contribute his skills and enthusiasm to Rotary International. Erik is sponsored by **Don Hutchins**.

## QR Code for Youth Programs



Dear Rotarians Serving Youth,  
Here is a visual that can be included anywhere an image can be sent. Please save it and you will be surprised at how many places and times it will become a valued asset. It connects to the Muskegon Rotary website Youth Programs page. If you don't yet know how to use it, you will soon per marvelous **Mike Vogas**.

## RIM Reporting Team

Susan Besteman	Jackie Farrar
Susan Holkeboer	Kathy Moore
Roger Morgenstern	Meredith Smillie
Lori Weiler	
Mark Alpher, Photographer	
Bill Johanson, Contributor	
John Noling, Contributor	
Mike Vogas, Contributor	

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Adopt-A-Highway Program Volunteers Needed and Date Change

The date has changed to **Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>** (morning). Last year ReWine adopted a stretch on I-96, between mile markers 4 and 6. These two miles represent the first two miles heading (and leaving) into Muskegon County. Signs went up last year marking that stretch for the Muskegon Rotary Club but unfortunately due to construction all last summer we were never able to do a pickup, but we are now looking for your help for this year. If you are able to help, please contact **Esther Ricco** at [riccoe@gvsu.edu](mailto:riccoe@gvsu.edu) and she can provide you with details.



## Rotary District Conference in Grand Rapids This Year

Register for the Rotary District 6290 Conference in Grand Rapids on May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> this year via the QR Code below or click here for the website for more details:

<https://www.ridistrict6290.org/page/district-conference-2023>

## Register!



## \$500 District Match Opportunity

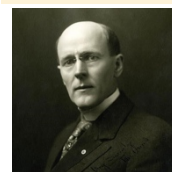


Once again this year, Rotary District 6290 is offering a \$500 Match opportunity for Rotarians to purchase a Paul Harris Fellow award for themselves

or as a gift to another deserving individual. For a limited time only, from April 10 through June 9, 2023, on a first-come, first-served basis, Rotary District 6290 is offering to match a new gift of \$500 to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund with 500 District recognition points.

- Your contribution must occur between April 10 and June 9, 2023.
- New means you must contribute the entire \$500 during this period. Past contributions will not be included.
- The contribution form must accompany your check. (Last page of this RIM Newsletter or [CLICK HERE](#).)
- If you wish, I am happy to complete the form and submit your Match along with the Muskegon Rotary Club's Match forms.
- Please give me your check and the name of the person you wish to honor as a Paul Harris Fellow no later than Monday, June 5, so I can mail the required paperwork and checks to meet the District deadline.

Contact **Ginny Sprague** if you have any questions at 231.740.0916 or by email at [remsleep1@comcast.net](mailto:remsleep1@comcast.net).



Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity for a Paul Harris Fellow award for an individual you wish to honor or for yourself

with help from your Rotary District 6290 friends! Thank you for your continued support of the humanitarian work of the Rotary Foundation

## How to reach our Club Coordinator, Kim Boersema?

Please use:  
[muskegonrotarycc@gmail.com](mailto:muskegonrotarycc@gmail.com)



## Pours for Community Began!

Pours for Community, a series of happy hours at local drinking establishments to support the Muskegon Rotary Foundation, started on April 21 and will run until May 6.

There will be a special Rotary Happy Hour at each location. Proceeds from drinks purchased, including a special "Rotary Drink" at each location, will benefit our Foundation. Rotarians and guests are welcome and light appetizers provided.

Our foundation funded activities include youth leadership and service mentoring (Youth Exchange, Life Leadership Conference, and Interact and student scholarships), food security and nutrition (Feeding America Food Trucks), education, public health, DEI, community cultural enrichment (Public Art), community development and park development (installation of outdoor musical instruments), and international aid initiatives (El Salvador trips, Honduras trips, and Ukraine aid).

- New club members are encouraged to attend the Socibowl event on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Muskegon Jaycees are encouraged to attend the Wonderland event on Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- ReWine members will meet at Pigeon Hill on Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup>.

How the funds are being received:

- Sponsorships
- Establishments are contributing partial funds when their specialty drink is purchased
- Contribution boxes will be prominently displayed during the happy hours for cash donations
- Donations can be made directly via our Pours for Community QR Code

All donation amounts are welcome. Checks can be made out to:  
**Muskegon Rotary Foundation – Pours**  
**P.O. Box 66, Muskegon, MI 49443.**  
 Contact **Tim Arter** at 231.750.8827 or [timarter935@gmail.com](mailto:timarter935@gmail.com) for any questions.



Click here to see the pictures of the events so far (or scroll to pages 7 & 8). Share this with your friends (especially on social media)!



Muskegon Rotary Club | Facebook  
[facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/muskegonrotaryclub)

### Dates and times!

\*Thursday 4/27 at 5-7 pm:

-Socibowl

[Click here to sign up](#)

\*Saturday 4/29 at 4-6 pm:

-18<sup>th</sup> Amendments Spirits Co.

[Click here to sign up](#)

\*Tuesday 5/2 at 5-7 pm:

-Wonderland Distilling Co.

[Click here to sign up](#)

\*Thursday 5/4 at 5-7 pm:

-Pigeon Hill

[Click here to sign up](#)

\*Saturday 5/6 at 4-6 pm:

-Pints & Quarts

### Thank You Sponsors

Premiere--\$1,000

Braeburn Wealth Management  
 Muskegon Innovation Hub of GVSU

Partner--\$250

**Tim & Cheryl Arter**

Bethany Christian Services  
 In Memory of Orville Crain  
 I'Move Physical Therapy  
 John Grace Restoration & Construction

**Roger Morgenstern**

City of Muskegon Commissioner

Michael Ramsey  
 Michael & Dina Poland  
 Real Estate West

Revel

Shoreline Insurance Agency

**Ginny Sprague**

**Rem Sprague**

Whiskey Creek Wagyu  
 Craig & Barbara Wikander

### Saturdays in May!

STEAM Along the Lakeshore at Hackley Park, 1-3 pm. Presented by Muskegon Museum of History and Science. More info can be found [here](#).



## Pioneer Resources' Hats and Horses Fundraising Event

Themed around the Kentucky Derby, this "party with a purpose" raises funds for Pioneer Resources' or a specific program, (depending on the year). This event takes place during the Kentucky Derby – typically the first Saturday in May. Dress in your derby best and enjoy a live auction, silent auction, our famous "Wheelbarrow of Booze" raffle, and many other fun derby-themed activities. The race is shown live and the music, food and atmosphere is fantastic. You won't want to miss it! Tables are available for businesses or families wishing to enjoy the event as a group.

Saturday, May 6, 2023

5-9 PM

Bella Maria's Event Center

Contact **Rachel Gorman** at

[rgorman@pioneerresources.org](mailto:rgorman@pioneerresources.org) or

-[Click here to get Tickets-](#)

### Seaway Run Countdown!



<https://seawayrun.com>

Our Club's biggest fundraiser on **June 24** includes a 5k walk, 5 & 10k run, and a half marathon. Your Seaway Run Committee is hard at work securing the all-important sponsorships and soon we'll be asking for volunteers. And we'll need LOTS of volunteers. Regular exercise, like running or walking, is one of the best ways to improve the health and wellness of our community. **Please encourage your friends, family, employees, church groups, school groups, and other organizations to sign up to register by clicking [here](#) or to volunteer by clicking [here](#).**



# Interact Insider

## 250 Trees for Harbor Dunes County Park: Creating Hope in the World



Over the two-day Earth Day celebration, 250 Rotary-grown and donated trees were successfully planted at the new Harbor Dunes County Park thanks to a collaborative partnership of Muskegon County Parks and Muskegon Rotary Club. Among the volunteers:

- 39 Interact class students from North Muskegon Middle School and 5 parents/staff
- 18 Interactors from Muskegon, Orchard View, and Montague/Whitehall Rotary Interact clubs
- 10 Muskegon Rotarians
- 6 Community volunteers who just love the park and want to help
- 3 Muskegon Community College Students from the Garden Club



This park is destined for greatness and we had a part in helping it along, right along with our planet for Earth Day 2023. Thanks to all who contributed and to Muskegon County Parks, **Bob Lukens**, and Kristin Kluting, for their efforts to organize this great partnership with us. A special thanks to Interact Advisors **Claire Benson**, **Samantha Wilson**, and **Danielle Risley** for involving your students and Interactors in Earth Day celebrations.





POURS FOR COMMUNITY KICKOFF  
APRIL 21, 2023  
Salty Pecker Brewing Company







POURS FOR COMMUNITY  
APRIL 24, 2023  
Unruly Brewing Company





**Rotary International District 6290**  
**Rotary Foundation 500 Recognition Point Match Program**

For a limited time only, **April 10 2023, through June 9, 2023**, on a first come first serve basis, Rotary International District 6290 is offering to match a *new* gift of cash or credit card, \$500 to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund, with 500 recognition points to name a Paul Harris Fellow. (Note: "*new*" means that the entire \$500 contribution must be made within the program dates. Earlier partial donations cannot be counted towards the match.)

**Please complete the information below and send along with a \$500 USD check payable to *The Rotary Foundation* to: (Please type or write clearly)** Please also Note; Credit Card payments are acceptable and CC numbers must be clearly marked on the attached form. Your CC number will be totally private and confidential.

PDG Gary E. Chenoweth  
District 6290 Foundation Chair  
843 Millers Park  
Elk Rapids, MI. 49629

Forms must be accompanied by a \$500 USD check and postmarked no later than June 9, 2023.

The following Rotarian wants to participate in the district 6290 recognition points match program:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rotarian's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rotarian's Member ID Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rotarian's Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rotarian's Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rotarian's Email Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rotarian's Club Name

\$500 Check payable to The Rotary Foundation, check # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (as it is to appear on PHF certificate) of person to receive Paul Harris Fellow

**Questions? Gary Chenoweth C: 314-814-5324 or E: [gchenoweth@ridistrict6290.org](mailto:gchenoweth@ridistrict6290.org)**