

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

August 1, 2024

Next Meeting (August 8, 2024, 12-1:30pm) — Beef Stroganoff - at the Lake House
Program Topic – Pound Buddies

What's Coming

August 8 – Pound Buddies

Upcoming Birthdays

August 8 Nancy McCarthy
August 9 Frank Peterson
August 10 Diana Osborn
August 11 Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga
August 13 Darlene Collet
August 13 Dale Strasler
August 14 Rob Taylor

Caring Connections Fund

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



Greeter This Week

Doug Brown
Tom Palmer

Reflectors

Darlene Collett August 1

RIM Reporting this Edition

Photographer – Mark Alpher
RIM Reporter – Susan Besteman
RIM Editor – Jackie Farrar

VISITORS & GUESTS



Member **Adam Bell** introduces his guests TJ Bell, Julie Bratton, Ellen Pallasch, and Scott Lange



Annette Jack introduces her guest/brother Ralph Wellington



Cece Riley introduces her guest Alissa Novoselick



Jill Bonthuis introduces her guest Greg Sischo

This week's program: Rotary Youth Exchange Rebounds Return

Speakers: **Jillian Faino, Kaydynce Vandebosch, and Kylee Foster**
Introduced by: **Kristi Pawlak**
Reporter: **Susan Besteman**



Kristi Pawlak introduces our guest speakers, Kaydynce Vandebosch, Jillian Faino, and Kylee Foster

An excited **Kristi Pawlak** introduced our returning Rotary Youth Exchange Students with, "They're back!"

They've been gone an entire year and what they've experienced and the people who they've met and what they've gone through, the challenges and accomplishments, they get to share with you today."



Kylee Foster

"Rebound" or former youth exchange student, **Kylee Foster**, gave us a fantastic presentation on her year in Brazil.



She stayed in Londrina with a population of 588,125 (about 15 times the population of Muskegon) which gave her "quite a different experience" than her hometown. She found many different musical artists that she fell in love with and highly recommend including Castello Branco and Sessa, Estrela, Acesa. She enjoyed many new experiences including a very big exposition event/carnival, hiking under a waterfall, rafting, and holding snakes.

Kylee attended the last semester of their high school (they only go to high school for three years) and then went to university for Husbandry and Agricultural Science. It was a "unique" experience for her at university because there were unexpected things like monkeys digging around in the trash. The university had many acres of "beautiful" land and a farm that she and other students went on. Some of the friends she met while in Brazil were other exchange students from France, Canada, Mexico, USA, and India. Volunteer work once a week was part of her schedule which included three different jobs throughout the year: youth group for her first host family's church (a lot of crafts), daycare work (6-month-olds to two years old), and she was also an

Assistant English Teacher (which felt like they were both learning together).

Kylee was choked up a bit from seeing the photos again of her friends that she misses already. Her greatest take-away from this year (other than her comic answer of don't smile at monkeys) was the importance of showing others grace. Obrigada!



Jillian Faino

Jillian Faino went to a country smaller than Michigan, Taiwan.



She appreciated the smaller size which made it easy to travel to sites such as Taipei 101, hot springs, a cute bear exhibit called Rilakkuma, Buddha shrines, and their beaches.

She placed fourth in her Chinese exam so she won a trip to Kaohsiung where she went swimming on a banana boat and saw more Buddha shrines. She also visited a small island on the west shore between China and Taiwan called Penghu. The waffles spelled out “Penghu” and she went out on a boat to catch their own dinner.

On another trip, she went to Pingtung where she went on racecars, visited zoos (where they were “obsessed with capybaras”), pet deer, and rode dirt bikes. Jillian also visited Jiufen Old Street which was special because it inspired the movie, “Spirited Away” where there are a lot of steps and a store where they can dress up as ghosts.

Her greatest take away from her year in Taiwan other than a new religion is how impressed she was with how trustful people are there versus here in America. She would like to make America a more trustful place. An example was her story about leaving her bag on the train and when she returned later, it was still there and nothing was taken from it.

謝謝大家！



Kaydynce Vandebosch

Kaydynce Vandebosch went to Italy on the “very beautiful” island of Sardinia (west of the boot).



She was with her host family for only three days before heading to the Rome Institute for Rotary for a week where she met our Rotary International President. Back with her host family, she ate a lot of “really good” seafood/seafood pastas and introduced them to the American customs of carving pumpkins for Halloween and apple pie. Kaydynce visited “really pretty” caves and other areas.

She met and spent time with other exchange students from Germany, Argentina, Canada, and USA. In January, Epiphany is a separate holiday from Christmas where they celebrate with candy in stockings.

After 5 months, she switched to her second host family and there were a lot of festivals. One festival was Carnivale where people would put dirt on your face which to Kaydynce was “very surprising but it was so fun.” Another festival she attended was a very traditional one with the traditional Sardinia dresses. Kaydynce said, “Traditional Italian things are so beautiful, and I love it so much, but Sardinia was a whole other thing. I thought it was amazing that it was so different yet so beautiful.”

She went to Milan with her second host family and saw the “Last Supper” painting and the dome. She also went to a baseball game with other exchange students and was surprised it was not busy at all. With some free time, she was able to hike a lot in the pretty mountains.

In her tenth month, Kaydynce traveled throughout Europe to Switzerland (gorgeous but very expensive), France (saw the “Mona Lisa” painting), Belgium (very cool but very rainy), Netherlands (pretty), Germany (loved it so much that she even thought about going to University there), Prague (definitely going back here), and Slovakia, Austria, Hungary (great traditional dancing), Slovenia (super cool caves), Italy (went to Venice and it was nice to be able to communicate easier with people again).

Kaydynce thanked everyone and said it was the “best year of her life.” Her greatest take-away from this past year was the world is smaller than she thought. With the friendships that she built and the connections she has made, she feels the world is not as overwhelming as it was for her a year ago. Grazie!

They did have some language challenges, but they all overcame them. Kylee mentioned that Portuguese was difficult but overall, you get forced to learn quite a bit. Jillian said it was very frustrating for everyone, but they were able to use their phones to help. Kaydynce echoed similar thoughts as the other two and mentioned that it was a struggle, but it was ok and they all were grateful for their year as a Rotary Youth Exchange student.

8/1/2024 Muskegon Rotary
 YouTube Video Link: [Click here](#)

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

**Rotarians in Action
 Spotlight
 Carim Calkins**



Carim Calkins is retired from the military and serves our club in several ways. One of those contributions is placing American flags along Seaway Drive on holidays. He sees this as an apolitical way to honor our country and hopes others will join this Rotary service. He looks forward to serving in El Salvador or Honduras in the coming year. To view the spotlight, click [here](#).

ReWine meetings are every
 1st & 3rd Thursday each month at
 5:15pm at **Unruly Brewing**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Ep 30: Joel Kamp –
 Pigeon Hill Brewing
 Company**



Episode 30 of the Muskegon Rising Podcast is here, and it's a toast to local craft brewing.

We sat down with Joel Kamp with Pigeon Hill Brewing Company. Joel shares the brewery's journey, from its humble beginnings with repurposed Muskegon foundry lights and lumber-era pine tables to its exciting new developments and partnerships. Find out how Pigeon Hill has become a thriving hub for beer, food, and fun, all while celebrating Muskegon's rich brewing history.

Cheers to Muskegon Rising and Pigeon Hill Brewing Company! 🍷

Listen now at:
<https://www.buzzsprout.com/226972/9/15501462-joel-kamp-pigeon-hill-brewing-company>



Carla Flanders reminded members to Purchase tickets for Harvest Fest!



Fun Fact Barry's Greenhouse is donating plants so attendees can pick a signature glass or a flower (maybe purple) the day of this event is also National Polio Day. Get your tickets soon!



ReWine says Hello



Nancy McCarthy, let members know that **Ken James** is holding ten spots for Rotarians to join the Conversation on Race scheduled on August 13th in the afternoon and on the 14th in the morning. If your interested in attending email Nancy for more information and registration is free.



Mary Ann Groman, reminded us that Sue Wierengo passed away in January. Sue's family decided to have the memorial service on August 8th at 3:30 at St. Gregory's Church on Seminole Rd. She also reminded us that Bills Memorial Service is on August 7th

Peace Poles At Rotary Park - Heritage Landing



On International Peace Day, September 21, 2022, our Rotary PeaceBuilder Committee sponsored a "Celebration of Peace" at Heritage Landing-Rotary Park.

Poppen students, Bryce Thompson and Brenda Rodriguez, along with art instructor Hallie LeBlanc, and Poppen Executive Director, Claire Root Benson, created the Peace Poles erected in the Park.

Unfortunately, last year the paint on two poles started peeling (likely due to newly treated lumber). With busy Poppen students' schedules, it has taken a while to have them redone.

However, the Peace Poles have now been repainted, with Brenda repainting her original design, and Poppen student, Vivian Witmer volunteering to complete the other damaged pole.

The poles were prepped and primed this time so they should continue to look beautiful for years.



Please take time this summer to visit the Park and see the lovely Peace Poles. Thank you, Claire and Poppen students!

Microforest Mondays

8:30am – 10:30am

Help is needed for summer months
Contact John Noling for more
information

RIM Reporting Team

Co-Editors: Susan Besteman &
Jackie Farrar

Reporters: Kathy Moore, Roger
Morgenstern, Meredith Smillie

Photographers: Mark Alpher &
Roger Morgenstern

Contributors: Bill Johanson,
John Noling, & Mike Vogas

Memorial Contributions to Rotary

We are providing information on making memorial contributions in response to numerous inquiries.

* This information is NOT intended to be an “ask” for contributions.

* Those wishing to mail checks should make them payable to “Muskegon Rotary Foundation” and send to the Club PO Box address provided in Kristi’s email below.

* Those wishing to make a contribution electronically via a QR Code can use the QR Code below

Muskegon Rotary
Foundation Memorial



Bill Johanson

Remembrance shared by
Susan Besteman



Even though I have only known **Bill Johanson** through Rotary since 2019, I am forever thankful for the many opportunities he gave me within Rotary. His wisdom, support, sense of humor, and encouragement has always been appreciated. The successes and accomplishments that he achieved with the Rotary In Motion (RIM) newsletter has been a legacy of its own with the international acknowledgement of its success. Bill's respect and appreciation for others was admirable and, in my humble opinion, showed that he had a true Rotarian spirit. He also had a respect, appreciation, and passion for his work, whether that was entertaining people through his fantastic "Off the Record" music, interesting facts, comedic quips, or Rotary knowledge. Even in his last months, he continued to provide reports for the RIM including several honorable obituaries with photos, fun tribute songs for me and Lori for our help in continuing the RIM, a full story with pictures from his archived folders for our new District Governor **Brianna Scott**, and articles with some advice for life. One of the "RIM fillers" (termed while playing a game of Tetris each week with the articles),

was "The Power of Music" that featured a picture of former Rotarian John Severson playing his accordion that summarized how music is a universal language even when words fail us.



Other RIM fillers featured Bill playing around with his camera and photo-editing skills such as this one



One article that I would like to reshare: "Exciting and Terrifying" by Bill Johanson in early 2021. I've heard a number of folks lately - many quite well-read - express the thought that the only thing constant anymore is change. And since it's widely accepted that most people don't take kindly to change (insert, here, thoughts of those fabled "good ol' days"), simple surviving and thriving may only one day be the result of new skills and practices we put great value on and acknowledging that any curriculum without them is termed bereft of necessary building blocks to success. But before we proceed further, into the mix must also be leaders with positive attitudes and strong abilities to motivate others. Rotarians typically will have a head start as this "management club" is being organized. So, what kind of problems and heavy solutions are we thinking about? Many. Too many.



Consider the world water situation. The attached photo - taken this week by a John Sculley and submitted by my daughter Carrie - displays Muskegon's

Kruze Park's rapidly deteriorating ramp just above the dog run on the beach. How high and how quickly will the water get, impacting summer tourism and other economic factors?

Well, tons more serious stuff also needs identifying and addressing. Fortunately, Rotary International and its members will continue to partner wherever and however much we're needed. Sounds exciting but also a bit terrifying, just as it's felt like for hundred-plus years.

How can I summarize how much of an impact Bill had on my life and so many others? Even though I am still working towards his level of editing talent and grace, I am forever grateful for his wisdom, support, sense of humor, encouragement, and the opportunities he has gifted to me. Thank you for making my life and so many other lives better, Bill!



Visitation—8/6/24 at 5-7pm
Service—8/7/24 at 11am
Sytsema Funeral & Cremation
Services – The Lee Chapel
6291 Harvey St.
Norton Shores, MI 49444

