

# 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 22, 2024

**Next Meeting (August 29, 2024, 12-1:30pm) — Soup & Sandwich Buffett - at the Lake House**  
**Program Topic – Wheelfish Group**

## What's Coming

August 29- Wheelfish Group

### Upcoming Birthdays

September 2 Kimberly Taylor  
September 3 Jon Gale

### Caring Connections Fund

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



### Greeter This Week

Doug Brown  
Dave Medendorp

### Reflectors

Myrna Olsen August 22  
Bill Loxterman August 29

### Muskegon Rotary Board

Tim Arter, President  
Dave Alexander, President-Elect  
Roger Morgenstern, President Nominee  
Ginny Sprague, Past President  
Kristi Nagengast, Treasurer  
Jane Clingman-Scott, Secretary  
Kim Boersema, Club Coordinator  
Directors:  
Aaron Maike Tom Palmer  
Brandon Turnbull Esther Ricco  
Marty Sytsema Lisa Tyler

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

## Reflection



Myrna Olsen provides a moving reflection

### RIM Reporting this Edition

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

8/22/2024 Muskegon Rotary  
YouTube Video Link: [Click here](#)

## VISITORS & GUESTS



Peyton Johnson and Brad Seymour guests **Ammy Seymour**



Broc Babbitt Jr. guest of **Pam Babbitt**



**Alex Fonseca** introduced his Dad who is visiting from Brazil



**Linda Garzelloni** introduced her guest Claudia



Patrick O'Brien guest of **Monica Turnbull**



Two Inbound guests Apolline (France) and Laura (Brazil) of **Kristi Pawlak**



**Jim Fisher** introduces his guest **Mike Youngdahl**, an active Rotary member visiting from North Carolina



**Paul Harris Award Brad Seymour**

Michael B. Seymour, known to most of us as Brad, was drawn to aviation at an early age, influenced by his two grandfathers – one -a pilot in the Civil Air Patrol and the other - one of the few *enlisted* pilots in the military. But Brad was discouraged from pursuing a career in flying, so he enrolled and graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in finance.

He got a job in his field, but the dream of flying was still in his heart, so he took lessons and earned a private pilot's license. Hoping to become an airline pilot, Brad joined the Air Force where he worked on B-1B supersonic bombers while stationed in Texas at Dyess Air Force base. Subsequently he became a flight engineer assigned to the military's biggest transport plane, the C-5. Brad and his crew delivered cargo and passengers all over the world. The flights could also be sobering. Sometimes their precious cargo was deceased soldiers.

Brad remained in the Air Force until 2001, when he transitioned to the Reserves. However, two weeks later, on September 11, he was called up for active duty. He was assigned to a crew moving supplies and people across both the Atlantic and the Pacific and into places like Afghanistan.

Brad was on active duty for most of the next 10 years but also worked as a civilian. Interestingly, he took time to attend Grand Rapids Community College and earn a nursing degree subsequently working at Hackley Hospital and the Poppen Hospice residence.

Still attached to the National Guard and seeking a promotion Brad shifted into the only full time spot open to him at the time -- Air Battle Manager - - and he deployed for a second time to Ramstein, Germany to work for the commander of forces in Europe and Africa, as part of an around-the-clock reporting team.

In 2020, Brad began his final four years in the Air Force, all of which would be spent in Ramstein, largely apart from family, including Ammy, his wife of only three years, and her two children. To make it work for them, they both crossed the Atlantic multiple times so they could be together at holidays, celebrations, and family milestones.

On his retirement as a Senior Master Sergeant this June, the Air Force recognized Brad for his service that included

- Distinguishing himself as a Chief of Combat Operations Technician Manager with the 603d Air Operations Center that managed the daily execution of operations in two combatant commands covering more than 32 million square miles.
- Leading a team that provided 24-hour command and control of the execution of 130 daily defensive attacks, including the combined NATO response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine.
- Coordinating three Bomber Task Force deployments, providing assurance and security to our allies in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East.
- Participating in a hostage recovery providing oversight of intelligence, surveillance, and close air support assets, resulting in the individual's rescue with no friendly fire casualties.

In all his years of military service, Brad is most proud of his participation in humanitarian relief. For example, when an earthquake devastated parts of Istanbul, he was in the crew that transported an urban search and rescue team from Miami to Istanbul. And when Afghanistan refugees were coming into Germany, he provided nursing triage helping families to get settled.

Brad's thirty years in the military were unexpected and exciting, and characterized by strong leadership, his enthusiasm for his work, a love of challenge and adventure, and a deep commitment to service above self. Now settled back in Montague, Brad is looking forward to resuming his nursing career and spending time with his family and friends.

He recently volunteered as a nurse at the Harbor Hospice's Camp Courage for bereaved children. And he is eager to participate in Harbor's *We Honor Veterans* program, to recognize the service of hospice patients who are veterans. He continues to look for opportunities to give back. Congratulations Brad. Well done. Please accept this Paul Harris Fellow award – a gift from your wife, Ammy.

### RIM Reporting Team

Co-Editors: Susan Besteman & Jackie Farrar

Reporters: Kathy Moore, Roger Morgenstern, Meredith Smillie, Sue Samaniego

Photographers: Mark Alpher & Roger Morgenstern

Contributors: John Noling, & Mike Vogas

## This week's program: The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians – Family Services Department

Speakers: Rachel Kops

Introduced by: Asaline Scott

Reporter: Jackie Farrar



Asaline Scott introduced our guest speaker Rachel Kops



Rachel Kops sharing several services in her presentation to members and guests

The family services department provides accessible, effective, and diversified social services programs that enhance and maximize individual tribal citizens' capabilities for greater self-sufficiency and wellbeing. The focus is to maintain the preservation and reunification of Indian families by providing direct services for Indian children and families in compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act and Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act.



Services and Programs Provided.

**The Self -Sufficiency Program:** This is a holistic program that builds on the strength of individuals to create independence and accomplish future goals. Through case management and system navigation, individuals will be able to access Tribal and non-Tribal programs that assist with the journey to self-sufficiency.

**Indian Child Welfare Intervention & Reunification Program:** Intervention in State court proceedings as per the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA). Foster Care monitoring, adoption and Case Management services. Service Plan development to accomplish specific goals. The department works in conjunction with the Binojeuk Commission (Child Welfare Commission) who make independent recommendations on a case-by-case basis. The department also provides Qualified Expert Witness (QEW)

testimony as required by ICWA and MIFPA.

**Elder Support Services:** These services aid with Tribal and non-Tribal programs including case management services, advocacy, and referrals. Utilizing the Elder's Circle of Care these services give individual's the ability to live in their own home or community safely, independently, and comfortably regardless of age, income, or ability level for as long as possible. Family Services also collaborates with Adult Protective Services (APS) to protect Elders in abusive situations. They also assist Elders with questions and concerns when accessing programs on Federal and State levels.

**Member Assistance:** This offers assistance and support to tribal members using a collaborative multi-departmental approach. The program provides short-term relief to those experiencing heating and energy, food, housing, utility and transportation crisis. Elder citizens who are disabled and are limited in their ability to perform routine household chores can access "Elder Chore Services." An Elder meal program is available at no charge to all tribal elders, spouses and disabled individuals. These meals are served Monday through Thursday at the Aki Community Center located on LRBOI reservation.

**Family and Individual Counseling:** Counseling assistance to individuals and families directed at basic problem solving, intra-family relationships, and child parenting issues.

**Education and Assistance:** Facilitate with the basic knowledge of budgeting through tracking, analyzing, identifying and setting goals.

**Positive Indian Parenting:** is designed to provide a brief, practical, and culturally specific training program for Indian parents. The program is to help Indian parents explore the values and attitudes expressed in traditional Indian child-rearing practices and then to apply those values to modern parenting skills.

**Family Spirit Program:** This is a holistic approach with appropriate home base family involvement. This approach is designed to be flexible and interactive as parents gain knowledge and skills to promote healthy development and positive lifestyles for themselves and their children. The focus empowers parent(s) and support young Native parents from pregnancy to 3 years of age.

**Victim Services:** The service provides support and education services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. Specific services may include cultural advocacy, emergency shelter and outreach services.

Several ways to learn more about the Family Services Department

Family Services Department Contacts

Family Services Department <small>Look for us at <a href="https://tribemn.gov">www.tribemn.gov</a> Family Services link</small>	Toll Free	1-888-723-8288
	Manistee	231-398-6736
	Muskegon	231-655-3399

## Rotarians in Action Spotlight Ron Suszek



Muskegon Rotary provided a grant to assist in the founding of a transportation service in our community.

The Muskegon Area Bike Library increases bike friendliness and offers safe alternative transportation with an educational element too.

This partnership includes the Muskegon Area District Library, Hackley Community Care and the Muskegon County Bicycling Coalition. To view this spotlight, click [here](#).

## Microforest Mondays

8:30am – 10:30am

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



More than 70 members of the Muskegon and Grand Rapids Rotary Clubs joined forces the morning of Saturday, Aug. 17 to improve the outdoor grounds of the new location for the Boys and Girls Club of the Muskegon Lakeshore, 900 W. Western.

### President Elect Dave

**Alexander** helped organize the event with the Grand Rapids' Club's leadership. With many thanks to the talented **Mike Vogas**, here's a link to a You Tube video highlighting the event: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ga8mSSVWQNO>.

Remember to subscribe to Rotary's You Tube channel for this and so many more videos...and it's free!

Both clubs plan on doing another joint service project this winter in Grand Rapids at an indoor location. Thankfully the weather cooperated for the two-plus hours of hard work and then some social time at The Deck. Well done Rotarians!

## Ep 33: How Incarcerated Individuals Are Transitioned Back Into the Community



Join us as we sit down with Venita Melton, Correction Team Case Manager at HealthWest, on the latest episode of the Muskegon Rising Podcast. Venita shares invaluable insights into transitioning incarcerated individuals back into our community and the vital resources available to support their success.

This episode is a must-listen for anyone who knows someone who's ever been involved in the criminal justice system. Learn how to work together to reduce recidivism and create a stronger, more supportive community for everyone.

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2269729/15608063-how-incarcerated-individuals-are-transitioned-back-into-the-community>



**Stephanie Tushek** reminds members to purchase Harvest Fest tickets!



**Tickets:**

Tickets are on sale now! More information can be found [HERE](#). Tickets are limited so be sure to get your ticket(s) soon!

**Sponsorship:**

The HF committee would like to challenge each member to help raise funds for this event. It is very simple challenge, they ask that EACH OF YOU you call or email ONE friend or business person you know, and ask them if they would be willing to sponsor the event! [HERE](#) is a link to view and download the sponsorship document. Feel free to email it or print it off and share it with someone you know! There will also be copies at the weekly Rotary luncheons on

the back table. The instructions for returning the form are listed on the document.

**Volunteer:**

Volunteer registration is open! [HERE](#) is the link with more information. All volunteers that would like to enjoy the Harvest Fest activities before or after their shift will enjoy a discounted ticket price for the event!



Hey Rotarians!  
Watch me pull a rabbit out of my hat!



That's not a rabbit and that's not magic. The real magic will happen when Rotarians gather together for a three event weekend.

**The Rotary Foundation Gala - Oct. 18**  
**District Training Assembly - Oct 19**  
**District Conference - Oct 19 -20**

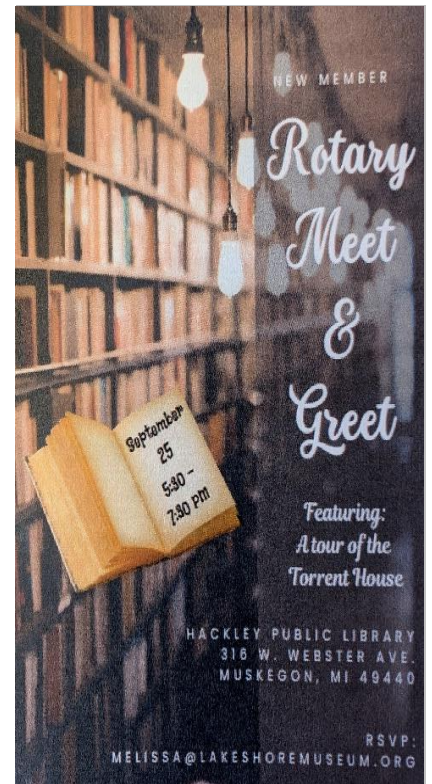
More details to come soon!

**Build your treasury for Interact!**

\$157 pop cans collected - Thanks to this crew!



**Tobias Melton, Brenda Rodriguez**  
**Cora McGinn, Icelyn Strong**  
**Serenity Phipps**



# Rotary After Hours Tour of Adelaide Pointe Wednesday, September 4, 2024 5:30pm – 7:30pm



**Tim Lipan** shares informatization on the Tour of Adelaide Pointe

**Who:** All Rotarians, Interact, Rotaract and their family and friends.

**What:** Rotary social event at Adelaide Pointe

**Where:** Adelaide Pointe, 1204 W. Western Ave., Muskegon, MI 49441

**When:** Wednesday, September 4, 2024, 5:30pm – 7:30pm.

## What Do I Receive?

- Hors d'oeuvres
- Water & soft drinks
- Cash Bar
- Tours of the brand-new Event Center, Muskegon Brewing Company, Marina, and Condominiums.
- Remarks and History of this former foundry site.
- Loads of fun
- Stay after for dinner, drinks and the best view on Muskegon Lake

**How Much Does it Cost:** FREE

**How to sign up:** No registration necessary but it would be helpful to sign up on sign genius

**Questions:** Contact Tim Lipan at [Lipant@comcast.net](mailto:Lipant@comcast.net) or 231-740-0982.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C44AFAA2CABFFC16-50790686-rotary>

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



**Craig Pirrotta** requests donated items from members for the Rotary Youth Exchange Auction

**Rotary**  
Club Of Muskegon

**YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

March - June - September - December

**Online Auction**  
October 2, 2024

**Donations needed - Scheduled Pick-ups**  
August 26, 2024 - September 6, 2024

**ITEMS NEEDED**

- Household Items - Sports Equipment  
- Appliances - Furniture - Electronics  
- Cars - Jewelry - Tools - Toys - Misc.

**CONTACT**

- Craig Pirrotta  
([craigpirrotta@gmail.com](mailto:craigpirrotta@gmail.com))  
- Kristi Pawlak  
- John Noling  
- Joanie Smith  
- Chip Chipman  
- Chauncy Williams

Shoreline  
**TOP BID**  
ONLINE AUCTIONS  
<https://bid.shorelinetopbid.com/auctions>