

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

December 19, 2024

Next Meeting (January 9, 2025, 12-1:30pm) — at the LAKE HOUSE
Program Topic – Future of Great Lakes Shipping/Port of Muskegon

What's Coming

December 26 & Jan 2nd – NO Meeting
 Jan 9 – Future of Great Lakes
 Shipping/Port of Muskegon
 Jan 16 – DEI Committee Update

Upcoming Birthdays

January 5	Bethann Egan
January 10	Megan Byard-Karaba
January 11	Robert Cook
January 11	Josh Silvis
January 13	John Selmon
January 14	Merica Dobry
January 14	Mark Eisenbarth
January 15	Sue Cloutier Crain
January 15	Don Kalisz

Caring

Connections Fund

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



Greeter this Week

Pete DeBoer & Tiffany DuPont

Reflector this Week

Lisa Tyler

RIM Reporting this Edition

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



Visitors & Guests

Photos are on pages 6 & 7

Sue Samaniego brought MCC
 Rotaract members Remi Sponseller,
 Matt Posthumous, & Amanda Rupert!

Pamala Babbitt—Paula Martin
Megan Byard-Karaba—
 Bernard Brown
Susan Besteman—Mark Besteman
Melissa Boughner—Colin Boughner
Cathy Brubaker-Clarke—Doug Clarke
Andy Buelow—Beth Buelow
Carim Calkins—Sally Calkins
Jane Clingman-Scott—Greg Scott
Doc Demirjian—Dona Demirjian
Kelly DeVos—Matt DeVos
Myra Dutton—Tina Campbell
Bill Erickson—Teresa Erickson
Larry Fife—wife
Lisa Gaddi-Arnold—Maddox Arnold
Brad Hastings—Ashley Arnouts
Ed Hendrickson—Debra Hendrickson
DJ Hilson—Tricia Hilson

Katrina Hyder—Brock Hyder
Annette Jack—John Jack
Lisa Kraus—Jenny Legros
Chad Lawie—LeeAnn Lawie
Bill Loxterman—Kenna
Tom Ludwig—Sue Ludwig
Cynthia Maynard—Evan Ewing
Nancy McCarthy—Ed Hunt
Melissa Moore—Tom Moore
Walter Mrotz—LouAnn Mrotz
Kristi Nagengast—Don Nagengast
John Noling—Sue Noling
Myrna Olsen—Vennie Avorque
Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga—
 Dan Rinsema-Sybenga
Christine Robere—Marv Robere
Kendrah Robinson—
 TeAngelo Robinson
Bob Scolnik—Lee Fonstein
Asaline Scott—Lurlean
Eric Seifert—Denise Montambo
Ammy Seymour—Brad Seymour
Meredith Smillie—Trent Smillie
Kim Taylor—Mackenzie Taylor
Rob Taylor—Priscilla Taylor
Lisa Tyler—Aaron Tyler
Doug Wood—Kim Wood
Joe Zappacosta—Jessica Larson



Lisa Tyler
 gave the
 reflection on
 peace





This week's program: Annual Meeting & Seasonal Entertainment by West Michigan Symphony Brass Quintet



Introduced by: **Andy Buelow**
RIM Reporter: **Susan Besteman**



Ethan Adams



Alex Wilson



Greg Bassett



Kip Hickman



Tim Warner

Charming music by our featured guest, the West Michigan Symphony Brass Quintet, elevated our holiday spirits. This moving performance by Ethan Adams (trumpet), Alex Wilson (trumpet), Greg Bassett (horn), Kip Hickman (trombone) and Tim Warner (bass trombone) featured songs from a variety of holiday traditions including Christmas, Hanukah, and Kwanzaa. "Sussex Carol," a Hanukkah melody, "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," "The Christmas Song" (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire), "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," and even a world premiere rendition of a choral arrangement of a Kwanzaa song, "Harambee," filled our ears and hearts.

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch their recorded performance for the Rotary Club of Muskegon.



Thank you, **Andy Buelow**, for arranging and introducing this wonderful program.

Our annual election for new officers and directors was held after the beautiful melodies. These new officers and directors will take office July 1, 2025.

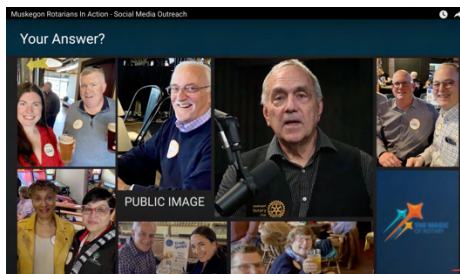


President-Elect **Roger Morgenstern** announced the slate of officers. Congratulations to the following individuals who were voted in and approved Officers:

- President Nominee – **Lisa Tyler**
 - Treasurer – **Kimberly Taylor**
 - Directors --
 - For a two-year term ending June 30, 2027 -- **Dimitri Poland**
 - For three-year terms ending June 30, 2028
 - Arlen Gaddy**
 - Lisa Kraus**
 - Melissa Moore**
 - Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga**
- Dave Alexander** will ascend to the office of President
Roger Morgenstern will ascend to the office of President-Elect



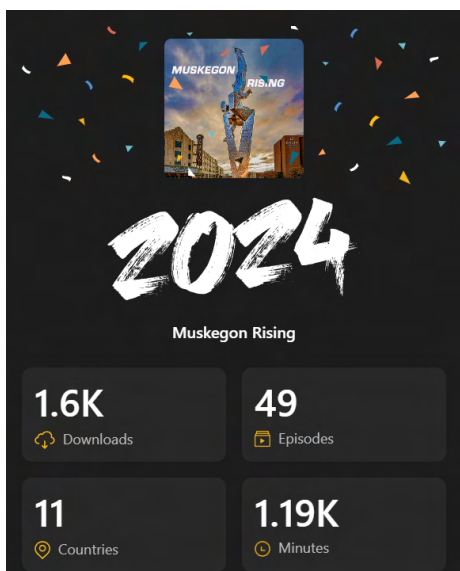
Muskegon Rotarians in Action – Social Media Outreach



This spotlight at the last Muskegon Rotary meeting of the year, celebrates the success of a new social media outreach program to increase awareness of positive change in the Greater Muskegon community. Muskegon Rising has produced a program every week and looks forward to another year of spotlighting local growth and improvement.

See the full video—[Click Here](#)

Congratulations to Rotary's Podcast & YouTube Channel!



Muskegon Rising Podcast Ep 50: Scott Speck – West Michigan Symphony



Want to make a difference in the We're celebrating a major milestone – the 50th episode of the Muskegon Rising Podcast!

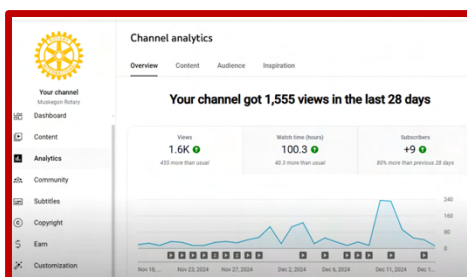
In this special episode, we sit down with world-renowned conductor Scott Speck for an exclusive interview. Scott gives us a behind-the-scenes look at the West Michigan Symphony as they celebrate 85 years of bringing incredible music to our community. Hear about his passion for music and the symphony's mission to enrich lives across West Michigan.

Congratulations to the Muskegon Rising team on reaching 50 episodes! Here's to many more inspirational stories.

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2269729/episodes/16294397-scott-speck-west-michigan-symphony>

This link connects to the entire collection of our YouTube Muskegon Rising video podcasts.

[CLICK HERE FOR ALL PODCASTS](#)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Rotary meetings on Dec. 26th and Jan. 2nd.

Our January 9th Meeting will be held at the **LAKE HOUSE**.

Brave Rotarians Contest Winners Announced!

Congratulations to our Brave Rotarians Contest winners, **Ed Hendrickson** and **Eric Seifert!** **Meredith Smillie** and **Mike Vogas** spun the wheel of doom and unfortunately Judge **Gregory Pittman** was booted out but thanked for his contribution to the Rotary Foundation.

Two Ways to Help our Interact Students with International Service!

1. Holiday Pop Can Drive

Please save your returnables this holiday season to help Rotary Interact students with great financial need for upcoming international service in El Salvador, Honduras and Youth Exchange costs. Our goal is to raise \$1,000 by mid-January so please start collecting and share with your friends and family. Feel free to bring your pop cans to noon Rotary meetings on Dec. 5, 12, 19 and January 9. If you have a large amount of returnables or can't bring them to the specified lunch meetings, let us know and we will pick them up from you. Please contact **John Noling** at

johnnoling65@gmail.com or call/text at 231-670-3740 or **Esther Ricco** at riccoe@gvsu.edu or call/text to 616-283-1810 to arrange a pick up. Thank you for your continued support of our Interact students!!!



2. Donate for Building Supplies in El Salvador

Unfortunately, the Chili Cookoff was not able to get off the ground this year and that has been our fundraiser for building supplies for the El Salvador trip in the past. This year we are asking for donations to fund this effort. If you are able to give, please see the QR code below. To give you an idea of the difference our building efforts in El Salvador make:



Above is a picture of a typical house in Talnique, El Salvador – metal sheeting, bedsheets, tarps, mud, sticks, dirt floors, basically anything they can find to put a roof over their heads.



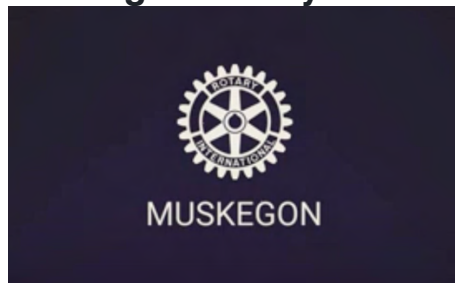
This is a house built with a Talnique family, Rotarians and Interactors – bricks, metal roofing, windows, doors, and cement floors.

We appreciate any support you can give to provide safe housing for the people of El Salvador!

If you have any questions, please see **John Noling** or **Esther Ricco**.



Goodbye 2024: Muskegon Rotary Video



Click the picture above to see the video **Mike Vogas** created to give a one-minute salute to our efforts in 2024.



Upcoming Meetings--
Thursday, January 2 – NO meeting
Thursday, January 16 – Meeting at 5:15pm at Unruly Brewing

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](#):



President Tim Arter and production director **Mike Vogas** pose for their recognition of our outstanding performance of our social media outreach.

RIM Reporting Team

Co-Editors: Susan Besteman & Jackie Farrar
 Reporters: Kathy Moore, Roger Morgenstern, Meredith Smillie, Sue Samaniego, Ginny Sprague
 Photographers: Mark Alpher, Wyatt Huggett, & Roger Morgenstern
 Contributors: John Noling, Mike Vogas, & Doug Wood

Auction Items Needed for Youth Exchange



Craig Pirrotta helps with the Rotary Youth Exchange Program and this year it will cost \$8000 for each student. This increased expense caused one of the students to drop out, so they need our help with more donations including donations for another auction. The first auction a few months ago raised \$1200 with another \$500 check that arrived after; however, these students could use more help. Craig is looking to do another auction this month and is asking for more items or even your cash donation.

[The flyer is the last page of this newsletter.](#)

[CLICK HERE](#) to donate cash or contact Craig if you have items. This quarterly fundraiser is worth more than the effort it takes to raise the money. The value of experiencing another culture will improve the outlook and social understanding of these students for the rest of their lives.

To watch Craig's brief video, [CLICK HERE.](#)

Online Auction

Wednesday January 22, 2025

Donations needed - Scheduled Pick-ups

December 13, 2024 - January 3, 2025

Adopt A Working Family Through United Way

Christine Robere shared that United Way of the Lakeshore is still looking for people to adopt six remaining families through its Adopt a Working Family program, which is helping more than 130 families in our community! Here's a link to a recent e-mail shared with the community with background information and how to get involved:

<https://conta.cc/4g3hO8o>. United Way also has a webpage that folks can check out for more information: [Adopt A Working Family Program | United Way of the Lakeshore](#). There's also information on United Way's Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/RhForYmpP5b6PZwB/>. If it's easier, feel free to call Sara Sherwood at United Way, (231) 332-4010.



MUSKOGON AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY



Looking for some fiction books for the holidays? [CLICK HERE](#) for MADL recommendations!



Happy Holidays!

December 19, 2024







Rotary Foundation of Muskegon

YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

March - June - September - December

Online Auction

Wednesday January 22, 2025

Donations needed - Scheduled Pick-ups

December 13, 2024 - January 3, 2025

ITEMS NEEDED

Household Items - Sports Memorabilia

Appliances - Furniture - Electronics

Collectibles - Jewelry - Tools - Toys

Cash Donations
Accepted



CONTACT

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