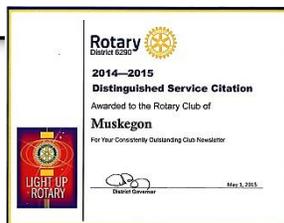


“Service Above Self” Muskegon Rotary in Motion



<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>

Jason Piasecki, President
Jane Clingman-Scott, President-Elect
Ginny Sprague, President Nominee
Mark Meyers, Past President
Tim Arter, Treasurer
Kathy Betts, Secretary
Kim Boersma, Club Coordinator



Muskegon Rotary Club

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

Next Mtg—February 17, 12:00-1:30pm

Hybrid Style – The Delta & Zoom

ReWine Sat Club – Next mtg 2/17 5:15 pm

Unruly Brewing Company



Mary Anne Gorman, Director
Jeff Lewis, Director
Doug Wood, Director
Asaline Scott, Director
David Ramos, Director
Marty Gerencer, Director
Lori Weiler, 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 (2/17/22) — Reinventing & Reimaging: Maintaining Live Music

Maintaining live music in a changing environment with Andy Buelow from the West Michigan Symphony.

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

Ginny Sprague

REFLECTORS

Bill Erickson Feb 10
Meredith Smillie Feb 17

THIS WEEK'S MENU

BBQ Buffet

NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Heather Ruffin Feb 18
Kristi Pawlak Feb 21

[Caring Connections Fund](#)

PROGRAMS / EVENTS

2/10 Afganistan Refuge Update
2/17 Maintaining Live Music
2/17 ReWine 5:15 PM
Unruly Brewing Company
2/24 Rapid Response by Law Enforcement



February 10, 2022
Muskegon Rotary Club
Meeting Video

[Click Here](#)

VISITORS & GUESTS

Kristine VanNoord (Director of Family Resettlement Refugee Services with Bethany Christian Services and presenter) - guest of **Meredith Smillie**



Rita Caviness (approved Rotary applicant and Director of Client Services/Mentor Program Coordinator for The Hope Project) – guest of **Meredith Smillie**



Rachel Zaragoza (Special Populations Coordinator at Muskegon ISD) - guest of **Randy Lindquist**



Myra Dutton (CEO HGA Support) - guest of **Aaron Maiké**



Kelsey Rhoda (PTAC Director at Muskegon Area First and already filled out her application for Rotary) - guest of **Contessa Hood**



Zoom Guests:
Rev Rob Cook and Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga (who submitted her application for membership)

RIM Reporting Team

Susan Besteman susan@bestemanproperties.com
Chip Chipman codychipman@gmail.com
Jackie Farrar farrarjackie@yahoo.com
Susan Holkeboer sholkebo1905@aol.com
Bill Johanson bill.johanson@yahoo.com
Kathy Moore MooreKa@co.muskegon.mi.us
Roger Morgenstern rogmorgen@gmail.com
Meredith Smillie msmillie@bethany.org
Lori Weiler lori.weiler@summitlawcare.net

Student Guests



Welcome Mona Shores High School!

Gary Nelund introduced Assistant Principal Joe Shaffer. Joe introduced Sophia Fisher and Alden Crago.

Sophia would like to stay in Michigan and obtain a pre-med degree to pursue a physician career.

Alden is looking to head to the U of M School of Music to pursue a degree in music and technology.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



B2B SOCIAL • SOUP LUNCHEON • DRAWINGS

February 15, 2022
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Fricano Place
1050 W Western Ave
Suite 201
Muskegon, MI 49441

Annual business luncheon to benefit
 MUSKEGON
RESCUE MISSION

Fill The Bowl –

Muskegon Rescue Mission

Fill The Bowl (formerly Soups for Suits) is being held again this year on February 15th at 11:30am at Fricano's. If you would like to be a sponsor, contact **Bill Erickson** at berickson@muskegonmission.org.

Muskegon Rotary Board

Jason Piasecki jason@revel.in
Jane Clingman-Scott jane1@comcast.net
Ginny Sprague ginny.e.sprague@gmail.com
Mark Meyers markm@nortonshores.org
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Asaline Scott ascott03169@gmail.com
David Ramos david@ramosautobody.com
Marty Gerencer marty.gerencer@gmail.com

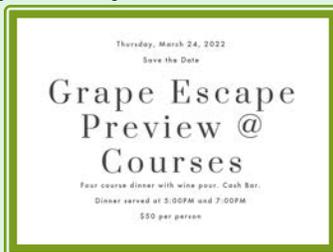
Change in Leadership for DE&I Topped with a New Role

Jeff Lewis and **Doug Wood** would like to assume the role (as has been written) of the Chairpersons for the Community Outreach Council. Their desire will be to bring together the leadership of the Public Relations Committee, RIM Newsletter, Website Team, Social Media Effort, and the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DE&I) Committee on at least a quarterly basis to discuss the unified promotion of the club.

To allow this to happen, they have stepped down from the chair positions of the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee. **Andy Buelow** and **Contessa Hood** have taken the reins of that committee.

Thank you, Jeff and Doug for your service! We look forward to your continued leadership. Congratulations to Andy and Contessa on your new roles!

Grape Escape Preview



Grape Escape Preview at Courses will take place on March 24, 2022 at Baker College Culinary Institute. Tickets are \$50 a person which includes a four-course dinner and three wine pours. A cash bar is also available and reservations are limited. Purchase tickets on EventBrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/grape-escape-preview-courses-tickets-265167120997>

They are also looking for committee members for Grape Escape this year. Contact **Meredith Smillie** if you would like dinner on March 24th or are willing to help with Grape Escape: msmillie@bethany.org.



Rotary International District Raffle Tickets

Our District 6290 50/50 Raffle officially began on January 2, 2022. Tickets are \$20 a piece and the drawing for the six winning tickets will take place on March 11th in Kalamazoo at the President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS). See **Ginny Sprague** for tickets before February 28th. Proceeds will benefit both our Muskegon Rotary Foundation and also the District 6290 Foundation.

Pay Your Dues

If you have not already done so, please make sure to pay your Rotary dues. Contact our club secretary, **Kathy Betts**, if you have questions about this.

Muskegon Health Update

Kathy Moore reported that Muskegon County COVID numbers have steadily declined since January 17 and we are transitioning from strict guidelines to strongly recommending individual responsibility. That means you assess your own circumstances and take precautions accordingly. Kathy thanked **Arn Boezarrt** for making available bags with N95 masks for Rotary attendees.





Rob Taylor is the new Chair of the Rotary Seaway Run Committee and actively recruiting committee members.

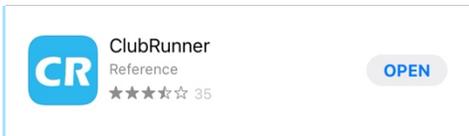


An immediate need is for soliciting sponsors, the biggest source of funding. A meeting is forthcoming in the next two weeks.

Contact Rob via email at taylorrj@ameritech.net



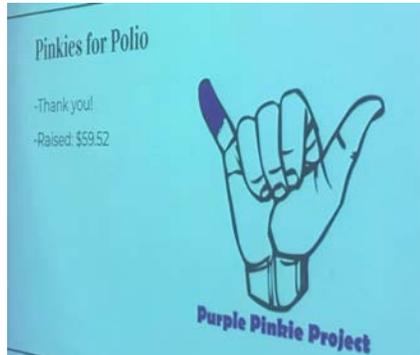
Clubrunner App



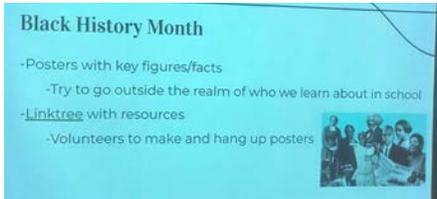
Download the Clubrunner App directly to your phone or tablet for easier communication. Search the Muskegon Rotary on speed dial. This app helps integrate members directly to your smart devices (Apple ios 3.1 or later and Android 2.3.3 or better). Download this app from the Apple App Store or Google Play, then enter your username and password for all committee updates and Muskegon Rotary information at your fingertips.

Interact Insider

Besides helping to raise a combined total of \$642.53 at a December Rotary and ReWine meeting for End Polio Now, Mona Shores Rotary Interactors added \$59.52 to the total this past week with a Pinkies for Polio booth at their school.



Another current club project, in honor of Black History Month, seeks to educate others with posters going up around school.



Solid leadership and continuity, even through COVID, has exemplified this Rotary Interact club.

We offer our sincere club thanks and best wishes to their club, to their newly installed club President, Sydney Olthoff, and to Club Advisor, Aaron Santa Maria.



This Week's Spotlight: Troy Bell



Troy Bell is the City Manager of Muskegon Heights and brings us twenty-two years of public service experience. He comes from a family that reveres truth and compassion and joined our club to invest those qualities in our community. Troy is married with three kids. He has degrees from University of Miami in Finance, Economics, Mechanical Engineering, Sociology, and a Masters in Public Administration.

Troy has worked in public service for 22 years. He started as police officer then a mechanical engineer, and eventually ended up in local government management after a working with IBM in their state/local government sector.

Troy brings a knowledge and awareness that comes from living in so many different places across the country. He has diverse experience academically and professionally. Troy has a compassion for truth and passion for serving others. See the full interview with Troy [here](#).

Update Your Personal Information

Reminder to make sure that if any of your personal information (such as email or address) changes, make those changes in ClubRunner or send them to **Kim Boersma** (our club coordinator) who will make the changes for you. Her email is muskegonrotarycc@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM:



Afghanistan Refugee Update

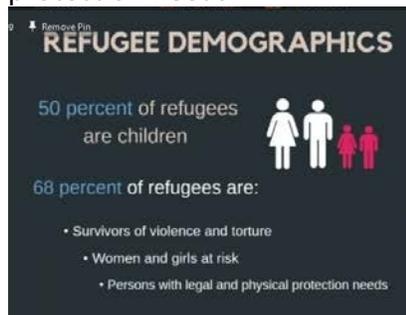
Speakers: Kristine VanNoord
RIM Reporter: **Lori Weiler**

Meredith Smillie (Branch Director at Bethany Christian Services) introduced today's speaker, Kristine VanNoord, Program Director for Bethany Refugee and Adult Family Programs.



A refugee is defined as "someone who has fled their country of origin and is unable or unwilling to return due to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion." They are fleeing for their lives. Kristine commented that she's never met a refugee who didn't wish they could stay in their home country. They have to flee for their lives to a safe place. The number of forcibly displaced people worldwide is 79.5 million. Of that number, 45.7 million are internally displaced, 26 million are refugees, and 4.2 million are asylum-seekers.

Refugees are the most vulnerable—women and children. Sixty-eight percent of refugees are survivors of violence and torture, women and girls are the most vulnerable. They are persons with legal and physical protection needs.

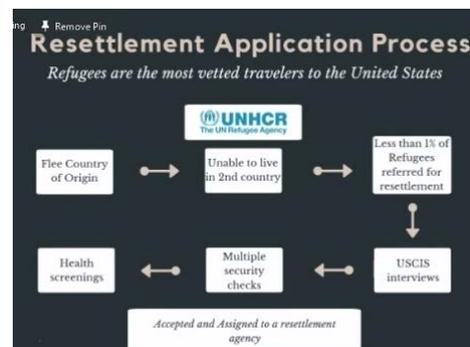
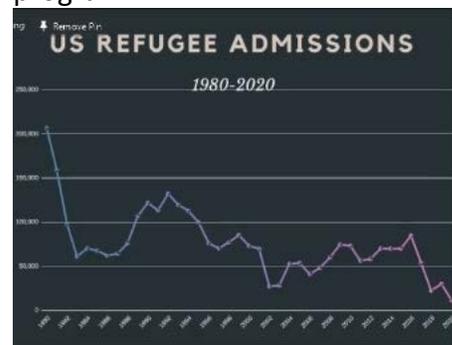


There are so many global issues impacting forced migration. For example, the war in Syria and now those fleeing Afghanistan. We are seeing a lot in the Grand Rapids area from the Congo fleeing racial and ethnic cleansing as well as other types of persecution. The Afghanistan number will have risen and these are the places we are seeing refugees come from.

Country	Estimated Number
Syrian Arab Rep.	6,600,000
Venezuela	3,700,000
Afghanistan	2,700,000
South Sudan	2,200,800
Myanmar	1,080,000
Somalia	905,100
D.R Congo	807,400
Sudan	784,900
Central African Rep	610,200
Eritrea	505,300

The U.S. has a long history of welcoming refugees. Since 1980, the Refugee Act allowed them to

come into U.S. Bethany has been involved since the 1960s starting with Cubans and 1970s with the fall of Saigon. There is an eb and flow to the number coming in (primarily due to need). Two exceptions include a dip after September 11 when security and screening measures increased and another during the Trump administration. It's starting to go up again but refugee admission is low due to COVID and rebuilding the infrastructure of the refugee program.



Typically refugees flee into a border country. Syrians fled to Lebanon, Egypt, Jordan and Turkey. There, they register with UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) and get refugee status. That can give them some protection in a second country. Then it is determined if they can live viably in the second country or return to their first country. For some, it is impossible to stay in the second country or return home.

Then they are referred to resettlement to a third country like the U.S. There are 35 countries in the world that welcome refugees. Less than 1% of refugees are referred for resettlement. The need is much greater but that is the number that have come into countries like the U.S. In the U.S. there is a rigorous security screening process with six different national agencies including USCIA, Homeland Security, FBI, and CIA. Refugees are the most vetted individuals to the US. They also do health screening and are assigned to one of nine resettlement agencies. Bethany partners with a few of those for adult and family resettlement. Many Afghans who have fled end up on military bases so a lot of the process (security checks and health screenings) occur at military bases. After they come from that base and have been in the U.S. for months, then they come to Bethany and the resettlement process begins.

Afghan Arrivals

- Screening and vetting prior to arrival in the US and at military bases
- Immigration Pathways
 - Special Immigrant Visa (SIV)
 - Humanitarian Parole
 - Refugee
- Afghan Placement and Assistance Program
- Eligible for same services as refugees
 - *Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act*
- 250 allocated to Bethany in West Michigan

SIV (Special Immigrant Visa) is one way that Afghans are able to be here one. This is for Afghans who have served the U.S. government or U.S. contractor for a minimum of a year. These people, often interpreters, have placed their lives in danger by serving our country in this way. The SIV allows them to

obtain their green card right away and are on the pathway to citizenship after five years in U.S. Humanitarian Parole is a form of refugee status where they apply for asylum in order to stay in the U.S. We work with Lakeshore Immigrant Services to help with that process and changing their status so they can stay here long term. There are a few refugees coming through the regular refugee resettlement process and that will increase as we begin processing Afghans out of Pakistan.



A lot of Afghans come all at once. We typically receive 30-40 refugees per month and since October/November up until about now we have had about 220 Afghans--a large amount of people in short amount of time. Temporary housing is usually hotels. The refugees need help with cultural orientation, educating them how to live in the U.S., get them connected with medical and dental services, Social Security, get the kids in school, help parents with English language services, all the different things you can imagine would need to take place in their first 90 days. Bethany is hoping to place four or five refugee families in the Muskegon area. They are working with local churches to be co-sponsors to help with

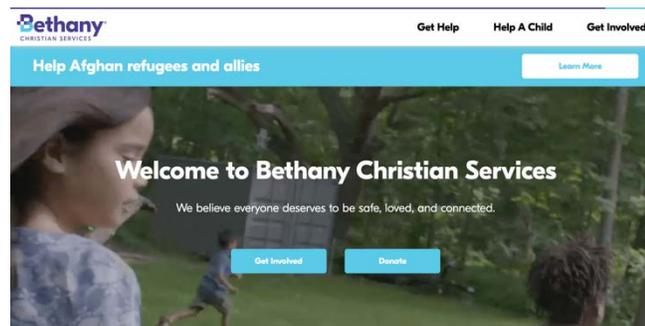
that process of welcome. Bethany is seeing a lot of really technically-trained people: doctors, nurses, pilots, IT backgrounds, lots of different specialties. Afghans are so eager to work they want to work the day after they get here.



The need is always great for foster parents.

How can we help? Group co-sponsorships from churches and other organizations; becoming a refugee foster parent; fundraising and donation drives include furniture, household items, clothing drives; and civic engagement.

What initiatives are we taking to get their family back here? Bethany is serving a lot of single men and all are married and have their families still in Afghanistan. We are applying for them to come and hoping for the opportunity for them to come through the refugee program to be reunited with families.



New Muskegon Rotary Committee Updates Page



Do you want to know more about what each committee is up to? Head to our website at MuskegonRotary.org and select the drop down menu from the "Our Club" tab. Then click on the "Committee Updates" link to get the latest information on each of our Committees at work. If you are a committee chair or representative, send your committee updates as a Word Document or PDF to **Mike Vogas**. Here is a short video description of how to access this site – [CLICK HERE](#). This now contains Mike.vogas@muskegonrotary.org

Rotary Becomes Intercontinental

By **Bill Johanson**



The year was 1922, one-hundred years ago. Delegates at the 1922 Rotary Convention in Los Angeles, California, changed the RI Constitution to make provisions for national or territorial units that would operate as administrative units of Rotary International. In particular, they would be empowered to approve applications and issue charter certificates for clubs in the designated

territory (clubs in England, Scotland and Ireland joined clubs already established in the United States and Canada).

Times were certainly different then. Let's examine the 1922 environment in which early Rotary leaders developed their organization; tasks probably were more difficult than they'd be today.



The average life expectancy for men was 47 years.

Fuel for cars was sold in drug stores only.

Only 14 percent of homes had a bathtub.

Only 8 percent of homes had a telephone.

The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph

The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.

The average US wage in 1922 was 22 cents per hour.

The average US worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.

A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2,000 per year.

A dentist earned \$2,500 per year.

A veterinarian between \$1,500 and 4,000 per year.

And, a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.

More than 95 percent of all births took place at home.

Ninety percent of all doctors had NO COLLEGE EDUCATION! Instead, they attended so-called medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press AND in the government as "substandard."

Sugar cost four cents a pound.

Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen.

Coffee was fifteen cents a pound.

Most women washed their hair once a month and used Borax or egg yolks for shampoo.

Canada passed law prohibiting poor people from entering into their

country for any reason.

The Five leading causes of death were:

1. Pneumonia and influenza
2. Tuberculosis
3. Diarrhea
4. Heart disease
5. Stroke

The American flag had 45 stars.

The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was only 30.

Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented yet.

There was neither a Mother's Day nor Father's Day.

Two out of every 10 adults couldn't read or write.

And, only 6% percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were available over the counter at local drugstores. Back then pharmacists said: "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach, bowels, and is a perfect guardian of health!" (Shocking?)

Eighteen percent of households had at least one full-time servant or domestic help.

There were about 230 reported murders in the ENTIRE U.S.A.



RIM's staff is now thinking of forwarding this to others, like we've done with you. From there, it can be sent around the WORLD, all in a matter of seconds! Is it not impossible to imagine what things may be like in another 100 years?

Never mind 100 years.....just 5 more years.

