

The RIM Newsletter

Rotary In Motion



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

January 4, 2024

Next Meeting (January 11, 2024, 12-1:30pm) — Pasta Buffet at the **Lake House**
Program Topic – Voting 101

What's Coming

January 11 Voting 101
January 18 Muskegon Career
Tech Center
January 25 GVSU

Upcoming Birthdays

January 4 Jerry Kuester
January 9 Lisa Sabourin
January 10 Megan Byard-Karaba
January 11 Robert Cook & Josh Silvas
January 13 John Selmon
January 14 Merica Dobry & Mark
Eisenbarth
January 15 Susan Cloutier-Crain &
Don Kalisz

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



Greeter this week

Arlen Dean-Gaddy

Reflectors

Joanie Smith	Jan 4
Rob Cook	Jan 11
Adam Bell	Jan 18
Darlene Collett	Jan 25

RIM Reporting this week

Photographer – Roger Morgenstern
RIM Reporter – Susan Besteman
RIM Editor – Susan Besteman

VISITORS & GUESTS



Roger Morgenstern introduces his guest, the Rev. Dan Barnum-Steggerda. Dan is a former member and is considering re-joining our Club.



Kirk Hallman introduces his Muskegon Museum of Art colleague Ruby Chaise.



Jim Fisher welcomes back to the Club former member **Myrna Olsen**.



Dom Bunker introduces her guest and United Way of the Lakeshore colleague Wyneice Hairston.



Kristi Pawlak welcomed back our Club's four "inbound" international exchange students and they each shared school activities that are keeping them busy and engaged. From left, the students are **Andres Amaya** of Columbia (attending Mona Shores), **Kyoka Tomoyama** of Japan (attending Reeths-Puffer), **Tomas Uruena** of Columbia (attending North Muskegon) & **Dori Szekeres** of Hungary (attending North Muskegon).



Dave Alexander introduces his guest and City of Muskegon colleague Jocelyn Hines.



Andrea Riegler introduces her daughter **Anna Riegler**.



Scott Timmer introduces his guest and prospective member **Dave Medendorp**.



Samantha Scott introduces her guest, **Jarod Hughes**.



John Noling shares with the Club the good work **Muskegon Interact** member **Tobias Melton** is doing, including the upcoming trip to El Salvador to build homes.

No Student Guests This Week

Muskegon Rotary Board

Ginny Sprague, President
Tim Arter, President-Elect
Dave Alexander, President Nominee
Jane Clingman-Scott, Past President
Kristi Nagengast, Treasurer
Don Hutchins, Secretary
Kim Boersema, Club Coordinator
Directors:

Aaron Maike	Roger Morgenstern
David Ramos	Asaline Scott
Marty Sytsema	Brandon Turnbull

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

This Week's Program: Black Wall Street – Muskegon



Speaker: **Lashae Simmons II**

Introduced by: **Dave Alexander**

Reporter: **Susan Besteman**

This week, **Lashae Simmons II**, President of **Black Wall Street Muskegon**, gave the crowd a fun and enlightening presentation on her organization. **Black Wall Street** is “a non-profit organization fighting to reduce entrepreneurial poverty for BIPOC business owners in Muskegon County and surrounding areas.”



Lashae surprised the crowd with the little-known fact that every dollar earned in the black community only stays in the community for an average of six hours. She encouraged everyone to spend money within the community. Local business owners tend to give back directly to their own community as opposed to non-local business owners.

The organization's five key objectives are:

- Decrease environmental injustices
- Reduce structural barriers
- Amplify black businesses revenue streams
- Utilize social media as a resource to create additional exposure for black business owners
- Invest in and create attainable opportunities for access to capital

Their vision is “to create an incubator that provides growth, economic stability and an increased life span of the African American dollar within the African American community; through entrepreneurship technical training, high exposure events, affordable marketing, and an interactive social networking space.” Lashae provided copies of their magazine on the tables with more information.

To see the program in its entirety, click [this link](#) to watch the video.



Subscribe: [Blackwallstreet231.org](https://blackwallstreet231.org)

Member Spotlight Jill Bonthuis



The Rotary International theme for January is Vocational Service. Jill Bonthuis, CEO of Pioneer Resources, serves the vocational needs of people with disabilities and aging adults, with a place to live, a place to learn, a place to grow and play, and a way to get there.

Watch the video [here](#).

Brave Rotarian Wheel of Misfortune



Meredith Smillie watches as **Mike Vogas** spins the "Wheel of Misfortune" as two more Rotarians are thanked and removed from the Brave Rotarian contest. Each week, Meredith shares examples of "Rotary In Action" through the Rotary Foundation. We said "goodbye" to **Susan Holkeboer** and **Ed Hendrickson**.



Get Your Chili On!



Esther Ricco and Muskegon Interact member **Tobias Melton** talk about the upcoming Chili Cookoff fundraiser Feb. 13. The committee now has a QR code for purchasing tickets. Proceeds raised will help buy "books and bricks" (for the \$4000 house and books for students) in El Salvador.

If you'd like to get into the chili cook-off contest, please contact Esther Ricco (riccoe@gvsu.edu) for information. If you'd like to be a sponsor for this event, please contact Michelle Burley (michelleburley1969@gmail.com) for information. Your support is greatly appreciated!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



January is Vocational Services Month
President Ginny, with the help of **Mike Vogas**, showed the Power in Our Connections video.

To see the video, [click here](#).


District 6290 50/50 Raffle

Together we can change lives by building better communities. Join us in the great 2024 50/50 Raffle. Half of your ticket goes to the Rotary Foundation to do more in the world and half your ticket will be returned in prize money to 6 lucky winners. Tickets for \$20 each are on sale through February 29, 2024. See **Meredith Smillie** to purchase. Cash or check made out to Rotary District 6290.


Reflections

If you are interested in helping with the reflection at the start of our weekly meetings, please contact Rabbi **Alan Alpert** to sign up.





Get Your Chili On! Cook Off and 50/50 Raffles



Enjoy great chili and vote for your favorite!

A benefit fundraiser to support local Rotary Interact students who will be participating in international service projects in El Salvador and Honduras in March and April 2024.


Proceeds will be used to purchase house building materials and other supplies on their trips.

Tuesday, February 13, 2024
5:30-7:30pm
First Lutheran Church
1206 Whitehall Road, Muskegon MI 49445

Tickets are \$10 each (or \$15 at the door) – Children 5 and under free

* Menu: Chili, cornbread, salad, desserts and water included with ticket.

Scan QR code to buy your tickets:
(Please enter the total \$ amount of the tickets you want to purchase. \$10.00 x number of tickets you'd like. Example, enter \$20.00 if you wish to buy two tickets. The email receipt you receive will serve as your ticket into the event.)





ReWine Meetings

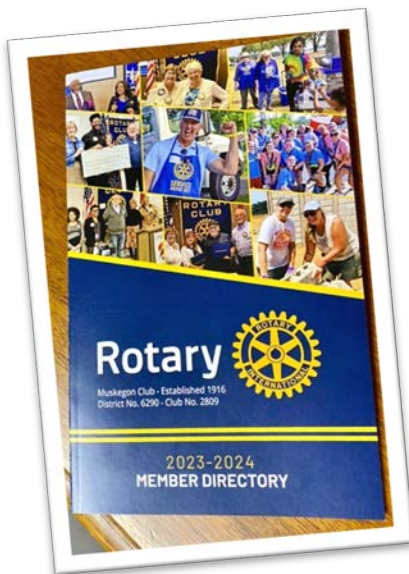
ReWine meetings are every first and third Thursday each month at 5:15pm at Walker's (in the Delta).



Bill "Lox" Loxterman in maize and blue courtesy of **Nancy Crandall**

Muskegon Rotary Club Directory Made History

Our club directory made history this year with 100% participation of each member having a photo! While you will still need to access phone numbers through Clubrunner, pick up a Club Directory book at the next meeting as an excellent reference tool of our club members as well as other important information.



President Ginny welcomed us back from our holiday break and the start of 2024. Although she read that it's past the time to keep saying "Happy New Year!" *RIM* is still investigating this matter but nonetheless wishes everyone a happy 2024.



RIM Reporting Team

Co-Editors: Susan Besteman & Lori Weiler

Reporters: Jackie Farrar, Kathy Moore
Roger Morgenstern,
Meredith Smillie

Photographers: Mark Alpher & Roger Morgenstern

Contributors: Bill Johanson,
John Noling, & Mike Vogas



The perfect addition to any desk or countertop, our new member directory! Pick one up at the next Club meeting.