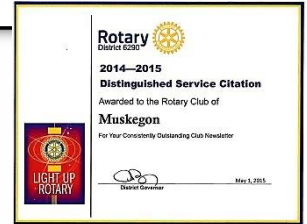


"Service Above Self" Muskegon Rotary in Motion



<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>

Jane Clingman-Scott, President
Ginny Sprague, President-Elect
Tim Arter, President Nominee
Jason Piasecki, Past President
Kristi Nagengast, Treasurer
Don Hutchins, Secretary
Kim Boersema, Club Coordinator



Muskegon Rotary Club

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

Next Mtg—January 12, 2023, 12-1:30pm

The Delta - Hybrid

ReWine Sat Club—Next mtg 1/19/23 5:15 pm



IMAGINE ROTARY
Jeff Lewis, Director
Marty Sytsema, Director
Aaron Maike, Director
Asaline Scott, Director
David Ramos, Director
Marty Gerencer, Director
Roger Morgenstern, 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 (1/19/23) — MASID: Current Successes & Challenges for our Schools

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

Robert Mathis & Arlen-Dean Gaddy

REFLECTORS

Emily Morgenstern Jan 5
Bill Loxterman Jan 12
Darlene Collett Jan 19
Bill Erickson Jan 26

Contact Alan Alpert if you can help

NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

John Selmon Jan 13
Merica Dobry Jan 14
Mark Eisenbarth Jan 14
Sue Cloutier Crain Jan 15
Don Kalisz Jan 15

[Caring Connections Fund](#)

PROGRAMS / EVENTS

Jan 5 – Gambia Service Project
Jan 5 – ReWine at 5:15 pm
Jan 12 – MAISD
Jan 19 – Rotary Int'l Ukraine Relief

RIM Reporting Team

Susan Besteman Lori Weiler
Chip Chipman Jackie Farrar
Susan Holkeboer. Bill Johanson
Kathy Moore Meredith Smillie
Roger Morgenstern
John Noling, Contributor

Missed last week?

Watch the 1/5/22 meeting [here](#).

VISITORS & GUESTS



We welcomed Erik Vogas, Mike Vogas' son, who has returned to West Michigan from an extended time living overseas.



Our International Exchange students Apichaya "Design" Laorattanakul, from Thailand and Emma Krichbaum from Austria also attended.

Muskegon Rotary Board

Jane Clingman-Scott Ginny Sprague
Tim Arter Jason Piasecki
Kristi Nagengast Don Hutchins
Marty Sytsema Kim Boersema
Jeff Lewis Asaline Scott
David Ramos Marty Gerencer
Aaron Maike

Please email Club Board

Members through this [link](#):



Front Row: speaker Bella Lindsay's grandmother, Jane Appleton Schapka. Back row from left: Bella, her mother Zabrina Lindsay, Alan Alpert and Bella's sister Sophia Lindsay



Interactors From Left: Jaley Schultz (President NM), Emma Krichbaum (NM), Zuri LaBrenz (VP Musk), Victoria Guerrero (Musk), Sophia Lindsay (Secretary). They are helping with the Purple Pinky project to End Polio Now and even being the winners of all three 50/50 drawings!

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM: Gambia Service Project



Speaker: Bella Santiago Lindsay
 Introduced by: **Mark Meyers**
 Reporter: **Roger Morgenstern**

We were treated to an inspirational program about the African country of The Gambia and proof that Interact is creating the next generation of world leaders.

Bella Santiago Lindsay, currently a junior at the University of Pennsylvania studying economics and global health, is a proud North Muskegon alum and past president of the NM Interact Club. Many of us remember our summer college years...an hourly job somewhere, maybe an internship but plenty of time for sun and fun. Not Bella! She spent 3 months last summer in The Gambia, on the west coast of Africa, where saying living conditions are difficult would be an understatement. She worked alongside Power Up Gambia on a solar and water project to support maternal and children's health.

Bella was joined at Club by her sister (who like her is visiting El Salvador as a high school student), mother and grandmother. A proud family indeed. Remember this young woman: her future goals include possible masters' or PhDs in economics, public administration, international health and would be interested in careers with the

United Nations or the World Health Organization.

Lindsay was very appreciative of our Club's financial support as well as the Water & Environmental Humanitarian Outreach Projects (WEHOP) for the \$16,000+ raised for the trip. Funds Included \$1,000 each our Club's World Services Committee and WEHOP. Mark Meyers, who has gotten to know Bella through work with our World Services Committee, said she's being too modest. "Her original goal for this trip was to raise \$8,000 and she doubled that amount."

The Gambia



The Gambia, a former British colony, is the smallest inland country in Africa with a population of more than 2 million. The country stretches east from the Atlantic Ocean and is surrounded by Senegal. "I had no idea where I was going before I went there," Lindsay admitted. Her university has had a relationship with the country since 2006, started by a professor and other amazing students that preceded her, raising \$250,000 to create Power Up Gambia.

Power Up Gambia x Bwiam General Hospital



While there, Lindsay and two other Penn students were able to spend time with local residents and experience the country's rich history and traditions. She attended a 4-day wedding celebration, a 2-day national holiday and learned a lot about the country's layers of leadership in her rural village, home to 4,000 people.



The village is home to the Bwiam General Hospital, the country's largest Muskegon Rotary in Motion Newsletter – Page 2

rural hospital and one of seven hospitals in The Gambia. It was built in 2003 by the British and in 2006 Power Up Gambia helped bring reliable water and electricity to the area. The hospital serves 30,000 patients a year and has 120,000 residents in its general service territory.

Power Up Gambia + Bwiam General Hospital

- Power Up Gambia (PUG) - 2006
- Bwiam General Hospital (64 kW solar system)
- Bwiam General Hospital (84 kW solar system)
- Solar suitcases & technical trainings
- Bwiam General Hospital (BGH) - 2003
- Largest rural hospital in The Gambia
- 30,000+ patients per year
- 120,000+ patients in catchment area



This trip greatly improved conditions for maternity patients visiting the hospital's Community Health Post in several areas:

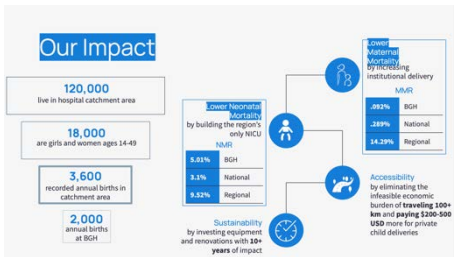
- Solar: Installed solar panel units, powering lights, fans and charging medical and personal devices;
- Infrastructure: Established sound corrugated steel roofing, cardboard ceilings, and tiling;
- Water: Established connection to a reliable water source and built washbasins and bathrooms;
- Furnishings: Provided sufficient labor beds, windows, doors, chairs, and paint.

Before Renovations After Renovations



Dasilameh

The before and after photos Lindsay provided were amazing. Gone is the lack of patient privacy, moldy conditions, and other barriers to good maternal health. The long-term goal is to encourage expectant mothers to have their babies at the hospital, to help improve the country's very high infant mortality rate. "While I'm not pre-med, I did help the patients," Bella said. "The residents said, 'you're from America, you have an education, so help us deliver babies!'"



“This project allowed us to support 3 of the 7 Rotary International objectives: Fight Disease, Provide Clean Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene, and Support Mothers and Children,” Lindsay said. While there are two active Rotary Clubs in The Gambia, they are not based near her village but she intends to continue to reach out to them to make that important RI connection. She said the hospital’s administrator has connections with Rotary.

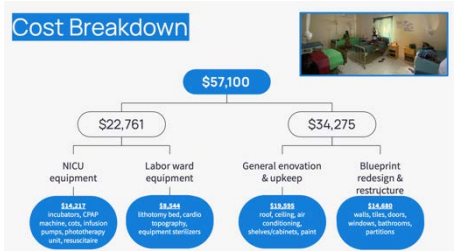
More help is needed, she said. She is working to secure \$2,000 from our club or our school-based Interact programs for repairs to the community’s solar operated water pump.

Kappa Health Post



Longer term, she and her fellow Penn students are working to raise \$57,000 to improve the maternity ward and create a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) which would greatly improve the infant mortality rate, currently twice the national average. The group recently received a \$30,000 matching grant from Seeds of Change to help in this effort. That organization also supported last summer’s work. It’s clear Bella’s group has a detailed plan that will greatly help them raise the needed money.

Cost Breakdown



“Thank you so much for your support,” she told our Club. “It’s great to have support from my hometown even when I’m in The Gambia.”

She also encouraged the continued work of our Interact Clubs across Muskegon County. “Rotary Interact was the reason I wanted to do something like this. The opportunities that Interact exposes you to help you want to do more and help more.”

This Week’s Spotlight



Craig Pirrotta retired from the U.S. Post Office several years ago and started his work with Rotary through ReWine, an evening version of our lunch meetings. (They meet every two weeks on Thursday.) He joined in 2020 and is interested in bringing his national entertainment connections into our fundraising efforts. See the complete video [here](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ReWine Announcements

City Boi Food Truck Volunteers Needed

Michelle Burley is asking for volunteers for Friday, Jan. 13 (3:30-6:00 pm): 25 volunteers needed to help with City Boi Corp. food truck. It is located at the 4 corners in North Muskegon (across from Bernie O’s), 318 Center St, Suite 8.

If you are interested in helping, here is the sign-up link. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e49aaa923abf5ce9-citi>

Brave Rotarians Poetic License Contest



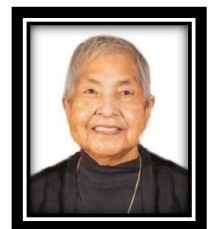
Ginny Sprague’s assistant this week was **Mark Meyers** and the two Rotarians who were thanked for their contributions (and eliminated from our contest) were **Rem Sprague** (much to the chagrin of organizer and spouse **Ginny Sprague**, under the category pastoral poetry) and **Don Kalisz** under the “ode” category. There are just four Brave Rotarians left! Two more will be eliminated next week with the two remaining Brave Rotarians awarded Paul Harris Fellowships.

Rotarians Night Out

The Muskegon Civic Theatre Presents “Anne & Emmett,” a one-act play of an imaginary conversation between Anne Frank and Emmett Till, both victims of racial intolerance and hatred. There are tickets reserved especially for Rotarians where we will go to the theater then out to dinner afterwards. Contact **Contessa Hood** for more details and to sign up.

In Memory:

Former Rotarian, Erenia “Connie” Navarro has recently passed away. Obituary via MLive:



<https://obits.mlive.com/us/obituaries/muskegon/name/erenia-navarro-obituary?id=38506860>