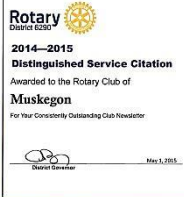
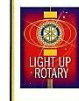


“Service Above Self”

# 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 Boersma, Club Coordinator



## Muskegon Rotary Club

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

Next Mtg—July 7, 2022, 12:00-1:30pm

**The Lake House - NO Zoom available**

**ReWine Sat Club – Next mtg 7/7/22 5:15 pm**

**Doc Demirjian's Porch**



Jeff Lewis, Director  
Marty Sytsema, Director  
Asaline Scott, Director  
David Ramos, Director  
Marty Gerencer, Director  
Susan Besteman, RIM Reporter  
Lori Weiler, 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 (7/7/22) — Diatribe

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

Jane Clingman-Scott

### REFLECTORS

Joanie Smith June 30  
TBD July 7

### NEXT WEEK'S MENU

Mexican Buffet

### NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Andy Buelow July 7  
John Severson July 7  
Mary Boyd July 8  
Bill Johanson July 8  
Lisa Hegenbart July 11  
Katherine Hegedus July 12  
Jason Bertoia July 15  
Ken Johnson July 15

[Caring Connections Fund](#)

### PROGRAMS / EVENTS

7/7 Diatribe

To watch the complete video of the meeting June 30, click [here](#).

### VISITORS & GUESTS



Gregg Scott, guest of Jane Clingman-Scott



Robert Mathis, guest of Asaline Scott



Ryan Sterkenberg, Rotarian at Fox Valley, Wisconsin, guest of Jim Fisher

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

#### Seaway Run

Rob Taylor reported that it was a great day and great weather. Ate lots of donut holes and very successful with our sponsorship. Thank you to all those who volunteered. Will get back with us regarding the final numbers.

**Don't forget – we will be in person only on July 7. Zoom will not be available.**

## This Week's Spotlight: LeighAnn Mikesell



In 2017, after she began working for the City of Muskegon, **Cathy Brubaker-Clarke** invited LeighAnn to attend a Rotary meeting. LeighAnn became very interested in joining to meet more people in the community. The service orientated mentality and the extra avenue to do good work in the community was important to her and she quickly became a Rotary member. She has two college-age children, Allison and Cash.

As an engineer managing cross-functional teams for many years, when LeighAnn came by City Management, she found it was a happy accident for her career path. With a focus of communication and collaboration for the success of all skill sets, she started as Deputy City Manager for the City of Muskegon but is now the Interim City Manager where she administers ordinances and policies of the city, oversees the budget, and supports all the divisions with guidance with a focus on the goals set by the city commission. She is excited to build this community and making it a better place for everyone. Watch the entire video [here](#).

### THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM:

#### Passing of the Gavel and Installation of Officers

*RIM Reporter: Susan Besteman*

#### Acknowledgement of Continuing Directors & Officers:

**Jason Piasecki**—Immediate Past President

**Ginny Sprague**--President Elect

**Tim Arter**—President Nominee  
**Marty Gerencer, Jeff Lewis, Dave Ramos, Asaline Scott**—Directors

Departing Directors & Officers:

**Mark Meyers** (Past President)

**Kathy Betts** (Secretary)

**MaryAnne Gorman**

**Doug Wood**

Congratulations on your Induction for this year:

**Jane Clingman-Scott**—President

**Kristi Nagengast**—Treasurer

**Marty Systema**—Director

**Don Hutchins**—Secretary

#### Jason's Parting Remarks:

Jason had four goals as President:

1. Transition to hybrid meetings
2. Highlight Rotary's Vocational Avenue of Service
3. Support our Peacebuilder initiative
4. Grow our membership back to pre-COVID levels

Our club was able to reach and maintain Jason's first goal beginning on July 1, 2021, of the transition to hybrid meetings. At times, we had over 30 Rotarians online and 100 attend in person. Thanks to Mike Vogas and Kim Boersma and all the hard-working, brilliant programming and stage managers, we have been able to maintain this style every week. Jason is proud of our accomplishment and the top-notch meetings we have been able to produce.

Rotary has five Avenues of Service and our vocations are one of them. Over the past year, 50 Rotarians' professions have been highlighted. We were also able to become acquainted with these 50 Rotarians more personally through this experience. These videos are available to watch on our Muskegon Rotary YouTube videos site.

The Muskegon Rotary Peacebuilder Club was starting through our DEI Committee when Jason began his Presidency. DEI has always been important to our club and Jason was happy to report that our

Peacebuilder Club has been officially launched and is formally recognized by Rotary International. Thank you, from Jason, to the leadership of Cathy Brubaker-Clarke, Kathy Betts, and the DEI Committee.

The final goal for President Jason was to grow our membership back to pre-COVID levels. At that time, we had 224 members and pre-COVID membership was at 245. MaryAnne Gorman and Doug Wood questioned this goal with the thought of quality of membership versus quantity of membership. While we didn't quite reach pre-COVID numbers (yet still one of the biggest clubs in the state), they were on the right track to ask that question as we have accomplished a lot and have attracted the right type of members that truly live service above self.

Jason also extended appreciation to the past presidents and their time, invaluable counsel, and insight at the leadership breakfasts. He also thanked Ginny Sprague for getting him through the bylaws and parliamentary items, Ed Hendrickson (Sargent in Arms) for setting up every week, and Kim Boersma (a delight and treasure to our club) who has been there at every step this year. Jason also extended appreciation to Mike Vogas who gave him constructive critique and feedback (as Mike does for those he cares about) to continuously improve and grow.

One thing he realized early on in his presidency is although Rotary is generally a business meeting, Rotarians treasure friendship and fellowship. Bill Loxterman advised Jason to be himself and Jason sends that advice to our new President Jane as well. Jason also mentioned, being a Rotary President is time consuming, challenging, and downright hard at times; however, it's one of the best things he has done in his life. Jason then passed the gavel (and pin) to President Jane Clingman-Scott.

Jane began with saying how lucky she feels to have this opportunity and to follow Jason. She admired Jason's view of the past year. Where most thought it was a rebuilding year, he didn't. His

quiet magic management made it appear smooth even with all the obstacles in the background.



Jane gave Jason a memento with the inscription, "To Jason Piasecki 2021 Rotary President - A life is not important except for the impact it has on other lives. -Jackie Robinson."

### Video to meet Jane:

As the daughter of two academic parents, Jane started her career in education with kids. However, when she moved to Muskegon and started looking for a job, Adult Education presented itself. (She met Mike Vogas, Judy Hayner, and John Noling there.) She quickly realized she had to first teach her students how to read and increase their literacy skills for the modern age manufacturing and retail service positions. Jane noticed the community was negatively affected by too many people with a lack of education, knowledge, and access to necessary life skills for a modern economy. This really impacted Jane's thinking about overall education and she became involved in neighborhood revitalization and how to improve individual environments. Even through that, she kept herself involved in pointed education with teaching homeownership and financial literacy. Through the collaborative efforts of schools, families, and resources (some of these were social supports like parenting skills and daycare), the improvement began to show. This combination of organizing and education helped her see the importance of this capstone to her career.

Jane has a great curiosity of the world, is an avid reader, and believes leadership can emerge from any community if given enough support. She has witnessed people operating with intense goodwill who want to reach out of their own community to the world. Through

literacy, they can learn about other people's lives and thus empathy. The more we learn, the less we will have to focus on things that are disunifying. Jane believes all people should learn to focus on the 90% of what we all have in common and to not focus on the 10% discourse. Through learning other people's struggles, we will learn more empathy and continue to focus on the 90% commonalities.

The prestige of Rotary was once focused on who are the biggest leaders with the underlying principles of what talents and resources we possess in order to learn, improve, and reach out to the community. However, with the same underlying principal, it is now an expanded group of diverse leaders, according to Jane, who have reached out and supported the next generation of leaders. We are getting to be a big club, but our expanded engagement shows us fresh eyes for needs and common ground to continue to move forward. As the community struggles with divergent politics, Rotary can be a unifying force. Jane joined Rotary because of this broad population that represents different sectors in the community. She became connected to many different sectors and each with different viewpoints encouraging each other to get out of their own bubbles. These relationships help address the future needs in our community.



Jane said she is blessed to find and be married to such an intelligent and respectful husband, Greg. They have been married for thirty years and Jane loves talking about her family, especially her grandkids.

Jane's focus this year as Rotary President is literacy. With literacy, we learn and discern the quality of what we hear and a well-trained mind is going to have a

well-trained spirit. She believes we can reach across neighborhoods, countries, and even history to help distill our idea of humanity to the highest point. One of her favorite reflections from de Chardin is "everything that rises must converge" which means working towards perfection in any of our endeavors creates a rise in our ability to see perfection across all areas. Raise the expectations, quality, and empathy of all our work to a fine point and we are going to converge into that perfection. Jane's goals for this year are to continue growing and bringing diversity into the club, not breaking anything (borrowed from Past President Josh Wallace), and increase literacy through more focused programs including one with a special emphasis on empathy literature on September 1st. Her final goal for the year is to continue with the Peacebuilders growth for peace, justice and economic stability with a dedicated peace pole and guest speakers including a program on September 28th. Jane is very thankful for the support and is looking forward to another good year.

Click [here](#) to watch the video.

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### Muskegon Rotary Board

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