

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

May 2, 2024

Next Meeting (May 9, 2024, 12-1:30pm) — Hoagies & Grinders - at the Delta
Program Topic – Law Day Committee

What's Coming

May 9 –Law Day Committee

Upcoming Birthdays

May 9	Susan Holkeboer
May 9	Amy Hosford
May 11	Douglas Brown
May 14	LaSandra Gaddy
May 15	Arn Boezaart

Caring Connections Fund

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



Greeter This Week

Rich Berry

Reflectors

Roger Morgenstern May 2

RIM Reporting this Edition

Photographer – Roger Morgenstern
RIM Reporter – Roger Morgenstern
RIM Editor – Jackie Farrar

5/2/2024 Muskegon Rotary
YouTube Video Link: [Click here](#)

VISITORS & GUESTS



Missy Horton introduces her guests, Steven Hackley, the great great grandson of Muskegon lumber baron and philanthropist Charles Hackley, and his wife Tammi. The Hackley's were in town from Tennessee for the dedication of the new Charles Hackley Muskegon Middle School.



Eileen Stoffan introduces her guest, Chris Hamel.



Melissa Boughner introduces her guest and Muskegon Rescue Mission colleague Wyatt Huggett.



Rich Houtteman introduces his guest, Andy O'Reilly.



Don Kalisz introduces his guest and Kindred Marketing colleague **Jessie Wilde**.



Stephanie Tushek introduces her guest and Lamar colleague **Susan Ackley**.



Roger Morgenstern introduces two visiting Rotarians from the Downtown Grand Rapids Club, from left, **Kirk Dornbush** and **Matt Tiedgen**. The men co-chair their club's membership committee and Kirk serves as District 6290 Membership Chair.



Kendrah Robinson introduces our student guests from the Muskegon Heights Public School Academy. From left, students **Durrell Foster** and **D'Min Sargent** and college and career readiness advisor **Justice Smith**.

This week's program: Panel Discussion with our Rotary Inbound Exchange Students

Speaker: **Inbound Students**
Introduced by: **Kristi Pawlak**
Reporter: **Roger Morgenstern**



We were treated to a video montage created by our four "inbound" foreign exchange students before Rotarian and program leader **Kristi Pawlak** was joined in a panel discussion from left, **Dori Szekeres** of Hungary (attending North Muskegon), **Andres Amaya** of Columbia (attending Mona Shores), **Tomas Uruena** of Columbia (attending North Muskegon) and **Kyoka Tomoyama** of Japan (attending Reeths-Puffer).

Our Rotary Club has been very active in the International Youth Exchange Program. Since the COVID shutdowns, group advisor **Kristi Pawlak** said our Club has sent overseas or hosted 20 students.

Kristi, reacting to **Roger Morgenstern's** reflection encouraging world peace, looked at the students and said "Roger, here's your world peace. It starts right here."

The four students visiting us this year showed a video they compiled from their smart phones, showing the many fun things they've done in America. They then participated in a panel discussion and answered questions from our Rotarians.

Our students this year are: **Dori Szekeres** of Hungary (attending North Muskegon), **Kyoka Tomoyama** of Japan (attending Reeths-Puffer), **Andres Amaya** of Columbia (attending Mona Shores) and **Tomas Uruena** of Columbia (attending North Muskegon). While they go back to their home countries in early July, this will be the last time they're visiting our Club, with senior year/graduation activities and traveling elsewhere in the U.S., keeping them occupied in their final couple of months.

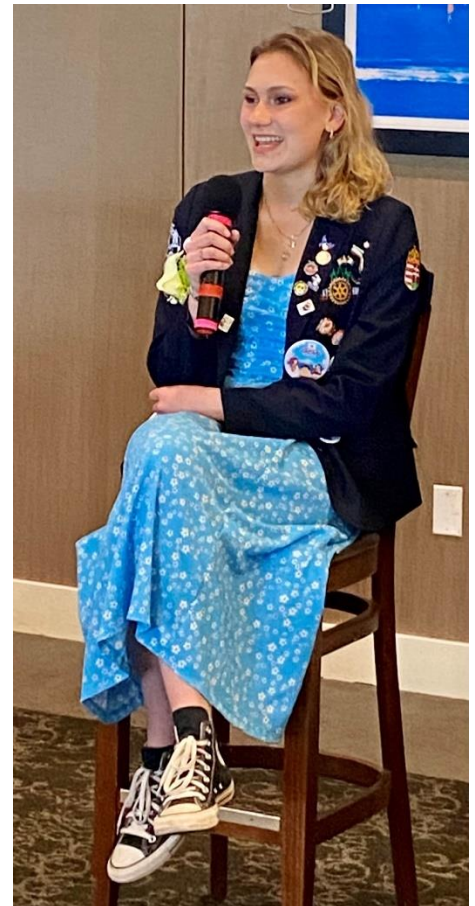
Most of the students had two host families during their stay. They encouraged future host families from among our Club to not be afraid to ask questions of their visiting students and keep open lines of communication. This results in a better experience for not only the students but also the host families.



One of our hardest working members, **Kristi Pawlak**, helps moderate the inbound student panel discussion. As the program's advisor, it's clear she knows these students!



Andres happily called out his former host mom **Darlene Collet** for allowing him to do things like jumping in the snow without being bundled up very much. Snow is pretty rare in Columbia.



Dori said her stay in the U.S. has allowed her "to live in the moment" and she feels she's had more reflection time and has become a wiser person.



Each of the students received a Muskegon Rotary Club banner from **President Ginny** to take back to their home clubs.



Tomas is interested in studying art and is actually looking to return to Muskegon to study at Muskegon Community College, so we may see him at a future meeting!



Kyoka said one of the biggest differences between Japan and America is the concept of teamwork. In Japan, she said, individuals own their mistakes. She really appreciated her teammates encouraging her even when she made a mistake.

Member Spotlight John Noling



This week's member spotlight, with a focus on Youth Service, is **John Noling**. A retired teacher, John said he used his classroom "to help make the world a better place...Now that I don't have a classroom I have Rotary." John is instrumental in several Rotary programs, from the Life Leadership Conference to Interact Clubs and overseas student-involved work in Honduras and El Salvador. The full video is available [here](#). Remember, there's no cost to subscribe to our Club's YouTube channel and it's full of great messages courtesy of our amazing members and organized by **Mike Vogas**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adopt-A-Highway MDOT Pickup



The next pick up will be on Saturday, July 13. If interested in helping at the next pick up, please email Esther Ricco (riccoe@gvsu.edu)



Happy Birthday to us! As **President Ginny** joked "we're kinda old but we're still kickin'!"

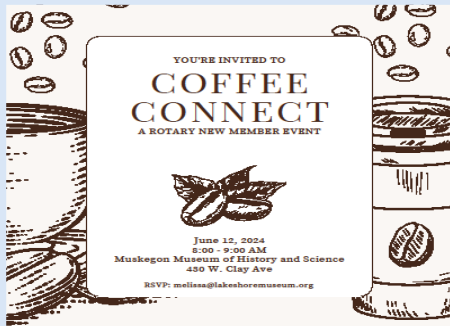
Parties In the Park

Rotary will be hosting the first Parties in the Park for 2024 in beautiful downtown Muskegon's Hackley Park May 31. Festivities will continue throughout the summer. A SignUp Genius was sent out this week for our Party in the Park on Friday, May 31st, from 5 to 9:00 p.m. Please volunteer early and often!

[VOLUNTEER LINK – CLICK HERE](#)

ReWine meetings are every 1st & 3rd Thursday each month at 5:15pm at **Unruly Brewing (new location)**

Coffee Connect



Connect with fellow Rotarians over coffee on June 12, 2024, 8-9am at Muskegon Museum of History and Science (430 W. Clay Ave.) Contact Melissa@LakeshoreMuseum.org to RSVP or for questions.

Muskegon Rising EP:17 Muskegon County Youth for Christ



This week of the Muskegon Rising Podcast, Rotarian Lisa Stafford is joined by Stacey Kennedy, the Mission Advancement Lead of Youth for Christ, a global movement dedicated to reaching young people with the transformative message of Jesus Christ. Tune in to learn more about their mission and the impact they're making in Muskegon County. Listen to the episode here: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/2269729/14990649-muskegon-county-youth-for-christ>

NEEDED: 10 TIPS Volunteers

As our May 31 Party in the Park approaches, we need to have 10 Rotarians volunteer for TIPS Training. This is a state requirement when alcohol is served. We need these trained volunteers for our Party in the Park and Harvest Fest, which will be Oct. 24. Muskegon Rotary will cover the \$29 per person cost for the online training. You must be TIPS trained if you are a Beer Captain for our PIP.



Bill Loxterman announced that one of our own, **John Snider**, is being inducted next month into the Muskegon Area Sports Hall of Fame. John is a life long hockey supporter, player and coach, one time owner of the Muskegon Mohawks and Muskegon Lumberjack's hockey team. He is entering the Hall as this year's Gene Young Distinguished Service Award recipient.



Muskegon hockey royalty and Rotarian **John Snider**.



"Thank you from the bottom of my heart" **Nancy McCarthy** tells the Club for its amazing response to a request from the floor during last week's meeting to financially support sponsoring the Muskegon Heights Family Night at the upcoming Juneteenth Celebration.



Andy Buelow from the DEI Committee reminded members there was still time to join a Rotary group going to see Saturday's Muskegon Civic Theatre's performance of *Ragtime*. P.S.: It was an amazing show!



President Ginny plays the role of "Vanna" while **John Noling** talks about the upcoming Life Leadership Conference and other activities involving our amazing Interact students. The conference, held at Ferris State University, was founded 75 years ago by, you guessed it, the Muskegon Rotary Club!

Microforest Irrigation System



Rainbird type sprinklers, 6 ft high
Underground PVC pipe 2in
Timer underground working twice a day from fire hydrant.
Clever installation!



Thank you to Dave Bailey & The City of Muskegon crew!
See you at Marquette Microforest soon!

Muskegon Rotary Board

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David Ramos Asaline Scott
Marty Sytsema Brandon Turnbull

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

RIM Reporting Team

Co-Editors: Susan Besteman & Jackie Farrar
Reporters: Kathy Moore, Roger Morgenstern, Meredith Smillie
Photographers: Mark Alpher & Roger Morgenstern
Contributors: Bill Johanson, John Noling, & Mike Vogas

Hackley Park adds new Arbor Day White Pine



THANK YOU
Dave Bailey
City of Muskegon
Muskegon High Rotary Interact
Club
Larry and Linda Wohlfarth for tree
donation.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The Muskegon Rotary Club was well represented at last week's District 6290 Conference held at the Double JJ Resort in Rothbury. Jeff Coil of Fremont, 2023-24 District Governor, led the group of more than 60 Rotarians and guests who heard inspiring stories and shared ideas on how to strengthen their individual clubs. The district includes 53 clubs from Holland, MI to Wawa, Ontario and more than 2,200 Rotarians. Muskegon is the largest club, with about 250 members. Muskegon had 11 members attend all or a portion of the conference, including the awesome Kathy Hegedus, chief administrative officer for the District, who put a lot of effort into creating a successful event, and Past President Brianna Scott, who will serve as the 2024-25 District Governor beginning July 1.



Attendees to the District Conference learned more details about the HANWASH (Haiti National Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Initiative) program by Naples, FL Rotarian John Smarge. District 6290 is one of the

"Champion Districts" helping support this program to bring clean water to all of Haiti.



Doug Wood led a panel discussion comprised of Rotary inbound exchange students and Interactors.



From left, Muskegon Inbound Exchange student Dori Szeekeres from Hungary, Interact students Connor Smillie from Mona Shores, Victoria Guerro and Tobias Melton from Muskegon and Kona Ly from West Ottawa, share their experiences with the District Conference attendees.



There was plenty of fun at the District Conference as well, including teams of Rotarians who did skits on real or imagined Rotary programs. Here our own President Ginny puts on her serious face as Grand Haven's Gernot Runschke looks on.



District Governor Jeff Coil of Fremont, and our own District Governor Elect Brianna Scott bookend the young leaders who shared their Rotary experiences at the District Conference: From left, Interact student Kona Ly from West Ottawa, Muskegon Inbound Exchange student Dori Szeekeres from

Hungary and Interact students
Victoria Guerro from Muskegon,
Connor Smillie from Mona Shores,
and Tobias Melton from Muskegon.



Muskegon Rotary's table top
display at the conference, from
trees for the micro forest to books
for the Honduras library!



The Muskegon District Conference
contingent, from left: Brianna
Scott, Sue Samaniego, Kathy
Hegedus, Roger Morgenstern,
Ginny Sprague, Rem Sprague,
Susan Crain, Dave Alexander,
Asaline Scott, Doug
Wood and Mary Anne Gorman.



Our 2023-24 RI leadership