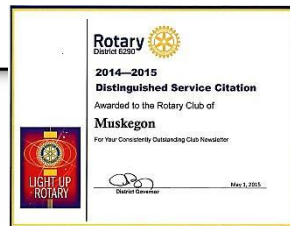


"Service Above Self"

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—May 12, 2022, 12:00-1:30pm

Hybrid Style – **The Lake House & Zoom**

ReWine Sat Club – Next mtg 5/19 5:15 pm
Pigeon Hill

Mary Anne Gorman, Director
Jeff Lewis, Director
Doug Wood, Director
Asaline Scott, Director
David Ramos, Director
Marty Gerencer, Director
Meredith Smillie, 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 (5/12/22) — The Land Conservancy of West Michigan

West Michigan conservation and conservancy efforts, Muskegon County Dune Park at the former Nugent Sand site

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

Melissa Horton

REFLECTORS

Kathy Brubaker-Clark May 5
Tom Palmer May 12
Erik Seifert May 19
Bill Erickson May 26

THIS WEEK'S MENU

Caprese Chicken Buffet

NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

LaSandra Gaddy May 14
Arn Boezaart May 15

[Caring Connections Fund](#)

PROGRAMS / EVENTS

5/12 Land Conservancy of W. MI
5/19 Muskegon Manufacturing

IN MEMORIAM



It is with great sadness that we announce **Orville Crain** passed away at his home on May 6. Please keep Susan and Orville's family in

your thoughts and prayers. We will forever be grateful for Orville's unwavering love and commitment to Muskegon and Rotary. Thank you, Orville. We are all better for having known you. The link to Orville's obituary is [here](#).



Future Rotary Presidents from Muskegon and Holland met today at Rotary to talk leadership and get to know each other. L to R: President Elects **Jane Clingman-Scott** and Elizabeth Scott from Holland Rotary and President Nominees Kathy DeVries from Holland Rotary and our own **Ginny Sprague**. Congratulations Leading Ladies and best wishes for leading your clubs in your Presidential year.

VISITORS & GUESTS



Meggie Kwiatkowski introduced us to her mother, Laura Bassar.



Melissa Moore from Read Muskegon welcomed guest Brandon Davis.





Rich Houtteman accompanied guests Josh Paciorek and Carolyn Bloodworth.



Courtney Porrett with guest Monica Lee.



John Noling introduced us to Dr Arnetta Thompson who will be inducted in coming weeks.



Brett Batka was a guest of **Josh Silvis**.



Bre McCarthy joined **Kris Collee**.



Marty Sytsema introduced student guests from the Oakridge Eagles. Erin Silva, School Counselor, introduced seniors Delaney Rule and Justin Smith. Delaney will attend CMU next year. Justin will attend MCC next year taking advantage of The Promise.



Muskegon High School was also in the house. Shawndra Wilson introduced Alea Strong (valedictorian) who will attend CMU, Kieva Jones (salutatorian) will attend GVSU, and Tayla Wilson will attend U of M this fall.

Paul Harris Fellow



Congratulations to our club's newest Paul Harris recipient, Honorable District Court Judge Maria Ladas Hoopes. Chosen by our club annually from outstanding citizens doing good in the community, this well-deserved honor was presented today by **Ginny Sprague** and **Jenny McNeil** and was witnessed by her husband, Honorable Circuit Court Judge Kenneth Hoopes. **Jenny McNeil** shared about honoree Maria Ladas Hoopes who grew up in Muskegon County and moved on to MSU. She has been recognized as an

outstanding political student by the state of Michigan while at MSU. She returned from Iowa School of Law to join the Muskegon County Prosecutor's Office. In 2016, she was appointed to the District Court of Muskegon County. She has served on numerous local charities and non-profits. She pioneered an eviction court and early interventions to prevent homelessness and lack of housing resources for our community. Maria thanked Rotary for this honor and was caught completely unprepared for this honor from the Muskegon Community and was very honored.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ukraine Fundraiser Report

From Mark Meyers.

I'm pleased to report to the WCS committee the results of our fundraiser for the RI Disaster Response Fund with proceeds providing essential items like water, food, shelter, medicine and clothing for Ukrainian refugees. The total raised is \$13.1 million! Of that amount, \$2.1 million has been awarded to date through 74 response grants to assist those effected by the war.

How did our club do? Club members and individuals donated \$4,175! In addition, Interact clubs (North Muskegon, Mona Shores, Orchard View and Muskegon High) raised \$5,433.14!! So our total for Muskegon with the \$1,500 from our committee budget is \$11,108.14!

Lastly, WEHOP donated \$1,500 and I'm checking with the Grand Haven and Spring Lake clubs to see what they raised.

Please join me in thanking all who gave and let's hope and pray this war ends soon so Ukrainians may return to their country, begin rebuilding and live as free people.

Pours for Polio Fundraiser Exceeds Expectations

Attendance at the happy hours was much higher than we expected. Cash contributions in the Pours Contribution Box was higher than originally planned. Happy hour costs were a little higher than anticipated, primarily due to the greater attendance than expected. Great job, Rotarians and friends!

A Considerate Message about Considerate Messages:



You'd better watch this entertaining and informative video or Vegas will get upset. Here's the [link](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark your calendars for Rotary Food Truck—**May 25!**



On Wednesday May 25, our club will be sponsor and staffed with volunteers, the only Rotary food truck for 2022 (using squirreled together left-over funds from the 2021 grant award). The food truck distribution will take place in the Temple Methodist Church parking lot in Muskegon Heights. We will need a good turnout of at **least 15 volunteers** and others you can cajole to come along.

Reach out to **Arn Boezaart** to volunteer
boezaara@gvsu.edu 616-745-8465.

\$500 District Match Opportunity

From Ginny Sprague

Earlier this month, you received an email from District Foundation Chair PDG Gernot Runschke about the 2022 District 6290 Match opportunity. For a limited time only, from April 6, 2022, through June 13, 2022, on a first-come, first-served basis, Rotary District 6290 is offering to match a new gift of \$500 to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund with 500 District recognition points.

Your \$500 contribution allows you to name a Paul Harris Fellow for someone you wish to honor or for yourself. If you are currently a Paul Harris Fellow, you can use this opportunity to advance to a Paul Harris Fellow plus status. Please note that new means that you pay the \$500 contribution within the program dates. Earlier partial donations cannot count towards the match opportunity.

Please give your check to **Ginny Sprague** and include the name of the person you want to designate as a Paul Harris Fellow no later than Thursday, June 9, so that I can mail the required paperwork and check to meet the District deadline. I will fill out the contribution form for you, or if you wish, you can complete the document yourself (located on the last page of RIM).

Please let Ginny know if you have any questions by phone at 231.740.0916 or by email at remsleep1@comcast.net.

Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity for a Paul Harris Fellow award for an individual you wish to honor or for yourself with some help from your Rotary District 6290 friends! I appreciate your support of the humanitarian work of the Rotary Foundation.



Bethany Christian Services of Muskegon is turning 45!

Come and join us in celebrating a strong collaboration with the West Michigan shoreline on Sunday, May 22, 2022 at McGraft. We are running this celebration in conjunction with a national campaign called Go Further for Family. This is an untimed walk/run. Attendees do not have to participate in the walk/run to attend the celebration. We will have food trucks, a DJ, outdoor yard games, rock climbing wall and showcase other community non-profits. All are welcome at this family friendly event. For more information and to sign up, click the link [here](#).

New Member Induction



Merica Dobry had the pleasure of welcoming new member and her mother, Eileen Stoffan. Eileen was married for 38 years to Phil, until he died in October 2018. Eileen has a Bachelor's degree in English Literature and a Master's degree in Journalism (history), both from MSU. She also has a Master's of Divinity from Bexley Seabury Episcopal Seminary in Chicago. Prior to becoming an Episcopal priest, Eileen taught high school English Lit and AP English Lit. She has also been a college instructor of journalism, and before that, was a free-lance newspaper journalist. She has been an elected official in local politics (North Muskegon City Council – shoutout to Lox!) and is an appointed Zoning Board member for Fruitland Township. She served on the Cherry County Board, the Muskegon Civic Theater Board, and currently sits on the St. Mary's Hospital Foundation Board of Directors.

She says that the most important thing to know about her is that she is the mother of 4 children, Dr. Alexander Stoffan (critical care surgeon), **Merica S. Dobry** (attorney at Warner Norcross + Judd, LLP, Peter J. Stoffan (nurse leader at Hackensack Meridian Health), and Christian E. Stoffan (attorney at Metz Lewis Brodman Must O'Keefe LLC), all of whom are very accomplished, smart, and funny (especially Merica ;)). Time spent with us is lively, energetic, dynamic time, as I am sure you can imagine. We are a competitive, talented, and very loving bunch. Her three grandchildren are clever and entertaining as well, and we are all happily anticipating the arrival of Chris's second daughter, grandchild number 4!

This Week's Spotlight: Susan Cloutier Crain



Susan Cloutier Crain joined Rotary in January 2007. Susan worked for Disability Network as the Executive Director. Susan grew up in Montague and now lives in Muskegon. She is a GVSU graduate and has three siblings. Susan is a grandmother to 16 children and married to Orville Crain. Orville and Susan winter in Florida. Susan was also instrumental in getting the musical instruments added to 8 different parks throughout Muskegon, including Rotary Park.

For Susan's video: [click here](#)

RIM couldn't happen without all of you contributing. Your photos, writeups and timely information makes us better.

Thank you!

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM: The Return of Three Favorite Muskegon Festivals

Facilitator: Kris Collee:

RIM Reporter: **Meredith Smillie**

Kris Collee facilitated a panel of speakers to share information regarding special events this summer. Karla Flanders is the director for the [Lakeshore Art Festival](#), Jimmy Hegedus is one of the directors of the [Burning Foot Beer Festival](#) and the [Great Lakes Surf Festival](#), and Chris Zahrt, Director of the [Irish Music Festival](#). Since 2019 these festivals had a very different feel, or several were unable to occur due to the COVID 19 pandemic. In 2021, Irish Music Festival was unable to happen as the bands were unable to travel internationally, more specifically from Ireland and Scotland. Burning Foot Festival will be held at Heritage Landing in 2022 due to erosion of the beach. In 2021, the event was held to Pere Marquette. The Muskegon Art Festival was held in 2021 despite the weather being highly uncooperative.

Kris and the panel shared they have huge jobs planning events of this size and having to pivot during the pandemic with changing CDC guidance. Some examples are changing from paper brochures to QR codes for participants to scan and

navigate via their phones. These events are also very challenged by uncooperative weather; rain and tornadoes hampering the Lakeshore Art Festival. Burning Foot has a special challenge based on not knowing how large the beach will be each year and nothing moves through the sand very well. These festivals plan year-round for these large events. Irish Music Festival has been running for 20 years. Utilizing Heritage Landing has its own struggles with set up and tear down; but it takes many work hours and volunteers to make these events go off without a hitch and appear seamless.

"The Art Festival is using more QR codes and are going to do more hands-on art projects and give-aways to children and families."

COVID challenges have made the festivals change some of the things they used to do and to try things that they haven't done before. Burning Foot is going digital for their ticket release and will not have a launch party. The Art Festival is using more QR codes and are going to do more hands-on art projects and give aways to children and families. Chalk the Walk will happen again this year where



Karla Flanders, Jimmy Hegedus and Chris Zahrt with Kris Collee

kids and families can create masterpieces on the sidewalks.

All of the festivals noted that more guests are coming back to the festivals year after year and more vendors, such as street performers and exhibitors' numbers are growing too. Burning Foot is a relatively young festival compared to the Lakeshore Art Festival and Irish Music Festival. Jeremy indicated that Burning Foot is shooting for 90 beer vendors and bigger name bands, and also to expand the VIP area.

"Irish Music Festival 2020 and 2021 passes will be honored for 2022, and ticket holders should receive an email soon."

Chris noted that the Irish Music Festival has historically had the first hour of Friday for free and that will not be able to occur this year and will be a ticketed event. Sunday from 10:30AM to noon will still be free, even though Thursday, Friday and Saturday are ticketed. Outstanding performers (28 bands) and cultural programs, learning opportunities, great food and fun will be present again at this festival. Chris noted that ticket prices will be commiserate with rising costs/expenses. 2020 and 2021 passes will be honored for 2022, and ticket holders should receive an email soon. Please visit MichiganIrish.org for tickets.

"Burning Foot Festival will be held at Heritage Landing in 2022 due to erosion of the beach."

All three presenters noted that the economic environment is impacting the festivals; cost of fuel, generators, trash removal and portable restrooms have gone up and some sponsors have

had to pull back too. Every single line item is up 30-40%. The organizers love doing these events for our community and marketing our fabulous community. Hotels are likely booked to capacity for these events even though these events are week away. Sponsors and volunteers make these festivals possible and reach out to be a part of these amazing events.

Muskegon County has quite a few large events that are happening this summer. All of the festivals root for one another and want them to be successful. Juneteenth, PRIDE festival, Hispanic festival are other events happening this summer and are crucial to the success of Muskegon and our community at large. These festivals make our community a hot spot and a destination for many in West Michigan. We all benefit from the success of these events; especially hotels, businesses, restaurants and vendors.

Visit these festivals' sites for more information:

[Lakeshore Art Festival](#)
[Burning Foot Beer Festival](#)
[Great Lakes Surf Festival](#)
[Irish Music Festival](#)

For more festival fun click on over to visitmuskegon.org.

Muskegon Rotary Board

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Did you know...

Muskegon Rotary's website has a Committee Updates page where you can see Reports and happenings. You should check it out [here](#).

If you're NOT on a committee (and would like to be on one) this is a great place to start.

If you ARE on a committee, this is the perfect place to share updates and keep everyone informed.

Did you miss a week of RIM? Not to worry—these are also published on the website. Just head on over to MuskegonRotary.org and click the Newsletter link so you never have to miss an issue.



Rotary International District 6290
Rotary Foundation 500 Recognition Point Match Program

For a limited time only, **April 06, 2022 through June 13, 2022**, on a first come first serve basis, Rotary International District 6290 is offering to match a *new* gift of cash or credit card, \$500 to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund, with 500 recognition points to name a Paul Harris Fellow. (Note: "*new*" means that the entire \$500 contribution must be made within the program dates. Earlier partial donations cannot be counted towards the match.)

Please complete the information below and send along with a \$500 USD check payable to *The Rotary Foundation* to: (Please type or write clearly) Please also Note; Credit Card payments are acceptable and CC numbers must be clearly marked on the attached form. Your CC number will be totally private and confidential.

PDG Gernot Runschke
District Rotary Foundation
Committee Chair
1624 Gladys Circle
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Forms must be accompanied by a \$500 USD check and postmarked no later than June 13, 2022.

The following Rotarian wants to participate in the district 6290 recognition points match program:

Rotarian's Name

Rotarian's Member ID Number

Rotarian's Address

Rotarian's Phone Number

Rotarian's Email Address

Rotarian's Club Name

\$500 Check payable to The Rotary Foundation, check # _____

Name (as it is to appear on PHF certificate) of person to receive Paul Harris Fellow

Questions? Contact Gernot Runschke at 616 566 3815 or email Gernot @ gernotrunschke@gmail.com