

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

October 10, 2024

**Next Meeting (October 17, 2024, 12-1:30pm) — Hoagies & Grinders Buffet at the Lake House
Program Topic – The BIG READ**

What's Coming

October 17 – Big Read Muskegon
October 24 – World Polio Day

Upcoming Birthdays

October 17 Myra Dutton
October 22 Tiffany Dupont Novak
October 22 Daniel Hartmann
October 23 Linda Garzelloni

Caring Connections Fund



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

Greeter This Week

Mary Boyd & Cynthia Maynard

Reflector This Week

Susan Crain

RIM Reporting this Edition

Photographer – Wyatt Huggett
RIM Reporter – Susan Besteman
RIM Editor – Susan Besteman

10/10/2024 Muskegon Rotary
YouTube Video Link: [Click here](#)



President Tim Arter gives opening remarks



Kate Scarbrough introduces guest Angel Coon

Visitors & Guests



Nick Green introduces guest Mike Apostle



Andrea Riegler introduces guest Dirk Bakhuyzen



Jamie Sowa introduces guest Kelly Deal



Annette Jack introduces guest Kent Schutter

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



Susan Crain introduces guest **Craig Person**



Nancy Crandall introduces visiting Rotarian **Joseph Livingstone**



Sue Samaniego introduces her guest **Lisa Gatti-Arnold** who was inducted today



Kendrah Robinson introduces Ravenna HS Students **Isolde Deal** and **Emma Herremans** and welcomed back school counselor, **Tia Filippelli**

Muskegon Rotary Board

Tim Arter, President
 Dave Alexander, President-Elect
 Roger Morgenstern, President Nominee
 Ginny Sprague, Past President
 Kristi Nagengast, Treasurer
 Jane Clingman-Scott, Secretary
 Kim Boersema, Club Coordinator

Directors:
 Aaron Maike
 Brandon Turnbull
 Marty Sytsema
 Tom Palmer
 Esther Ricco
 Lisa Tyler

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



Susan Crain gives a reflection on our service to fellow citizens as Rotarians

RIM Reporting Team

Co-Editors: Susan Besteman & Jackie Farrar
 Reporters: Kathy Moore, Roger Morgenstern, Meredith Smillie, Sue Samaniego
 Photographers: Mark Alpher, Wyatt Huggett, & Roger Morgenstern
 Contributors: John Noling, Mike Vogas, & Doug Wood

This week's program: Cindy Larsen: Recap of 25 Years of Fun, Challenges, & Change Along the Lakeshore



Presenter: **Cindy Larsen**
 Introduced by: **Dave Alexander**
 Reporter: **Susan Besteman**

From humble beginnings working in a small family business in eighth grade to a successful twenty-five-year career restoring a city, Cindy Larsen's wisdom, leadership, forward thinking, determination, etc. could not be encompassed in our brief allotment for her presentation. Only a week into her official retirement from the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce (MLCC), Cindy's service remains highly desired by our new Chamber President (and Rotarian) **Rachel Gorman** with some special projects (which Cindy is enthusiastic to develop).

Cindy highlighted four key aspects she attributes for her success: networking, collaboration, homework

(before beginning something, do homework/research and see if there is already something started that can be advanced instead of re-inventing something that already exists), and drawing from personal experience.



Networking played a role in ways she “never imagined”. Many years ago, Cindy worked in radio where she developed an understanding of the importance of relationships for her success. “Trust is built through networking,” according to Cindy. When she was developing the MAISD and advancing the career tech center through a new local millage, she already had a trusted relationship with the head of the MAISD at that time who happened to be her former high school principal. One of the “most important projects” she holds in high regard is the downtown development project. When Cindy became the Chamber president, another person she knew and trusted was the recently appointed Community Foundation President, **Chris McGuigan**. Both Chris and Cindy already knew each other through prior networking events and both were willing to tackle the downtown development project together for the benefit of our Muskegon community.

Through networking, she developed these key collaborations, that would

follow her “time and time again” which tied into her second key aspect of her success, collaboration. “If you want to do something really big, you need to collaborate,” Cindy emphasized. With her focus on downtown Muskegon’s bright new future, she began to lean toward a new goal of Muskegon as a future cruise ship harbor. After reading an article in the newspaper concerning the Pearl Mist cruise ship grounded in Saugatuck, she drew from her personal experiences (another key aspect she attributes to her success) including boating around many of our west Michigan lakeshore ports (Muskegon, Saugatuck, Grand Haven, etc.) as well as previous cruise ship experiences. Cindy reached out to the board of directors to continue the downtown development (she felt we still weren’t quite ready yet but was looking to figure out a budget, hire a consultant, etc.) and she also reached out to a friend who knew the owner of the Pearl Mist. Cindy and her friend and owner of Eagle Alloy, John Workman, began an enormous collaboration with one email. Within two weeks of that fantastic email (Cindy thought it would be two years!), the Pearl Mist was docked at Muskegon’s Mart Dock followed by several cruise ships now gladly using our port. Cindy was grateful for all the support from John Workman, Max McKee, the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce, the Visitor’s Bureau, the many businesses and non-profits throughout Muskegon (especially downtown), and many other community members’ support for the incredible collaboration that happened the first day the cruise ship came to our port as well as the many other times since.



Cindy added “Lakeshore” to the Muskegon Chamber’s title to emphasize one of our biggest assets. She had and continues to have the vision for our wonderful community to let the generational pain go and move forward into the future. We no longer have the lumber jobs that Hackley and Hume once provided but we do have many other opportunities. Cindy asked for our help to continue the positive work of focusing on the future. Some people still don’t understand that we are on the way to one of the most prosperous communities in the state and she needs our help in showing some people who are still in disbelief of Muskegon’s growth, that we are already starting to thrive. The amount of investment taking place right now in the high-tech manufacturers of aerospace and life sciences equates to thousands of good paying jobs with good benefits, so we must stay focused on that to prepare our community for that and move forward. “One of the ways we are going to do that is through transforming the waterfront from what used to be industrial waterfront to a recreational waterfront,” Cindy stated, and she is going to continue to help with this project. With time, networking, collaboration, research, and learning from personal experiences, we can continue to move forward with more jobs and see ourselves as an international city.

Paul Harris Fellow Award Cindy Larsen



Rachel Gorman speaks about Cindy Larsen during Paul Harris award ceremony



Dave Alexander awarding Cindy Larsen the Paul Harris Award



Cindy Larsen accepting her Paul Harris award

New Member Induction Lisa Gatti-Arnold



Sponsor **Sue Samaniego** and new Rotary Member **Lisa Gatti-Arnold**

Lisa is a wife and a mom of two adult children. She moved to the Muskegon area in June and accepted the position of Dean of Nursing and Health Programs at Muskegon Community College. Lisa has volunteered in the past, usually involving her kids' schools and sports. She enjoys reading, cooking and baking, and has a love for the beach.

As a nurse for over 30 years, one of the themes that Lisa has allowed to guide her is the first provision of the Code of Ethics for Nurses: "The nurse practices with compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person." What drew Lisa to Rotary was the statement on the website, "We, Muskegon Rotary, stand together renouncing hate and bigotry and affirming our interconnectedness. We invite you all to be part of LOVE LIVES HERE, respecting a variety of conversations and cultures, where everyone feels welcome to share their contributions, making us all stronger together, and moving forward with hope and in peace." There's nothing that says community more than that.

Lisa looks forward to working with others and becoming a part of this community.



Spotlight Video Tim Vanderhaar – Mobile Food Pantries



Muskegon Rotary celebrates our members in action providing assistance with the funding and distribution of food. Rotarian Tim Vanderhaar is the Pastor of First Congregational United Church of Christ of Muskegon and also serves on the board of Muskegon County Cooperating Churches who assists with the mobile food pantries. In addition to purchasing the groceries, we help handing them out. The goal of Rotary International is to improve lives and create a better world for tomorrow.

To see the full video, [CLICK HERE](#).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE WELCOME PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS

Katrina Hyder who is a transfer member and employed with CatchMark Technologies where she works in Sales & Business Development.

Tara Foreman who is the Lead Pastor at Bethany Church. Tara is sponsored by **Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga** and has been approved by the Muskegon Rotary Board. Tara will be inducted in the next few weeks.

DEI CORNER

Big Read Lakeshore

Lakeshore: Rotary's DEI committee is providing club members a copy of the award-winning graphic novel, MexiKid by Pedro Martin. Talk with Sarah Rinsema Sybenga, Nancy McCarthy, or Doug Wood to get your copy. Read the book in advance of our October 17th Rotary Program featuring Big Read Lakeshore founder and director, Dr. Deb VanDuinen.

FOR ADULTS

A SCREENING OF
Up From the Bottoms
The Search for the American Dream
A documentary about African American migration from the old south to Muskegon, Michigan.

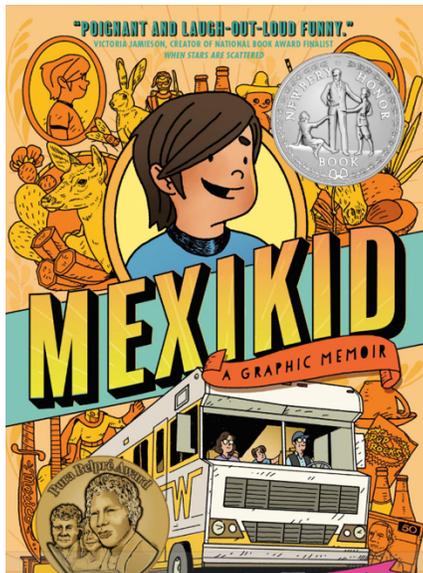
Mark your calendars for a new screening of "Up From the Bottoms: The Search for the American Dream" on October 22, 2024, at FREE event hosted by the Muskegon Heights Academy High School. Doors open at 5 PM. Admission is FREE.

Muskegon Heights Academy
Tuesday, October 22 | 5:30 pm

Register at MADL.org/calendar





Reading list for LGBTQ+ History Month (October):

https://lplp.bibliocommons.com/list/share/1892109169_madl_staff/2394208179_lgbtq_history_month

Harvest Fest

A perk of volunteering Oct. 24 during Harvest Fest is discounted admission!



Tickets on sale for \$85
Proceeds support the Muskegon Rotary Foundation

This event is for the entire community, and we welcome anyone to join in on the fun (not just Rotarians).

Tickets:

More information can be found [HERE](#). Tickets are limited so be sure to get your ticket(s)!

Sponsorship:

The HF committee would like to challenge each member to help raise funds for this event. It is very simple challenge, they ask that EACH OF YOU call or email ONE friend or business person you know, and ask them if they would be willing to sponsor the event! [HERE](#) is a link to view and download the sponsorship document. Feel free to email it or print it off and share it with someone you know! There will also be copies at the weekly Rotary luncheons on the back table. Thank you sponsors!



Volunteer:

Volunteer registration is open! [HERE](#) is the link with more information. All volunteers that would like to enjoy the Harvest Fest activities before or after their shift will enjoy a discounted ticket price for the event!

OCT. 24, 2024 @ 5-8pm
Baker College Culinary Institute of Michigan



Member Survey



Mary Anne Gorman announced there will be a member survey that will be sent out this week. This survey will provide valuable insight into your membership experience in the Rotary Club of Muskegon. Your participation will help inform future planning, decision-making, and practices with the goal of making our club a great experience. The responses are confidential and all results will only be reported in summary. If you did not receive a link in your email by October 17th, please contact Mary Anne.

District Conference Cancelled

The District Conference scheduled for October 18-20 has been cancelled due to the lack of sufficient registrations.

Those of you who did register should have received an email from **District Governor Brianna Scott** announcing the cancellation and an email from **District Administrator Kathy Hegedus** regarding the refunding of your registration fees paid. Stay tuned for this to be rescheduled to this spring.

No-Show Charge Revision

Submitted by **President Tim Arter**
Some Background:

1. Muskegon Rotarians have raised concerns with the current policy of charging members a “No-Show Fee” who have signed up for a weekly meeting but were unable to attend.
2. In today’s world, especially younger members who have many business and family responsibilities and cannot always predict in advance their availability to attend Thursday noon meetings.
3. To accommodate this scheduling reality, this past Tuesday the Board of Directors revised the meal charge policy for the benefit of members.

Processes which are NOT changing:

1. Members will still use Sign-Up Genius to register for luncheons by the Monday immediately prior to the luncheon.
2. If members need to cancel their registration, they can still contact Kim Boersema to cancel.
3. Those members who missed the Monday signup deadline can still contact Kim to be put on a wait list to fill a cancellation.
4. Kim will do her best to replace a cancelled registration with another member who wishes to attend the luncheon.
5. Through these processes and a lot of hard work by Kim, we have significantly reduced the number of meal charges for those who need to cancel.

Here is what has changed for the benefit of members:

In addition to existing processes already in place to alleviate meal charges, here is what is changing:

1. Every member will be able to have one “No-Show” charge cancelled per quarter.
2. Members should consider the signup process for luncheon meetings as reserving a meal.
3. Rotarians who need more flexibility in their schedules:
 - a. Still have the ability to participate in the weekly meetings via Zoom, or
 - b. There will be chairs set up at the back of the meeting location to accommodate them. They are invited to have water or coffee and fully participate in the meeting.



Calling all Brave Rotarians!

Meredith Smillie is looking for contestants for this fall’s Brave Rotarian competition. Here is your chance to win a coveted Paul Harris Fellow! Competition kicks off on November 7, 2024. \$100 will get you in the mix for this one-of-a-kind competition. Contact Meredith Smillie at msmillie@bethany.org or sign up at lunch beginning October 24, 2024.

Interact Insider

North Muskegon EarlyAct Club



Does this girl from EarlyAct pictured above with **Doug Wood** look familiar?



She was spotted in Tim's video with the mobile food pantries this week (and this editor is a proud mom)! 😊

The North Muskegon EarlyAct Club for 2024-25 got off to a rousing start this week with over 40 fifth graders attending their organizational meeting. Led by NM Interactors from the high school, the group heard from Muskegon Rotarians, discussed group norms, and brainstormed service projects. The year is off to a great start!

Chili Cook-off Committee Members Needed



ReWine has commenced its planning for the Chili Cook-off and is looking for committee members to assist with event planning, promotion, ticket sales, sponsor support, and other roles. If you are interested, contact **Jerry Kuester, Katie Drake, or Craig Pirrotta**.

Every Monday 8:30-10:30 am, volunteers are needed to help maintain the Marquette micro-forest. Contact **John Noling** if you can help.

Ep 40: Melissa Horton - Lakeshore Museum Center



Did you know Muskegon has a hidden gem with SIX museums in ONE location?

Join us as we chat with **Melissa Horton**, Executive Director of the Lakeshore Museum Center! We'll explore the fascinating Museum of History & Science, delve into historic sites, and uncover the secrets of the Heritage Museum of Business & Industry.

Discover how the Lakeshore

Museum Center is preserving our local history while making it fun and engaging for all ages with a mix of science and creativity.

Listen now and get ready to explore.

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2269729/episodes/15896639-melissa-horton-lakeshore-museum-center>

Thinking-of-You Cards Needed

Former Rotarian Joan Schmitt has moved to the Oasis (Assisted Living) of Norton Shores. If you are willing and able, a thinking-of-you card would lift her spirits. For her address, please contact **Darlene Collet** at collethome@comcast.net.

ReWine's Application Approved!

We have received confirmation from Rotary International that the ReWine's application for satellite club status has been approved.

Formal confirmation of the approval will be received by us once Rotary International has assigned a club number.

Reminder that ReWine meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday each month at 5:15pm at Unruly Brewing. All are welcome to attend! Contact **Kevin** or **Esther Ricco** for more information.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 14

6:00pm • Stevenson Center Room 1300
Free & open to the public



Dr. Emily Dolson
Assistant Professor in Computer
Science and Engineering,
MSU

“Building Lifelike Ecology and Evolution in a Computer”

Come join us!
Each lecture will last for about an hour with Q and A to follow.



**Muskegon
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College**



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