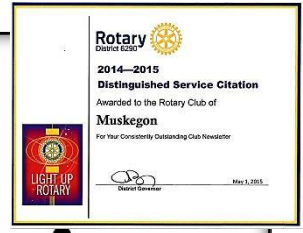


"Service Above Self" Muskegon Rotary in Motion



<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>

Jason Piasecki, President
Jane Clingman-Scott, President-Elect
Ginny Sprague, President Nominee
Mark Meyers, Immediate 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 Meeting October 28, 12-1:30pm
Hybrid Style – The Delta
ReWine Sat Club – Next mtg 11/4 5:15 pm

Mary Anne Gorman, Director
Jeff Lewis, Director
Doug Wood, Director
Asaline Scott, Director
David Ramos, Director
Marty Gerencer, Director
Jackie Farrar, 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 (10/28/21 Rotary's Youth Programs)

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
Heidi Sytsema

REFLECTORS
Susan Crain Oct 21
Eric Seifert Oct 28
Darlene Collet Nov 4

NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS
Jenny McNeill Oct 28
Randy Lundquist Oct 29
Paul Christie Oct 30
MaryAnne Kowalski Oct 31
Kristy Sweet Oct 31
Timothy Vander Haar Nov 1
Roger Spoelman Nov 3
Don't forget [Caring Connection Fund!](#)

PROGRAMS / EVENTS
10/21 Community Foundation of Muskegon
10/28 Rotary's Youth Programs
11/4 United Way of the Lakeshore Update

Before you act, listen
Before you react, think
Before you spend, earn
Before you criticize, wait
Before you pray, forgive
Before you quit, try.
--from William Arthur Ward (1921-94), an American writer of famous inspirational maxims

VISITORS & GUESTS



Jeff Bessinger from the Lakeshore Museum Center is in charge of Collections and Exhibits and is the primary Archivist. Jeff was the guest of Missy Horton.



Ammy Seymour introduced visiting Rotarian Kristi Haik, Sr. Director of Development for Girls Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore.

Heidi Sytsema brought along several of the crew from Community

Foundation. Not pictured are speakers Todd Jacobs and Janelle Mair.



Mandy Hicks, Database Administrator and Grants Processor



Bonita Jackson, Donor Relations Coordinator



Jocelyn Hines Program Officer



Jerry Wiersema welcomed Al Bolles who is the president of a food company and works in California.



Eric Messing brought along Rachel Schmerschneider, Marketing Communications Associate for Community Foundation and the Frauenthal.



Justin Kitchka introduced Alex Fonseca, owner of Fresh Coat Painters of Muskegon



Contessa Hood, Economic Development Coordinator from Greater Muskegon Economic Development, was the guest of **Cathy Brubaker-Clark**. Contessa will be officially inducted into Rotary next week.

Marty Sytsema introduced two exceptional future leaders from Mona Shores High School along with their Counselor, Stacie Meyers.



Ashton Ross serves as the Treasurer for Student Senate, is a member of the National Honor Society and Interact, and is the Vice Chair on the Youth Advisory Council for the Community Foundation. Ashton plans to study Political Science at University of Michigan.



Aiden Cook is the National Honor Society Treasurer, is captain of the Cross-Country Team, plays Volleyball, Track, and Soccer, and plans to study Business at the University of Michigan.

What's more--both Ashton and Aiden each tackle a full academic load at Mona Shores with five Advanced Placement classes.

(Guest not pictured - Rita Caviness, guest of Meredith Smillie)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee Reports

Kristi Pawlak and **Lin Turnage** from the Youth Exchange Committee will be in Petoskey for District Interviews this weekend. Both Reeths Puffer and North Muskegon will each be sending one student and their parents to be interviewed.

New Member Induction

Tim Arter sponsored **Craig Wikander**. Craig was born and raised in the Muskegon area, has been married to Barb for 43 years, and they have three children and six grandchildren. He has a BBA in Marketing/MSc Accounting from Western Michigan University, and his MBA from Grand Valley.



Craig is a CPA and his career includes part owner of Aptec, Inc., Division Controller for Howmet, CFO for MasterTag and Treasurer of Scenic Woods Condo Association. He enjoys golf, skiing, and reading. Welcome to Muskegon Rotary, Craig!

Vocational Spotlight

David Hogan lights up the spotlight this week. To see the full story, click [here](#).



David was born and raised in Saint Louis, he started Dental School in 1950 and graduated in 1954. In 1958 he became a resident of Muskegon County, started working at an orthodontics practice and attended his first Rotary meeting as a guest at the Occidental Hotel that was later demolished. David Hogan served as Rotary President in 1986. Muskegon County has been a wonderful home for his family. He has 10 grandchildren, three live in Muskegon County and the other seven are residing in different areas of the world.

This Week's Program: Community Foundation for Muskegon

By Jackie Farrar

Speakers: Todd Jacobs and Janelle Mair

The Community Foundation's vision for Muskegon County is "To build a vibrant community with great opportunities for all". The Community Foundation's values are - Hope and opportunity/particularly youth, collaborative community goals & decision making, and to have an inclusive community. The strategic framework for the Community Foundation is advance educational attainment, foster a dynamic local economy, and enhance community trust and promote prosperity for all.

Advance Educational Attainment

- Life-long literacy, including STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math and Financial literacy) - These are all areas that we need to understand to be successful
- Educational equity – Opportunities for all students to be successful

Why Education – Muskegon County Data

- Children who are not proficient in reading by third grade are 13 times more likely to not graduate high school
- More than 60% of the incoming fourth graders are not reading at grade level
- Students not proficient by 8th grade are less likely to graduate high school
- Disparities by location - less than 5% vs. 60% reading at grade level
- Approximately 10% of the adult population are functionally illiterate

Supporting Education Ongoing Efforts

- Pre-K for all
- Countywide Literacy Coaches
- Read Muskegon Literacy Collaborative

- Muskegon Promise and Kickstart to Career
- Y Learning Center
- Student and Adult Scholarships

Foster a Dynamic, Local Economy

Workforce supports

- Affordable childcare, housing, and transportation

Business supports

- Entrepreneurship development and capacity of local community and economic partners

Why support workforce

- 50% of Muskegon County residents are burdened by housing costs
- Childcare is expensive, inaccessible, and a barrier to participation in the workforce
- Transportation is needed to participate in the workforce

Why business supports

- A skilled workforce is a prerequisite to participating in the economy and sharing its benefits
- Low-income, BIPOC, and women-run businesses are less likely to have access to capital or resources for growth

- Building an inclusive economy promotes prosperity in which all can thrive

Supporting Community Economic Development (CED) Ongoing Efforts

- GROW and Housing Program-Related Investments (PRI)
- Childcare Action Team
- Eviction Prevention Program
- Food Agriculture Research Manufacturing (FARM)
- Greater Muskegon Economic Development - Rural & Small Development

Enhance Community Trust and Promote Prosperity for All

- Through cultural competency, dignity, and social justice, catalyze community to embrace inclusive prosperity and promote the development of spaces where all voices are valued

Why Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Economic Disparities

- In Muskegon County, you are 3x more likely to be employed if you are white
- 22% of Muskegon County children live in poverty



- African-American children have a 56% chance of living in poverty

Inequity Impacts

- Health, prosperity, quality of life, and hope and opportunity

Supporting DEI

- MCC's Office of Diversity, Community Empowerment Small Grant Program, National Day of Racial Healing mini-grants, and LEAD Giving Program

The Sad News/The Good News

By Bob Scolnik

Normally I'd be sad about what I'm going to write, but my sadness is completely overwhelmed by the joy I am feeling.



First, I am currently the Vice-Chairman of the Muskegon Area District Library. Muskegon County has a spectacular library system with 10 branches and a brand new 36' bookmobile. The system employs about 60 people. Kelly Richards has been the Director since January, 2015 and in his 7 years he has completed a huge overhaul of the system. All of the branches are receiving major makeovers, with just three now underway to complete the entire project. Our Storyville Village has been installed in 3 of the branches...small children size villages...to entice young children to read and enjoy the library. New technology and numerous new programs and activities have been introduced and when we've had job openings, we have many dozens of applicants. Kelly is respected and liked by the community and his staff.

Now for the sad news. Kelly was not looking for a new position and was contacted by a large recruiting firm who asked him if he would be interested in a huge job. He filled out some basic information that ultimately led to about 20 interviews and he was offered the position of Director and President of the Free Library of Philadelphia. This is one of the largest libraries in the country with 54 branches, 760 employees and a \$45 million budget. I was interviewed by the recruiting firm and could only praise Kelly, because it was the truth. He had mixed emotions about leaving Muskegon County and we had a long conversation about it. How could he turn this down? Professionally, it is a homerun and a one in a million opportunity. I can't tell you how pleased I am! Congratulations, my Friend!

Trivia Question

Q: How much has the Rotary Foundation given out since its inception in 1947?



A: \$4.9 billion. In 2020, the Foundation awarded \$408.6 million to support PolioPlus, Rotary Peace Centers, District Grants, Global Grants and Disaster Response Grants.

Upcoming Hackley & Hume Home Fun Stuff

Two Dates Left for the Hackley Attic Escape Room – October 22 and November 5, both 5-6:30 pm

Experience the Hackley House as you never have before! For many years, the Hackley Attic has been a mysterious place for visitors. Now it is up to you and your closest friends to escape a Victorian storage room filled with puzzles, locks, and riddles. Brush up on your Muskegon history and escape the attic in 80 minutes! Get your tickets [here](#).

The Hackley and Hume Home Obituary Tours October 29, 7-8pm



On this candlelit evening tour, travel back in time to explore the deaths, funerals, and autopsies that occurred in the Hackley and Hume Houses. Become immersed in the practices and traditions of death and dying in the Victorian Era.

Space is limited, more info [here!](#)

Saturday, November 27, 2-7PM is the Hackley & Hume Holiday Tour Kick-off Event

Duration: 5 hr.

Public · Everyone invited

Experience the Hackley and Hume Houses this holiday season! Join us for our kick-off on Saturday, November 27 from 2-7 pm for a night of ornament decorating, cookies, and hot chocolate in the courtyard of the houses.

Tickets can be purchased at the door and are:

\$15 per person

\$12 for seniors 65+

\$5 for Kids ages 3-12

Muskegon Rotary Board

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 Tim Arter timarter935@gmail.com
 Kathy Betts kbetts01@gmail.com
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