

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 24, 2024

**Next Meeting (October 31, 2024, 12-1:30pm) — Bruschetta Chicken Buffet at the Lake House
Program Topic – Hispanic Heritage Month**

What's Coming

October 31 – Hispanic Heritage
November 7 – Inbound Youth
Exchange

Upcoming Birthdays

November 1 Timothy Vander Haar
November 3 Brandon Davis
November 3 Roger Spoelman
November 4 CeCe Riley
November 5 Bill Erikson
November 5 Richard Francisco
November 6 Kevin Donovan
November 6 Jennifer Fellingner

Caring Connections Fund



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

Greeter This Week

Mary Boyd & Nick Green

Reflector This Week

Lisa Tyler

RIM Reporting this Edition

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

10/24/2024 Muskegon Rotary
YouTube Video Link: [Click here](#)

Visitors & Guests



Amy Camponelli (Public Defense Director), guest of **Marcia Hovey-Wright**



Tim Tuthill introduces his guest, Realtor Mark Vriesman



Melissa Moore, proud member of the Whitehall School Board, fires up the crowd to welcome two Whitehall seniors and their principal, Brett Westerlund. He introduced Brady and Sidney, two high-achieving and busy student athletes.

Transferring Rotarian – Kat Hyder



Mary Anne Gorman introduced **Kat Hyder**. She is the Sales and Business Development Manager for Catchmark Technologies and brings a wealth of community involvement and leadership to our club. Transferring from the Whitehall Club, Kat currently serves on the boards for the Jaycees of Greater Muskegon & BNI Pinnacle and is also involved in StrongTowns of Muskegon. She is a dedicated coach at Reeths-Puffer and is deeply passionate about empowering the next generation. Kat and her husband are working to bring sustainable housing to Muskegon, with a focus on hemp agriculture to support Muskegon County's growth. She's an advocate for building strong, meaningful relationships that create positive change for everyone involved. Welcome, Kat!

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

This week's program: World Polio Day



Introduced by: **Dave Alexander**
Presenters: **Walter Mrotz, Tom Palmer**, and via video **Roger Wills**
Reporter: **Meredith Smillie**

Rotary members and their partners in service come together each World Polio Day on October 24 to recognize progress in the fight to end the disease. World Polio Day was established by [Rotary International](#) to commemorate the birth of [Jonas Salk](#), who led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis. Use of this inactivated poliovirus vaccine and subsequent widespread use of the oral poliovirus vaccine developed by [Albert Sabin](#) led to establishment of the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) (GPEI) in 1988. Since then, GPEI has reduced polio worldwide by 99.9 percent.

World Polio Day is an annual observance when members of Rotary International, along with public health advocates and individuals committed to a polio-free world, convene to commemorate their accomplishments in the global campaign against polio. This day

also provides a platform for deliberation on the requisite measures to permanently eliminate polio from the face of the Earth.



Dave Alexander introduced our program today. Rotary members have contributed

2.5 billion dollars and have vaccinated millions of children worldwide. Rotary is a founding member of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. There are only 12 cases in Afghanistan and Pakistan. If we stopped our efforts today, we run the risk of polio returning to quickly infect 10,000 children and 200,000 in 10 years.

Unless we vaccinate every child worldwide, we run the risk of polio returning to quickly infect 10,000 children and 200,000 in 10 years.

Polio is a highly infectious disease transmitted ingesting contaminated water (fecal oral transmission). There is no cure for polio.



[CLICK HERE TO SEE ROGER'S VIDEO](#)

There are two vaccines available: a pill or an injection. Jonas Salk developed the first injectable vaccine. He gave away all of the patent rights. Vaccine testing was completed on his own family and in Grand Rapids. GPEI includes Rotary, UNICEF, US Center for Disease Control, WHO and the Gates Foundation and governments around the world. Vaccination of children is the only way to curb the spread of polio.

We need to continue to raise funds to build awareness, fundraising, sponsoring of events, presentations, volunteer or donate to continue eradication efforts. Rotary uses funds to purchase vaccines and administer them to children. They also conduct regular surveillance to detect the disease and to raise awareness of the

effectiveness of vaccines. We are this close to eradication is Rotary's top philanthropic plan of action. Rotary has promised the children of the world that we will eliminate this hideous virus. We need to continue to donate money to the Polio Plus Foundation.

Tom Palmer and **Walter Mrotz** also shared testimonials on their personal experiences with Polio.



Tom shared that both of his older sisters contracted polio as children. Both of his sisters have physical impairments that keep them from walking without assistive devices and are short in stature due to effects of polio. Tom shared that both of his sisters are very tough, and Tom shared that they obtained their toughness from their mother. Tom shared that she was his sisters' champion. Tom views his sisters as heroes. Every day presents challenges for his siblings, but they continue to fight and persevere. Tom challenged us to be "that" club.



Walter also shared that he contracted polio at the age of 1. It took 3 additional years before he could walk, and he wore steel and

leather braces to keep his legs straight. Walter noted pain in his legs and back due to the disease. Walter shared that he tried very hard to ignore the pain, doing his level best to compete with his peers during hiking adventures during Boy Scouts. Walter credits his mother and her perseverance. He shared how his mother often thought that she hated him for all the things she did to help him when he was younger. He shared that he remembers very little of those things, just her love and affection for him. Walter stays very active biking and walking around the world. Walter noted that polio affects the nerves that connect to our muscles and continues to suffer pain from post-polio syndrome.



<https://my.rotary.org/en/take-action/end-polio>

RIM Reporting Team

Co-Editors: Susan Besteman & Jackie Farrar

Reporters: Kathy Moore, Roger Morgenstern, Meredith Smillie, Sue Samaniego, Ginny Sprague

Photographers: Mark Alpher, Wyatt Huggett, & Roger Morgenstern

Contributors: John Noling, Mike Vogas, & Doug Wood

Spotlight Video Melissa Moore – Read Muskegon



Muskegon Rotary contributes money and effort to create lasting change. READ Muskegon serves those whose reading skills are deficient and offers them an improved way to navigate life and in doing so, improves what we all understand to be community improvement. Our Harvest Fest fund raiser contributed to their success.

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

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 Tom Palmer
 Brandon Turnbull Esther Ricco
 Marty Sytsema Lisa Tyler

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



Purple Pinkie Project

Paul Harris Fellow Karen Buie



Bob Scolnik, Karen Buie Jenkins, & Dr. Larry Jenkins

Bob Scolnik was pleased to present **Karen Buie Jenkins** with a Paul Harris Fellow Award. Fellow Rotarian **Kristi Nagengast**, who had received the right to name a Paul Harris Fellow, asked Bob to do the formal presentation because the honoree is a long-time friend. Karen was born in Muskegon Heights. Bob knew both of her parents, George and Mildred Washington.

Karen has lived a tremendously blessed life and has accomplished a great deal in her life. She attended Muskegon Catholic Central, then graduated from Muskegon Community College and graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in Criminal Justice. She is married to Dr. Larry Jenkins, the love of her life, and has three sons, David, Aaron, and Joshua and has four grandchildren.

Karen was crowned Mrs. Michigan in 1999 and went on to become the third runner-up in the Mrs. International Pageant. She was also the first runner-up in the Mrs. America Pageant in 2002.

Karen has had a long spanning career in public service. She worked for the State of Michigan as a Juvenile Probation Officer, for the Department of Human Services as a Children's Protective Services Officer, a Bail Review Officer, a State Probations

Officer and later as a Human Resources Analyst. She was Superintendent of the Way Point Charter School. She was also elected to the City of Muskegon City Commission, serving as Vice-Mayor. She later successfully ran for Muskegon County Clerk where she served from 2002 through 2009. She was defeated in the next election and became a flight attendant for American Airlines for 11 years, commuting to Texas from Muskegon and flew throughout the world. On May 1, 2023, she was reappointed Muskegon County Clerk after a request by the early retirement of Nancy Waters...the individual who had defeated Karen earlier...and a unanimous vote of all the Muskegon County Judges. Karen is currently running for reelection as County Clerk. She recently received a national award from Tyler Technologies for her innovative program of providing free birth certificates to the indigent community through partnerships with the Muskegon Rescue Mission, The Exit Program, Goodwill Industries and Muskegon Family Care. Karen was recognized by the Michigan Secretary of State for her County Clerk's Election Office providing a consolidated early voting site for Muskegon County, which saved over 1.4 million dollars for the County. Karen Buie Jenkins, despite a remarkably busy life, has found time to serve on numerous non-profit boards. She has served on the Boards of the Muskegon Rescue Mission, Habitat for Humanity, the Muskegon County Museum, and The Michigan County Clerks Association. The one thing about her that Bob is most proud of, is when she asked me to give her away at her wedding to Larry Jenkins on May 26, 2007. Congratulations, Karen!



Meredith Smillie Leads the Formal Presentation of the Paul Harris Award



Bob Scolnik presents the award to **Karen Buie** on behalf of **Kristi Nagengast**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Member Survey

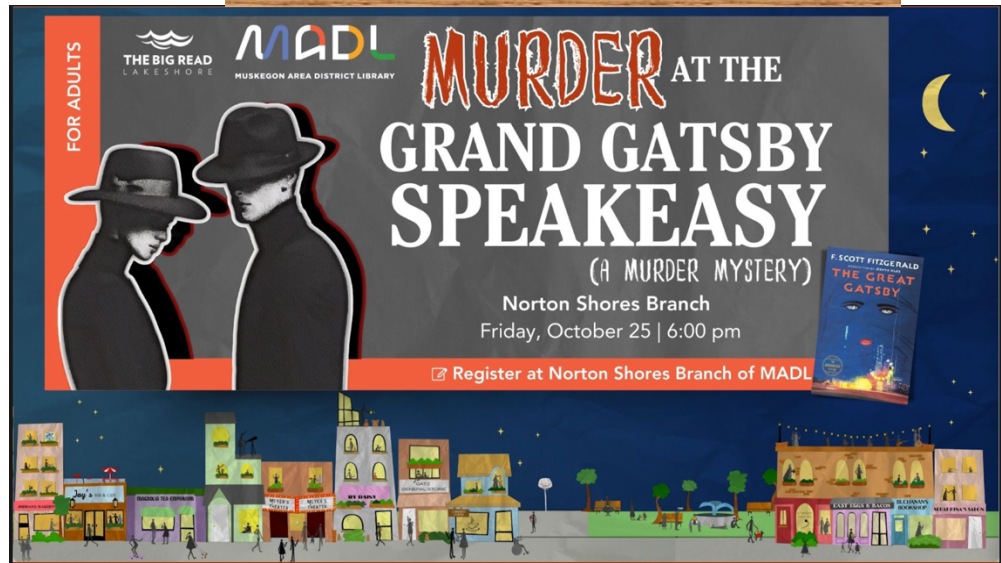


Mary Anne Gorman reminded us to complete the member survey that was sent out last week. This survey will provide valuable insight into your membership experience in the Rotary Club of Muskegon. Your participation will help inform future planning, decision-making, and practices with the goal of making our club a great experience. The responses are confidential and all results will only be reported in summary. [CLICK HERE](#) for the survey link.

DEI CORNER

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.



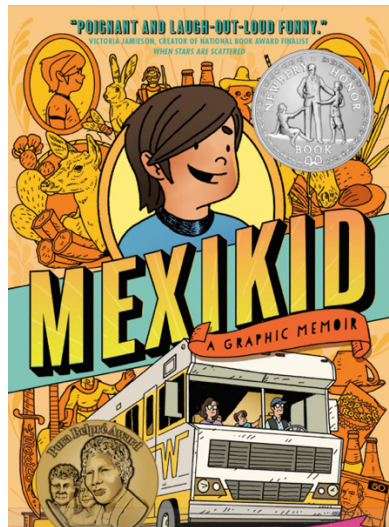
Youth Exchange Auction Results & More Donations Needed



Craig Pirrotta helps with the Rotary Youth Exchange Program and this year it will cost \$8000 for the students. This increased expense caused one of the students to drop out so they need our help with more donations including donations for another auction. The first auction raised \$1200 with another \$500 check that arrived after; however, these students could use more help. Craig is looking to do another auction in December so will be asking for more items next month.

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.



Reading list for LGBTQ+ History Month (October):

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

District Survey

An e-mail was sent last week asking for input as the District undertakes its first strategic planning session in several years. Your feedback is important! [CLICK HERE](#) for the link. Please complete this by Friday, October 25th.



President Tim Arter

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

Donations Needed for Youth Exchange Conference Nov 8th

Your Muskegon Rotary Youth Exchange is again hosting the District 6290 District Conference! As our budget is limited for food, we would ask if there are any Rotary members who would be willing to donate any of the following, it would be SO appreciated:

15 People

Small bags of assorted chips such as Potato, Dorito, etc.

If you have leftover Halloween candy, they love it!

A large green salad for Friday night

A large green salad for Saturday night.

A bowl of fresh fruit.

If you can donate any of these, please let me know as soon as possible.

Please put your name on each bowl or dish with some masking tape, and I'll return it to you.

Please bring your donated food to the large Airbnb at 6003 Grand Haven Road, Norton Shores on Friday afternoon 4:30-5 PM,, November 8.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS HELPED US IN THE PAST AND WHO CAN DO SO NOW!

Joanie Smith for Rotary Youth Exchange. joan.hilles@gmail.com



Rotary After Hours – Family Night at the History & Science Museum



Thursday, November 14, 2024 - 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Who: All Rotarians, Interact, Rotaract and their family and friends.

What: Rotary social event at the History and Science Museum at the Lakeshore Museum Center. This event is geared to the entire family and will feature interactive events for kids and adults as well as access to all the museum's exhibits including:

- **Dinosaur Bones.** Explore Dinosaurs with Paleo Joe and embark on an extraordinary journey through time as we unveil the mysteries of the prehistoric world in the Dinosaur Bones exhibit.
- **Coming to the Lakes:** Learn all about the lives of those who've called this area home for the last 10,000 years! From giant Mastodons to fur traders, lumber barons and others, this exhibit is bound to make you curious.
- **Habitats Gallery:** Discover the relationships between the plants and animals that live in Muskegon County and the habitats of each.

Which ones have you seen? The habitat Gallery will make you **adventurous**.

- **Michigan from the Depths of Time:** Our beautiful lakes didn't always look like they do today! Our bodies of water have experienced impactful changes throughout the ages. Dive into this exhibit and see for yourself. Bet it will make you **smile!**
- **Stem Center:** Be sure to check out this creative and interactive space that will make you **think** about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics! This exhibit promotes hands-on learning for all family members.

Where: 430 W. Clay Ave., Muskegon, MI 49440

What Do I Receive?

- Snacks, adult beverages, water and soft drinks
- Enjoy the comradery of Rotary members and their guests in a relaxed atmosphere outside of the meeting setting.
- Access to all other museum exhibits too

Cost: FREE

How to sign up: No registration necessary but it would be helpful to sign up—[CLICK HERE](#).

Questions: **Jeff Bessenger** at jeff@lakeshoremuseum.org or **Tim Lipan** at Lipant@comcast.net or 231-740-0982.

Muskegon Rising Podcast Ep 42: Bethann Egan – USS Silversides Submarine Museum



Get ready to submerge yourselves in a fascinating journey through naval history.

Join us as we explore the USS Silversides Submarine Museum right here on the Muskegon Lake channel! We'll learn about the legendary World War II submarine USS Silversides and discover the museum's captivating exhibits, including a Prohibition-era Coast Guard cutter, USCGC McLane.

This episode honors the brave men and women who served our country, preserves our military history, and offers a glimpse into the incredible technology of past and present.

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2269729/episodes/15972407-bethann-egan-uss-silversides-submarine-museum>

This link (thank you, **Mike Vogas**) connects to the entire collection of our YouTube Muskegon Rising video podcasts.

[CLICK HERE FOR ALL PODCASTS](#)

Thoughtful 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. Please contact **Darlene Collet** at collethome@comcast.net.

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 exiting 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.

Lisa Tyler gave this week’s reflection.



Dr. Rem Sprague explained the spread of polio further.

Harvest Fest Success!



More photos to come in a later RIM edition!



Harvest Fest
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