



*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 (October 3, 2024, 12-1:30pm) — Chicken Parmesan Buffet at the Lake House Program Topic – Looking Back at 25 Years in Muskegon

What's Coming

- October 10 – Looking Back at 25 yrs in Muskegon
- October 17 – Big Read Muskegon

Upcoming Birthdays

- October 11 Heidi Sytsema
- October 12 Ed Hendrickson
- October 12 Missy Horton
- October 14 Claire Root-Benson
- October 16 Jackie Fisher
- October 16 Chauncy Williams

Caring Connections Fund



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

Greeter This Week

Mary Boyd & Nancy Crandall

Reflector This Week

Kathy Moore

RIM Reporting this Edition

Photographer – Roger Morgenstern
RIM Reporter – Sue Samaniego
RIM Editor – Susan Besteman

10/3/2024 Muskegon Rotary
YouTube Video Link: [Click here](#)

VISITORS & GUESTS

This week's guest list received our sentiments for the loss of their loved ones. In the late Bill Johanson's words on April 30th, 2024, while putting together an article for our RIM, "Some of the Rotarian faces are no longer with us physically but tender memories of them remain."



Lisa Vitale (daughter) and Debbie Blandford (daughter) of the late **Mort Kantor**



Katie Wierengo (daughter), Jeff Hazy (son-in-law), and Frank Wierengo (son) of the late **Sue Wierengo**



Susan Crain (wife) of the late **Orville Crain**



Nathan Johnson (partner) and Kathy Bertoia (mother) of the late **Jason Bertoia**



Scott & Dylan Metzdorf (sons) of the late **Lisa Metzdorf**



Kris Johanson (wife) and Carrie Kelly (daughter) of the late **Bill Johanson**



Eric Landman (son), Jodi Landman (daughter), Ken Dail (son-in-law) of the late **Bob Landman**



This week's program: Muskegon Rotary Club Remembrance Program



Presenters: **Mary Anne Gorman & John Noling**

Reporter: **Sue Samaniego**

Family members of seven Muskegon Rotary friends with over 157 years of collective service joined us in remembrance and celebration of over 157 years of collective service. The program celebrated more than just a span of service, but the depth and quality of what they brought to our club.

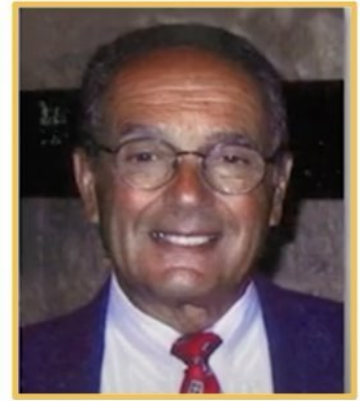
Even though we are a large club, we get to know each other. Beyond just the surface of what we do for a living and where we come from, we get to know the value each of us brings to the whole.



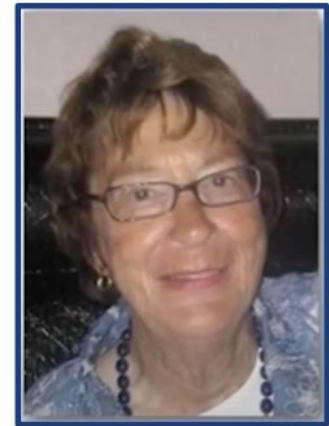
Bob Landman (1933-2022), a talented architect and creator of modern living spaces, was a longtime serving Rotarian and friend to all. The signature SPX building was one of his noteworthy designs along with many "Landman houses." Bob remained eternally upbeat and was a lifelong learner. He loved watching Lake Michigan sunsets with his wife "Josie". At the luncheon to honor Bob were son Eric Landman, daughter Jodi Landman, and son-in-law Ken Dail.



Orville Crain (1950-2022) never met a stranger. A true "go-getter" for Rotary, he embraced all things Membership at the Club and District levels. He was the inventor and a founder of Klever Kutter. Orville loved his family, especially the grandkids. He was a booster of community arts and non-profits, especially tackling racism and equity causes. In attendance at the memorial was wife **Susan Crain**.



Mort Kantor (1930-2024) lived his life with kindness, humility and integrity. He was a respected dentist and community contributor. Mort was a Paul Harris Fellow and Harbor Hospice Hero Award recipient. Outside of work, Mort was a devoted husband and father and a competitive racer who loved the water and his boat, *Chicken Soup*. Mort's daughters Lisa Vitale and Debbie Blandford were in attendance.



Sue Wierengo (1931-2024) was the first woman to be president of Muskegon Rotary (1999-2000) and a Paul Harris Fellow. Known for her energy, dedication and great sense of humor, Sue was a civic leader, leadership academy guru, and hospice pioneer at the local and state levels. She loved to share stories of her children and grandchildren and treasured lake front living on Mona Lake and at Pere Marquette Beach.

Son Frank Wierengo, daughter Katie Wierengo and son-in-law Jeff Hazy attended the memorial program.



Jason Bertoia (1979-2024) had infectious smile and joie de vivre. He was Managing Director of Muskegon Civic Theatre for 6 years and provided stage management and tech crew services for Muskegon Rotary Club meetings. Jason had a long connection to the theatre and performing arts community and formed lasting friendships through this work. Attending the memorial were Jason's significant other, Nathan Johnson, and his mother, Kathy Bertoia.



Lisa Metzdorf (1952-2024) had a successful career as a nurse leader at Hackley Hospital and area hospices with a second career in real estate. A

kind and sensitive woman, she was drawn to collaborative projects. Lisa shone as Rotary membership chair and volunteer for Pours for Community, the American Cancer Society and Camp Catch-a-Rainbow. She was proud of her three talented sons, two of whom were able to join the memorial program: Scott and Dylan.



Bill Johanson (1943-2024) had a 33-year career at Consumers Energy, retiring as Lakeshore Area Manager in 2003. Bill's affable, multi-talented and generous spirit endeared him to all who met him. He was the long-term editor of Muskegon Rotary's highly acclaimed RIM newsletter and a Paul Harris Fellow. Bill loved to camp and kayak with his family, which he immortalized with his trusty camera. An avid musician, Bill played bass guitar or saxophone in five bands for nearly 50 years. Attending the program were Bill's wife Kris Johanson and daughter Carrie Kelly. Following the slide show and touching narrative, attendees were invited to Rotary Park for a memorial ceremony.

To see the remembrance video **Mike Vogas** put together for this program, [click here](#).



Many Rotarians and friends went to the downtown Muskegon Rotary Park to honor and remember some of the stories of how these Rotarians touched their lives.



President-Elect Dave Alexander invited anyone to tell stories of remembrance; we heard from **Susan Besteman, Darlene Collet, Nancy Crandall, Kevin Donovan, Mary Anne Gorman, Roger Morgenstern, John Noling, and Claire Root-Benson**.





Spotlight Video Missy Horton – Programming Committee



Missy is one of the co-chairs of our Muskegon Rotary Program Committee and is key to the flawless delivery of weekly presentations to inform and enlighten our members. Her diligence and pleasant leadership is a gift to both the committee and the club. She outlines the methods used to get this predictable result.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cultivating Peace

By Doug Wood

On Saturday, September 21st, a group of Rotarians and friends gathered at the Marquette Microforest on the United Nations International Day of Peace. They marked this important date by planting a new Sugar Maple tree along the path of the garden.



Left to right: Dr. Ara Demirjian, John Noling, Annette Jack, Doug Wood, Jerry Kuester, Nancy McCarthy

Established in 1981, the International Day of Peace was recognized by the UN General Assembly in 2001 as a day of non-violence and cease fire. Rotarians have played a key role in the establishment of the Day of Peace and Peacebuilder Clubs around the world recognize the day through poetry, song, or ceremony.



Past President Jason Piasecki and **President Elect Dave Alexander** showed their Detroit fan pride at the Oct. 1 Past Presidents monthly breakfast meeting. The Lions had just beat Seattle on Monday Night Football and the Tigers were gearing up for their first

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



Muskegon Rotary Board

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Brandon Turnbull	Esther Ricco
Marty Sytsema	Lisa Tyler

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

DEI CORNER

The theme for the 25th Anniversary of the UN International Day of Peace is “Cultivating a Culture of Peace.” It seems quite fitting that our club has extended the reach of the Marquette Microforest as a means of creating that culture in Muskegon.



The Peacebuilder Club meets at 11:00 am on the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Community Foundation of Muskegon office on Western Avenue. Rotarians are welcome to join us to see how they can become part of the Peacebuilding efforts of the club. Co-chairs are **Cathy Brubaker-Clarke** and **Kelly DeVos**.



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

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

MADL MUSKEGON AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY
THE BIG READ L.A.S.E.R. 2024

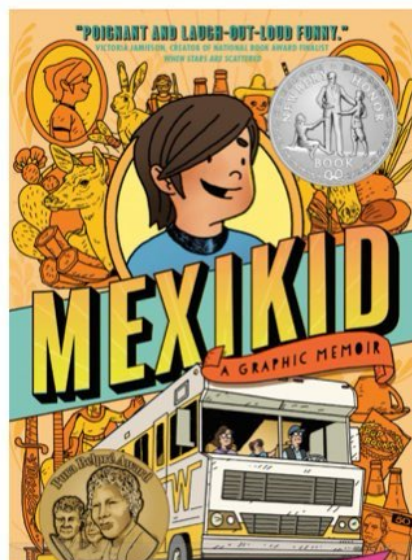
Register at MADL.org/calendar

F. SCOTT FITZGERALD
THE GREAT GATSBY

A colorful illustration of a city street at night, featuring various buildings with lit windows and a street with a few figures.

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.



Reading list for LGBTQ+ History Month (October):

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

September Social a Success!



Missy Horton hosted the new member social at the Hackley Library in September with a great turnout! If you are interested in the next event, contact her for the dates and locations and/or continue to read your RIM Newsletter each week.

RIM Reporting Team

Co-Editors: Susan Besteman &

Jackie Farrar

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

Photographers: Mark Alpher & Roger Morgenstern

Contributors: John Noling, & Mike Vogas

OCT. 24, 2024 @ 5-8pm

Baker College Culinary Institute of Michigan



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:

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

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.

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!



Interact Insider

New Mona Shores Middle School Interact Club Builds Treasury



With pop cans.... \$208.10!
Thanks Rotary and friends from Jenna Arter, Teacher and Club Advisor.

Note: Mona Shores now has an EarlyAct Club at Lincoln Park Elem, a newly organizing Middle School Interact Club, and a High School Interact Club. Three levels of service to others!

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.

Ep 39: Jack Russell - Rolar Products



Join us as we sit down with Jack Russell of Rolar Products to discuss how a company culture built on trust and mutual benefit can transform lives and uplift an entire community.

Jack shares his unique approach to innovation, where valuing employees and fostering mutual respect are key. Discover how Rolar Products is leading the way in Muskegon manufacturing by putting people first.

This is an episode you won't want to miss. Listen now:
<https://www.buzzsprout.com/2269729/episodes/15848944-jack-russell-rolar-products>


“Rotarians do good things every day. Admittedly, some do just enough to get by while others do lots o' bit more.”
 -Bill Johanson May 2024

“Ohhhh, soooo close...”
 -Bill Johanson & Alan Alpert

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 14


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

“Building Lifelike Ecology and Evolution in a Computer”




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

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



Muskegon Community College

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.**



2024 SPONSORS

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