




**“Service Above Self”**

# Muskegon Rotary in Motion

<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>



**Rotary District 6290**  
2014–2015  
Distinguished Service Citation  
Awarded to the Rotary Club of  
Muskegon  
For their consistently outstanding Club Newsletter  
Nov 3, 2015



*District Governor's Citation*  
Presented to  
The Rotary Club of Muskegon  
This Citation is awarded with high  
appreciation to the Rotarians of  
The Rotary Club of Muskegon  
In the District  
I took this 3rd day of  
May 2014  
James C. L. L.



**I'M A PROUD MEMBER**

Jane Clingman-Scott, President  
Ginny Sprague, President-Elect  
Tim Arter, President Nominee  
Jason Piasecki, Past President  
Kristi Nagengast, Treasurer  
Don Hutchins, Secretary  
Kim Boersema, Club Coordinator



## Muskegon Rotary Club

Club 16 (2809) – District 6290, Chartered May 1, 1916

**Next Mtg—October 13, 2022, 12-1:30pm**

**The Lake House - Hybrid**

**ReWine Sat Club—Next mtg 10/21/22 5:15 pm**

**Carlisle's in the Trinity Health Arena**



Jeff Lewis, Director  
Marty Sytsema, Director  
Aaron Maike, 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 (10/13/22) — Norton Shores Economic Development

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

Meredith Smillie

### REFLECTOR

Tom Palmer Oct 6  
Roger Morgenstern Oct 13  
Darlene Collett October 20

### NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Claire Root-Benson Oct 14  
Jackie Fisher Oct 16  
Filmore Williams Oct 16  
Kim Dimmett Oct 17  
Myra Dutton Oct 17

[Caring Connections Fund](#)

### PROGRAMS / EVENTS

10/6 Alfredo Hernandez  
10/13 Norton Shores Economic  
Development  
10/20 Milwaukee Clipper  
10/27 Muskegon Rotary Exchange  
Students

To watch the recorded 10/6/22  
meeting, click the link [here](#).

### RIM Reporting Team

Susan Besteman Lori Weiler  
Chip Chipman Jackie Farrar  
Susan Holkeboer Bill Johanson  
Kathy Moore Roger Morgenstern  
Meredith Smillie

### VISITORS & GUESTS



Jason Bertoia introduced Beth Beaman



Melissa Moore welcomed back Marquis Childers, Jr.



Contessa Hood was joined by Alex Conesco



Annette Smedley and her guest Vishita Boeringa

### Upcoming Rotary Luncheon Locations:

- October 13, & 20 at The Lake House
- October 27 The Delta
- Starting November 3 we are back at The Delta for six months

Alan Alpert is looking for  
volunteers for the weekly  
Rotary Reflection. Please let  
Alan know if you can provide  
a reflection. [fivea@me.com](mailto:fivea@me.com)



**Marty Sytsema** introduced Mona Shores High School students and their counselor (l to r) Amorette Clausen, Gavin Stout, and Sienna Billingsley



**Chip Chipman** and **Joanie Smith** welcomed back Rotary exchange students Design from Thailand (far left) and Emma from Austria (far right).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Brave Rotarian Contest in full effect!

If you choose to participate, you donate \$100 to the Rotary Foundation and if you win Poetic License, you win a Paul Harris Fellowship. October 24 is World Polio Day. Polio is being detected in places it hasn't been in decades, including the United States and the United Kingdom.

Jamie Hekker has the signup sheet that circulated at the October 6, 2022 meeting. Contest will begin on October 27. Each contestant writes a check to the Muskegon Rotary Foundation. If you would like to participate, you may also email Jamie Hekker at [Jamie.hekker@gmail.com](mailto:Jamie.hekker@gmail.com) or [hekkerja@co.muskegon.mi.us](mailto:hekkerja@co.muskegon.mi.us)

\*\*\*

*World Polio Day is celebrated on October 24th. 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.*

## THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM: Michigan Department of Civil Rights, DEI Division *Operationalizing Equity*

Speaker: Alfredo Hernandez

Reporter – Meredith Smillie

Introduction by **Heidi Sytsema**



Alfredo Hernandez joined Rotary to provide an update on the Michigan Department of Civil Rights Diversity, Equity and Inclusion division. Alfredo notes that operationalizing equity is the work of deconstructing what is not working around equity, reconstructing and supporting what works, shifting the ways we make decisions and think about DEI and healing and transforming our structures and environments and ourselves. Key components include building a DEI infrastructure, grow DEI leadership and improve the impact of our efforts.

An example from MDCR is operationalizing equity through increased group racial consciousness and cultural awareness. MDCR views themselves as climbing the mountain in is this work and have not reached the summit. They are dedicated to creating a space around learning, education and having real discussions around cultural competence. Becoming culturally competent is

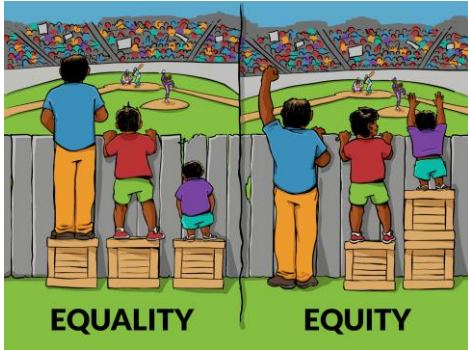
learning about the root causes of inequity. We must know and learn our history before we can move forward with cultural competence.

Alfredo notes that key components include having a key person dedicated to overseeing your DEI initiative. This includes a dedicated space for learning, a care team that will help others navigate DEI initiatives and to create positive decision-making processes. MDCR has created a dedicated space for statewide and nationwide collaboration with other organizations' initiatives. Governor Whitmer issued an executive order that requires all state agency divisions have a person dedicated to DEI and DEI initiatives.

Alfredo reports that by allowing a safe space for learning, organizations can explore the roots of implicit bias, create a common language around DEI topics, increase capacity to think systemically, to better understand culture as a perception shaper and exploring DEI tools, strategies and next steps through an equity lens. Implicit bias significantly affects staffing, employee growth, client engagement and ensuring that good intentions are no longer needed; as we are intentional. We need to also understand how systems affect our lens of diversity, equity and inclusion and how our culture shapes our workplace. Using how it feels to be on the outside of the group can help frame discussions on how systems handicap persons of color, ability and gender. It is important to develop and define a culture of connection between both conscious and unconscious values. Alfredo points out that humans are hardwired to form bias and add a polarized society and mindless cognitive scripts impact behavior and lead to unconscious biases and unconscious behaviors. When there is a disconnect between our conscious and unconscious values which can lead to unwanted behaviors.



Alfredo shared a slide about knowing the difference between equality and equity. There is a huge difference between equality and equity, as equality implies sameness while equity is a state of being incorporated with a group in a healthy and proactive manner.



When talking about systems it is important to define the terms of prejudice, ableism, sexism, etc... and acknowledge that the system of advantage creates inequitable systems. The systemic fair treatment of people of all genders produces positive outcomes. When prejudice and power create a system of advantage and creates a dominant narrative; inequity continues to exist. It is important to have a strategy for this work, as the system of inequity was set in place prior to your arrival. Stay away from guilt and blame, which pushes people away but use constructive questions to build unity and to build equity.

Race has been the principal force for systemic inequity.

***Prejudice + power =  
system of advantage***

Alfredo was quick to point out that DEI work is always evolving when you are dismantling isms. You are flying the airplane as you are dismantling it; learning and evolving at the same time and collaboration is key.

\*\*\*

## This Week's Spotlight: Jules Terry



**Jules Terry** Joined Rotary following her dad's involvement in Rotary in Colorado. She is married to Dr Rob Terry; her husband and son are both dentists at Terry Dental. Jules is a Development Coach for the US Paralympic Ski Team in Park City. She has a passion for deep powder skiing when she's not coaching.

Jules joined Muskegon Rotary because she loves the comradery and has learned so much about community from the lunches. She enjoys meeting more people and it's fun because Rotary in Muskegon meetings are based on community and growth of Muskegon and the surrounding area. Watch the full interview [here](#).

\*\*\*

## New Member Induction: Joanne Stoneburner



Joanne Stoneburner is a Muskegon native who grew up in the Fruitport area and attended Muskegon Catholic Central. Joanne and her husband, Bob, currently live in the North Muskegon area with their two daughters who attend North Muskegon Public Schools.

Joanne also has two grown daughters, and two grandchildren. After graduating high school, Joanne served six years in the military, working as a Crew Chief on C-130 cargo aircraft. She also attended college at Muskegon Community College and then went on to Baker College, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. During college, Joanne took a job as a Bank Teller at Huntington Bank. Since beginning her banking career with Huntington, she has worked for National City Bank, which later became PNC Bank, Independent Bank, and most recently, Shelby State Bank. Joanne has held many job titles in the financial industry, and is currently a Mortgage Loan Officer for Shelby State Bank for Muskegon, Ottawa and parts of Newaygo and Oceana Counties.

Joanne has always tried to find time to give back to her community, and she's been especially passionate about helping children in need. Over the years, she has taught Junior Achievement classes at local schools, coached youth soccer teams, packed sack lunches for Kids' Food Basket and serves on the PTO Board at North Muskegon Elementary. Her family attends Sacred Heart Church and volunteer to serve coffee and donuts after masses. She has also participated in Highway Pick-Up, cleaning up a two mile stretch along US31 that Shelby State Bank has adopted.

Joanne became interested in joining Rotary to further her involvement in the community. She is excited to find new ways to lend a hand and to make connections with members who also see the value of working together to accomplish great things. .

Joanne was sponsored by **Tom Palmer**.

\*\*\*

**Save the Date:** Rotary Dinner at Courses Thursday, November 20, 2022. If you couldn't attend during the winter, you get a second chance at an amazing meal with fabulous friends. More details to come, so stay tuned!

On a recent trip to Ireland **Joanie Smith** visited a Rotary Club in Dublin. They meet for dinner at the Yacht Club! *Slainte!*



Rotarians **Lisa Metzdorf** and **Melissa Horton** recently visited a Mona Shores Rotary Interact meeting and met with President Abby Silvis afterward to review club progress. We have much to offer each other! Rotarians interested in mentoring with area Interact clubs please contact Interact Chair **Randy Lindquist** to see youth service in action.



**Joanie Smith** is excited to announce that our Club has been asked to hold the Youth Exchange Conference November 11-13 this year. They so appreciate so many club members who are hosting the students in their homes and helping us cook their meals while they are h ere.



They will have about 20 people for meals and much of that is already planned, but we still need some mixed fresh fruit salads and green vegetable salads. Please contact **Joanie Smith** if you are able to help. [joan.hilles@gmail.com](mailto:joan.hilles@gmail.com)



The Muskegon Arts & Culture Coalition invites the community "Visit Muskegon's Creative Collections" by *touring the town* and visiting as many arts and culture locations in Muskegon County as you can, in one day! This family-friendly event, opens doors to creativity, explores culture, encourages artful experiences, and introduces you to places you may have never been, right here in Muskegon County!

Each location will provide you with a unique experience! Examples of activities include enjoying live music, playing historical games, touring behind the scenes, viewing rare books, participating in an improve class, creating a take home craft, and much more! Plus, the first 50 guests to each venue will receive a collector's pin!

**See a full list of activities, locations and specific event times [HERE](#).**

Tickets are \$5 and kids nine and under are free. Each ticket is valid for one admittance to all of the MACC participating locations on October 15, 2022 only. This is a \$120 value. Proceeds for this event help to fund future arts and culture activities throughout Muskegon County!



**You are here**

Map courtesy of [travel-mi.com](http://travel-mi.com)



# Interact Insider

## Life Leadership Conference Reports



**Bryce Thompson, Senior  
Muskegon High School Rotary  
Interact Club  
Poppen Program Art Student**

For the few days that I spent at Ferris, I thoroughly enjoyed myself and genuinely learned a lot. The things that contributed to this were the environment, staff, other conferees, and activities. With all of those factors in place, there were almost no points during the experience that I felt bored or like things were dragging on. To top it everyone had this friendly, community-like vibe that left no one excluded. The whole trip allowed us all to be ourselves without fear of judgment.

The environment felt like a safe-space throughout the conference. Other conferees were agreeable, happy to interact with others, encouraging, and showed hospitality with each other, the family leaders, and anyone else. There was mutual respect from everyone all around. Also, during activities where there were designated teams, the mood was competitive, but

still welcoming. The conference was overall, mediated very well.

The speaker that impacted me the most was Ms. Molly. Her speech offered everyone in the conference hall the option to choose how they view adversity. She also seemed like the most open to talk about herself while making it engaging. Her message of "flipping your 20" was very powerful and easily sticks with people. She was a great speaker in general and a phenomenal pick for being a part of the conference as a whole.

In the coming weeks and months, I'll take what I've learned to take on challenges that seem almost impossible to challenge myself to grow as much as I can. For example, I'll shift my view of a hard assignment to encourage myself to keep moving forward when I don't have the drive to anymore. I'll also be more apt to traveling and getting a better perspective on how different people around the world function and live. Being more aware of the world as a whole would give me a broader reach of values and an expanded mindset.

The people that showed up to the conference were just as good. The diversity in preferences, opportunities, and perspective made the trip very worthwhile. Even without the family groups, you got a good chance to meet and mingle with people from other schools. Most of the people I met didn't live anywhere near Muskegon, yet we bonded in such a short amount of time. Some of those people I still keep in contact with. I think that anyone who gets the option to take part in Life Leadership should definitely take it. It will put you in a space that you may not be used to and open your eyes to global issues as well as opportunities to combat them while experiencing a different corner of the world.

I would like to thank the Muskegon Rotary Club and the MHS Class of 1965 Advised Fund for making this

experience possible for me. Not only would this not be possible without your backing, but I can guarantee that every person that attended learned something new. Thank you, and I hope to have inspired others to take part in the Life Leadership Conference in the future.

## Thank you, Rotary!



Thanks Rotary! \$200 more in pop cans is helping our Rotary Interact club bring Molly Kennedy to speak to our student body at Mona Shores!

Over \$6000 in returnables have now been shared with multiple Interact clubs thanks to many of your contributions and regular donations from the Muskegon Yacht Club. Pictured below, Rotarian volunteer **Doug Wood** finishes up our most recent donation to Mona Shores Rotary Interact Club.



A shout out and HUGE THANKS to all Muskegon Rotarians and friends of Rotary for your continuing efforts to support our Youth Service through Rotary Interact!