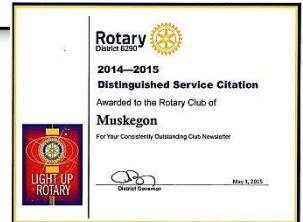


# "Service Above Self" Muskegon Rotary in Motion



<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>

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 6, 2022, 12-1:30pm  
The Lake House - Hybrid  
ReWine Sat Club – Next mtg 10/6/22 5:15 pm  
Carlisle's in the Trinity Health Arena



Jeff Lewis, Director  
Marty Sytsema, 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 (10/6/22) — Alfredo Hernandez

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

Tom Palmer

### REFLECTOR

Bill Loxterman      Sept 29  
Tom Palmer            Oct 6  
Roger Morgenstern    Oct 13

### NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Heidi Sytsema      Oct 11  
Ed Hendrickson    Oct 12  
Missy Horton        Oct 12

[Caring Connections Fund](#)

### PROGRAMS / EVENTS

9/29 - Coalition for Community Development  
10/6 Alfredo Hernandez  
10/13 Norton Shores Economic Development  
10/20 Milwaukee Clipper  
10/27 Muskegon Rotary Exchange Students

To watch the recorded 9/29/22 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



Rob Wilson was joined by Carim Calkins



Melissa Horton welcomed Andrea Riegler



Student guests from Muskegon High School were introduced by Marty Sytsema. They are (l to r) David Day, Paige Nash and MSHS Counselor Shawndra Sain

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Cathy Brubaker-Clark:

Thank you to everyone involved in the first Rotary International Peace Day last Wednesday. This was our first activity--we are technically a subcommittee of DEI. This event was about raising the profile to get information out there and coincide with International Peace Day. Please go down to Rotary Park to see these three artistic peace poles placed there through the Poppen Program and Pathfinders. Besides speaker Gaia, we had youth artists - spoken word poetry and a violinist. Gaia's story did inspire at least one person--our poet Kylee who is going to be on our Rotary Youth

### Upcoming Rotary Luncheon Locations:

- October 6, 13, & 20 at The Lake House
- October 27 The Delta
- Starting November 3 we are back at The Delta for six months

Exchange Program because she was able to talk to Gaia (may have also soothed her mother's fears as well).

**Ginny Sprague** announced that a new poetry-related Brave Rotarians Contest is coming. Watch for more information on that next week.

\*\*\*

## THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM:

# Coalition for Community Development

Speakers: Kerri VanderHoff and Marquis Childers, Jr.



Reporter – Jackie Farrar

Dr. Doris Rucks was a lifelong activist who founded CCD in 2005. A justice mission organization, highlighting the setup of society and shared commitment to fairness. The frame emphasizes systems and the conditions of well-being and asks for collective action to make things right.

The four main programs:

## Gardens

- Access to healthy food and nutrition: School and community gardens
- Chef Demonstrations and Tastings
- Seeds of Hope Community Garden

## Literacy

- Partnership with Muskegon Heights Schools and Michigan Department of Education
- CCD Staffs (volunteers) and maintains school libraries and media centers

- One-on-one mentor program
- Organized and supports field trips and external experiences
- Spencer Norman Scholarship
- "Who Gets to Tell the Story Matters" Curriculum centered on Black History and Experience added to K-12 education, local museum, and libraries
- Friends of the Muskegon Heights District Library (MADL) Public libraries are the nation's most democratic institutions

## Beautification

- Prioritized by a neighborhood survey, CCD invested in a trailer full of tools and has been organizing weekend cleanups for several years now. Increasingly, our team works together with neighborhood associations and local business leaders in collaborative cleanup days

## Link up/Neighbors

- Neighbors value getting to know each other better, looking out for one another with caring relationships, and feeling a sense of community

The Muskegon Heights Neighborhood Association Council ([MHNAC](#)) brings together representatives from each of the neighborhood associations from across the city. They establish channels for information flow from the residents, increase capacity to apply and manage grant funding, supports strategic planning and collective goal setting on a city-wide level, and enables sustained collaboration on a larger scale.

In 2021 an initiative launched, collaborative of CCD & MHNAC, and data collecting (learnings/findings)

- Data & Research Justice - Equitable community involvement in the research process including prioritizing common goals, question development, planning, data collection and analysis, community interpretation of data and dissemination
- Media Justice exists when we all are connected, represented, and free; a fundamental communication

experienced by everyone regardless of social power and position

- Data Justice + Media Justice = Data-Informed Video Series
- There is power in putting them together, a groundbreaking idea born innovative creative culture that is Muskegon Heights Michigan.

## Unmediated and Reframed

Residents were asked and responded, and six themes emerged (Trust, Prosperity, Health, Traditions, Home, and Journey) creating six 30-minute short videos created and produced in Muskegon Heights – Coming Soon! "Unmediated and Reframed" data-informed video series (click [here](#)).

## What is the expected impact?

Creating the infrastructure for data research and management results in greater influence and participation in policy and program advocacy, grant writing, and as a valuable service to other organizations who want deeper engagement with the community – knowledge is power, and data provides knowledge.

### The Livability Lab returns!

The third cycle (3.0) is set to launch on Tuesday, October 11 at the Folkert Community Center. More information can be found [here](#).

Marquis encouraged Rotarians to attend to participate in teams to help make positive change in our community, particularly Muskegon Heights.

The Coalition for Community Development offers a variety of services to the community. To learn more or looking for volunteering opportunities visit [Coalition for Community Development](#).

\*\*\*

## New Member Induction:

### Ron Suszek



A Michigan native, Ron moved to Muskegon in June of this year to become the third director of the Muskegon Area District Library. Born and raised in Alpena, he grew up in the same township where both sides of his family have resided since arriving from Poland in the 1800's.

A graduate of Hope College and the University of Illinois, Ron has spent nearly 20 years working in municipal government and public libraries. Prior to moving to Muskegon, he spent the last five years working as an administrator for the City of San Antonio in the San Antonio Public Library system. Ron's work in San Antonio focused on equitable access to library service, especially in the areas of digital inclusion and literacy. Ron also implemented a library-based photo id program, one of the first in the nation, to address the needs of at-risk populations throughout the city.

Ron also spent 14 years working at the City of Midland, Michigan.

Volunteer work has also been an important part of Ron's professional and personal life having served on the board of the Digital Inclusion Alliance of San Antonio as well as volunteering at the Migrant Resource Center as well as the Dow Tennis Classic.

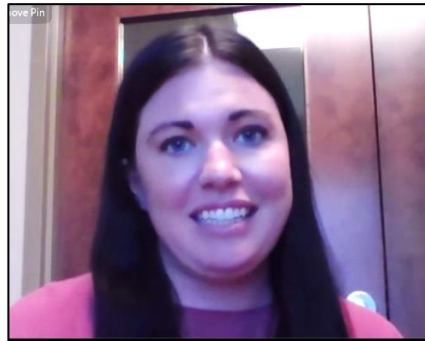
Ron is an avid outdoorsman and splits his weekends between Muskegon and Northern Michigan. He plays a decent amount of tennis and spends a lot of his non-work life cycling and running.

Ron was sponsored by **Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga**.

## Making A Difference

### JCI Greater Muskegon

Emily Morgenstern is the 87th President of JCI Greater Muskegon. The Muskegon Chapter has been around since 1938 and it's a young professional group for ages 21 to 40 years of age. The mission is to help create positive change and develop new leaders in the community.



Emily enjoys being around like-minded individuals who care about making a difference in the community and being part of events happening in Muskegon County.

After COVID, the JCI brought back SnowFest (first Saturday in February), St Patrick's Day Parade (one of the largest projects) and Party's in the Park (August 19th). JCI is one of the organizations along with Rotary that initially founded this event.



The JCI members and volunteers continue to make a positive impact in our community.

To watch the entire interview with Emily, click the link [here](#).

\*\*\*

## ReWine Update

The September 15, 2022 meeting was held at **Bill Loxterman's** home with nine Rotarians in attendance and guest Rotarians Rhonda Lambert and Bob Pacella from the Houghton Lake Rotary.

Committee Reports included an update on United Way Day of Caring: 65 Interact students and 25 Rotarians participated and helped with three veterans' homes. Updates and discussion about the Interact students' efforts to bring Molly Kennedy to talk at their schools.

**John Noling** will get back to the Interact students about their interest in the Murder Mystery show fundraiser.

We need more Rotarians to attend Interact meetings. **John Noling** has all the details for dates and times of their meetings.

### Upcoming Events:

**October 6:** next ReWine meeting at Carlisle's in the Trinity Health (LC Walker) Arena, 470 W Western Ave.

**October 20, 2022:** ReWine meeting at Craig Pirotta's house, 6059 Grand Haven Rd, Norton Shores. Interact students will also be invited.

**October 22, 2022:** 9 am-3 pm District Interact Conference. Doug Mealy and Rhonda Lambert will be facilitating. Located TBD. They are asking for Rotarians to be present.

**November 5, 2022:** 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Interact

**November 11, 12, and 13:** **John Noling** is still looking for one host family to host two district inbound students, each with their own bed and the ability to get the students to events at St. Paul's and the B'nai Brith Synagogue.

\*\*\*

# Interact Insider

## Life Leadership Conference Reports



### Bo Larabee, Junior Holton High School

"I never thought that I would be able to have the opportunity to be invited to something like the Life Leadership Conference. It was such an astounding experience that has caused me to make friendships that I hope will last a lifetime, learn a ton about myself as a person, and grow my leadership skills. I also took a lot of pleasure in the activities we did as teams that brought everyone closer and showed us how to use our leadership skills in real-world situations.

I never knew how much I overlooked other people's ideas to solve issues. It took working in big groups with these other students that were wiser than me to see the mistake I'd been making all along. They taught me that being a leader is more than just telling people what to do to get the project done. Being a leader is letting everyone be able to have their say in the project so we have all types of ideas to get the

problem at hand done swiftly and precisely.

The activities for this year's LLC were perfect for teaching us how to be better leaders. It brought people out of their shells, made us communicate more, and had us build relationships to get the activity at hand done. The Dangerous Parallel simulation we did presented this perfectly. It caused us to try and create world peace among countries that didn't exactly want it. We had to bring our minds together to find a point where we all agreed and were all on good terms.

As far as bringing this into the future with me, I think I will be bringing it back to the sports teams that I am on. Our baseball team has a hard time working together sometimes and it really causes a gap in the ideas that we have as a team. I am also going to hopefully bring it into the workplace, because I hope to run my own business at some point in the future. Lastly, I will be bringing it to my school's Student Council group to help us better plan and execute activities that we have planned for the school year.

I am so glad I had the opportunity to be a part of this year's LLC and wish to thank the Muskegon Rotary Club for sending me. The conference was executed perfectly and really taught everyone about how to be a better leader. I am very excited to see where LLC goes in the years ahead and see the leaders that come out of it. I can't thank you again for this experience and I hope to be able to do more things through Rotary."

\*\*\*

### Muskegon Rotary Board

Jane Clingman-Scott	Ginny Sprague
Tim Arter	Jason Piasecki
Kristi Nagengast	Don Hutchins
Marty Sytsema	Kim Boersema
Jeff Lewis	Asaline Scott
David Ramos	Marty Gerencer

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



United Way  
of the Lakeshore

### Support Hurricane Relief in Puerto Rico & Florida!

It is in times of need that we discover the full impact of a community united.

When communities face disaster, United Way plays a key role. From ensuring our first responders can act swiftly, to leading long-term recovery, United Way has the experience, networks, and capacity to address even the most devastating events. United Way's primary role in times of disaster is in long-term recovery, which can take years.

Across America, 211 is a community's go-to resource. 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 211 specialists connect callers with the help they need. During times of disaster, 211 supports communities before and during disasters. That might be directing people to evacuation routes and shelters beforehand, or helping people get food, water, and emergency supplies afterward.

But we're in the community long after the first responders leave, focusing on interim- and long-term disaster recovery. It's not a quick fix. Join us as we provide support to Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Fiona, and for our families in Florida while the weather Hurricane Ian.

[Give to Hurricane Relief Funds](#)