




“Service Above Self”

Muskegon Rotary in Motion

<http://www.muskegonrotary.org>





Ginny Sprague, President
Tim Arter, President-Elect
Dave Alexander, President Nominee
Jane Clingman-Scott, 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—July 6, 2023, 12-1:30pm

The Lake House

ReWine Sat Club—Next mtg 7/20/23 5:15 pm

Walkers (in the Delta)



Aaron Maike, Director
Roger Morgenstern, Director
David Ramos, Director
Asaline Scott, Director
Marty Sytsema, Director
Brandon Turnbull, Director
Roger Morgenstern, RIM Reporter & Photographer
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 (7/6/23) — Muskegon Rotary Grants Committee

“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

Kim Taylor & Lisa Tyler

REFLECTORS

Emily Morgenstern June 29
 (Contact Alan Alpert if you can help)

NEXT WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Bob Irwin Jul 6
 Mary Beth Ramos Jul 6
 Stephen Tomczak Jul 7
 Andy Buelow Jul 7
 Bill Johanson Jul 8
 Mary Boyd Jul 8
 Lisa Hegenbart Jul 11
 Katherine Hegedus Jul 12

Caring Connections Fund

(Remember to donate \$10 on your birthday for this great cause!)

PROGRAMS / EVENTS

June 29—Passing the Gavel

July 6 - Muskegon Rotary Grants Committee - History of Muskegon Rotary Foundation grants to area charities.

July 13 – Vocational Video Series

July 20 - District Governor's Visit

VISITORS & GUESTS



TeAngelo Robinson was the guest of his wife **Kendrah Robinson**



Ken James was the guest of his Muskegon Community College colleague **John Selmon**



Ruby Chaise was the guest of **Kate Scarbrough**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- July 14 MDOT clean-up date – Contact Esther Ricco for details
- President Ginny said last weekend's Seaway Run fund-raiser was a resounding success, and thanked all the Rotarians who volunteered for or participated in the event.

Muskegon Rotary Board

Ginny Sprague	Aaron Maike
Tim Arter	Roger Morgenstern
Dave Alexander	David Ramos
Jane Clingman-Scott	Asaline Scott
Kristi Nagengast	Marty Sytsema
Don Hutchins	Brandon Turnbull

Please email Club Board

Members through this [link](#):

Coming Up...July 13's program is a Vocational Video Series, hosted by local Rotarians (DJ Hilson, Brianna Scott, Aaron Maike, Ammy Seymour, Emily Morgenstern, Kendrah Robinson) who interview men and women employed at various jobs throughout Muskegon County. Each month we interview a young person about their journey to the job they are in. The program is posted to our Muskegon Rotary web site and YouTube Channel. The MAISD is providing support to put the programs to work with local students. This program will show local Rotarians how they can help.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM: Passing of the Gavel

Reporter: Roger Morgenstern

It was time, literally and figuratively, to look back at President Jane Clingman Scott's Rotary year and look forward to new President Ginny Sprague's priorities for the coming 12 months.



*Our new President **Ginny Sprague** making it clear the applause needs to be for the outstanding job outgoing President **Jane Clingman-Scott** has done this past year.*



President Jane making it very clear she's not giving up the podium...yet.

Not only did we have the customary "passing of the gavel" but also some lovely parting gifts for President Jane. All of them tied into Jane's year-long focus on literacy and included a lovely mantle clock with and two books of poetry. The inscription on the clock, a quote from W.H. Auden, says "All time spent reading is time well spent."

"This has been a wonderful year," Jane told the Club. "While I'm anxious to retire, it's only because of the great team we have in place and Ginny's leadership. It seems every week she and I have chatted about something and I know she'll do a great job."

She also thanked the Rotary Board, who she said is not only a friendly group of people but individuals "with a lot of insight to offer."



President Jane very pumped over her mantle clock gift from the Club.

Jane said she's pleased with the many community outreach events the Club has led over the last year, but gets the most happiness out of the weekly meetings. "There is no better way to spend a Thursday afternoon...What a joy to walk in every Thursday and see what new is going on."

President Ginny presented Jane with her new "Past President" badge which Ginny said is considered "the best office in Rotary," jokingly adding "You can wear it while you're sitting in the back of the room on Thursdays."



President Jane with the gavel one last time

Jane, for her part, presented Ginny her Rotary President pin, the gavel but joked "it's still my podium" as she officially swore in Ginny as our Club's 108th president.

Ginny then invited the Rotary Board of Directors to the front of the room for them to be sworn in for their next year's term.

In addition to Ginny, members are Immediate Past President Jane Clingman Scott, President-Elect Tim Arter, President Nominee Dave Alexander, Secretary Don Hutchins,

Treasurer **Kristi Nagengast** and directors **Aaron Maike, Roger Morgenstern, Dave Ramos, Asaline Scott, Marty Systema** and **Brandon Turnbull**. Ginny also recognized for their service **Past President Jason Piasecki** who is completing his board term and , who recently resigned from the Board because of increased work commitments.



Our incoming and outgoing presidents, and friends, Ginny and Jane

Ginny said she is honored to lead our Club. "As I see our new members and those of you who have long served Muskegon Rotary, the many community, business, education, and non-profit leaders gathered here, I know I am fortunate to be a part of such a vibrant community service organization. All of you exemplify the Rotary motto of Service Above Self. It is my privilege to work with all of you as we are serving our community to foster belonging, well-being, and economic stability."

Ginny outlined five goals for her coming year to help our Club grow, engage our members, deliver service to our community and our District and broaden our global outreach. They are:

- **Membership.** Work with the club's Membership Committee on member attraction and retention. Our current membership is 241; her goal is to have a net increase of three members in the next year. Member engagement will include encouraging participation in social activities, service projects, networking opportunities and informative weekly meetings. She said it's also important to have more members participate in Rotary District 6290 activities and training opportunities.



*A very serious looking group of Rotary board members were sworn in for another year of service. From left: **David Ramos, Asaline Scott, Marty Systema, Roger Morgenstern, Kristi Nagengast, Don Hutchins, Dave Alexander and Tim Arter.** Not able to attend the meeting were **Aaron Maike and Brandon Turnbull.***

- **Community Outreach.** Work with the Public Relations Committee to better tell our community service story; work with the DEI and Peacebuilders Committees to host community gatherings and social awareness activities like the Community Read, and financially support community needs through our Community Grants Committee. Also encourage more member participation in community-wide events, including Party in the Park, Harvest Fest, Pours for Community and the Seaway Run.
- **Youth Leadership.** Continue to support Rotaract, Interact, and Early Act Clubs; provide financial, project support, and public speaking opportunities for our young leaders; continue financial support for the Life Leadership program; continue international service trips to El Salvador and work with students to help financially support these trips; provide financial support and member engagement opportunities for inbound and outbound Youth Exchange students.
- **Service Projects.** Commit to four projects during the year; one per quarter.

- **Rotary Foundation Giving.** Support the Polio Plus Fund through a Brave Rotarian contest and the weekly raffle; increase donations by 10 percent to the Annual Fund through Every Rotarian Every Year and quarterly appeals to our members; increase awareness of the work of the Rotary Foundation through programs and member spotlights focusing on each month's theme.
- Ginny said she also plans to highlight Rotary International's seven areas of focus during the year by including weekly programming that ties into those areas. She said it's important to make the link to Rotary's global reach, with 46,000 clubs and 1.4 million members across the world. "By being a Rotarian, we are part of a worldwide community."

Not only did Ginny get to kick off "her" year, she also won the \$20 50/50 raffle, with husband Rem winning the \$10 prize! After Rem won, Ginny declared "will someone please verify there are other tickets in the bucket?" (Editor's note; neither Sprague won the \$5).

With the help of the talented **Mike Vogas**, Ginny recorded a video covering "more than you ever wanted to know about me." The video is available [here](#) on the Muskegon Rotary YouTube page.

As many of us know, Ginny is married to fellow Rotarian **Rem Sprague**, which is how she learned about Rotary in the first place. Muskegon area residents since 1981, she and Rem have four children and six grandchildren, whom she called "the joy of our life." The video has some great background on our new president and everyone should take a look. This RIM reporter would note two important things: Ginny graduated from the University of Michigan (go BLUE) and was sponsored for club membership by Rotarian Dick Morgenstern when she joined in 2005 while the managing director of Muskegon Civic Theatre.

RIM Reporting Team

Susan Besteman
Kathy Moore
Meredith Smillie
Jackie Farrar
Roger Morgenstern
Lori Weiler
Mark Alpher, Photographer
Bill Johanson, Contributor
John Noling, Contributor
Mike Vogas, Contributor

Interact Insider

Life Leadership Conference Attendees Share Their Experiences



*Ava Berghuis, Holton High School,
Muskegon Rotary Club*

"At first when I arrived at LLC, I didn't know how to feel. My emotions were everywhere and I didn't exactly know what I was getting into. The first day I was shy and I went into the auditorium and found a seat. I sat by people I was unfamiliar with, complete strangers at the time. I wasn't expecting anything more than a strict business meeting. After just a few minutes my mood changed. I felt welcomed, I felt honored, and most of all I felt loved. Mason always had the music going, it was one of my favorite parts. Everyone was skeptical about singing at first. I remember Sweet Caroline being the first song we tried to sing. To be honest, it wasn't the best at first, as everyone was shy. But, when singing Sweet Caroline again on the last day of the conference everyone was standing up and enjoying themselves. That is leadership. I have learned that even when you might not want to do something, being a leader is doing it, when you take action without complaint, when you move the world with your actions and your voice.

I have always wanted to be able to spread my leadership skills and learn more about the different ways to be a leader and this conference did just that.

The Rotary Life Leadership Conference overall changed my life for the better and I would definitely do it again.

The staff was wonderful, always helping when needed, and open to different thoughts. The content in the conference itself was beyond amazing. I learned new things, not only about being a leader, but also about myself. The structure was well put together, we were always having fun and sharing opinions. One thing that really stood out to me was the Four Way Test. This was referring to the things we think, say, or do. 1. Is it the truth? 2. Is it fair to all concerned? 3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships? And 4, Will it be beneficial to all concerned? Using this method has helped me come to better conclusions with logical thinking. I am able to find a better solution to an issue by using this process.

I really enjoyed everyone's presentations, they were so impactful and well taught. Two things that stood out to me have followed me home from the conference. Molly Kennedy's saying, "Flip your 20", has greatly impacted my life. When I am down about something or even thinking negatively, I am reminded of "Flip your 20" and instantly change my mindset. Her voice and her words have stuck with me and I am very appreciative that I was able to hear those things. The second piece I truly loved was the poem "It Couldn't Be Done" presented by Howard Oesterling. This poem taught me something valuable, a lesson I plan to bring with me everywhere. Believe in yourself even when you are surrounded by negativity. You are your biggest supporter, and as long as you have confidence, nobody can break that barrier. You must follow your dreams and make a difference, be able to forget a routine, and enjoy life the way you want. By trying new things that haven't been done before, "Just start to sing as you tackle the thing that "cannot be done," and you'll do it".

As an already progressing student, I hope to create a difference in my community. I have already started using

things I have learned from LLC in my everyday life and now I can use it to make an impact in the world. Just recently, I started volunteering, which is something I never did before. Although it is a small step, that tiny improvement is leading to a life full of success. This conference has opened my eyes to many different possibilities in life. I am more active with my movement and my voice. Being a leader takes action and great responsibility. I am able to change my life by being a leader, not a follower. Change happens once you start a movement, use your voice, and take action. I am going to make a difference in this world, and even if it is just small good deeds, a little goes a long way."



*Mallory Rich, Muskegon Catholic
Central High School, Muskegon Rotary
Club*

The Rotary Life Leadership Conference was truly an amazing experience that had a message for everyone that they didn't even know they needed to hear. I am beyond grateful that I was able to attend the conference. The conference was filled with outstanding speakers and staff that made the environment feel so comfortable and welcoming. The speakers' presentations were relatable for everyone that made you step back and really think about your life and those around you. I walked away from the conference with so many new leadership and teamwork

skills that I can't wait to incorporate at home in my community.

My school doesn't offer an Interact Club or something similar, so I didn't know anything about Rotary or Interact.. When a Rotarian came to my school to meet with me and share information about the conference, I was very unsure. Yet, it did sound like it could be helpful to me as other previous attending students said it was life changing. I couldn't agree more with them after attending the LLC. It was the best "yes" that I have ever said to something and I encourage anyone who has the chance to say "yes" as well and attend the conference. I had no idea how much it would open my mind and inspire me. Not only was I taught great applicable skills to use every day, I also made some incredible lifetime friends.

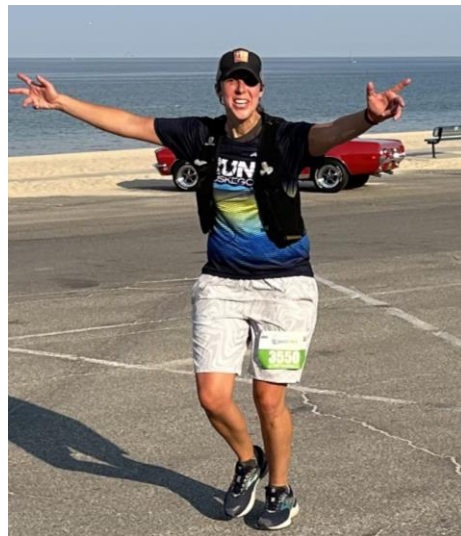
Molly Kennedy's speech impacted me the most out of all the great speakers. She has an incredible way of getting the audience truly involved and every time she spoke she had our attention. Her message of Creating the Champion Within and the paradigm shift, aka "20 Cent" sparked a part of myself to wake up and "Flip my 20". Also, to not give up, BUT to get up, and stop waiting for the easy and handle the hard. Listening to how she was at a dead end, but still managed to keep pushing and come back better than ever is absolutely remarkable.

At the conference, I was taught the difference between a boss and a leader. I was shown the different styles of leaders and how no one style of leading is better than another, but that all that matters is how to work together towards leaving a positive impact. The conference also taught me how to be more confident in myself and my skills. With all these new skills and opportunities presented to me at the conference, I am able to make a difference in my

school and community creating a better future just like LLC strives for with the conference motto "Building Future Leaders Today."

Lastly, I would like to say thank you to LLC, Muskegon Rotary, and all those who made this opportunity possible for me. I am truly grateful and will never forget this opportunity that has changed my life forever."

Experience the Hackley and Hume Historic Site AFTER DARK! See the Houses on this classic tour offered on the first Friday of every month May–October from 9-10 pm. Learn more about the lumbering business, the Hackley and Hume families, and the Victorian Era in Muskegon. More info can be found [here](#)



RIM would love to share YOUR Seaway Run Photos. Please send them to RIM Editor Lori Weiler lori.weiler@summitlawncare.net

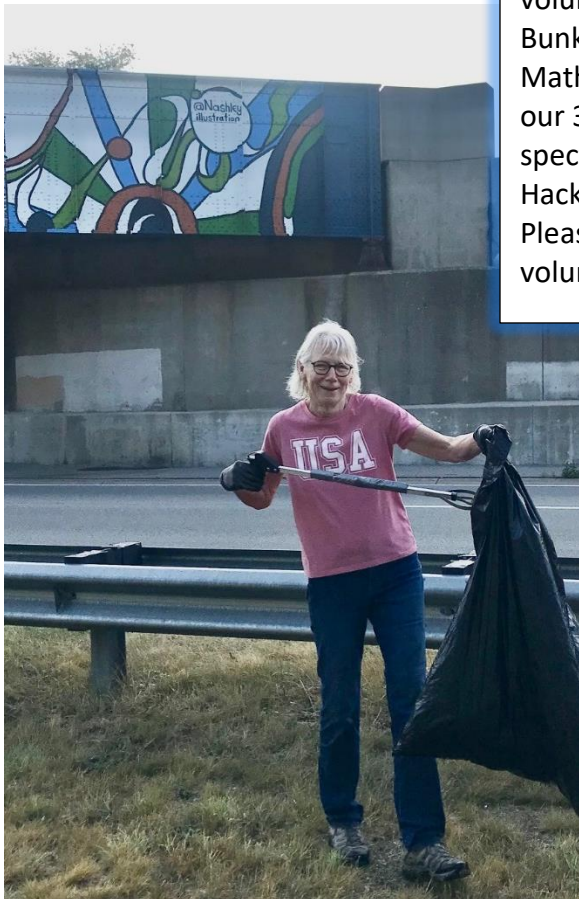


2023-24 Rotary Presidential Theme

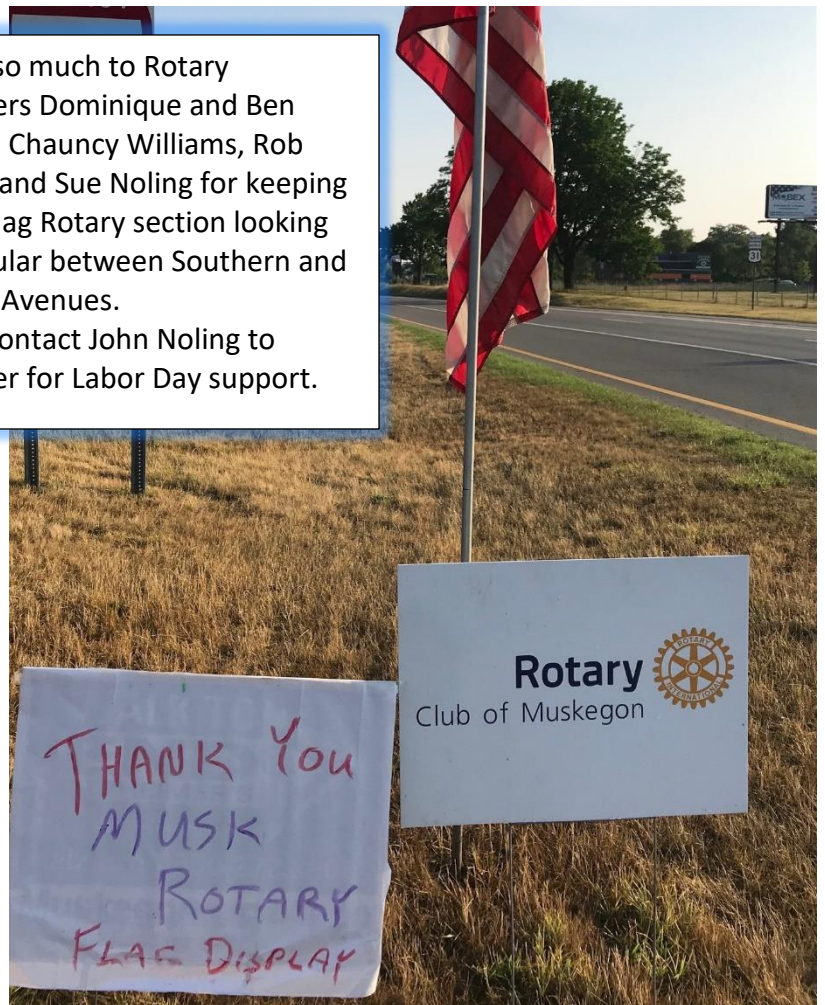
RI President-elect R. Gordon R. McNally calls for Rotary to create hope in the world by working for peace and mental wellbeing. He urges members to engage in tough conversations and earn the trust that's necessary to realize these values.



Honor, Celebration, and Gratitude on July 4 and Always!



Thanks so much to Rotary volunteers Dominique and Ben Bunker, Chauncy Williams, Rob Mathis, and Sue Noling for keeping our 35 flag Rotary section looking spectacular between Southern and Hackley Avenues. Please contact John Noling to volunteer for Labor Day support.



Muskegon Rotary Presidents – Past and Present

Contributed by Bill Johanson



On October 26, 2023 from 5pm-9pm, enjoy an evening of fall harvest culinary delights created by Baker College's Culinary Institute of Michigan (CIM) and paired with a variety of wines, beers and seltzers. This community event will provide great networking opportunities and chances to win prizes, all while raising funds to support Read Muskegon and other Muskegon area charitable organizations.

Tickets on sales starting July 13, 2023! Ticket Prices: \$65 - July 13, 2023 - Sept 22, 2023 / \$75 - Sept 23, 2023 - Oct 25, 2023. Limited tickets available. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Each guest will receive a signature Harvest Fest glass and one free drink ticket. Cash bar available. Purchase tickets [here](#).