

Midland Rotary News



President's Message

Greetings, Rotarians!

As we begin a new Rotary year, I am honored to step into the role of president for the Midland Noon Rotary Club. I want to start by expressing my gratitude to our outgoing president, Jon Lauderbach, for his exceptional leadership during the previous year. His dedication and commitment to our club have left a lasting impact and set a high standard for us to uphold.

As we move forward, my goal is to build on the successes of our past and continue serving our community with the same level of dedication and commitment that has been the hallmark of our club. Together, we can create hope in the world and make a positive impact that lasts for generations to come.

I believe that what sets our club apart is the sense of community and family that we have created. Let's continue to connect with one another, not only in our Rotary activities but also at our meetings. By building better relationships and friendships with each other, we can create a stronger bond that will help us work together more effectively to serve our community. As we welcome new members and guests, let's take the time to get to know them, learn their stories, and make them feel welcome in our Rotary family. By doing so, we can help them feel more connected to the club and more motivated to contribute to our efforts in creating hope in the world.

I am excited to work with each and every one of you to continue Jon's legacy, to regrow our membership as our community recovers from the pandemic, and to expand our reach in the community.

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**PAUL HARRIS
FELLOW
RECIPIENTS**

Jim Bakeman
Jeff DeHaven
John Zimmerman (+1)
Michael Goad
Lee Smith (+4)
Kristin Stehouwer (+9)



ROTARY CLUB OF MIDLAND LINKS

Facebook www.facebook.com/MidlandNoonRotaryClub/

Twitter <https://twitter.com/MidNoonRotary>

Instagram: www.instagram.com/midlandminoonrotary/

Logos/Rotary Global Rewards:
<http://midlandrotaryclub.org>



GET TO KNOW THIS
ROTARIAN
CHIARA CAMERON-WOOD



ORIGINALLY FROM: I identify as being equally from Northwest Ohio and suburban Salt Lake City, Utah

SPONSOR: Samantha McKenzie

OCCUPATION: Executive Director, 211 Northeast Michigan

CURRENTLY READING/WATCHING: I always love competitive baking shows like the Great British Bake-Off; I also watch Ted Lasso, and pretty much anything on Disney Plus that is Star Wars story-related

FUN FACT: My husband and I have been married for nearly six years and brought together a family of seven children; Two are married but no grandbabies yet!

WHY I JOINED ROTARY: To get involved more in the Midland Community and meet folks with like interests

WHAT I'M MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO IN ROTARY: I am super impressed with the singing! Also just finding ways to connect with others and learn more about our community



UPCOMING MEETINGS

July 6 Eversight of Mich.	Aug. 3 SVSU
July 13 Bay County Vocational Program	Aug. 10 GLBRA Population Growth Initiative
July 20 Delta College	Aug. 17 Classification
July 27 RYE	Aug. 24 District Governor visit

TAKE ACTION: WWW.MIDLANDROTARYCLUB.ORG



GET TO KNOW THIS
ROTARIAN
HUNTER KEIM



ORIGINALLY FROM: Bay Port, Michigan

SPONSOR: Sharon Mortensen

OCCUPATION: Realtor

CURRENTLY WATCHING: Educational videos on YouTube

FUN FACT: My wife Malia and I got married in July of last year, and soon after we adopted our dog Theodore!

WHY I JOINED ROTARY: My Father and Grandfather were both Rotarians and have always been very involved. I grew up attending Rotary events and was a part of the high school Interact club. I see the reach and the impact that the organization has and would love to be a part of it

WHAT I'M MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO IN ROTARY: Getting to know more people. I love to have conversations and build relationships!



Pres. Lauderbach thanks Rotarians for great year



Groucho Marx once said that he'd never want to be a member of a club that would have him as a member. I've generally ascribed to that theory as well, until I joined Rotary. It has really been a privilege to serve as the club's president this past year. Dallas Rau left considerably large presidential shoes to fill, and Angela Cole stands ready to shine as our incoming president. The good news is that the club will recover just fine from the anomaly named Lauderbach.

It is fitting that the Rotary theme for the month of June is fellowship. When I think back on the past year, the key takeaway for me has been that Rotary is all about fellowship.

All of the work the club does — the funds we raise, the service projects, everything — is important and makes our community better. But I have found myself most looking forward to our weekly meetings and the fellowship with all of you. Thank you.

I would be remiss if I did not thank our outstanding Board of Directors and Committee Chairs for their wise counsel and hard work. It's been said — and I can now confirm it is true — that the President runs the meetings, but the Board runs the Club. And special thanks go to Jenee Velasquez for continuing the yeoman task of lining up (and for her patience in rescheduling, and re-rescheduling) our weekly programs, and Jeff DeHaven for keeping our meetings organized and on-task.

As we prepare for the annual passing of the gavel, I want to thank President-Elect Angela Cole for stepping up to lead our Club. 2023-2024 promises to be our best Rotary year yet.

Yours in Rotary,
Jon

NEW PRESIDENT, continued...

Please feel free to share your ideas and suggestions for how we can best serve our community and support each other in our efforts.

In closing, I want to thank each of you for your commitment to Rotary and our community. As we embark on this new Rotary year, let's remember the power of our collective efforts in creating hope in the world and the impact we can make together. Let's continue to connect with one another, build stronger relationships, and work together to make a positive impact on the world around us.

Yours in Rotary,
Angela

Event builds community connections

Midland Noon Rotary Club and Rotary Club of Midland Morning hosted a Community & Connections event June 8 at Grove Park in Midtown. Attendees had a community conversation to further build an inclusive community where everyone belongs and thrives. The conversation was facilitated by the Cultural Awareness Coalition and Youth Inclusivity Committee. Other partners included Live Oak Coffeehouse, Grace A Dow Memorial Library, the Midland Area Cultural Awareness Coalition, Midland Area Youth Action Council and Nonviolent Peaceforce. The event was free and featured The Breaking Bread Village.



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Belonging

By Sharon Mortensen



One of Rotary's mottos is service above self. All of us made a choice to join Rotary. While there are many reasons we may each have chosen to join, among them is the desire to serve. In addition to service, it's likely that many of us wanted the camaraderie and fellowship that our clubs offer. The Rotary website states, "As the heart of Rotary is our members, dedicated people who share a passion for community service and friendship." We chose to belong to Rotary, to be with a group of individuals from our community. Belonging is one of the fundamental

needs of humans. Before we get further into the topic, you may be wondering how belonging relates to diversity, equity, and inclusion. When people feel included, they experience a sense of belonging.

Studies have shown that belonging and physical and mental health are closely connected. Feeling a sense of belonging allows us to be more resilient, manage stress, and cope effectively during difficult life challenges. The opposite of belonging is loneliness. The pandemic brought with it isolation and loneliness for many.

During May, which was mental health awareness month, the U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. Vivek Murthy, released an advisory declaring loneliness a new public health epidemic in the United States. "Our epidemic of loneliness and isolation has been an underappreciated public health crisis that has harmed individual and societal health. Our relationships are a source of healing and well-being hiding in plain sight—one that can help us live healthier, more fulfilled and more productive lives," Murthy states. "Given the significant health consequences of loneliness and isolation, we must prioritize building social connection the same way we have prioritized other critical public health issues such as tobacco, obesity and substance use disorders. Together, we can build a country that's healthier, more resilient, less lonely and more connected."

The surgeon general's report tracks a decline in social connections, especially among young people. Statistics show that half of adults are lonely. Interestingly enough, the report shows that loneliness is as bad as smoking and has profound effects on mental health, and it increases the risks of heart disease, stroke, and dementia.

As Rotarians, how can we build greater belonging in our clubs, neighborhoods, and communities? The surgeon general's report talked about the importance of cultivating a culture of connection. Looking for ways to connect with our fellow Rotarians outside of club meetings is one way to build greater belonging. Making a point to get to know those that live in our neighborhoods is another way to cultivate connections. Finally, looking for ways to serve in our greater community can help us build the kind of inclusive community where all experience a sense of belonging.

Rotary's People of Action Champions of Inclusion

Watch the recording of Rotary's People of Action Champions of Inclusion event featuring the inspiring stories of our six honorees and other Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) thought leaders. They discuss what's possible when People of Action come together to amplify the power of marginalized populations in our clubs, in our communities, and around the world.

Speakers include:

- Sivuyile "Siv" Ngesi, Celebrity Host and Actor
- Jennifer Jones, President, Rotary International 2022-2023
- Janet Jobson, CEO, Desmond & Leah Tutu Foundation
- Kneo Mokgopa, Nelson Mandela Foundation
- John Hewko, General Secretary and CEO, Rotary International

Hosted by Rotary and the Desmond & Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation in Cape Town, South Africa, the event also features performances by Cape Town's most exciting up-and-coming entertainers. This presentation is available for viewing through Sept. 30, 2023. Watch and share this incredible event with Rotary members and others who value Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The link is: <https://bit.ly/3qxMklj>

Club Officer Slate

The following is the official officer list:

- President | Angela Cole (2023-2024)
- President-Elect | Christian Velasquez (2024-2025)
- President-Nominee | Amy Jaster (2025-2026)
- Immediate Past President | Jonathan Lauderbach (2023-2024)
- Treasurer | Kellie Bos (2022-2024)
- Secretary | Michelle Vannest (2023-2025)
- Director | Reva Curry (2021-2024)
- Director | Tom McArdle (2021-2024)
- *Director | Jennifer West (2022-2025)
- Director | Todd Gambrell (2022-2025)
- Director | Kristin Stehouwer (2023-2026)
- Director | Gail Hoffman (2023-2026)

*Filling vacated position by Camille Gerace-Nitschky

ROTARY ISN'T JUST A CLUB TO JOIN, BUT RATHER AN INVITATION TO ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES.



Aug. 31-Sept. 3, 2023
Anchorage, Alaska
LIFE ON LAND

Connecting the world through sustainability
Pre-event Cruise Aug. 23-30



Rotarians invited to Alaska Aug. 31-Sept. 3

You are invited to a Rotary gathering in Anchorage, Alaska, from Aug. 31-Sept. 3. The focus of this event will be the environment, with a significant amount of time built in for fun, fellowship and tourism.

2023-24 Rotary International President Gordon McInally will be present. So if you ever wanted to meet an RI president, this event is for you!

If you have interest in attending and have not already secured your registration, please do so by visiting <https://bit.ly/3CvRNwh>.

The event will be held at the Sheraton Anchorage for \$249 per night. This rate is only good until June 30, 2023 (there are reservations for the same dates as high as \$502 per night, so lock in your registration prior to June 30 to secure the best price possible).

For more information on the event including the agenda, speaker line up, hotel and area, visit <https://bit.ly/42Eze3B>. Flight information was previously emailed to Rotarians in an invite earlier this month.

If you have had Alaska on your bucket list, there's no better opportunity for you to check it off through Rotary! If you have been before, you know how truly amazing the location is and you have been looking for an excuse to get back there.

For additional questions, email event chair Diane Fejes at ndfejes@gmail.com.

"HOPE FUELS THE BELIEF THAT WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD, AND ROTARY PROVIDES THE PLATFORM TO TURN THAT HOPE INTO ACTION."

-Aaron Sines



Rotary



A SINES

June Birthdays



Reva Curry
Todd Beals
Dave Dunn
Tom Erickson
Michael Goad
Roy Goethe
Matt Granzo
Andrew Grillo

Gail Hoffman
Preston Jones
Brad Kaye
Jon Lync
Justin Marshall
Karen Murphy
Jim Nigro
Erica Pina
Justin Vondette



JUNE IS



ROTARY FELLOWSHIPS MONTH

"Don't adventures ever have an end? I suppose not. Someone else always has to carry on the story." - J.R.R. Tolkien, The Fellowship of the Ring



www.rotary.org

"WE MUSTER PEOPLE WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS, WHO CREATE SOMETHING TOGETHER THAT'S MUCH GREATER THAN WHAT THEY COULD CREATE INDIVIDUALLY."



Happy Birthday

JULY EDITION

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| WILLIAM COLLINS | DALLAS RAU |
| ADAM FERMAN | CHUCK SHERWIN |
| MIKE FLINT | CARLOS E. URIBE |
| CRAIG LANG | MICHELLE VANNEST |
| CARLY LILLARD | LAURA VOSEJPKA |
| CHARLIE MARKEY | JERRY WASSERMAN |
| BO MILLER | JENNIFER WEST |
| AMANDA OSTER | STEVE WILDES |
| | MIKE WILLIAMS |



JULY IS

NEW LEADERSHIP MONTH



True leaders don't create followers, they create new leaders.



www.rotary.org

SAVE THE DATE



Admission
\$TBD
/person

ROTARY AT THE LOONS! DISTRICT 6310

Details

- Rotary District 6310 is inviting all mid-Michigan Rotary clubs to join them for an amazing night of Loons Baseball under the Northern Lights Pavilion
- One meal ticket per ticket purchased is included
- Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 7:05pm

Location

Dow Diamond
825 E Main St
Midland, Michigan 48640

Register here

Stay tuned!