

Midland Rotary News



President's Message

Happy new year, Rotarians! I hope you all had a restful and relaxing holiday season, and that 2023 is off to a great start.

Paul Harris once said that of all the ways Rotarians can “make themselves useful to society, undoubtedly the most available and often the most effective are within the spheres of their own occupations.” In keeping with this, January is Rotary’s Vocational Service Month.

Vocational service focuses on adherence to and promotion of the highest ethical standards in all occupations, including fair treatment of employers, employees, associates, competitors, and the public; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the contribution of our vocational talents to solving the problems of society and meeting the needs of the community.

Nothing sums up the values of Rotary better than this.

January has had some great programs, including Sam McKenzie’s Classification Talk. This month also will feature a business update from Brooke Beebe of Hemlock Semiconductor, followed by a presentation about Rotary International and Midland Rotary Foundation in early February. You won’t want to miss these!

As always, thank you for all you do to make our Club and our community great. See you soon!



Have a great month!

Jon Lauderbach

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**PAUL HARRIS
FELLOW
RECIPIENTS**

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



ROTARY CLUB OF MIDLAND LINKS

Facebook [www.facebook.com/ MidlandNoonRotaryClub/](http://www.facebook.com/MidlandNoonRotaryClub/)

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

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/ midlandminoonrotary/](http://www.instagram.com/midlandminoonrotary/)

Official logos/Rotary Global Rewards:
<http://midlandrotaryclub.org>

Club Website: www.midlandrotaryclub.org

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Jan. 26 Brooke Beebe	Feb. 23 Pancake Supper	March 23 Pancake Supper
Feb. 2 MRF and RI	March 2 Classification	March 30 Brad Blanchard
Feb. 9 Wellbeing	March 9 Classification	April 6 Classification
Feb. 16 Kimberlee Baczewski	March 16 Classification	TBD



GET TO KNOW THIS
ROTARIAN
CHRISTINE PERRY



ORIGINALLY FROM: Born in Jacksonville, Florida and moved to Midland as a toddler, Dow High graduate (woot!).

SPONSOR: Abby Scherzer

CURRENTLY READING: *Love Medicine* by Louise Erdrich - a multigenerational portrait of Native American life.

FUN FACT: My Dad was in the Navy when I was born, then joined the National Guard after the attacks of Sept 11, 2001 and deployed three times before retiring, so we have a lot of Patriotism in us.


WHY I JOINED ROTARY: I want to be part of an organization rooted in improving lives.

WHAT I'M MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO IN ROTARY: Serving in many different capacities and learning new ways I can be of help to our community and beyond.





GET TO KNOW THIS
ROTARIAN
TINA QUEARY



ORIGINALLY FROM: Metcalf, Illinois – a very small town in Central Illinois farm country.


SPONSOR: Melina Bucci

CURRENTLY READING/LISTENING TO: I am currently reading *Wrong Place, Wrong Time* for book club; Listening on audible to a fun Christmas book, *The Christmas Spirit*. Many of my watch items are on Winter break right now.

FUN FACT: Both of my sons-in-laws are named Nick. And I have a sister named Mindy as well as a stepsister, Mindy. I jokingly say, "This is my sister Mindy and my other sister Mindy" – which follows in line with a quote from the Bob Newhart show, "This is my brother, Darryl and my other brother, Darryl!".

WHY I JOINED ROTARY: I share the same beliefs as Rotary and have many friends and colleagues in Rotary. I have wanted to join for awhile now, but the Thursday noon schedule was difficult with my previous role.

WHAT I'M MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO IN ROTARY: Deepening relationships with fellow Rotarians and others within the community. I believe "service over self" should be everyone's motto and look forward to serving side-by-side with so many.





Rotarians ring for Salvation Army

In this year's Salvation Army Fundraiser in memory of former member Jon Barckholtz, 46 different members/family donned masks and rang bells on Dec. 3 and 10, 2022, at Kroger's to gather donations from the community.

Participants were Jeanny Figueroa, Dustin Smith, John Zimmerman, Mike Williams, David Sovereign and Marcelo Flores and Family, Michelle Vannest, Michelle Chesney, Karl Kamena, Carly and Jesse Lillard and Family, Michael Goad, Eric Fridline, Dallas and Jeremy Rau and Family, Tony Stamas, Alina Warner, Lee Smith, Teresa George, Cliff Block, JDee Brooks, Jennifer Grace, Sharon Mortensen, Robert Malecki, Chris Gagnon, Caleb Hortop, Sara Eastman Family, Mike Hayes, Jon Lynch, Patrick and Camille Gerace Nitschky, Dick Dolinski, Nicole Ford, Mike Dizer, Andrew Grillo, and Megan Pellerito.

A total of \$1,892.70 was donated by members of the community during the two-day fundraiser. Club members personally donated \$817 beyond the money gathered in the kettles. The total financial impact for 2022 is \$2,709.70 and 60 hours of service. Thanks to all the volunteers and donors who continue to make a difference in our community in so many ways.

Photos of some of the participants were published in the December newsletter. Some of the additional participants are included in this month's newsletter.

This is the last time Tawny Ryan Neeb will coordinate this fundraiser after eight years.

"It has been an honor to help facilitate our Rotarians' impact in our community in this way," stated Neeb, the 2022 Salvation Army Fundraiser chair. "Dustin Smith has stepped up to coordinate in 2023. I know you will all continue this wonderful holiday tradition under his leadership."

Ringers, continued...



Rotarians help The Bridge Dec. 29

In lieu of our regular meeting on Dec. 29, 2022, Noon Rotarians were invited to participate in a service project to help The Bridge Food Center. This was a chance for club members to share their time with members of the community to help stock the shelves, help shoppers, and perform other needed tasks. The Bridge is run by volunteers and without them, the work wouldn't get done.



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Hearing the stories of others

By Sharon Mortensen



As humans, we love hearing and telling stories. Across the globe there are approximately 1.4 million Rotarians, each with a unique story to tell.

Stories allow us to connect to others and build relationships. Narratives or stories are told from the perspective of the storyteller.

When the majority of stories are told from one perspective, one that mirrors those in charge, we have a dominant narrative.

Voices can be left out when one perspective dominates. For example, why are there so few stories about women in the early history of the United States? Most stories were told by men.

Have you seen the movie *Hidden Figures*? It is based on the nonfiction book by Margot Lee Shetterly, and it tells the story of African American women who were mathematicians at NASA in the 1960s.

Until the book and then movie, most of us had not heard this story. This was not part of the dominant narrative when the story of the space race was told.

When visiting the Ziibiwing Center in Mt. Pleasant, I learned the story of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan from their perspective, not the story I heard growing up which was told from the perspective of the dominant culture.

Being part of an international organization, we can hear stories of our Rotary neighbors around the world and better understand one another's perspectives.

We have an opportunity to go beyond the dominant narrative we may have heard and look at the narratives of others.

The Rotary magazine provides articles that expose us to Rotary clubs around the world, sharing the stories of Rotarians and the work they are doing in their countries.

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DEI, continued...

The illustration below shows how different narratives may develop depending on who is telling the story.



TAs Rotarians, how can we step outside biases we may unknowingly hold? We can change the narrative by providing space for others to tell their stories and then listening to those stories.

Maya Angelou said, "There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you." Let's provide space in our programming to hear diverse perspectives to broaden our understanding.

Rotary is about building a group that works cohesively together. On Rotary's website it states, "Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves."

How can we better unite as Rotarians? The Rotary four-way test cannot be overstated.

Of the things we think, say or do:

- Is it the truth?
- Is it fair to all concerned?
- Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Using this as the basis for our actions can help us be more open to the ideas and narratives of others. It is important to remember that the dominant narrative and stories we may have heard do not reflect the narrative of those who are not in the majority.

As we build strong inclusive clubs, let's enjoy connecting through stories and seek to hear the stories of others.



Rotarians put Service above Self

More than 15 Rotarians served lunch and sang carols at a senior Christmas luncheon at West Midland Family Center! Thanks to Abby Scherzer for organizing our volunteers!

"Vocational service gives Rotarians the opportunity to help others escape poverty and gain a measure of self-respect. As business and professional leaders, we have a duty to lead and encourage good ethics through vocation." Carlos Frum, PDG D6440



VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH

JANUARY IS



Rotary

www.rotary.org