

ROTARY CLUB OF MIDLAND | NEWSLETTER

Midland Rotary Club was founded in 1920 by 26 charter members on a mission to make lasting change.



Photo courtesy of Tom Lane

President's Note:

Hello and Happy New Year, Rotary family! I hope you had a wonderful holiday and enjoyed time well spent with family and friends.

The holidays and this time of year always help to serve as a reminder of the things and people I am grateful for in my life. While there are too many to name and list in this letter, please know that I am grateful for all of you, as members, and the commitment to Rotary you show through the things you think, say, and do. Using our vocation, we can be a voice and image of Rotary's mission of providing service to others, promoting integrity, and advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders as we 'Serve to Change Lives' this Rotary year.

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The holidays can also be difficult for many, so please continue to offer any act of kindness, no matter how small, to brighten someone's day. We recently offered cheerful greetings through our bell-ringing and fundraising efforts for the Salvation Army and serving for an afternoon at The Bridge Food Center in Midland (please check out pages 9-11 and 13 for more information!) We enjoyed great fellowship and holiday spirit at our program on December 23rd which featured Empty Canvas where those in attendance took turns painting a beautiful landscape picture that was auctioned off at the conclusion of the meeting.



The proceeds from the painting will go to our Community Needs committee for projects that will benefit Midland County youth. Congratulations to John Haag for being the successful bidder - we hope you enjoy your painting (picture on the left) for years to come!

Realizing that I am over halfway through my term as your President, I am grateful that we are on track for our club's goals and our alignment to work together to achieve them. As you likely saw at the Annual Meeting (or you may scroll to page 8 of the newsletter and click the link to view the slide deck), these are not goals that are for me to achieve alone; quite the contrary! Helen Keller said it best when she said, "Alone we can do so little; Together we can do so much.", as this rings so true to the strength and depth of our Rotary club - especially as we embark on not only a new year, but a new month with a theme of Vocational Service. What are ways that you can use your vocation to impact our club? Our community? Our nation? Our world?

Yours in Rotary Service,

Dallas Rau

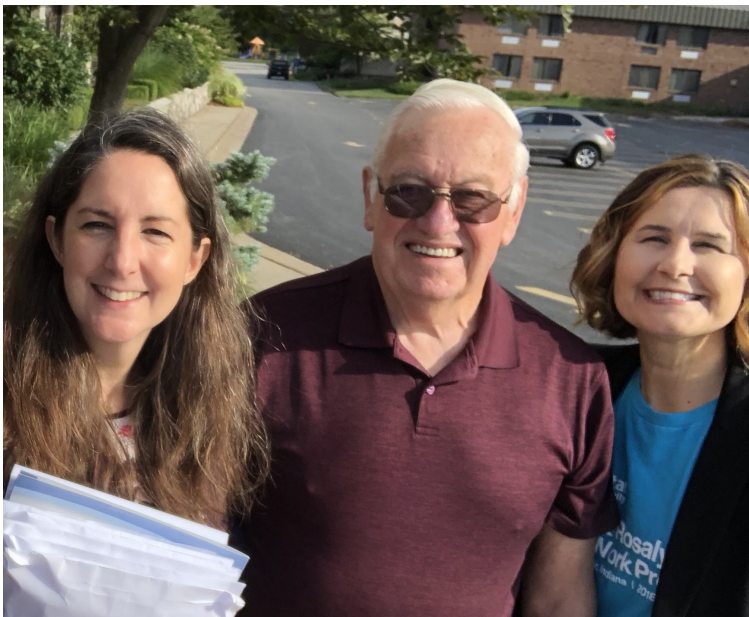


Harry Grether Memorial (1937-2021)

Harry Grether was someone you didn't forget. His warm compassionate smile and his gift for meaningful conversation left you feeling that you'd been heard and valued as a human. He had that way about him. Like you'd been hugged by someone you love just with the way he smiled at you. He is a cherished husband, father, grandfather and was blessed to be able to hold his newborn Great Granddaughter, Emma before he died. He was a native Midlander, graduating from Midland High School in 1956. He went on to



graduate from CMU and had a successful career as a teacher and education administrator. He was a gifted writer and often encouraged his friends to write their story. "Everyone has a story to tell," he'd say and then ask how you were doing writing yours. His heartwarming book, *Lessons from an Imperfect World*, touched the hearts of many as he made it available to people everywhere; from MidMichigan Health Center patients, Cancer Services clients, Children's Grief Center families, Ronald McDonald House guests, and Fisher House families, to many more we don't even know about. He'd always have a case of books in the back of his car to share with those he met along his travels. He generously made them available to fellow Rotarians and his friends he lovingly dubbed, "Harry's Tribe" a group of individuals that were committed to sharing his book and will continue to do so as part of his legacy.





Harry was one of the most dedicated Rotarians. He lived the 4 Way Test. He was a behind the scenes kind of guy though. Humble in his endeavors and always there to support those in the limelight, he was selected as a "Hero of Rotary" in 2017. He often nominated Spirit of Rotary nominees and he sponsored more people into Ro-

tary than the average member. He organized the yearly Rotary Christmas Sing and Dinner Service at the West Midland Family Center. You'd always see him smiling from ear to ear as he passed out pancakes to the masses at the Annual Pancake Supper. He and Don Carlson were the best of friends, and one can imagine them both singing "Smile" as they look down upon us, together again. The world definitely lost a hero when he died December 6th, just weeks before his 84 birthday, but we all will continue to share a little bit of Harry's spirit every time we're doing good deeds in the world. "Genuine self-confidence and showing a positive attitude with those we love and care about is within reach for us all," he'd say. He made you want to be a better person just by knowing him and he'd always find the positive in everything. He will always shine that spark, that twinkle in his eye through all of us as we carry on his memory and be the best example of a Rotarian we can be.

Camille Gerace Nitschky

Harry's family would like to continue to publish and distribute his book *Lessons from an Imperfect World*. If you want to help, send your donation to the Harry Grether Giving Fund at Huntington Bank .



Upcoming Meetings

- 01/06 STEM Initiative
- 01/13 Elizabeth Lumbert Classification
- 01/20 MiHOPE
- 01/27 Northwood University
- 02/03 Mental Health in the Workplace
- 02/10 J. Michael Dizer Classification
- 02/17 Peace and Conflict Resolution (VIRTUAL)
- 02/24 TBD

Rotary Club of Midland Paul Harris Fellow Recipients

*Kate Hessling
Sam McKenzie
Jeanne Schaller +1
Dr. Jim Bakeman +6*

MAJOR DONOR
*Dr. Tom Lane
Jim Brozzo*



Midland Rotary Club Links

Website

<https://www.midlandrotaryclub.org>

Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/
MidlandNoonRotaryClub/](https://www.facebook.com/MidlandNoonRotaryClub/)

Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/MidNoonRotary>

Instagram:

[https://www.instagram.com/
midlandminoonrotary/](https://www.instagram.com/midlandminoonrotary/)

Official Logos Page:

[RI Brand Center](#)

Rotary Global Rewards:

<http://midlandrotaryclub.org>

OUR 2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP GOAL IS 200

YOU CAN EASILY VIEW NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS ONLINE BY FOLLOWING THE EASY STEPS BELOW!

Rotary Engagement Via E-Resources

Midland Rotary Club's Website: <http://midlandrotaryclub.org>

From our Club's website, you have two options:

1. **My Rotary (RI):** Click for access to tools, information, and resources OR to make online donations.
2. **DACdb:** Click on **Member Login**, <https://www.dacdb.com>, **Login**, **My CLUB Shortcuts**, **Club Members icon** to see our Club Officers, members' contact information, your profile, and your Club membership.

To view New Member Applications:

- * Follow the DACdb steps above and click on **Club Files** instead of Club Members icon
- * Click on **Secure Files** and scroll down to see apps.
- * Click on **Nomination Forms**

Meet our Newest Members!

NOVEMBER



Alina Warner
Sponsored by Amanda Oster
President and Health Coach, Wellness
Within You



Michael Goad
Sponsored by Dick Dolinski
CEO, Dow Chemical Employees Credit
Union



Alan Stottlemeyer (Returning Member)
Sponsored by Mark Bone
Research Engineer, Dow

OCTOBER



Amy Conner
Sponsored by Dallas Rau
Business Development Coordinator,
Brookdale Senior Living Tri-Cities



Weikang "Ken" Wang
Sponsored by Jeff Rekeweg
Associate Professor, Northwood Uni-
versity

SEPTEMBER



Jennifer West
Sponsored by Jenee Velasquez
Managing Director (GLBR), Greenleaf
Trust



Nathan Rapanos
Sponsored by Mark Bone
Realtor/Investor with Broadleaf Invest-
ments—Century 21



Jenni Wontorcik
Sponsored by Shawn Weiss
Admissions Director, Brittany Manor



Katey Brown
Sponsored by Sharon Mortensen
General Practice Director & Therapist,
Partners In Change

JUNE



Teresa George
Sponsored by Carly Lillard
Associate Executive Director, SVSU
Foundation

Rotary International President, Shekhar Mehta has challenged Rotary District and Clubs to increase membership to 1.3 million by July 1, 2022 through his **Each One, Bring One** initiative, which asks every member to bring one person to join Rotary within the next 17 months. Who will you bring?



fb.com/RotaractWarrnambool



Reminders and Opportunities for Fellowship and 'Service Above Self'

Consider signing up to inspire and support others by providing an invocation at one of our upcoming meetings; Please contact Jane Johnson (jane.johnson@primroseretirement.com).

Newsletter Editor—If you're looking to get involved with the club, this is a FANTASTIC way to have the pulse on club news and events and to get more engaged. The newsletter editor would join the Public Image committee and work with the President to create content and assemble the monthly newsletter—no experience necessary! Lots of templates are provided and other members contribute information. **Even volunteering for one month would be appreciated.** Please contact Dallas Rau if you are interested.

Committees—Are you a member of a committee yet or do you want to change your current committee focus? The bulk of the work of Midland Noon Rotary is done by our 17 committees and 23 subcommittees. We are so happy you attend meetings but to **get engaged in the Rotary mission** itself, join one or two of our committees as listed on our website at <https://www.midlandrotaryclub.org/committees>. Once you've picked some that interest you, contact the committee chair through <https://www.dacdb.com>, log in, choose My Club, and then see the committees by clicking in the box in the upper right hand corner. We need you!

Attendance—Every one, Bring one! Our lunch buffet has been adjusted for average attendees dining during the meeting. If you sponsored someone and notice they are not attending, please consider checking on them and see how they are doing.

Annual Club Dues Announcement

The Board of Directors recently voted to continue financial assistance for annual club dues in light of the continued disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic with the remaining funds that were donated in 2020-2021 to members that may have difficulty paying their dues for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Requests for assistance must be received to club Treasurer, Kellie Bos (kellie.bos@ahpplc.com). As originally designated in the 2020-2021 plan, any remaining monies will be sent to Rotary International at year's end.



Annual Meeting Report

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic the club continued to meet via Zoom from January 1 until August 5, 2021 when it returned to the Midland County Club while other members continued online.



Multiple Service Projects 2020-2021

Riverdays 2021 165 hours

Golf Outing Fundraiser 35 hours

Fall Grove Park Clean Up 70 hours

Salvation Army Red Kettle Fundraiser 70 hours



Notable Accomplishments

- Award of Global Grant for work in Uganda - \$83,800
- Midland declared an International City of Peace
 - Ongoing RF and MRF Campaign
- Formation of the Wellbeing through Communication & Connections Committee; specifically, as a product of the Civility pilot and Wellbeing curriculum (from University of Pennsylvania) with established club programming, increased opportunities for service above self, and plans for sustainability (Chaired by Gail Hoffman)

Annual Meeting Report

For detailed information from the Annual Meeting see: [Annual Meeting Slide Deck](#)

Our club has 178 members, 21 Active R85, and 7 honorary for a total of 185 members.

There are 63 women, 112 men, and 3 unreported.

We have 17 club committees and 23 subcommittees doing the day-to-day work of Rotary.

Club Officers Elected for 2022-2023

President | Jonathan Lauderbach (2022-2023); President Elect | Angela Cole (2023-2024); President Nominee | Christian Velasquez (2024-2025); Immediate Past President | Dallas Rau (2022-2023); Treasurer | Kellie Bos (2022-2024); Secretary | Gail Hoffman (2021-2023); Director | Kristin Stehouwer(2020-2023); Director | J. Dee Brooks (2020-2023); Director | Reva Curry (2021-2024); Director | Tom McArdle (2021-2024); Director | Camille Gerace (2022-2025); Director | Todd Gambrell (2022-2025)

Goals Check-In and Numbers Achieved to Date

Membership (Goal 200) - 178 (as of 12-5-21) **Nine New Members this Rotary year-to-date**

Service Participation (Goal 100 people) - **118**

New Member Sponsorship (Goal 15) - **9**

Rotary Action Group participation (Goal 3) - **TBD**

Leadership Development Participation (Goal 5) - **TBD**

District Conference Attendance (Goal of 18) - **TBD (April 29-30, 2022 in Traverse City)**

Rotary Fellowship participation (Goal 3) - **TBD**

District training participation (Goal 5) - **TBD**

Annual Fund Giving (Goal \$8,750) - **\$2,400**

Polio Plus Fund (Goal \$2,500) - **\$1,600**

Service Projects (Goal 7) - **6**

Interact Clubs (Goal 1) - **1**

Public Image (Online Presence) - **Ongoing/Achieved**

Strategic Plan - **Ongoing, align projects to "Serve to Change Lives"**

Social Activities (Goal 2) - **1**

Update website and Social Media (Goal of 30 posts) - **Ongoing/Achieved**

ROTARY CONTRIBUTES TO THE ANNUAL SALVATION ARMY RED KETTLE DRIVE



It was another wonderful year of contributing your time for the annual Salvation Army Red Kettle fundraiser. In this year's Salvation Army Fundraiser in memory of former member Jon Barckholtz, forty different members/family donned masks and rang bells on December 4 and 11, 2021





at Kroger's to gather donations from the community. Participants were Kellie, Drew, Maddy, and Audrey Bos, Michelle Vannest, Robert Malecki, Tom Matonican and Family, Kate Hessling, Tara Mager and Family, Carly Lillard and son, Christian and Jenee Velsaquez, Mike Williams, John Zimmerman, Jim Nigro, Dick Dolinski, Tawny Ryan Nelb, Kim Baczewski and son, Jon Lynch, Eric Curtis, Dale Davis, Sharon Mortenson, Jane Johnson, Dallas, Jeremy, and Haven Rau, Karl Kamena, Mike Hayes, Megan and Tom Pellerito, Andrew Grillo, Jennifer West, Cliff Block, Tony Stamas, and Melissa Barnard.





Special thanks to Karl Kamena and Speed Malecki who worked multiple shifts.

\$1,649 dollars was donated by members of the community during the two-day fundraiser. Club members personally donated an additional \$1,961 beyond the money gathered in the kettles. The total financial impact for 2021 was \$3,610. Thanks to all the volunteers and donors who continue to make a difference in our community in so many ways.

Tawny Ryan Nelb, Project Chair

Importance of Rotary International Foundation and Midland Rotary Foundation Donations

Our club has two Rotary foundations to which we donate to help us make a difference in the world and in our community. They are both important but each have a different focus. Donations to the Rotary Foundation provide the resources for Rotary International to reach out to the world or our region while the Midland Rotary Foundation helps fund non-profit projects for kids in our area.

WE NEED YOUR HELP. Very few Midland Rotary Club members have donated to either foundation this year so far, and we are half way through our Rotary year. Without these funds, Rotary can not do its work worldwide to end Polio, provide water projects where water is a precious commodity, or contribute to the thousands of projects sponsored and managed by local clubs. A portion of Rotary



Foundation funds come back to our 6310 District and without these grants, Midland Noon Rotary is unable to leverage its own financial resources jointly with other District Clubs to get projects done. The recent Uganda projects for electric power at the Muko High School and literacy outreach in the Muko area or past Midland projects like the Diaper Drive or the Duffels of Love project are examples. Without contributions to the Midland Rotary Foundation, our \$50,000 in yearly grants to small nonprofits to fund projects for children in need, scholarships, and the ability to impact a whole neighborhood with projects like the Grove Park renovation grants, would be more difficult.

To donate to The Rotary Foundation, go to <https://my.rotary.org/en/donate> or contact Christ Velasquez or Tom Lane. Any amount will make a difference but please donate something. To donate to our local club foundation, the Midland Rotary Foundation, send a check made out to them to Kellie Bos, Foundation Treasurer at Midland Rotary, PO Box 2002, Midland, MI 48641-2002 or contact her at kellie.bos@ahpplc.com about charging a donation.

We hope to see that our next newsletter in February announces a flood of donations to bring us closer to our \$9,000 Goal for The Rotary Foundation and offers additional funds for the Midland Rotary Foundation. Donations to both foundations through May will receive past District Governor donation level recognition as described



EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

December 30th Rotarian Service at the Bridge Food Center

On December 30, 2021, Midland Noon Rotarians put in a half day of shift work at the Bridge Food Center located on at 1539 Washington Ave. Former President, Matt Granzo, coordinated this effort allowing 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.



The Bridge Food Center, located in Midland, focuses on customers that make a household income of \$61,000 or less and may be struggling to put food on the table. The Bridge bridges the gap between opportunity and accessibility to food such as meat (beef, chicken, pork, fish, etc.), soups, fruits & vegetables, pastas, paper, cleaning, personal care items and more. People can choose and purchase food at low costs.

The Bridge serves people from all parts of our community and is a great place to shop and get groceries for your family at the lowest prices in town.



January is Vocational Service Month

5 ways to inspire through vocational service

By Rotary Service and Engagement Staff

Vocational Service calls on us to empower others by using our unique skills and expertise to address community needs and help others discover new professional opportunities and interests. January is Rotary's Vocational Service Month, a great time to leverage vocational service in your club projects and activities.

Here are five ways you can incorporate vocational service in your club activities:

1. Host a club meeting at your work place and share about your profession; take time to learn about fellow members' occupations.
2. Use your skills and expertise to serve a community.
3. Practice your profession with integrity, and inspire others to behave ethically through your words and actions.
4. Work with local businesses to create mentorship, internship, or practicum opportunities to help young people achieve their career goals.
5. Guide and encourage others in their professional development.

Below are some examples of clubs taking action around the world:

Members from the [Rotary Club of Melbourne Park](#) in Australia come from a variety of vocational backgrounds. Not only do they utilize their skills within the club, but they also have something to offer to a wider audience. They started the 'Rotary Skillshare' series with their Past President Jason Reynolds, who owns a financial advisory business and offered to conduct a series of presentations designed to help club members make smart choices when confronted with financial decisions. The club hopes to continue the series, highlighting a different club member's profession to learn from their expertise. For more examples see [the Vocational Service discussion group](#).



District 6310

Rotary Ski Day

Wednesday, February 16th, 2022
Nubs Nob - 8:30am in Main Lobby

**Calling all ski enthusiasts (Downhill and Cross Country)!
We're excited to announce a day on the slopes or in the tracks
with fellow Rotarians and guests in beautiful northern
Michigan at Nubs Nob Ski Resort.**

We have secured a special group rate of \$62 downhill and \$20 XC
(providing we have 20 or more) for a day of skiing. If you're over
75 you can ski for free at Nubs!

To order your ski pass please contact Fred Herter from the Saginaw Valley Club at 989-450-5416 or
send check to Fred at 4210 Firethorn Drive, Saginaw, MI 48603.

Please order pass before February 7th

For those interested we're planning to stop for dinner at the Sugar Bowl Restaurant in Gaylord
afterwards on our way back home.

Transportation will be on your own, however we would encourage carpooling.

Any questions please contact Fred or DG Jeff at 989-550-0235



Rotary
District 6310



Nubs is home to one of Michigan's most challenging downhill resorts,
however they also have well groomed XC trails (a 2Km and 21Km).

A Message from the Pigeon Rotary Club About Their Polio Plus Raffle:

As excitement continues to build for our District Conference at the Park Place Hotel in beautiful Traverse City on April 29 & 30, 2022, we're excited to announce a tremendous opportunity for those who plan to attend.



As some of you know this historic hotel was once owned by the Traverse City Rotary Club. One of the great features of the hotel is it's Paul Harris Suite which is found in the "tower" portion of the hotel.



Our planning committee is excited to offer an opportunity for you to win a two-night stay during the conference in the Paul Harris Suite in a drawing to take place on February 1st, 2022. To enter this drawing simply send your name, phone number, and club name with a check made



out to "Rotary Club of Pigeon" and mail donations to Conference Co-Chair, Kent Shetler, PO



Box 109, Pigeon, MI 48755 by no later than Friday, January 28th. **Each entry is a \$10 dollar donation that will be made to Polio Plus and you can enter as many times as you'd like to increase your chances.**

This room could make for a great rally point for your club as a "hospitality" suite or just a great place for the lucky winner to stretch out and relax in between sessions.

We hope you can help support our Polio Plus Drive.



Save the Date
Rotary
District 6310 Conference
April 29-30, 2022

The Park Place Hotel
and Conference Center in
Traverse City
will be the location for our
District Conference in 2022.



We will be building good will and better friendships at the historic Park Place Hotel in Downtown Traverse City and their newly opened Conference Center. In addition to personal and professional development and the annual business meeting, we will enjoy music by the Classic Rock group "The Flashbacks". There will be fine dining and fun break-out groups like



cooking demonstrations, bourbon tasting or wine tours, exploring the lakes and trails around TC, shopping, and other activities we haven't even thought of yet. This will be a warm and friendly event for Rotarians, their spouses and families. Come with us for a weekend in Pure Michigan.