

# 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 Mike Stein

### President's Notes:

Happy November, fellow Rotarians!

I think every note I've written so far starts with the disbelief of how fast another month has gone by and October was certainly no different! Now it's November and we've had our first snow - and we're only a couple months away from a new year. November ushers in the holiday season and can serve as a great reminder to pause and reflect on what we are thankful for. For me, I am grateful for my health and well-being, which I strive to maintain each and every day. I'm grateful to live in an amazing region with some of the best people. I am grateful for our fantastic board, all of our members near and far for working to create positive change in our communities and abroad, and the opportunity to lead our club this year.

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November is special for many reasons, but it is also very important as it is Rotary Foundation month. If you recall, the Rotary Foundation Chair for our District, Cheryl Peterson, recently presented on this topic at a September meeting. Cheryl reminded us that the Rotary Foundation is the arm of Rotary that transforms our gifts into service projects to change lives both close to home, through district grants and around the world, through global grants.

Locally, our District was awarded \$45,655 to clubs who submitted a district grant application for a service project in their local community. Of those, 21 were fully-funded projects with seven being partially funded. The impact of those projects meant that lives were touched by addressing the following: *Literacy, exercise, food insecurity, hygiene and health, community improvement, home and community safety, environmental improvements, and winter gear and holiday support for needy families.*

There are many options to support the Rotary Foundation and its mission:

- Become involved in a service project our club is sponsoring
- Become a Polio Plus Society Member
- [Personally give to the Annual Fund-Share](#)
- [Participate in a Peace Initiative](#)
- [Become a Paul Harris Fellow or Multiple Paul Harris Fellow](#)
- [Make a Lasting Gift to Rotary](#)

If you have any questions about how to give and how you can support the Rotary Foundation, please contact our club Rotary Foundation chairs Christian Velasquez or Jesse Lillard to learn more - and check out their update on page 6. What are you grateful for this month? What are you grateful for in our club and in Rotary?

Yours in Rotary Service,



Dallas Rau

## NOVEMBER





*"The human contribution is the essential ingredient. It is only in the giving of oneself to others that we truly live."*

*Ethyl Percy Andrus*

## ROTARY FOUNDATION MONTH

TAKE ACTION: Get Involved, Give



## Upcoming Meetings

- 11/4 Dow Tennis Classic (VIRTUAL ONLY!)
- 11/11 Andrew Grillo Classification
- 11/18 Midland County Youth Leadership
- 11/25 Thanksgiving, no meeting
- 12/2 Focus on Youth Committee
- 12/9 Jen Acosta Classification
- 12/16 Annual Business Meeting
- 12/23 Holiday Program
- 12/30 No meeting, Service Project Opportunity

## Rotary Club of Midland Paul Harris Fellow Recipients

*Kate Hessling  
Jeanne Schaller +1*

**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!

### 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 University

### SEPTEMBER



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



**Nathan Rapanos**  
Sponsored by Mark Bone  
Realtor/Investor with Broadleaf Investments—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

### APRIL



**Terri Johnson**  
Sponsored by Jenee Velasquez  
President/CEO, Midland Community Centers



**JD Geisler**  
Sponsored by Mark Bone  
Vice President, Geisler Warehouse



**Lisa Thompson**  
Sponsored by Eric Curtis  
Director and Founder Self Love Beauty



**Ann Manary**  
Sponsored by Michael Beale  
Midland County Clerk, City of Midland

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?

**Each One...  
Bring One...**



THE WORLD  
NEEDS MORE  
#ROTARIANS



## **Reminders and Opportunities for Fellowship and 'Service Above Self'**

**Please pay your dues!** Invoices were emailed with an option to pay online with a credit card. Please see announcement below if assistance is needed for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

**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](mailto:jane.johnson@primroseretirement.com)).

**Salvation Arm Bell Ringing**—Check out pages 8 and 9 for more information and to sign up for your timeslot!

**Special December Service Opportunity**—There will be no meeting on December 30th, but we will have a service opportunity available for club members and their families—stay tuned for more details!

**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. 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! Please contact Dallas Rau if you are interested.

**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](mailto: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.**



## Nominations are being accepted for the 2022-2023 Candidate Slate!

Our bylaws state:

*“At a Board meeting before the annual meeting, the presiding officer shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of three (3) Directors and the Immediate Past-President. At the annual meeting, this committee shall place in nomination one (1) or more names for each of the following offices: President-Nominee, Secretary or Treasurer, and two (2) members of the Board of Directors. All officers are nominated for one-year terms, and the two (2) members of the Board of Directors are nominated for three-year terms. The presiding officer at the annual meeting shall also accept more nominations from the floor for each office. The Club shall have six (6) Directors with staggered terms; two (2) of the Directors are elected each year for a three-year term.”*

**(1) President Nominee (will be President in 2025-2026 Rotary year)**

**(2) Directors Positions (3-year term)**

**(1) Treasurer (2-year term)**

**If you are interested in serving in a leadership position within the club, please contact Club President, Dallas Rau (dalstar17@hotmail.com) or**

**Immediate-Past President, Carly Lillard (carlylillard@gmail.com).**



**November** is Rotary Foundation month. The **Rotary Foundation** transforms your gifts into projects that change lives both close to home and around the world. As the charitable arm of Rotary International, we tap into a global network of Rotarians who invest their time, talent, and treasure into our priorities, such as eradicating polio, promoting peace, and providing clean water. We get some of the funds back to use locally for projects at home. If you need some help making a gift, please contact Chris Velasquez or Jesse Lillard. [Annual Fund and SHARE | My Rotary](#)

The  
**Rotary**  
Foundation



EVERY  
■ ROTARIAN  
■ EVERY  
■ YEAR

# Kayaks, Computers and A Clown

By Tim Dyste, Midland Rotary Foundation Chair

Your Midland Rotary Foundation has completed the fall cycle for grant requests. We focus on projects benefitting disadvantaged youth in Midland County. We approved \$3,000 towards a computer lab for an after school program by the Caregiving Network in the Grove Park neighborhood. We also approved \$150 for Jewls the Clown at an Early Head Start program. Finally, we are sending \$5,000 to Midland Kids First to help acquire a variety of supplies to support their programs at the Juvenile Care Center including bikes, fishing poles, and kayaks. We thank Bart Thompson for his many years of service as he rotates off of the board and welcome Matt Granzo as our newest board member. Year end giving time is fast approaching. Please consider writing a check to support the work of your local foundation. Our next deadline for grant requests is April 1, 2022. All of the information can be found at our Midland Rotary website.



## Annual Midland Noon Rotary/Salvation Army Fundraiser December 4 and 11, 2021



Last year, we succeeded in holding our Salvation Army fundraiser despite Covid 19 spikes and although we are now in another one due to the Delta variant, I am encouraged that we now have some tools to fight it and make it safer for all of us. Our annual Salvation Army Fundraiser is a chance for us to step up to continue to make a difference in our community. You can volunteer by clicking on the link below for either Saturday December 4 or 11<sup>th</sup> to ring bells outside the Kroger Grocery Store and/or by sending me a check (see address below) made out to

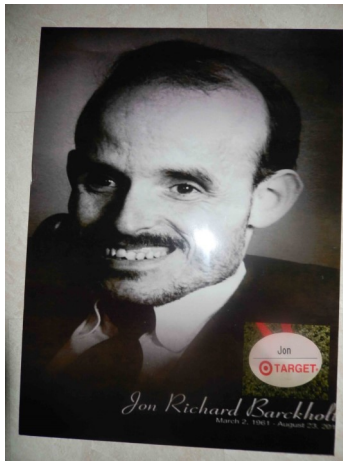
Salvation Army to donate directly to this effort.

There are 36 time slots available, so guarantee your slot by signing up early. Families are welcome! If you



cannot fulfill your time slot due to a change in your schedule, I appreciate you taking on the responsibility of finding a substitute then notify me of the change. Once the slots are all filled, I will send out the entire list of volunteers with contact information that you can use as a resource to switch dates/times. If you aren't sure if you will be available for these dates, but want to be a possible substitute, contact me directly. Schedule conflicts often arise, and every time slot is important. Mask wearing and social distancing is assumed, and if you cannot wear a mask for health or other reasons, please do not sign up. Contribute in some other way.





For the past seven years, the Salvation Army Fundraiser has been dedicated in memory of former Rotarian, Jon Barckholtz, who died in 2014. Jon was born with spina bifida, and due to the illness, was institutionalized for twenty years. He endured abuse and neglect before being released. Instead of being bitter about this experience, he used the rest of his life to help others and fought to get such institutions in Michigan closed. He also fought so

people with developmental disabilities could get support to be contributing members of the community. He worked at Target for 13 years and served on the People First and Arc of Midland boards. When he joined Rotary in 2010, he not only brought his wonderful smile, and his commitment to service to our club, but he also taught us so much about tenacity, strong will, strength, compassion, forgiveness, and love of all people. Since his death, the Midland Noon Rotary Club continues its longtime commitment to Salvation Army Fundraising in his honor in recognition of his contributions to our club and the community.



Last year we raised \$1,802 in two full days of bell ringing and another \$800 from member donations sent to me directly for a fundraising grand total of \$2,602. This was \$2,000 less than 2019 perhaps due to the financial challenges of the pandemic and the fewer people getting out into the community. For the sake of those in need, I hope we can do better this year. Salvation Army programs include the following: thousands of Midland County residents (our own neighbors and friends) find help from The Salvation Army in meeting their basic needs for food, medicine, or a safe, heated home to live in. Hundreds of people receive a hot Thanksgiving meal. Hundreds of children are given coats and gifts at Christmas time. Hundreds of kids in our community attend SHARE Day Camp that provide a fun, safe and affordable place in the summer and receive assistance with other year-round projects.



Please Sign Up by clicking on this link and filling in the time slot in the [Excel Spread Sheet—LINK HERE](#).

**THANK YOU** Tawny Ryan Nelb, Rotary/Salvation Army Fundraiser Chair

Address: 5610 Woodberry Ct., Midland, MI 48640; email: [tawnynelb@gmail.com](mailto:tawnynelb@gmail.com); cell: 989-631-1011

## EXPERIENCE EVERYTHING THE MIDLAND ROTARY CLUB HAS TO OFFER - JOIN A ROTARY COMMITTEE! By: Scott Withrow

As a member of Rotary, to achieve the best benefit of your membership, I encourage you to strongly consider involvement in one, or more, of our wonderful committees!

Committee involvement can add value to you by:

- Getting to know your fellow Rotary members
- Learning more about Rotary
- Building upon your skills of committee involvement, public speaking and leadership
- Making a positive difference in the lives of others. Members and non-members.
- And, it's fun!

I have had the pleasure of serving on several committees and I have benefitted from each experience.

While currently serving on the Community Needs Committee, Membership Committee and Midland Rotary Foundation Board of Directors, this involvement has been very educational and satisfying, both professionally and personally.

So, take a look at the committee listing below and get involved! You will be happy you did!

### COMMITTEES

- **Community Needs:** Meets the financial needs primarily for Midland County youth-oriented projects that might otherwise fall through the cracks.
- **Executive Committee:** Charged with developing goals and objectives for the overall Club in coordination with National and International goals and objectives. *(Please note, this committee is voted on at the Annual Meeting.)*
- **Fellowship and Service:** Charged with committee-wide events which help to promote the image of Rotary and our motto of "Service above Self". Incorporates the following subcommittees:

*Midland Blooms; Pancake Supper; Salvation Army Bell Ringers; Seniors Christmas Luncheon; Tridge Walk*

- **Focus on Youth:** Charged with acting in the best interests of the youth in our Club and community, ensuring they maintain their basic human rights while aiding in skill development in all area of life. Incorporates the following subcommittees:

*Advocate for Youth; Camp Rotary – RYLA; Interact; Rotary Youth Exchange – RYE*

- **Fundraising:** Charged with developing and promoting events intended to create awareness of Rotary and generating income for Rotary initiatives aligned with the Community Needs Committee. Fundraising incorporates the following subcommittees:

*Golf Outing; Riverdays; Rotary International Foundation*

- **Grove Park:** Charged with conducting twice-a-year clean-up days, planning activities to benefit residents of the Midtown neighborhood such as children's activities at "Gather at Grove", and attending neighborhood association meetings and park-related planning meetings to understand neighborhood needs.

- **International Initiatives:** Responsible for identifying, prioritizing, selecting opportunities, and then organizing the Club’s implementation response including funding and staffing. These projects are aligned with Rotary International’s priorities and include polio eradication, improving water and sanitation, and vocational training activities.
- **Member Orientation and Social:** Functions to orient and integrate new members into the Club; introduce them to other members, to our customs, and committees; and help them navigate the process from red badge to blue badge. Also plans and executes social events for the entire Club to help foster social ties and provide Club enjoyment. Incorporates the following subcommittees:

*New Member Orientation and Social Events*

- **Midland Rotary Foundation:** The Midland Rotary Foundation (MRF) is a separate 501(c) (3) charitable organization, established in 1977 so that Rotarians could make tax deductible contributions that would benefit the Midland area community. The current \$900,000 endowment allows the MRF to donate \$35,000 to \$40,000 in scholarships and grants each year, mostly benefitting disadvantaged youth. The MRF has its own bylaws and 11-member Board of Directors (drawn from the Midland Rotary Club) that meets four to six times each year to evaluate applications and award grants. *(Please note that membership is restricted.)* The MRF Board of Directors consists of:

Tim Dyste (Chair), Kellie Bos (Treasurer), Scott Withrow (Secretary), Dale Davis, Jim Nigro, Carol Feider, Bart Thompson, Tawny Ryan Nelb, J. Dee Brooks, John Haag, and Melissa Barnard.

- **Peacebuilding:** Responsible for identifying, evaluating, and selecting opportunities for peacebuilding initiatives locally and globally through collaboration with other organizations. Aligning projects with Rotary International’s priorities, specifically the focus area of “Promoting Peace”.
  - **Programs:** Charged with overseeing the programs presented at our regular meetings. Incorporates the following subcommittees:
- Attendance; Business Briefing; Cashiers; Humor Moment; Invocations; Meeting Logistics; Music; Planning and Scheduling; Technology*
- **Public Image:** Responsible for communicating with members, liaison with media, and promoting Rotary events.
  - **Scholarship Fund:** Responsible for publicizing, providing, and receiving applications, and selecting the recipients of the various scholarships that were established by families of late club members, which include the following:

- *William Dixon Scholarship – 3 awards of \$1,200 each*
- *Herbert H. Hardy Scholarship – 2 awards of \$2,500 each*
- *C.A. Campbell Scholarship – 1 award of \$1,300*

- **Spirit of Rotary:** Charged with identifying young adults who represent the ideals of Rotary, selecting candidates for the Spirit of Rotary award, and providing the award ceremony held in the spring of each year.

- **Stewards of Rotary:** Maintains the history of the Club and outreach to members who may be suffering from long-term or debilitating illnesses. Provides mentoring for younger members. Incorporates the following subcommittees:

*Club History; Member Care; Mentoring*

- **Supporting the Environment:** Responsible for aligning projects for our Club that strengthen the conservation and protection of natural resources, advance ecological sustainability, and foster harmony between communities and the environment.

- **Wellbeing through Communication & Connection:** The outcomes of this committee are:
  1. Within Rotary: To increase Rotary membership through recruitment, retention, and engagement using the framework of Wellbeing at the Me, We, and Us levels
  2. Within our Community: To help us develop tools and strategies to use in difficult, uncomfortable conversations with each other, within our groups, and within our community.

*If you are interested in joining any of these committees, please contact Scott Withrow at [swithrow@sbuins.com](mailto:swithrow@sbuins.com).*





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

**TRAVERSE**  
city

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.

# Rotary Giving—Why It Matters!

## GIVE INTERNATIONALLY

When you give to The Rotary Foundation, you are directly supporting Rotary’s work. Your gift makes our service projects — projects that eradicate polio, promote peace, and develop communities — happen. You also help to fund our local chapter, with half of our donations coming back to our district for distribution. [Click here to donate and make an impact!](#)

## GIVE TO END POLIO

Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for over 30 years, and our goal of ridding the earth of this disease is in sight. We started in 1979 with vaccinations for 6 million children in the Philippines. Today, Afghanistan and Pakistan are the only countries where polio remains endemic. [Click here to donate to these ongoing efforts.](#)

## GIVE LOCAL - MIDLAND ROTARY FOUNDATION

Ready to make a lasting impact at home? With giving primarily focused on projects that benefit disadvantaged youth in Midland County in amounts up to \$5,000, your gift can make a big difference. [Click here for more information about the Midland Rotary Foundation and how you can give.](#)

EVERY  
ROTARIAN  
EVERY  
YEAR

## Registration is open for the 2022 Rotary International Convention!

Our Rotary District, 6310, has a block of rooms at a hotel close to the convention center. Our District’s Convention Chair, Georgene Hildebrand is coordinating this for us. If any member has an interest in attending, please contact Georgene as soon as possible by following this link [HERE](#).

**REGISTER TODAY**  
[AT CONVENTION.ROTARY.ORG](https://www.convention.rotary.org)

Houston, Texas, USA  
4-8 June 2022

