

Midland Rotary News

Founded in 1920 by 26 charter members on a mission to make lasting change

June 2022



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello and happy June, Rotary family!

I am finding it incredibly hard to believe that I am writing my last note as your President. Looking back on the year, I'm so impressed with how much we've accomplished as a club. Some notable milestones are:

- We came back to in-person meetings after an 18-month hiatus — and we stayed safe!
- We offered an inclusive option for those unable to attend in-person meetings
- We had 420 service hours projected and we achieved 531 hours of service (as of 5-21-22)!

By Dallas Rau

- Already achieved a Presidential Citation, which recognizes "the hard work clubs do throughout the year. Taking action toward achieving the citation goals helps clubs engage their members, stay relevant in their communities, and run more efficiently. When clubs achieve citation goals, they contribute to the overall health and culture of Rotary for generations to come."
- Awarded an \$83,800 Global Grant for continued work in Uganda.
- Midland declared an International City of Peace.
- Awarded \$2,000 District Grant for Basic Education and Literacy.
- Ongoing RF and MRF Campaign with highest giving in five years!
- Formed two new committees; Wellbeing through Communication and Connection and Supporting the Environment

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PAUL HARRIS FELLOW RECIPIENTS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Robert "Speed" Malecki +1 | Steve Wilde +7 |
| Leroy Smith +3 | Jeanne Lound Schaller +2 |
| Sharon Mortensen +3 | Gail Hoffman +3 |
| Reva Curry +2 | Tim Dyste +2 |
| Jon Lynch | Kate Hessling |
| Michael J. Flint | Sam McKenzie |
| Kathy McCready (non-member) | Jeanne Schaller +1 |
| Judy Timmons (non-member) | Dr. Jim Bakeman +6 |

MAJOR DONOR

Dr. Tom Lane and Jim Brozzo

ROTARY CLUB OF MIDLAND LINKS

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/MidlandNoonRotaryClub/>

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/midlandminoonrotary/>

Twitter

<https://twitter.com/MidNoonRotary>

Official logos/Rotary Global Rewards:

<http://midlandrotaryclub.org>

Club Website

<https://www.midlandrotaryclub.org>

UPCOMING MEETINGS OF INTEREST

June 2

Preston Jones
photography

June 9

Wellbeing through
Communication and
Connection

June 16

De'Ondre Hogan

June 23

June 30

TBA
Outgoing
President

July 7

Eric Curtis

July 14

Shawn Weiss

July 21

TBA

July 28

Mike Dizer

Aug. 4-18

TBA

Aug. 25

Spirit of Rotary

Easy to view new member applications

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

June 16 meeting to feature MPS' De'Ondre Hogan

De'Ondre Hogan will present equity audit results for Midland Public Schools. He will review the five domains of Insight Educations Racial Equity Framework used to assess MPS Structures, Systems, and Resources; Culture and Community; Equity in the Educator Workforce; Professional Learning and Personal Growth; Curriculum, Instruction and Learning. We will then review what has occurred within MPS, as well as the planned work for the immediate future. Transparent communication throughout this process is pivotal to ensuring all MPS students and families feel safe, welcome, and included in all the opportunities MPS has to offer.



Midland Blooms helpers

More than 17 families signed up to be part of the Rotary Club of Midland's team for Midland Blooms. Special thanks to Carlos Uribe for organizing our club's participation.

Meet our newest members!

May



Eric Fridline

Sponsored by Jeremy Rau
 Doctor of Physical Therapy:
 Midland Sports Rehab



Ryan Rickel

Sponsored by Dan Bloom
 Director of Strategic
 Partnerships: Mackinac
 Center for Public Policy



Adam Heinrich

Sponsored by David Kepler III
 Program Director: Four Lakes
 Task Force

April



Renee Deckrow

Sponsored by Sharon
 Mortensen
 Owner/operator: Live Oak
 Coffeehouse



Carolynn Paten

Sponsored by Elizabeth
 Lumbert
 Assistant Director of
 Guest Operations: Dow
 Gardens



Heather Watkins

Sponsored by Amy Jaster
 Owner: Heather's Daycare

Janice Hernandez-Elefanio

Sponsored by Amy Conner and
 Dallas Rau
 Sales Manager: Brookdale Senior
 Living

Who will you bring?



Help for Gaylord

Michigan Rotarians are rallying to help Gaylord, which suffered extensive damage, loss of life, and injuries due to an EF3 tornado. The Gaylord Club reports there has been a tornado response set up at www.otsegofoundation.org for those desiring to make a monetary donation. Please stay tuned for updates, and thank you for your consideration of helping our Gaylord Rotarians. You can read more about Gaylord's recovery efforts via an MLive article here: <https://bit.ly/3sMUyov>



President, continued...

I am so grateful to Carly for taking the time to help me prepare for my term. I know Jon will have an incredible year, and I am excited to see his focus and leadership — from a seat, at a table, where I can watch the meeting happen and actually eat lunch (ha!). I'm so grateful to our Board who supported me and guided the decisions to do what's best for our club; all of our committees and their chairs/co-chairs; the amazing Programs team that works efficiently each week behind the scenes; our speakers; our members for participating in service projects and fundraisers; and to Kate Hessling for doing incredible work on these monthly newsletters. I also want to thank Tom Lane as our Assistant District Governor for his sincere dedication to our club and District — and for his guidance and support this past year. I'm grateful for our District Governor Jeff Leipprandt's leadership to us Club Presidents and to the District as well. Jeff was always accessible and our work together started long before the gavel was passed and the bell rang on July 1. And last, but not least, I need to thank my amazing husband, and now fellow Rotarian, for helping me get through this past year with his unwavering support and understanding. I truly could not have done it without you, Jeremy!

We hosted some amazing programs this year — we heard classifications from our members; learned from Midland Mentors; introduced many new members; heard about ways to improve our wellbeing and mindfulness; enjoyed a wonderful holiday program with Empty Canvas; and heard from many local businesses and employers in the region. We raised money selling delicious burgers and serving cool beverages at Riverdays; we swung our clubs at our annual golf outing; we cleaned up Grove Park; we engaged in fellowship at a Loons game and with Midland Morning club at our social events; we served our community by ringing bells and stocking shelves; we cleaned up a roadside in our community; and we planted flowers for Midland Blooms. We have much to be proud of, and each of you contributed in some way in our work to “Serve to Change Lives” this year.

I'm a big believer that change begins at the end of your comfort zone, and being your President certainly challenged and stretched my comfort zone. Who I was at our first meeting is not who I am today — and that's not a bad thing. I can credit this role to enhancing my public speaking, organization, and time management skills. I also learned how to navigate concerns and criticism, all while trying to remain flexible and keeping our club goals in mind. At the end of the day, I always did what I thought was right — and always with the Four-Way Test in mind. I can look back now, even with about four weeks left to go in the year, and feel an immense sense of pride because of what WE achieved together, as a Rotary family.

With that in mind, I will say that it has been my absolute privilege to serve as your President. I am looking forward to all that we'll achieve as we soon “Imagine” how we can turn our dreams into reality by harnessing our connections and the power of Rotary. Thank you all, so very much. It has been an honor.

Yours In Rotary Service,

Dallas Rau

Rotary Club of Midland President (2021-2022)

a.k.a. The Royal One (ha!)

TAKE ACTION: WWW.MIDLANDROTARYCLUB.ORG



Congratulations to Emma Schultz,
Tate Clerc, Taya Hallock, Sofia
Aultman, Vivian Deeth and Isabel
Velasquez!



Club awards six scholarships

By Reva Cury/Scholarship Committee Chair

On May 19, the Midland Noon Rotary Club awarded six scholarships to Midland Area students. High school graduates Emma Schultz, Tate Clerc and Taya Hallock each received a \$1,200 William Dixon Scholarship, funded by Midland Public Schools and administered through the Club. Sofia Aultman received the \$1,300 C.A. Campbell Scholarship, and Vivian Deeth and Isabel Velasquez each received the \$2,500 Herbert H. Hardy Scholarship. The Campbell and Hardy scholarships are funded through the Club's Foundation.

A special thank you to Club members Jim Bakeman, Dave Marsh, Kristin Stehouwer and Reva Curry, who served on the Scholarship Committee!



Scenes from May Grove Park Cleanup



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

A discussion about microaggressions

By Sharon Mortensen



Our 2022-2023 Rotary International president, Jennifer Jones, stated, "In Rotary, we celebrate diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). It does not matter who you are, who you love, how you worship, whether you have a disability, or what culture or country you are from. What matters is that you want to strengthen communities and take action to create lasting change."

Rotary International has strengthened its commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. As we look at ways to strengthen this commitment within our club, one concept to better understand is that of microaggressions.

What are microaggressions?

the Rotary International course on microaggressions defines them as statements or actions that offend people or make them feel unwelcome by reinforcing negative stereotypes or asserting power dynamics, whether or not that's intended.

Another way to look at this is the everyday slights, insults, putdowns, invalidations, and offensive behaviors based on race, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age or other factors.

Commenting on someone's accent and asking "where are you really from" does not help to build a sense of belonging – it is a microaggression. Using an expression like, "I'm so OCD" or "I must be dyslexic" can be hurtful to those who deal with OCD or dyslexia. Saying to someone who is biracial, "what are you," is a microaggression contributing to the life experience of persons of color who are often bombarded with racial microaggressions.

A TED Talk that explores the topic of microaggressions can be found at: Tiffany Alvoid: Eliminating Microaggressions: The Next Level of Inclusion | TED Talk.

In Rotary, we want to work together to become more aware of biases we may hold and of microaggressions so we build a culture where all feel welcome and included. Our incoming Rotary International president said it this way, "If we ensure that everyone who interacts with us feels welcome, respected, and valued, we'll make Rotary more rewarding for all of us. We must make sure that each person is fully heard and appreciated."

What can we do if we engage in a microaggression? A Rotary article on "Microaggressions: Offering Meaningful Apologies" offers the following suggestions: (1) address the harmful comment or behavior, (2) acknowledge the impact it had, and (3) commit to doing better.

Some of the tips in this article may remind us of lessons we've learned from the Communication and Connections series we've done over the past two years.

See EQUITY • Page 11

TAKE ACTION: WWW.MIDLANDROTARYCLUB.ORG



Memorial set for Harry Grether

A memorial has been set for Rotarian Harry Grether, who passed away in December 2021. The event is set for 3 p.m. June 12, 2022, at Dow Gardens. A cookout and s'mores will follow at the Midland Country Club. His family wanted to be sure his fellow Rotarians were invited to attend and know that all are welcome.

District gavel passing is June 17

District 6310 Rotarians are invited to attend the Passing of the Gavel event from 4 to 6 p.m. June 17 at Zehnder's of Frankenmuth. The ceremony is intended to honor District Governor Jeff Leipprandt, who has done a fantastic job keeping all of us engaged, excited, educated, and just plain wanting more! The ceremony will begin promptly at 4 p.m. and will conclude at 5, followed by a social hour. Hors d'oeuvres as well as a cash bar will be available. If you want hors d'oeuvres, please tell Connie Deford when you RSVP at connie.rotary6310@gmail.com, and there will be a charge of \$10 per person payable at the door.



Jeff Leipprandt

Save the date: Rotary-Loons night in Midland set for July 26

Rotary District 6310 is inviting all mid-Michigan Rotary clubs to join them for an amazing night of Loons Baseball in the special Rotary section on July 26. It is also the Loons' Hometown Hero's night at the ballpark, so all veterans and first responders will eat for free by claiming a voucher at guest services!

Visit <https://fevo.me/3MZ7nnS> for tickets. For more information, call Joe Volk at 989-837-6165.



Rotary Fellowships are focus of June

Rotary Fellowships are international groups that share a common passion. Being part of a fellowship is a fun way to make friends around the world, explore a hobby or profession, and enhance your Rotary experience. Membership in a fellowship is open to any interested individual. You can contact a fellowship directly by using the links below.

Q: How do I explore our fellowships?

A: Interested in a particular subject? From leadership and amateur radio to antique collectibles and beard and moustache, there are subjects for all! A listing of all groups and their corresponding websites is online at <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/more-fellowships>.

Q: How do I form a fellowship?

A: There are a couple of options.

- Read this Guide for Prospective Rotary Fellowships. (<https://my.rotary.org/en/document/guide-prospective-rotary-fellowships>)
- Find others interested in the topic:
 - Join a discussion group or start a new one.
 - Use Rotary's presence on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn to promote your idea.
 - Attend the Rotary International Convention or other Rotary events (<https://my.rotary.org/en/exchange-ideas/events>).
 - Reach out to district leadership in other countries to build membership.
- Apply for official recognition using the online form at https://rotary.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cSG6yQFgv1rdtu5

Community Needs Committee awards \$4K

By Stacey Gannon

The Midland Noon Rotary Club Community Needs committee is proud to carry on the vision of Major Warren Yoder, who established the committee in 1988.

As the director of the Salvation Army of Midland, Major Yoder had observed unmet community needs for groups of children in Midland County. The purpose of the committee is to meet the financial needs for youth-oriented projects that would otherwise “fall through the cracks.”

Since its inception, thousands of dollars have supported countless projects thanks to our generous Rotary members. The major funding source for the community needs committee is the annual pancake supper, which unfortunately we were unable to hold this past year. Please consider offering designated support for the Community Needs Committee in lieu of this popular event until we can return to our in-person pancake extravaganza!

The committee accepts applications year-round and will review/make decisions for grants on a quarterly basis. In the first quarter of 2022, we were pleased to present two awards totaling \$4,000 in support of local youth. Midland County Youth Leadership received \$1,000 to help offset transportation costs and increase the number of students who could attend the program. Self Love Beauty was presented \$3,000 to provide 60 Bullock Creek students, ages 12-18, with a confidence-building workshops.

For more information regarding the Community Needs Committee or grants, please contact Stacey Gannon at staceygannon302@gmail.com or Caleb Hortop at caleb.hortop@gmail.com.

Equity, continued...

- Believe that what you said or did caused someone to feel hurt or offended.
- Take a breath and let the other person talk.
- Listen thoughtfully and without judgment.
- Realize that the impact matters more than the intent.
- Validate the other person’s feelings.
- Thank them for telling you.
- Offer a sincere but simple apology.
- Learn more on your own if you don’t understand.
- Consider following up.
- Keep learning and trying to do better.

What if we observe someone else engaging in a microaggression? Speak up if you observe something and show support for the person who experienced it. While speaking up about the hurtful or offensive comment can be uncomfortable, if it’s done respectfully, it can bring about meaningful change.

As Rotarians, we understand that cultivating a diverse, equitable and inclusive culture is essential to realizing our vision of a world where people unite and take action to bring about lasting change.

