

Midland Rotary News

Founded in 1920 by 26 charter members on a mission to make lasting change October 2022



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Jon Lauderbach

October is Rotary International's Economic and Community Development Month. The work of Rotary begins in the community, and every community has its own unique needs and concerns. Our Midland is no exception.

October presents a great opportunity to leverage your own personal skill set to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment, and decent work for all.

Here are some of things Rotarians are doing to help drive economic development in their communities:

- Generate income and savings
- Partner with a local microlender to improve access to financial services and provide financial infrastructure within a community.
- Offer training on mobile banking resources. Mobile phones, which can be used to make deposits and transfer funds, can increase access to banking systems in developing communities.
- Empower members of our community through jobs and entrepreneurship
- Provide training in skills and leadership for young people and women.
- Host an event for business networking and professional development.
- Send a vocational training team to teach business leaders in developing communities how to create a business plan and maintain accurate financial accounting.

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PAUL HARRIS FELLOW RECIPIENTS

Jim Bakeman
Jeff DeHaven



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

Oct. 6

Little Forks
Conservancy

Oct. 13

Wellbeing through
Communication and
Connection

Oct. 20

United Way Campaign

Oct. 27

TBA

Nov. 3

Northwood University
students - Auto Show

President, continued...

What can you do to support economic and community development in Midland? Food for thought, isn't it?

Thank you to each and every one of you for all you do for our club and our community. Make it a great month!

Jon

Committee involvement

Are you part of a Midland Rotary committee?

Our members donate significant volunteer time each year beyond our weekly club meetings to meet the challenge of "Service above Self". That explains how we accomplish so much every year and how the bulk of the work gets done. If you are a newer member, please consider increasing your level of involvement; or if you are a long-time member and would like to change your focus, please check out the variety of options available in our committee structure. Our committees are listed below; you have 46 committees and subcommittees to choose from. You are sure to find your niche! Additional information is provided on our website <http://midlandrotaryclub.org> under "Committees."

Community Needs (Co-Chair Caleb Hortop, caleb.hortop@gmail.com and Co-Chair Stacey Gannon, staceygannon302@gmail.com): Meets the financial needs primarily for Midland County youth-oriented projects that might otherwise fall through the cracks.

Midland Rotary Foundation (Chair Timothy W. Dyste, timdyste@outlook.com): The Midland Rotary Foundation 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 an 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. Membership is restricted.

Scholarship Fund (Chair Reva Curry, revacurry@delta.edu): 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 (NEED NEW CHAIR): 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.

Executive Committee (Chair Jonathan Lauderbach, lauderbach1@gmail.com) and Co-Chair Angela Cole, coleange@gmail.com): Charged with developing goals and objectives for the overall club in coordination with national and international goals and objectives.

Fellowship and Service (Chair Patrick D. Schefsky, pschefsky@pdkg.com): 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 (Chair Carlos E. Uribe, ceuribe@hotmail.com)
- Pancake Supper (Chair Mark Bone, mark@baileyinsurance.net)
- Salvation Army Bell Ringers (Chair Tawny Ryan Nelb) **NEED NEW CHAIR FOR 2023**
- Seniors Christmas Luncheon (Chair Abby Scherzer, abbylscherzer@gmail.com)
- Tridge Walk (Co-Chair Matt Granzo, mattg@arburyins.com and Co-Chair Eric Curtis, eric.curtis@scouting.org)

Committee, continued...

Focus on Youth (Co-Chair Kathryn Tate, ktate@tlc4cs.org and Co-Chair Alina Warner, wellnessewithinyou90@gmail.com): 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 (Chair Eric Curtis, eric.curtis@scouting.org)
- Interact (Chair Eric Curtis, eric.curtis@scouting.org)
- Rotary Youth Exchange – RYE (Chair Eric Curtis,eric.curtis@scouting.org)
- Rotaract

Fundraising (Chair Jennifer Chappel, chappel@midlandhabitat.org): 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 (Chair Stephanie Davis, sdavis@gmcamiami.org)
- Riverdays (Chair Jennifer Chappel, chappel@midlandhabitat.org)
- Rotary International Foundation (Chair Christian Velasquez, chrisv250@hotmail.com)

International Initiatives (Co-Chair Richard Dolinski, rdolinski1@aol.com and Co-Chair Thomas H. Lane, maingeeek1@me.com): 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 (Co-Chair Abby Scherzer, abbylscherzer@gmail.com and Co-Chair Amy Jaster, amyjaster@delta.edu): 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
- Social Subcommittee

Peacebuilding (Chair Gail Hoffman, gailhoffmanhome@gmail.com): Responsible for (1) identifying, evaluating, and selecting opportunities for peacebuilding initiatives locally and globally through collaboration with Nonviolent Peace Midland Chapter and with other like-minded organizations. (2) aligning projects with Rotary International's priorities, specifically the focus area of "Promoting Peace."

Public Image (Co-Chair Dallas Rau, dalstar17@hotmail.com and Co-Chair Amy Jaster, amyjaster@delta.edu): Focuses on raising awareness and understanding of Rotary to increase public understanding of how our club makes a difference in our community.

Stewards of Rotary (Chair Missie Freier, MissieF@1ststatebk.com): 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 (Chair Tawny Ryan Nelb, tawnynelb@gmail.com)
- Member Care (Co-Chairs Bonnie McNanus bmcmanus@charter.net and Tawny Ryan Nelb tawnynelb@gmail.com)
- Mentoring (Chair Sharon Mortensen, smortensen@midlandfoundation.org)

Committee, continued...

Programs (Chair Jenee Velasquez jenee@hhdowfoundation.org): Charged with overseeing the programs presented at our regular meetings. Incorporates the following subcommittees:

- Attendance (Chair Dallas Rau, dalstar17@hotmail.com)
- Cashier (Chair Carolynn Paten, paten@dowgardens.org)
- Humor Moment (Co-Chair Jenee Velasquez, jenee@hhdowfoundation.org and Co-Chair Ron Beacom, foxcroft@toast.net)
- Invocations: (Chair Teresa George, tmgeorge@svsu.edu)
- Meeting Logistics: (Chair Justin Gray Lipscomb, justin@motusbuild.com)
- Music (Chair James Hohmeyer, jim.hohmeyer@gmail.com)
- **Planning and Scheduling (Chair NEED NEW CHAIR)**
- Technology (Chair Jeff DeHaven jeff@digitalmitten.com)

Grove Park 2020-2021 (Chair Sharon Mortensen, smortensen@midlandfoundation.org):

Responsible for overseeing work at Grove Park including:

- 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"
- Attending neighborhood association meetings and park-related planning meetings to understand neighborhood needs.

Please consider the committees where you can best provide "Service above Self." You will learn first-hand the many ways in which your volunteer time actually makes a difference in our community, district, and beyond. Contact the committee chairs at the emails provided for more information about where your talents best fit.

(Developed by Tawny Ryan Nelb and updated by Gail Hoffman using current information in DACdb on 09/28/2022)



Midland Noon Rotary Club

@MidlandNoonRotaryClub · Nonprofit organization

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We're social!

Facebook:

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

Instagram:

[Midlandnoonrotaryclub](https://www.instagram.com/midlandnoonrotaryclub)

Twitter: @NoonRotary

Rotarians join Midland peace party

Written By Gail Hoffman

We Midlanders have so much to be grateful for! On Saturday, Sept. 24, Creative 360 – in partnership with Nonviolent Peaceforce Midland Chapter and Midland Rotary – hosted a Peace Block Party complete with music, games, activities, art, face painting, food trucks, and of course information.

This inclusive, family-friendly, community-centered event was designed to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Nonviolent Peaceforce, celebrate Midland’s 2021 designation as an International City of Peace, and celebrate our Proclamation Renewal recognizing: “City of Peace Day in the City of Midland and encourage citizens to foster positive expressions of peace, allowing humanity to flourish and providing avenues for more people to achieve their full potential” (approved by the mayor and City Council on Sept. 12).

The event also served as a kick-off to Neighboring Week. As C360 Director Laura Vosejka said, “It is such a perfect kickoff to Neighboring Week—neighboring is the first step in creating an inclusive City of Peace.”

We are very proud to be an internationally recognized City of Peace. You may be wondering what a City of Peace is. It is a city that is recognized as one on its way to becoming a more peaceful city through a formal application process to International Cities of Peace www.internationalcitiesofpeace.org. It’s also recognizing a community’s past achievements, current initiatives, and future plans for peacebuilding.

Our global challenges are unprecedented: climate change, the ongoing pandemic, the challenges to democracy, the threat of a nuclear event. International Cities of Peace defines the consensus values of peace around the world as SAFETY, PROSPERITY, AND QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL. Compare this to Midland’s vision: Together. Forward. Bold. An exceptional place where everyone thrives. Aren’t they similar?

As an International City of Peace, we are part of a global network of peacebuilders. Our commitment to practical peacebuilding is strong! It means teaching nonviolence and the Golden Rule: Do for others as you would have them do for you.

[See Page 7 for peace celebration photos](#)



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TOM LANE, SAM MCKENZIE, AND EVE MCKENZIE

TAKE ACTION: WWW.MIDLANDROTARYCLUB.ORG

Needed now more than ever: Pies for Polio set for Oct. 24

We will be partnering with Grand Traverse Pie Company for our annual "Pies for Polio" campaign that our club holds to bring awareness to eradication efforts and raise money for the Polio Plus Fund. This event — which is set for Oct. 24 — is especially needed this year, as there has been a resurgence of polio in the United States and around the globe.

Recently, Mike McGovern, Rotary International PolioPlus Committee Chair, reached out to Rotary leaders after the U.S. appeared on the official list of countries with circulating polio cases. The cases have been detected in counties surrounding New York, where a man was first identified to have polio in June. The CDC has announced it will conduct additional wastewater sampling in other communities across the nation that have low rates of vaccination.

"The USA uses IPV for its polio immunizations and has a high rate of around 90% coverage, thus, the concerns are tempered somewhat," McGovern stated in a letter to Rotary leaders. "But we still have areas in the United States and around the world where there are low rates of polio vaccination coverage, and this case reminds us that until we eradicate polio, any country anywhere in the world can see a resurgence of polio."

McGovern is reminding all Rotarians that their Rotary PolioPlus program intends to reach every last child — and that together we will end polio.

"Rotarians' financial support remains crucial as well as advocacy to promote polio vaccinations in every community," he stated. "It is also hoped that all Rotary clubs and Rotaractors will undertake activities during October and November to reemphasize to members and the community that polio eradication is Rotary's top humanitarian priority and polio could return to any community."

Again, together we will end polio, McGovern stressed.

Save the date: Grove Park Cleanup is Oct. 22

Fellow Rotarians and their families are invited to sign up for our upcoming Grove Park Cleanup. If you're planning to attend, please bring gloves and rakes. Trash bags will be provided and refreshments will be served. The event is set to begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22. To sign up, visit <https://bit.ly/3eZpiyn> and list your name, email and T-shirt size (if you need a T-shirt).

The Grove Park Cleanup is being organized by our Grove Park Committee. The committee also is helping with the "Trunk-or-Treat" event that Midtown is planning, but we do not need additional membership volunteers at this time. We are asking our membership to donate bags of candy at each upcoming Rotary meeting to help support this event.

Midland Rotary Golf Cup



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Start with neighboring

By Sharon Mortensen



Midland County just celebrated neighboring week. The week was filled with many events and activities, opportunities for people to connect with one another. When we think about inclusion, simply getting to know our neighbors is an excellent first step.

You may be saying, "Wait, I know all of my neighbors already." Let's expand our view of neighbors just a bit. If you're a Fred Rogers fan, like me, you may remember him posing the question, "Won't you be my neighbor?" What does that tell us? That neighboring is a decision we make.

It's not just where we live or work but the choice we make to be a neighbor, to care for one another.

The Rotary International website refers to Rotarians as neighbors. Here's what it says, "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." That's a pretty big neighborhood – 1.4 million Rotarians! To accomplish the lasting change we hope to see, we need to lean into getting to know our neighbors, both those in and outside of Rotary.

As Rotarians who are actively engaged in our communities, think about the many humans you interface with on a weekly basis. Taking the time to get to know someone, especially someone different from you, is part of neighboring. Listening is an incredible gift we can give to our neighbors. Neighboring helps us build an inclusive community.

On the Strong Towns website, an article by Steve MacDouell entitled Three Shifts Toward Neighborliness, points to the importance of neighboring in today's world. The divisiveness of today's culture can be overcome as we sit down and simply get to know one another as people. MacDouell talks about moving from abstract inclusivity to robust hospitality stating, "When we extend hospitality, we create space for reconciliation, enemy-love, resource-sharing, and deep listening to be practiced and experienced. The act of hospitality helps us to identify, embrace, and celebrate the common humanity that we share with others."

That's a beautiful way to look at neighboring. While neighboring week may officially be ended, neighboring can be celebrated on a daily basis. As Rotarians, we can work to build the inclusion we hope to achieve as we neighbor, providing experiences in which all people are welcomed, respected, and valued. Happy neighboring!

NOMINATIONS NEEDED FOR SLATE OF OFFICERS

The nominating committee — chaired by Dallas Rau and staffed by three Directors from the Board (per our by-laws), Todd Gambrell, Camille Gerace-Nitschky, and Kristin Stehouwer — is accepting nominations for the following openings in the slate of officers for the 2023-2024 year. If you have questions or would like to express interest or nominate someone, please contact Dallas or any of the Directors mentioned above.

Openings:

President-Nominee | (2025-2026)

Secretary | (2023-2025)

Director | (2023-2026)

Director | (2023-2026)

The nominating committee will review all of those interested/nominated, bring forward a slate for the Board to consider. Then the approved slate will be voted on by membership at the Annual Meeting.

OCTOBER IS

A black and white photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a patterned shirt, focused on sewing a piece of fabric at a Singer sewing machine. The machine is a vintage-style treadle model. The background shows an outdoor setting with trees and a building.

**ECONOMIC AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MONTH**

"To the world you may be one person; but to one person you may be the world."

Dr. Seuss