

Midland Rotary News



President's Message

Dear fellow Rotarians,

It has been an incredible honor to serve as your president for the past month. I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for the warm welcome I have received and the overwhelming support from all of you. I have quickly learned that this "job" is much more manageable than I initially thought because there is a whole team behind the scenes keeping everything running smoothly. Thank you, to every single one of you, for all that you do to keep our club so exceptional!

As we regroup after the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am excited to work with our members to continue to restore our connection and membership numbers to pre-pandemic levels, while increasing our visibility and highlighting the important work we do. Together, we can create hope in the world and make a positive impact that lasts for generations to come.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as your president. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming months to continue making a difference in our community and beyond.

Yours in Rotary,

Angela Cole

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**PAUL HARRIS
FELLOW
RECIPIENTS**

**JENNIFER WEST +1
LARRY WASHINGTON +1
REVA CURRY +3**



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

ROTARY CLUB OF MIDLAND LINKS

Facebook www.facebook.com/MidlandNoonRotaryClub/

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

Instagram: www.instagram.com/midlandminoonrotary/

Logos/Rotary Global Rewards:
<http://midlandrotaryclub.org>



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Aug. 3

SVSU

Aug. 10

GLBRA Population Growth Initiative

Aug. 17

STEP Program

Aug. 24

District Governor visit

Aug. 31

Focus on Youth

Sept. 7

ClubRunner

Sept. 14

Supporting the Environment

Sept. 21

Rotary principles and practice of inclusion

Sept. 28

Freeland Robotics

Oct. 5

Camp Neyati

Oct. 12

United Way

Oct. 19

Floyd Andrick plane crash presentation

Oct. 26

Classification

Nov. 2

Wellbeing Committee

Nov. 9

Saginaw Spirit

Nov. 16

Classification

Nov. 23

Thanksgiving



Prez to prez: your turn!

Tridge Walk

Our Tridge Walk, held annually on Labor Day, is making a comeback!! Stay Tuned for more information!!

Rotary
PEOPLE OF ACTION

AUGUST IS MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH

We are People of Action
CHANGE A LIFE

Make a difference in the community and across the globe

RJ
Rotary Opens Opportunities

River Days sign-up

We are back serving our community by flipping burgers and serving drinks all with our Rotary smiles at this year's River Days!

We need your help. Below is the link to the sign-up sheet. Please consider helping out for 1 or 2 shifts to be sure we have a successful event!

We are in the tent serving beer and wine (and possibly spirits) plus burgers on Friday (8/4) night from 4-10pm and then back again on Saturday (8/5) from 4-10pm just serving drinks. If you need a T-shirt, be sure to do it on the sign-up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F4EA8A-A22ABFB6-riverdays>

Happy Birthday

- Dave Smith (8/6)
- Ron Beacom (8/1)
- Ajay Middha (8/13)
- Cliff Block (8/30)
- Renee Deckrow (8/17)
- Erick Forshee (8/23)
- John Haag (8/11)
- Jeff Hart (8/22)
- Cal Ieuter (8/29)
- Pat Schefsky (8/15)

Club achieves multiple goals over prior year

Looking back at the goals achieved over the 2022-23 Rotary year, there are many achievements to celebrate.

Our club met the majority of goals for the past year, including:

Membership & Engagement and Service Projects

Service participation — Goal: 100/Final: 334

Service projects — Goal: 7/Final: 17

New member sponsorship — Goal: 15/Final: 15

Rotary Action Group participation — Goal: 2/Final: 2

Leadership development participation — Goal: 4/Final: 6

Rotary fellowship participation — Goal: 3/Final: 3

District training participation — Goal: 4/ Final: 4

Rotary Foundation Giving

Annual Fund contributions — Goal: \$12,500/Final: \$13,370

PolioPlus Fund contributions — Goal: \$2,500/Final: \$3,219

Young Leaders

Rotaract clubs — Goal: 0/Final: 1

Interact clubs — Goal: 0/Final: 1

Public Image

Strategic plan — Completed

Online presence — Achieved

Website and social media updates — Goal: 50/Final: 150+

Media stories about club projects — Goal: 10/Final: 40+

Use of official Rotary pro-materials — Achieved

One area we struggled with was club membership. Our goal was to have 180 members, and we ended the year with 164. Thank you to everyone who helped recruit new Rotarians over the past year. Let's step it up in 2023-24!

Another area for improvement is in our district conference attendance. We had five Rotarians participate last year, and our goal was 10. If you have any questions about conference attendance, reach out to one of our club officers!

Thank you to each and every one of you who helped our club meet the majority of our goals. We estimate 334 volunteers gave 1,103 hours of service to the community, with a value of \$35,075. Our biggest fundraisers raised tens of thousands of dollars for our local community. We netted over \$27,500 from our Pancake Supper, and \$12,000 from River Days. These funds help fund community youth programs.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Privilege

By Sharon Mortensen



The Midland community recently hosted the Great Lakes Bay Invitation (GLBI), an LPGA tournament. This tournament not only included great women's golf but a variety of events celebrating the region and building an even better place to work and play through charitable contributions, family-friendly activities, volunteerism, and partnerships with businesses to support sustainable economic growth. Hopefully many of you had the opportunity to enjoy the tournament.

As part of the GLBI, Dow hosted the SOAR Inclusion Summit. SOAR brought together leaders from corporate, government, non-profit and community organizations to drive positive change and foster equity and inclusion in the places where we live, work, and do business. The speakers included athletes (and, for you baseball fans, this included Derek Jeter) and business leaders committed to inclusion. The work highlighted at SOAR reminded me of the efforts Rotary is making to ensure all are welcome and included in Rotary. The Rotary website states that, "We believe that exemplifying and embracing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) should be a part of everything we do at Rotary."

As part of the SOAR conference, there was a session on understanding and leveraging the value of privilege. What is privilege? One definition is unearned access or advantages granted to specific groups of people because of their membership in a social group. Privilege can be based on our gender, religion, socioeconomic status, ability status, age, education level, race and more.

For example, as an able-bodied person, I don't have to think about access to a second-floor room, maneuvering on sidewalks, or having a fully accessible restroom. However, someone with accessibility needs may be unable to attend certain events or go to specific parks because they do not enjoy the privilege of being able-bodied. Those of us who are middle income generally have the privilege of not worrying about having a consistent and predictable place to sleep each night or keeping the electricity on in our homes. White and light-skinned people can easily find/purchase items like bandages and makeup labeled "nude" or "flesh" that match their skin tone.

As part of this session on privilege, we did an interactive exercise where we started with no privileges and were able to choose only a limited number of privileges from a long list. It helped us all realize how many privileges we each enjoy on a daily basis. The session encouraged us to reflect on dimensions of our own identity (race, gender, religion, education level, class, etc.) and acknowledge privileges we each have. Then we were encouraged to look at how our privilege or lack of privilege affects how we show up in the world. The privileges we enjoy can be used to help others, to drive positive change. We can leverage our privilege to confront discrimination and ensure that others not sharing that same privilege are welcome and included. The Rotary DEI statement declares the following, "At Rotary, 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 create lasting change." As we unite with fellow Rotarians and use our privileges to help others, we can make meaningful and lasting change.

Noon Rotary awards six scholarships

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!

Reminder: Alaska is calling all Rotarians!

You are invited to a Rotary gathering in Anchorage, Alaska, from Aug. 31-Sept. 3. The focus of this event will be the environment, with a significant amount of time built in for fun, fellowship and tourism.

2023-24 Rotary International President Gordon McInally will be present. So if you ever wanted to meet an RI president, this event is for you! If you have interest in attending and have not already secured your registration, please do so by visiting <https://bit.ly/3CvRNwh>.

The event will be held at the Sheraton Anchorage for \$249 per night. This rate is only good until June 30, 2023 (there are reservations for the same dates as high as \$502 per night, so lock in your registration prior to June 30 to secure the best price possible).

For more information on the event including the agenda, speaker line up, hotel and area, visit <https://bit.ly/42Eze3B>. Flight information was previously emailed to Rotarians in an invite earlier this month.

If you have had Alaska on your bucket list, there's no better opportunity for you to check it off through Rotary! If you have been before, you know how truly amazing the location is and you have been looking for an excuse to get back there.

For additional questions, email event chair Diane Fejes at ndfejes@gmail.com.

Jeff DeHaven wins President's Award

In 2020-21, then-President Carly Lillard, with the Board of Directors, developed The President's Award.

This award is to be given on an annual basis to a member (a super Rotarian, an unsung hero) of the President's choosing (with Board support). The awardee will receive an award and a \$500 donation in their name to the Rotary International Foundation. The awardee will have the option to donate the Paul Harris points if desired.

Congratulations to this year's President's Award recipient, Jeff DeHaven!

2022-23 President Jon Lauderbach said he chose Jeff for this award because he has helped our club "up our game" as the new technology chair, keeping all trains running on time.


"He never says no," Lauderbach added. "You never here from him, but you know when he's not here. His mark on our club is indelible."



Jeff is the president and CEO of Digital Mitten, one of Michigan's most known and referred social media resources. His company has had the opportunity to help clients utilize digital platforms, to raise awareness and revenue, from all over the state and beyond. Some of these companies include: TLC Television Network, Bavarian Inn Restaurant, Purdue University, Pioneer Sugar, and many more.


In his spare time, Jeff is honored to serve as the social media contributor to his local CBS and NBC television networks and Fox News Radio affiliates. He also produces a podcast series, maintains an online educational community, stars in an award-winning YouTube Series ("Digital Mitten"), and is currently working on his first book.


"He really exemplifies 'Service Above Self,'" Lauderbach noted.



**The best way
to find yourself
is to lose yourself
in the service of others.**


#RotaryFacts



Rotary 

DID YOU KNOW?

Harry Ruggles one of the 1st members of the Rotary Club of Chicago created the Rotary "name badge" we all wear so proudly at meetings. He also introduced singing in Rotary...



August is



Membership and New Club Development Month

GREAT LAKES

Loons

Admission
\$25
/person



ROTARY AT THE LOONS! DISTRICT 6310

Details

- Rotary District 6310 is inviting all mid-Michigan Rotary clubs to join them for an amazing night of Loons Baseball under the Northern Lights Pavilion
- Includes buffet and soft drinks
- Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 7:05pm

Location

Dow Diamond
825 E Main St
Midland, Michigan 48640

Register here

<https://fevogm.com/michiganrotary>

Meet our new president: Angela Cole



Meet our new president for this Rotary year: Angela Cole!

A highly respected attorney in Midland and Sanford, with almost 20 years of experience practicing law, Cole is known for her dedication to public service, particularly in advocating for children and the underserved. Angela earned her undergraduate degrees from Delta College and Northwood University and received her law degree from Michigan State University – College of Law. Cole is deeply invested in her community and is actively involved in many local charitable organizations. She is a member of the Midland County Bar Association and is an adjunct professor for Delta College.

"I initially joined Rotary almost a 10 years ago because I saw it as a networking opportunity. Immediately, I was drawn to the organization's commitment to service and volunteerism," Angela stated. "I saw Rotary as an unique opportunity to make a positive impact in my community through collective action and collaboration with like-minded individuals. Over time, I discovered that Rotary was more than just a service organization or networking group - it became a family. My fellow Rotarians are some of my closest friends and confidantes. One of the things that I appreciate most about Rotary is its focus on the seven areas of service, particularly its efforts to promote literacy and support children. As someone who is deeply committed to these causes, I felt that Rotary was the perfect platform to amplify my impact and make a meaningful contribution to society. As for why I wanted to become president, I saw it as an opportunity to give back to an organization that had given me so much."

As we embark on this new Rotary year, Cole's mission for the club is to continue serving our community with dedication and commitment, building on the successes of our past presidents.

"I aim to strengthen our sense of community and family within the club, by connecting with each other not only in Rotary activities but also at meetings," she stated. "Additionally, I want to welcome new members and guests, learn their stories, and make them feel like part of our Rotary family. Together, we can create hope in the world and make a positive impact that lasts for generations to come.

Angela's favorite thing to do is hang out with her family — especially her three adult sons and dogs.

"We like traveling together, trying new foods, and just having fun," she noted.

A fun fact about Angela is that she is a speed reader.

"As a child, I discovered that I had a natural talent for speed reading. In fact, even in elementary school, I was able to read faster than the reading machine that tested our skills, with an impressive 95% accuracy rate," she stated. "This skill proved to be incredibly useful during my time in law school."

Best of luck to President Cole as she leads our club through another successful year!