

# Rotaract

*Rotary Club Partner*



Vol. 1, No. 4

## District 6290 Rotaract Newsletter

Dec, 2015

Sault Ste. Marie, ON Cadillac Muskegon Baker  
Muskegon Community College Grand Valley State University

*This Rotaract District quarterly newsletter shares information about the Rotaract clubs of District 6290. The Rotaract motto is 'Service through Fellowship' and members of Rotaract clubs come together on a regular basis to do good in the world, while growing in leadership and professional development.*

### DISTRICT 6290 Rotaract Leadership

District Governor: Thomas Schmidt

District Governor Elect: Gernot A. Runschke

Rotaract District Chair: Steve Osborn

Rotaract Club of Cadillac - Cadillac Rotary club sponsor

Rotaract Advisors: Randy Hill and Mark Lagerwey

Rotaract President: Danielle Mahan

Sault Rotaract - Sault Ste Marie, ON Rotary club sponsor

Rotaract Advisor: Hilda Odom

Rotaract President: Megan Wigmore

Rotaract Club of Muskegon Community College-Muskegon & Montague-Whitehall Rotary club sponsors

Rotaract Advisor: Mike Alstrom

Rotaract President: Morgan Schwing

Rotaract Club of Grand Valley State University-Allendale Rotary club sponsor

Rotaract Advisor: Aaron Haight

Rotaract President: Taylor Cieslak

Rotaract Club of Muskegon Baker College-Muskegon & Montague-Whitehall Rotary club sponsors

Rotaract Advisor: Linda Meyers

Rotaract Co-President: Danielle Woodring

Rotaract Co-President: Stephanie Stewart

## **Second Annual Multi-District Rotaract Conference**



The second multi-district Rotaract conference was hosted by the Rotaract Club of Baker College, Muskegon. Thirty three Rotaractors from Michigan Tech, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Cadillac, Traverse City, Muskegon Community College, and host club, Baker College of Muskegon, shared ideas and action plans at the Second Annual Multi-District Rotaract Conference held October 17 in Muskegon. Three Rotary District 6290 officers were in attendance, including: Tom Schmidt (District Governor), Al Bonney (PDG), and Steve Osborn (District Rotaract Chair). Three Montague-Whitehall Rotarians, ten from Muskegon Rotary, and four Rotarians from Royal Oak and Rochester added much to the discussions with Rotaractors. The conference had attendees from Districts 6290, 6380, and 6220.

Sessions focused on best club practices, networking, Rotaract member recruitment and promotion, and possible projects for future service. Muskegon Rotary President, Susan Cloutier Crain, facilitated discussion on leadership qualities while Muskegon Rotary Club member Orville Crain addressed recruitment tips. Information was distributed regarding the roles of Rotaract Officers, including responsibilities and duties. The topic of best practices focused attention on what Rotaract clubs have found to be effective in carrying out their mission, and what did not have the desired effect. There was presentation by Rotaract Club Presidents on the top five accomplishments for the calendar year. Linda Eastman gave a summary of the great work she facilitated on international literacy (Guatemala) with Rotaract clubs financial contributions through fund raisers. The conference concluded with Rotaract clubs agreeing to multi-district partnering for the End Polio Now mission. Clubs agreed to have a minimum of one fund raiser with proceeds sent to Linda Meyers no later than March 1, 2016. Remember with matching funds, every one dollar raised will turn into three dollars for the polio eradication mission.

Special thanks to Muskegon Rotary President Susan and husband, Orville Crain, for hosting students at their home over the weekend to save on students' travel and food expenses while attending the conference. And a huge "THANK YOU" goes to the Rotaract Club Advisor, Linda Meyers, and the entire Baker College Rotaract Club for a very well planned and successful conference program!

### **Multi-District Conference fulfills the Rotaract Mission**

The Rotaract motto is 'Service through Fellowship' and that is precisely what happened at the second annual Rotaract conference. Throughout the day there were Rotaractors getting reacquainted and making new acquaintances as they reached consensus on a service project targeting polio.

The Rotaract mission includes providing opportunities for members of Rotaract to develop leadership skills and to develop professionally. This was observed throughout the day with Rotaractors helping to organize the conference and then hone leadership skills by facilitating discussion of the conference content. Many Rotaractors were dressed in professional attire.

Rotaract is to provide opportunities for networking as well and Rotaractors interacted with the many supporting Rotarians in attendance.

What an awesome experience to see the Rotaract mission actualized in one event!

### **Rotaract Seeds**

There are 187,864 Rotaractors in 8,168 clubs around the world. The number of members and clubs is growing and the seeds of Rotaract have been planted in Traverse City with the three Traverse City Rotary clubs sponsoring a Rotaract club. Rotarian Adele Wunsch is facilitating the process for Rotaract club formation and certification through Rotary International. Three former exchange students from Traverse City attended the Rotaract Conference and will become founding members of the forming Rotaract group.

There is expressed interest in the formation of a Rotaract club through Lake Superior State University. Stay tuned!

There is Rotaract growth potential through Interact. Members of Interact who graduate from high school and go on to college can either join an existing Rotaract club or be actively involved in forming a new club. It is important for the Rotaract advisors to meet with the Interact Chair and members to discuss this potential.

### **Welcome Rotaract Presidents**

A heart-felt welcome to the district's newest Rotaract President, Taylor Cieslak, representing the Rotaract Club of Grand Valley State University. We appreciate the many good works of Taylor's club and look forward to the group's participation at next year's Rotaract conference.

A heart-felt welcome to the district's returning Rotaract Presidents:  
Danielle Mahan from Cadillac Rotaract  
Megan Wigmore from Rotaract of Sault Saint Marie, Ontario  
Morgan Schwing from Muskegon Community College Rotaract  
Danielle Woodring and Stephanie Stewart from Muskegon Baker Rotaract

### **Rotaract at the District Website**

If you haven't do so yet, please go to the District 6290 website and look for Rotaract information (under Membership tag). Visit the Rotaract club's facebook for detailed information about the good works our district Rotaract clubs have accomplished.

### **Presidential Citation**

Perhaps you have noticed the substantive changes in the Presidential Citation for Rotaract Clubs this year. No longer required is an increase in the number of members. This is a very welcome change as clubs who made an outstanding contribution to the Rotaract mission were not recognized with the citation. There is no longer a point system in place. Instead, the Rotaract Club President must go to Rotary.org and sign in and confirm the club's membership roster. There are three activities to be selected and accomplished out of six possibilities. This can include:

- \*Having a website or facebook page that is reported to Rotary.org
- \*The club making a monetary contribution to PolioPlus or their sponsoring Rotary Club's Annual Fund
- \*Updating the club's meeting location, time, and day on Rotary.org
- \*Post a completed service project on Rotary Showcase
- \*Posting a project in need of assistance on Rotary Ideas or contribute to a project there
- \*The Club President reports 15 club members on Rotary.org

It should be a goal of all Rotaract clubs to strive for and achieve the Presidential Citation.