

President Taylor Huie started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. The invocation was given by Christina Dorett and the art news was presented by Troy TRASH. Oops I guess he gets this mistake to his name often. Troy Thrash gave one of his Bombastic and most entertaining presentations on the arts and shared a litany of National celebrations including National Field Trip Day. Which led to the intro of the Kalamazoo Cultural Exchange Month which has been done over the last number of year. This means that if you have a membership in any of Kalamazoo's cultural institutions, you can visit other institutions for free. For a full list of arts activities in the community, visit the Rotary Website or the Arts Council web at [Kalamazooarts.org](http://Kalamazooarts.org).

**THE FOUNDATION MINUTE** was presented by Dan Hartlieb and focused on the fact that money donated to RI is available after three years for use on local and international projects of the Club.

**DISTRICT RAFFLE:** Amy Remmert asked club members to please consider purchasing District Raffle tickets. The sale of these tickets come back to the club in the form of points which can be used to support youth projects/programs. The District Foundation also provides a resource of funds for local projects in the way of matching dollars through grants.

If you are interested in purchasing a ticket, contact Amy and she can take a credit card over the phone, or she would be happy to pick up a check or cash. Or you could attend a meeting and do that in person. We have 72 tickets left to sell. Our club has always reached the Super Club status for our efforts.

**SPECIAL GUEST:** Rotary District Governor Elect, Jacque Huie was in attendance today and recognized the Kalamazoo Club for its engagement, member growth and diversity. She also made a point to recognize the three past governors in attendance, Rick Briscoe, Jim Cupper and Bill Dimond. With Kudos to Nancy Peterson for her public image role in the club. Jacque pointed out that the District conference in May of 2025 will be in South Haven and registration will be free. She encouraged club members to attend.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Taylor Huie, President (and daughter of Jacque Huie) praised the efforts of volunteers for the Kudos project. There were 10 Rotarians who participated and it was a very successful event winterizing homes on the norhside and eastside neighborhoods. Upcoming events are Operation Ray on Tuesday October 8, and Trunk or Treat at 5 p.m. on October 31. Shopping for the Thanksgiving food basket project will take place on November 24 at 10 a.m.

**PROGRAM:** The Michigan Storm Chasers was our program today. Steve Kreider introduced our three speakers with a special note that one of the speakers works at Lake Michigan Credit Union which is where Joe Neu and Steve reside in their work.

Our storm chaser guest speakers are passionate about their work. There are 6 members in the team and they are all volunteers. The Michigan Storm Chasers was established in Michigan in 2022 when these organizers determined that there was a void in tracking severe weather. The goal is to help better educate the public about the dangers of storms that are entering our area and assisting the National Weather Service and media with on the ground tracking and forecasting. The key to their success is their ability to communicate often with their forecasting knowledge with their tools and cameras. They provide live streaming, and use live radar. Currently they have 215,000 followers.