



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 91—No. 31

February 12, 2013

Moorhead Rotary
Chartered May 1, 1921
Club 970
District 5580

President Kay Parries
Secretary Vern Goodin
Treasurer Don Meidinger

President-Elect
Warren Wenner
President-Nominee
Russ Hanson
Past President
Jon Riewer

Director '12 Ron Kolb
Director '12 Jon Benson
Director '13 Kay Parries
Director '13 Gary Nolte
Director '14 Russ Hanson
Director '14 Warren Wenner

Paul Harris Foundation
Gary Nolte
Photographers
George Davis
Russ Hanson
Gary Nolte
Teresa Joppa
Mike Szymanski
Program Chair
Russ Hanson
Meeting Reporter
Teresa Joppa
Paddlewheel Editor
Nancy Edmonds Hanson

The Moorhead Rotary board
of directors meets the second
Wednesday of each month.

International President
Sakuji Tanaka, Japan
District Governor
Don Cavalier
District Governor-Elect
Tim Kaminski
Assistant District Governor
Herb Schmidt

Other F-M Rotary Clubs
Monday: Fargo West
Noon, Holiday Inn
1st & 3rd Tuesdays: PM/FM
5:15 p.m., Lucky 13 Pub
Wednesday: Fargo
Noon, Radisson
Thursday: AM/FM
7 a.m., Ramada Plaza

If you attend meetings of any
of these clubs, just check in.
We have a reciprocal
agreement.

Moorhead Rotary
P.O. Box 72
Moorhead, MN 56561



Feb. 12

Lincoln played a role in settling Clay County back in the 1860s

One day after the biggest snowstorm in two years, President Kay Parries welcomed Rotarians to a meeting coinciding with Abraham Lincoln's birthday ... and a program detailing how the president most associated with the Civil War actually played a part, however remote, in settling Clay County.

Register online for the district meeting

The president urged members to register now for the district conference to be held in Bemidji April 24–27. Information and registration are available online.

Help retired the 'Field of Dreams' debt

You can help retired the Rotary Field of Dreams debt, says Gary Nolte, by buying a raffle ticket that could benefit you greatly. Moorhead Rotary is responsible for selling 80 tickets by March 1, to be followed by drawings for \$50 and \$100 prizes. The tickets — at \$25 each — may be purchased from Gary.

Looking for a host for Finns

A Finland GSE team is scheduled to visit here in May. Kay is looking for a host home for the team leader. Please step up and give her a call.

Club welcomes Josh Frost as member

President Kay inducted our newest Moorhead Rotarian into the club with the help of his sponsor, Greg Johnson. Josh Frost is a



Photos: (From upper left) Vern Goodin led the group in a rousing rendition of "I've Been Working on the Snowbank." President Kay Parries welcomed new member Josh Frost with sponsor Greg Johnson. Gina Monson was sergeant-at-arms. Gary Nolte presented Tom and Noel Moore with a sapphire Paul Harris Foundation pin. Mark Peihl of HCSCC discussed Lincoln's impact on settlement of Clay County; in lower left, HCSCC executive director Maureen Jonason looks on.

banker. He and his wife of three years have a new baby.

An honor for the Moores

Gary Nolte presented a sapphire Paul Harris Foundation pin to Tom Moore of the FM/AM Rotary Club, husband of Moorhead Rotarian Noel Moore. A teasing attempt to convince him to join our group was apparently unsuccessful.

Sergeant-at-arms offers Valentine's tips

Sergeant-at-arms Gina Monson awoke Rotarians to the romantic and rather bloody history of Valentine's Day, along with offering a few ideas to avoid modern bloodshed from disappointed spouses.

Guests

Mark Peihl, Historical & Cultural
Society of Clay County
Maureen Kelly Jonason, HCSCC

Visiting Rotarians

Tom Moore, FM/AM Rotary

Make-Ups

Roland Barden, Maricopa AZ
Rotary Club, 2/5 & 12
Board members, Fireside Chat,
2/12

Club Statistics, 01/2013

Attendance 67.54%
Membership 67

February Birthdays

Suomala, Paul	Feb 1
Beaton, Timothy	Feb 17
Elmer, Corey	Feb 23
Sederquist, David	Feb 23
Johnson, Eric	Feb 28

Spouse Birthdays

Uselman, David Feb 02

February Membership Anniversaries

Cater, Alma	25 years
Feb 02, 1988	
Elmer, Corey	10 years
Feb 11, 2003	
Luther, Jerry	11 years
Feb 12, 2002	
Schmidt, Beth	6 years
Feb 13, 2007	
Moore, Noel	14 years
Feb 23, 1999	
Richards, Roger	32 years
Feb 24, 1981	

St. Valentine, she said, secretly married couples in a day when the emperor preferred his soldiers single and presumably more fit to fight. He was beheaded on Feb. 14 — thus the holiday. Seeking more peaceful outcomes, Gina suggested a variety of ideas for modern men, including the useful admonishment, “Never buy appliances or anything with a cord.” Her ideas for women ranged from weekend getaways to bowling.



Photos: President Kay chats with John Andreasen. (Above) Bill Woods, who won the opportunity to compete for the raffle kitty, selects a losing card. The pot was more than \$625 this week, with half available for the raffle winner. Will it be you on Feb. 19?

Homesteaders, cheap land and Lincoln

Maureen Kelly Jonason, executive director of the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County, introduced archivist Mark Peihl. Mark's focus was on Abraham Lincoln's impact on Clay County ... by signing key legislation that brought more than 10,000 people here in the 15 years after the arrival of the railroad.

Lincoln signed the Homestead Act in 1862. After living on their claims for five years, homesteaders owned their farms. To qualify, settlers had to be 21 years old, live on the land and make improvements in five years, and (within seven years) file a “proof.”

Only 40 percent of those who attempted to homestead were successful. Almost 80 women were among them, including many widows and single mothers. They accounted for about 6 percent of Clay County homesteaders. The ratio, Mark said, was much higher in the Williston area, where about 18 percent of successful claims were by women.

An alternate route was to purchase land from the Northern Pacific Railroad, acreage it received in 1864 through a national land grant also signed by Lincoln. At \$2.50 per acre, cheap land was purchased by would-be farmers and speculators alike. They also purchased other low-cost land including mixed-blood scrips and school lands.

By 1885, 50 percent of the settlers were immigrants. Of those, half were Norwegians.

Mark recommended a visit to Bonanzaville's special Lincoln exhibit for more insight into how his actions contributed to the settlement of our region.

Upcycle your old Rotarian magazines

The FM/AM Rotary Club is asking members to donate past issues of The Rotarian to distribute in waiting rooms and gathering spots around town. If you have mags to contribute or a spot to display them, please contact Michael Larson (mlarson@bpitsolutions.com) or Kathryn Steve (kathrynsteve5@hotmail.com).

Looking Forward ... to Upcoming Moorhead Rotary Meetings

February 19

Program
Greeters

Rotarian of the Day, Dave Ebinger
Byron Sieber, Red River Regional Dispatch Center
Farwell & Tranby

February 26

Program
Greeters

Rotarians of the Day, Gary & Cindy Nolte
“A Revisit to Haiti”
Fischer & Tunheim

March 5

Program

Greeters

Rotarian of the Day
Mark Tysver & Dale Rollie, Land of the Dancing Sky
Area Agency on Aging
Frost & Uselman