



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 104—Number 9

August 29, 2023

Moorhead Rotary Club 1405 District 5580

President David Sederquist
 President-Elect Steve Astrup
 President Nominee
 Treasurer
 Secretary Teresa Joppa
 Past President Gina Monson

Directors (2023) Chris Andreasen, Greg Johnson & Steve Schaefer
 Directors (2024) Tracey Moorhead, & Ernie Simmons
 Director (2025) Tammy Finney & Jean Hannig
 Directors (2026) Nancy Hanson & Tim Hiller
 RYLA Coordinator Randy Farwell
 Polio Plus Coordinator Cindy Nolte
 Program Chair Jean Hannig
 Paddlewheel Photographer/Editor Nancy Edmonds Hanson

August Birthdays

Cater, Alma August 1

Wedding Anniversaries

Moorhead, Tracey & Richard
 59 years Aug 14 1964
 Nolte, Gary & Cindy 54 years
 Aug 01 1969
 Riewer, Jon & Kristine 27 years
 Aug 24 1996

Rotary Anniversaries

Hannig, Jean 27 years
 Aug 06 1996
 Nolte, Cindy 23 years
 Aug 15 2000



Photos/Nancy Hanson: Clay County Sheriff Mark Empting showed Rotarians around the Joint Law Enforcement Center. (Below) Jon Benson & Eric Wilkie. President Steve Astrup. (Bottom right) Randy Farwell and daughter Claire.

Coming Up Tuesday, Aug. 29

Jody Plecity will join us Tuesday to talk about the Garden of Healing being established off 32nd Avenue in southwest Fargo, a place where all people can come together for all sorts of healing. Dave Sederquist is sergeant at arms.

Rotarians tour Clay County's Joint Law Enforcement Center

Clay County Sheriff Mark Empting led Moorhead Rotarians through the Joint Law Enforcement Center, which opened in 2018. Members gathered at the LEC — its address is the remarkably appropriate 911 11th Street North — on Aug. 22.

Among our guests was Randy Farwell's daughter Claire, a deputy in neighboring Cass County assigned to the jail. Jean Hannig also introduced Rotary exchange student Ansgar, a young German teen who had arrived at Hector Airport four days earlier.

President Steve Astrup invited members to take part in a five-club Rotary service project planned for Tuesday, Aug. 29. Volunteers will work together to clean up Moorhead's Davy Park. The project is planned for 4 to 6 p.m., and may be followed by a social (with details to come). If you plan to participate, meet the group in the parking lot west of the Hjemkomst Center.

Sheriff talks about shared facilities

Sheriff Mark Empting of Dilworth has been with the Clay County Sheriff's Department for 22 of the





(Above) Clay County deputies demonstrate proper restraint techniques.

(Below) German exchange student Ansgar meets Sheriff Mark Empting.



26 years he has spent in law enforcement. He is also a long-time volunteer firefighter who currently serves as Dilworth's fire chief. First elected in 2018 to succeed the late Bill Bergquist, Empting won his second term in 2022.

The sheriff expressed pride in the new facility, which his department has occupied since 2018. The sheriff's department shares the LEC with the Moorhead Police Department; other law enforcement agencies, including the Highway Patrol, Drug Task Force and Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, also have offices there.

Despite persistent recruitment issues facing the profession, he said that Clay County is nearly fully staffed, with only one courthouse position now open. His deputies patrol 1,050 square miles of the county, with just two or three on duty at any given time.

He took club members through the new, secure evidence room and the unisex locker room (with separate changing rooms). Offices are located on the upper level. While the jail was off limits, he said 99 of its 196 beds are occupied, with 52 staff. More staff would be needed to increase to 150 inmates.

He noted that satellite offices are available for Clay officers in several smaller communities.



Photos: (Top left) Sheriff Empting shows Rotarians a defensive training exercise. The group also visited the evidence area and the locker room during their tour Aug. 22.

Looking Ahead

August 29

Sergeant at Arms..... Dave Sederquist
Program Jody Plecity, Garden of Healing

August 29 — Five-Club Service Project

Clean-up of river through Davy Park4-6 p.m.
(Meet in Hjemkomst Center west lot.)

September 5

Sergeant at Arms.....Nancy Hanson
Program

September 12

Sergeant at Arms Tim Hiller
Rotarian of the DayNancy Hanson
Program.....Colburn Hvidston III,
"Spotlighting the Story"

September 19

Sergeant at Arms.....Ernie Simmons
Program

September 26

Sergeant at Arms Bill Woods
Program