



# The Paddlewheel

## Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 102—Number 36

March 15, 2022

### Moorhead Rotary Club 1405 District 5580

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

Directors (2022) & Steve Schaefer	Chris Andreasen
Directors (2023) & Steve Astrup	Tammy Finney
Directors (2024)	Tracey Moorhead, Ernie Simmons & Megan Wiesneski
RYLA Coordinator	Randy Farwell
Polio Plus Coordinator	Cindy Nolte
Sergeant at Arms Team	Dave Sederquist, Eric Johnson & Jean Hannig

Program Chair	Jean Hannig
Pianist	Sharon Fangsrud
Song Leader	Bob Hanna
Trivia Master	Brent Brandt
Photographer	Russ Hanson
Paddlewheel Editor	Nancy Edmonds Hanson

### February Birthdays

Dave Sederquist	Feb 23
Corey Elmer	Feb 23

### Rotary Anniversaries

Cater, Alma	34 years
Feb 02 1988	
Elmer, Corey	19 years
Feb 11 2003	



### Coming Up Tuesday, March 15

Kelly Hamre talks about Gigi's Playhouse at this week's meeting. Ernie Simmons is sergeant at arms, and Steve Schaefer is Rotarian of the day.

### Police Chief Monroe discusses challenges, opportunities in 'community policing'

Acting president Jean Hannig welcomed Rotarians, guest Austin Ruud and our speaker, Moorhead Police Chief Shannon Monroe.

She and past president Jerry Rogers inducted the club's newest (but not brand new) member, Tim Hillers, who is director of development at Churches United for the Homeless. After several months as a member, he finally received his badge and Rotary pin.



### Sarge Steve salutes Int'l Women's Day

Sergeant at Arms Steve Schaefer's remarks celebrated International Women's Day and women in Rotary. He noted that 34 years after Rotary International officially admitted women as members, its incoming president is Jennifer Jones of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, the first female presiding officer of the 115-year-old service club.

Women were admitted to membership worldwide in 1988. Efforts had begun in 1955, but not until the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that women be admitted was the door opened. Moorhead's first female member, Glenna Lemke, was actually inducted a year earlier; the district office, misreading her as "Glenn," assumed she was male.

Today 24% of Rotarians worldwide are women. In District 5580, 33% of U.S. and 35% of Canadian



Photos/Brent Brandt. (Top) Police Chief Shannon Monroe. Jean Hannig. Tim Hillers and Jerry Rogers. Sergeant at Arms Steve Schaefer. Randy Farwell.

members are women. Almost half (46%) of new member invitations are made to women.

The district's governor-nominee, who will preside in 2023-24, is Moorhead's own Kay Parries. She will become the fifth in the district's history.



Photos/Brent Brandt.  
(Right) Ops Center media director Dan Markert helps Chief Monroe set up his presentation.



## Meetings

Tuesdays — noon  
Moorhead Schools Operations Center, 1401 30th Ave. S.

## Participate via Zoom:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/742305775?pwd=V0ZTMV11NldkY2xMMnIHNEdPdIRxdz09>  
Meeting ID: 742 305 775  
Password: 630851

## Other F-M Rotary Meetings

Monday: FM/PM Rotary  
5:30 p.m., Lucky 13 Pub  
Monday: Fargo West Rotary  
Noon, Holiday Inn  
Wednesday: Fargo Rotary  
Noon, Radisson  
Thursday: FM/AM Rotary  
7 a.m., Ramada Plaza

Happy dollars poured in ... the first for John Andreasen, who just became the grandfather of two little girls born on that date. Randy Farwell honored his own daughter, who is a deputy serving at the Cass County Jail. Several members expressed gratitude for the festive Mardi Gras social hosted by Cindy and Gary Nolte. Many others donated a buck in honor of the women in our club and in their lives. The MSUM basketball team's conference championship and the MHS Spuds trip to the state boys hockey tournament also came in for their share of cheers.

## Chief Monroe explains response to policing challenges here & across nation

Rotarian of the Day Randy Farwell introduced Moorhead Police Chief Shannon Monroe. Originally from Waubun and Mahanomen, Minn., he joined the Moorhead department as a patrol officer, moving up through the ranks until being appointed to replace retiring Chief David Ebinger in 2018. He and his wife Angie, who works with Red River Dispatch, have a son and daughter.

Monroe summed up the challenges facing law enforcement today: "Nationally and locally, violent crime is rising. People are leaving policing, and fewer are coming in." He said Minnesota departments currently have more than 1,000 openings a year, but only 530 are currently in school preparing for careers. A quarter of the

workforce in retirement-eligible or retiring within about 5 years. "Retention and competition issues are growing," he added, "with staff shortages leading to more forced overtime." In 2021, 559 officers died, compared to an average of 130. He attributed that to Covid-19, as well as a sharp increase in deaths by gunfire.

Moorhead had 240 applicants for job openings in 1994, he noted, 130 in 2013, and so far in 2022 ... just 20. "And competition for applicants is stiff."

The challenges have led to restructuring and the addition of a sergeant specializing in recruiting, hiring, training and human relations. Moorhead has also broken new ground with its full-time wellness coordinator, Dr. Aaron Suomala Folkerds, whom the chief called a "tactical guardian." He offers mental health and emotional support, as well as guidance on finances and physical and spiritual health. Moorhead is one of only 12 departments in the nation with an employee devoted to wellness, and by far the smallest.

He cited new patrol schedules offering two free weekends a month to improve work/life balance, along with competitive salary and benefits. The Police Explorers and Cadet programs are intended to help the department "grow its own" officers, along with partnerships with M State and MSUM criminal justice programs. A crime analyst has also been added, he said, "to help us work smarter, not harder."

## Looking Ahead

### March 15

Sergeant at Arms .....Ernie Simmons  
Rotarian of the Day .....Steve Schaefer  
Program .....Kellie Hamre, Gigi's Playhouse

### March 22

Sergeant at Arms .....Rob Remark  
Rotarian of the Day .....Eric Wilkie  
Program .....Chris Johnson, Rape & Abuse  
Crisis Center

### March 29

Sergeant at Arms .....Dale Hetland  
Rotarian of the Day .....Greg Johnson  
Program .....Samantha?, Aldevron

### April 5

Sergeant at Arms .....  
Rotarian of the Day .....Randy Farwell  
Program .....Don Kinzler, "Get Ready for Spring"

### April 12

Sergeant at Arms .....  
Rotarian of the Day .....  
Program .....Kory Wolden, Family Health Care  
Mobile Clinic

### April 19

Sergeant at Arms .....  
Rotarian of the Day .....  
Program .....Karla Isley, United Way