



# The Paddlewheel

## Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 101—Number 38

March 16, 2021

### Moorhead Rotary Club 970 District 5580

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

Directors (2022) Chris Andreasen & Steve Schaefer  
Directors (2023) Tammy Finney and Steve Astrup  
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

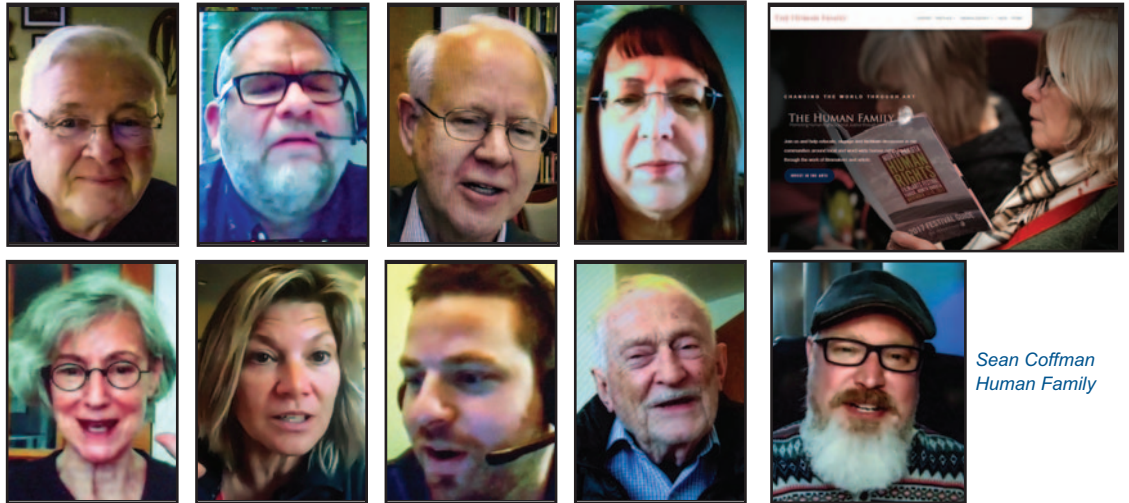
Program Chair Jean Hannig  
Pianist Sharon Fangsrud  
Song Leader Bob Hanna  
Trivia Master Brent Brandt  
Photographer Russ Hanson  
Paddlewheel Editor Nancy Edmonds Hanson

### March Birthdays

Rogers, Jerry Mar 13  
Wilkie, Eric Mar 13  
Hendrickson, Chuck Mar 23

### Rotary Anniversaries

Wai, Sam 20 years  
Mar 01 2001  
Lunak, Brandon 4 years  
Mar 28 2017



Sean Coffman  
Human Family

### Film-maker Sean Coffman tackles issue of homelessness in North Dakota

President Jerry Rogers welcomed 18 Rotarians to the weekly Zoom meeting, but pivoted immediately to good news: Beginning next week (March 16), the club will be partially resuming the face-to-face meetings that were discontinued in favor of video almost exactly one year ago.

Moorhead Rotary is launching hybrid meetings. Those who are comfortable meeting in person will gather in the new Moorhead Schools Operation Center at 1313 30th Ave. S. If you RSVPed by last Wednesday, you'll get a box lunch provided by the Concordia Catering Service; otherwise, bring your own lunch. Those who would prefer more social distance can take part in the meeting via Zoom just as we've been doing for so many months.

### Sergeant Bill talks about International Women's Day, welcomes new student body officers

Sergeant at Arms Bill Craft saluted International Women's Day and reminisced how things have changed since his father was a Rotarian many years ago. No women were allowed at meetings in those days. He shared a photo of his grandmother, who went to college and became a teacher ... but who lost her job when she married.

Then he turned to happy dollars. Three new baby girls led the day's good news — Rob Remark's new daughter and, soon, two new granddaughters for John Andreasen in a few days. Brent was happy for his adult son, who has continued working in theater throughout the COVID pandemic. Bill and Steve Schaefer rejoiced about Concordia's

### Coming Up Tuesday

Join us in person (if you're comfortable with precautions) at the Moorhead Schools Operations Center at 1313 30th Ave. S. or online. Cheri Gerken of Partners in Housing presents the program. Violet Deilke is sergeant at arms, with Sue Koesterman Rotarian of the day.

new student body president and vice president — international students from Rwanda and Kyrgyzstan. Gina thanked Bill for sharing Emily Dickinson's poem "March."

### Non-profit Human Family producing film series that humanizes homeless crisis

Rotarian of the Day Rob Remark introduced our speaker, Sean Coffman. The film-maker grew up in a military family that lived in many locations. After completing a bachelor's degree in social theory, he studied humanitarian diplomacy in Geneva, Switzerland. He worked in hotel and hospitality marketing and baseball before moving to the American Red Cross, where he handled disaster response services for six years.

Today Sean is executive director of the nonprofit Human Family, which seeks to educate, engage and facilitate discussion in our communities around local and word-wide human rights topics through the work of filmmakers and artists. Among its projects is the North Dakota Human Rights Film Festival, as well as others focused on LGBTQ and environmental issues.



Sean is currently working on a 10-part series of films that aim to dispel the stigmas surrounding homelessness. He says “Home: the Homelessness Crisis in North Dakota” is being used to prompt community discussions and education surrounding the topic.

“We are trying to humanize the people so others can begin to understand and to care about homelessness,” he said.

Two of the ten projected episodes are done, and he and his crew are working on a third. This one focuses on human trafficking and the sex trade. They recently filmed in Minot and Bismarck.

Understanding housing as a human right and as an inherent need to the health and happiness of all persons, the series examines the myths of

homelessness, its causes and highlights the statewide organizations and individuals engaged in the fight to end homelessness in North Dakota.

The series is available to watch online. It is also free to organizations and institutions wishing to incorporate educational opportunities about homelessness. Individuals may purchase individual episodes or the entire series through the Human Family’s online store.”

“Home” was named best documentary short at the Los Angeles Film Awards and was recently selected for the Venice Short Film Festival.

Opening the floor for questions, Sean told members that after working in corporate and nonprofit positions, he “took some personal time and rediscovered [his] love of film.”

“I decided to use it for good,” he said.

Funding for the Human Family organization comes from individuals and grants from organizations like the North Dakota Consensus Council and Council for the Humanities.

More information on Coffman’s organization and its work is online at [www.human-family.org](http://www.human-family.org).

## Looking Ahead

### March 16 — Hybrid (in-person & Zoom)

Live meeting at Moorhead Schools Ops Center, 1313 30th Ave. S.; also streamed online  
 Sergeant at Arms .....Violet Deilke  
 Rotarian of the Day .....Sue Koesterman  
 Program .....Cheri Gerken, Partners in Housing

### March 23

Sergeant at Arms .....Rob Remark  
 Rotarian of the Day .....Teresa Joppa  
 Program.....Mayor Shelly Carlson & City Manager Dan Mahli

### March 30

Sergeant at Arms .....Russ Hanson  
 Rotarian of the Day .....  
 Program .....

### April 6

Sergeant at Arms .....Cindy Nolte  
 Rotarian of the Day .....  
 Program .....Jason McCoy, “Beyond Smoke & Mirrors — Marijuana Prevention”

### April 13

Sergeant at Arms .....Eric Wilkie  
 Rotarian of the Day .....  
 Program .....Erin Prochnow, YWCA Transitional Housing

### April 20

Sergeant at Arms .....Bob Hanna  
 Rotarian of the Day .....  
 Program .....