



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 101—Number 35

March 2, 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

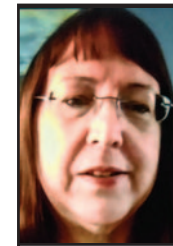
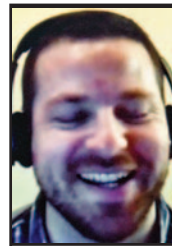
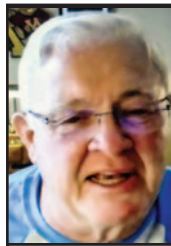
Directors (2022) Chris Andreasen
& Steve Schaefer
Directors (2023) Tammy Finney
and Steve Astrup
Directors (2024) Tracey Moorhead,
Ernie Simmons & Megan Wiesneski
RYLA Coordinator Randy Farwell
Polio Plus Coordinator Cindy Nolte
Sergeant at Arms Team
Dave Sederquist, Eric Johnson
& Jean Hannig
Program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



Coming Up Tuesday via Zoom

Anne Hoefgen of Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota will discuss access kiosks at this week's Zoom meeting. Dave Sederquist is our sergeant at arms, and Dave Tranby is Rotarian of the Day.

Rotarian Jon Riewer shares story of COVID impact at Eventide; glimpse of The Linden

President Jerry Rogers welcomed 20 Moorhead Rotarians to Tuesday's meeting. He noted that Monday had been George Washington's 289th birthday, and members were meeting on the 116th birthday of Rotary International.

Time to go to hybrid in-person/Zoom?

Steve Schaefer told members that the club is asking members to respond to a survey on whether they are ready to meet "hybrid style" — that is, with some members attending in person (with COVID precautions) while others who are not comfortable attending via Zoom. The survey link is included in the cover email of this issue of the Paddlewheel.

Collecting happy dollars

Sergeant at Arms Greg Johnson opened the floor for happy dollars. Dave Tranby reported he had just returned from six days in Arizona. He added, "All dentists are no vaccinated." Gary Nolte's dollar was in honor of his polio presentation via Zoom for Rotary Clubs in Nova Scotia ... and the second vaccinations scheduled Thursday at Churches United.

Jerry Rogers, too, was grateful for having had his second shot, and Bill Woods applauded his upcoming second vax Friday. Brent Brandt noted that appointments can be made at Thrifty White Drug Stores if you are in priority group 1.

John Andreasen shared a sad dollar: Member Chris Andreasen's mother-in-law died Monday.

Greg went on to introduce member Jon Riewer, who has been CEO of Moorhead-based Eventide Senior Living since 2003. Eventide has grown to seven locations in those years. A licensed nursing home administrator, he has amassed 20 years of health-care administration since graduating from Concordia College with a bachelor's in hospital administration and from University of Mary with a MBA.

Photos: Dining room at The Linden. Apartment.



Jon's presentation included two parts. First, he addressed the effects of the coronavirus pandemic on Eventide's experience ... then went on to the good news about the newly opened assisted living facility on Eighth Street, The Linden.

"COVID was a good learning experience for all of us," he reported. "It was exhausting to deal with the rule changes that seemed to come daily."

He and his staff were very vocal about the need to testing of residents and employees. He said their facilities are now back to scheduled testing, and no positive tests have occurred at any of their locations in a month and one-half. Any staff who choose not to be vaccinated are required to be tested every week. For everyone else, tests are biweekly or less often.

He said 427 residents have tested positive since the pandemic began, with the most difficult months in May and November, tracking with community spread. The facilities have experienced an 81.7% recovery rate.

Between 90 and 100% of Eventide residents have now been fully vaccinated; that's higher than the industry-wide rate of 80 to 90%. Forty percent of the staff have received their shots. "Our target is



65%, and we are there, except for two rural locations that have been lagging behind," he said.

"Our staff is still wearing PPE — masks and face shields," Jon said, "but next week the face shield is going away for those who are vaccinated."

He noted that occupancy has dropped 20 to 30% over the course of the pandemic. "But it will recover," he asserted.

Jon pointed out that skilled care is changing. "There will be no more double rooms — just singles," he said of Eventide's Moorhead facilities and others. "As a result, Moorhead has 50 fewer rooms. Ninety percent will be private."

He turned his attention to The Linden, which added 73 senior living apartments to the main Moorhead campus. Now the older parts of the building are being remodeled in a \$21 million renovation program. The Streed Commons — named for chaplain Steven Streed — will soon be finished in the transition area between new and older buildings. The commons can be used for family gatherings, funerals and chapel services.

Members queried Jon about the big picture. He reported that all long-term care facilities' numbers are down. "We can't count on the church and faith communities for our outreach anymore," he said. "That connection is fading. We need to target the needs and expectations of today's and tomorrow's potential residents." One such adjustment: restaurant-style meal service with extensive menus and a lounge area for socializing.

Apartment rent ranges from \$1,700 a month up to \$4,000, depending on size and amenities. Memory care units are more expensive. He offered a tip for potential renters seeking retirement facilities: "Be sure you do your research and understand what is included in the price."

Looking Ahead

March 2 — via Zoom

Sergeant at Arms.....Dave Sederquist
Rotarian of the Day.....Dave Tranby
Program.....Anne Hoefgen, Legal Services of
Northwest Minnesota, Access Kiosks

March 9— via Zoom

Sergeant at Arms.....Bill Craft
Rotarian of the Day.....Rob Remark
Program