



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 100—Number 18

May 19, 2020

New Members 2019-2020

Zach Heuring
Josh Jaster
Megan Wiesneski
Dylan Connell

Moorhead Rotary Club 970
District 5580

President Steve Schaefer
President-Elect Jerry Rogers
President Nominee 2021-2022
Gina Monson
Treasurer Emily Gess
Secretary Teresa Joppa
Past President John Andreasen

Directors (2020) Ernie Simmons,
Pat Gulbranson and Greg Johnson
Directors (2021) Kevin Heazlett
and Tracey Moorhead
Directors (2022) Tammy Finney
and Steve Astrup
RYLA Coordinator Randy Farwell
Polio Plus Coordinator Cindy Nolte
Sergeant at Arms Team
Dave Sederquist, Eric Johnson
& Jean Hannig
Pianist Sharon Fangsrud
Song Leaders Bill Schwandt,
Bob Hanna
Photographer Russ Hanson
Paddlewheel Editor
Nancy Edmonds Hanson

2020 Committees

Finance/Funding: Jerry Rogers*, Gary Nolte*, Emily Gess, John Andreasen, William Craft, Violet Deilke, Roger Erbes, Doreen Filler, Zack Heuring, Gregory Johnson, Charles Matthees, Roderick McLarman, Ed Wright, Bill Schwandt, David Tranby

Membership: Eric Wilkie*, Kay Parries*, Cindy Nolte, Jill Baldwin, Barb Belcher, Jon Benson, Alma Cater, Pat Gulbranson, Teresa Joppa, Samuel Wai, William Woods

Marketing: Tammy Finney*, Chris Andreasen*, Anne Blackhurst, Dylan Connell, Brad Donabauer, Sharon Fangsrud, Nancy Hanson, Chuck Hendrickson, Brandon Lunak, Neil Qualey, Jon Riewer

Service: Gina Monson*, Eric Johnson*, Dale Hetland*, Stacey Ackerman, Paul Dove, Randy Farwell, Bob Hanna, Jean Hannig, Russ Hanson, Tracey Moorhead, Adam Nordin, John Schockley, Ernest Simmons, Sue Koesterman, Kevin Heazlett

Program: Eric Wilke*, Dave Sederquist*, Steve Astrup, Brent Brandt (corp), Corey Elmer, Ron Kolb, Patrick Lorenson, Rob Remark, Steve Schaefer, Christina Volkers, Megan Wiesneski



Coming up Tuesday ... via Zoom

Tuesday's meeting will include time for committee meetings on breakout sessions via Zoom. Please review committee assignments (at left) and look over the committee goals attached to this Paddlewheel. (They're also posted on ClubRunner.) The meeting will begin at noon as usual with trivia by Brent Brandt, comments by Sergeant at Arms Jean Hannig, and discussion and voting on proposed changes to club bylaws that you received on May (posted on ClubRunner)

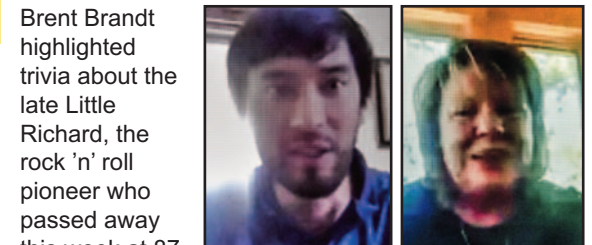
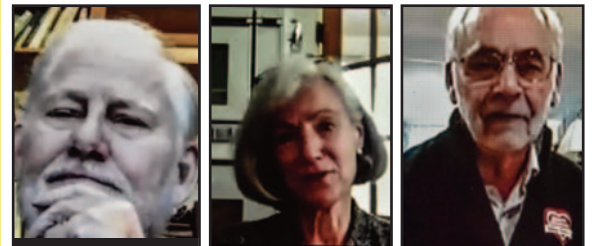
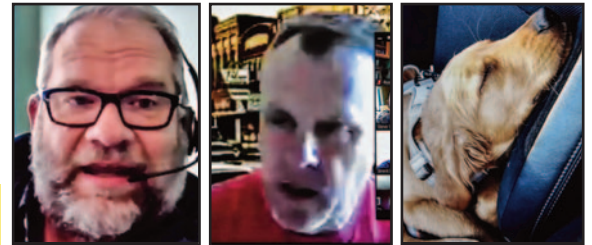
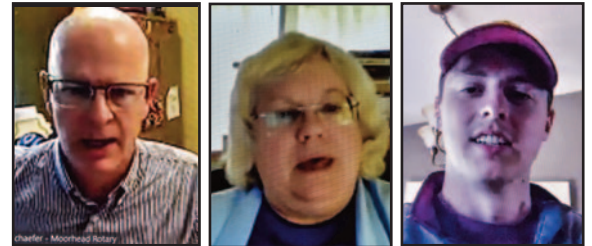
DMI director Derrick LaPoint talks about Moorhead's public/private partnership

President Steve Schaefer convened Moorhead Rotary's sixth online Zoom meeting. He reminded the 20 members who logged in of the vote on May 12 on proposed changes in the club by-laws, as well as upcoming virtual committee meetings. He highlighted the program May 26, which will feature representatives of the nonprofit group Unseen — a good opportunity for members to invite friends to join us.

Once again, he asked for a volunteer to take over as program chair. Please contact him if you're willing to serve.

Exchange student still expected this fall

Jean Hannig told the group that Paul, a German 16-year-old, is coming to Moorhead this fall. Though some countries have decided not to accept students through the Rotary youth exchange, both the U.S. and Germany are continuing to participate. The first host family has volunteered; two more are needed to provide a home for the remainder of his visit.



Sarge Eric considers pets' quarantine trials

Sergeant at Arms Eric Johnson reported that during the quarantine, his family has been raising a Golden Retriever puppy, the "Amazing Frida." He addressed how to help pets through the unusual days of the pandemic with more training, hide and seek, puzzles and obstacle courses. "How will the pets behave when we do return to leaving the house for hours at a time?" he wondered, addressing the anxiety they experience because of less personal space and too much attention. "The anxiety people feel affects them, too," he pointed out. He suggested working on separation and distancing during the quarantine so that they know it is normal.

Tracy Moorhead donated the first happy dollars in honor of our guest Derrick LaPoint and Chris Andreasen's recent marriage. Chris Volkers told members she's happy and sad about her new job in

Guests — May 12

Derrick LaPoint, director, Downtown Moorhead Inc. — speaker
Frida Lehtonen, exchange student

May Birthdays

Andreasen, Christopher	May 02
Gess, Emily	May 04
Hannig, Jean	May 09
Tranby, Dave	May 14
Moorhead, Tracey	May 27

Wedding Anniversaries

Joppa, Teresa & Richard	
May 05 1990	30 years
Hanna, Bob & Zue Zan	
May 22 1982	38 years
Matthees, Charles & Barbara	
May 26 1979	41 years
Schaefer, Steve & Terese	
May 30 1992	28 years
Fangsrud, Sharon & Butch	
May 31 1980	40 years

Rotary Anniversaries

Gess, Emily	3 years
May 02 2017	
Monson, Gina	11 years
May 05 2009	

a Twin Cities suburb. Others gave dollars in honor of both Chrises, while father John pitched in \$5 for the honor of having been the father of the groom.

LaPoint connects Moorhead businesses to reopening rules and state, federal aid

Rotarian of the Day Chris Volkens introduced Derrick LaPoint, who became the first executive of Downtown Moorhead Inc. last year and is now also consulting with the city on economic development. a former UND and professional hockey player, he worked in city planning in Fargo before moving his focus across the river.

“For the last eight weeks, my focus has been on connecting all Moorhead businesses and getting them the most recent information on the resources that are available to them, whether it’s public health information or finances,” he said. “We’re trying to help everyone keep going until the time they can reopen.”

He reported that Minnesota’s leadership has been very accessible during the crisis. The Moorhead Business Association hosted a live Zoom meeting with U.S. Sen. Tina Smith the next morning, and Gov. Tim Walz and members of his administration have been holding public media conferences daily to bring Minnesotans up to date.

He cited the information in the business tool kit produced by the state and available through the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. Both resources are also linked to Moorhead’s city website.

“The biggest question is this: When businesses

reopen, are the people going to come?” he said. “Will businesses know how much inventory to have on hand?”

As a border community, Moorhead businesses have an especially hard time answering those questions. LaPoint said that some restaurants in Fargo who have reopened haven’t had much business anyway. “Many Moorhead businesses are appreciative of our governor’s approach,” he said, quoting some of the 6,000-plus comments regarding the state’s reopening strategy.

A host of questions trouble owners, from how to prepare for a safe reopening to what to do if an employee tests positive. And what if there’s an outbreak?

Meanwhile, he said the city’s development activity and refinancing activity have been happening. “It’s not all doom and gloom,” he reassured Rotarians. “Low interest rates are helping. Commercial real estate brokers are getting creative in refinancing. There’s lots of remodeling happening and additions going up,” he noted. “And quite a few large projects are in the pipeline.”

He believes that recession is much less likely in the Fargo-Moorhead area than other parts of the nation. “Clay County is one of the top five growing counties in the country. We have assets here that are the envy of many others,” he said.

He said struggling businesses should contact him or the MBA’s Sheri Larson for information on the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development’s zero-interest loans, as well as West Central Initiative’s \$500,000 fund that’s available to help businesses.

Looking Ahead

May 19 — via Zoom

Sergeant at ArmsJohn Andreasen
Program.....Committee work (with virtual breakout sessions at the end of the meeting)

May 26 — via Zoom

Sergeant at ArmsStacy Ackerman
Program.....Than Baardson: “Unseen” human trafficking

June 2 — potential return to Concordia

Sergeant at Arms.....Dave Sederquist
Program

June 9

Sergeant at ArmsSam Wai
Program

June 16

Sergeant at ArmsEric Johnson
Program.....Lori Van Beek, MATBUS Update

June 23

Sergeant at ArmsPat Gulbranson
ProgramEvert Van Engellenhoven, Furniture Mission of the Red River Valley

July 28 — F-M Rotary Golf Tournament

June 30

Sergeant at ArmsJean Hannig
Program