



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 101—Number 48

May 25, 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 & 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

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 & Norwig, Richard	May 05 1990	31 years
Hanna, Bob & Zue Zan	May 22 1982	39 years
Matthees, Charles & Barbara	May 26 1979	42 years
Schaefer, Steve & Terese	May 30 1992	29 years

Rotary Anniversaries

Gess, Emily	May 02 2017	4 years
Monson, Gina	May 05 2009	12 years



Coming Up Tuesday

Meghan Carter of Audubon Dakota joins us this week to discuss birds and the environment. Eric Wilkie is sergeant at arms.

HCSCC historian Mark Peihl tells of Red River's ups and downs

President Jerry Rogers welcomed Moorhead Rotarians May 18 with some good news. Rotary District 5580 has approved the club's application for a \$5,000 international service grant. Along with our own contribution, that will bring \$10,000 to the central Asian nation of Tajikistan for the irrigation project that our recent guest speaker Amina Fatkhulloeva told us about. International student Amina is a senior at Concordia College.

Sergeant Chris applauds Rotary course

Sergeant at Arms Chris Andreasen reported on his experience with Rotary International's public speaking courses at rotary.org/learn. He first watched the classes to overcome his nervousness and prepare for giving a sermon at Trinity Lutheran. He said the eight classes have greatly improved his confidence and ability to speak, and urged others to use them to brush up their own skills.

Dave Sederquist offered a happy dollar for this and other Rotary leadership opportunities. Jerry applauded the new chair of the Travel Give-away Committee, Dale Hetland. Jean Hannig celebrated completed the last class of her paralegal course at MSUM.

Chris ended with a riddle from the Bible: Where did Noah keep the bees on the ark? In the archives (ark hives).



Moorhead Rotary

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Photos: Bill Woods and Jean Hannig.

Swimming along the Red in the early 20th century.

Changing the channel — 1957.

Construction of the new channel and



Recreation evolves along the Red River

Rotarian of the Day Russ Hanson introduced Clay County archivist Mark Peihl, who has shepherded the county's historical collections for the past 30 years. He said, "Mark knows more about Clay County and the Red River as anyone on earth."

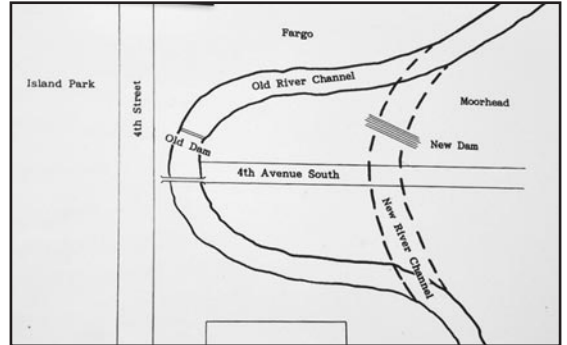
Mark presented a historical view of the often essential, sometimes maligned river that has shaped our community and the region. From ski jumping and horse racing along its frozen length to swimming and camping on its banks, the river was a prime attraction in Moorhead's early days.

Fishing, too, has always been a big plus. Mark said there were no carp in the Red until the 1920s, when they were introduced. Channel catfish, though, have always thrilled fishermen. "The farther north you go, the bigger they get," he said.

In 1910, drought nearly dried up the river; that's when the first dam was built. The flow was greatly reduced in the mid-1930s, when the only flow over the dam was the raw sewage dumped into it.

But drought alternated with flooding, as in 1943, when the river's reputation began to darken. When eight children drowned in one summer, it started to be considered a dangerous place.

After another major flood in 1957, the river's channel was straightened in the Island Park area north of St. John's Hospital with a series of dikes that cut off an oxbow. The boundary between the two states had to be changed two years later, with



Minnesota giving up 13 acres to North Dakota.

River Keepers has worked to change the dams by adding rocks to recirculate the current. It's made for a better fish spawn as well.

"The Red is much cleaner now than other area rivers," Mark said in answer to a member's question. Asked about the current, he answered, "It's strong during floods — stay off it. But generally it is just one mile an hour."

Looking Ahead

May 25

Sergeant at ArmsEric Wilkie
 Rotarian of the Day
 ProgramMeghan Carter, Audubon Dakota

June 1

Sergeant at ArmsDave Sederquist
 Rotarian of the Day
 ProgramGardening with Don Kinzler,
 NDSU Extension

June 8

Sergeant at ArmsTeresa Joppa
 Rotarian of the Day
 ProgramAdam Martin, F5 Project

June 15

Sergeant at ArmsJon Benson
 Rotarian of the DayJean Hannig
 Program "Living Beyond Yourself,"
 Rotary Convention Speaker