



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 104—Number 17

October 24, 2023

Moorhead Rotary Club 1405 District 5580

President Steve Astrup
 President-Elect
 President Nominee
 Treasurer Dave Sederquist
 Secretary Teresa Joppa
 Past President Dave Sederquist

Directors (2023) Chris Andreasen, Greg Johnson & Steve Schaefer
 Directors (2024) Tracey Moorhead, & Ernie Simmons
 Directorw (2025) Tammy Finney & Jean Hannig
 Directors (2026) Nancy Hanson & Tim Hiller
 RYLA Coordinator Randy Farwell
 Polio Plus Coordinator Cindy Nolte
 Program Chair Jean Hannig
 Paddlewheel Photographer/Editor Nancy Edmonds Hanson

October Birthdays

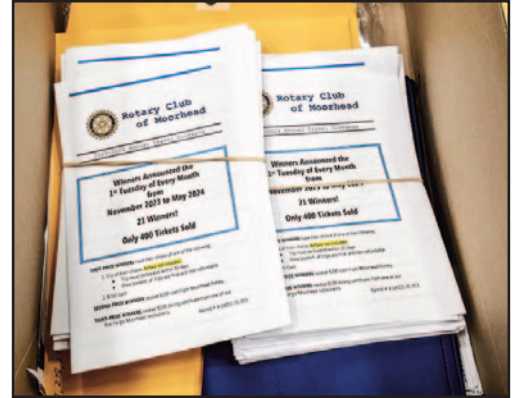
Wai, Sam October 3
 Johnson, Gregory October 28

Wedding Anniversaries

Hannig, Jean & Jeff 51 years
 Oct 24 1972
 Koesterman, Sue & Mike 44 years
 Oct 27 1979
 Elmer, Corey & Brenda 27 years
 Oct 05 1996

Rotary Anniveraries

Andreasen, John 31 years
 Oct 01 1992
 Benson, Jon 16 years
 Oct 09 2007
 Andreasen, Christopher 5 years
 Oct 23 2018
 Simmons, Ernest 5 years
 Oct 30 2018
 Lobo, Laura 3 years
 Oct 14 2020



Coming Up Tuesday, Oct. 24

Rich Lentz will join us Tuesday to tell about the Rotary International mission in Bolivia. Chris Andreasen is sergeant at arms, and Jon Benson is Rotarian of the day..

Co-founder of Unseen tells of support for fighting human trafficking worldwide

President Steve Astrup welcomed Moorhead Rotarians to our Oct. 17 meeting, including new members Josh Schmidke and Laura Lobo, as well as prospective member Matur Alier. Matur is director of equity for the Moorhead School District. Joining us was Than Baardson, the CEO and co-founder of Unseen, the Fargo organization that works with partners around the world to fight human trafficking.

Steve read a letter of resignation from long-time member Alma Cater, as well as a note of thanks from the Gooseberry Park Players.

Deadline for Travel Give-Away is Oct. 24

Travel raffle chair Dale Hetland reminded members that the deadline for turning in sold tickets and payments is Oct. 24. He reported that tickets that have already been turned in have covered all the expenses for seven months of prize drawings; those sold during coming days, he said, will all go to funding grants to charities.

Sarge Jean recounts how she sells tickets

Sergeant at Arms Jean Hangie, one of the club's top ticket-sellers, shared tips on how she sells



Photos/Nancy Hanson:
 (Top) Unseen CEO Than Baardson.
 Brandon Lunak, Tracey Moorhead and Steve Astrup.
 Matur Alier, Lunak and Violet Deilke.
 Bill Woods and Paul Dovre.



From left: President Steve Astrup. Jerry Rogers. Rotarian of the Day Violet Deilke. Eric Wilkie.

Membership Categories & Dues (Approved Nov. 29, 2022)

Regular

Regular base single annual membership — \$59 quarterly plus \$156 meals.

Brown Bag

Brings own lunch (or not) at regular meetings; beverages are included, however. \$59 quarterly.

Senior Active

For retired members, 65+. Billed \$59 quarterly for dues; payment for meals (\$12) at each meeting attended.

New Member

Exempt from dues for first 12 months plus 25% discount on meals during that period. Dues \$0, meals \$117 quarterly.

Corporate

Organizations with 3 or more non-exempt members — 25% discount on meals. Dues \$59 quarterly, meals \$117.

Shared

Two members who share one membership. Each pays \$59 quarterly dues and \$78 meals.

Half-Year

For those in the area only part of the year. Dues \$29.50 quarterly, meals \$78.

Travel Raffle tickets. Her secret? "Invite people to buy!"

Happy dollars poured in for a variety of good news, starting with Sarge Jean's travel on the Rhine. Laura Lobo applauded the play underway at Oak Grove School. Steve Schaefer told of his return from international travels on behalf of Concordia, as well as his new puppy. Nancy Hanson brought up the Facebow tribute by Eric Wilkie's staff on the occasion of Boss's Day.

Unseen CEO tells how Fargo organization helps partners fighting global trafficking

Rotarian of the Day Violet Dilker introduced our guest, Than Baudrons, who co-founded and heads the Fargo nonprofit called Unseen. The North Dakota Air Guard veteran began his career in documentary filmmaking, then found his focus in assisting partner organizations all around the world in telling their stories and raising funds for their vital work. "We are not starting 'new work,'" he emphasized. "We are simply supporting good work that is already underway to fight modern slavery and human trafficking all around the globe."

According to Than, human trafficking is a \$150 billion industry, one of the top three criminal industries worldwide. The largest share of the estimated 50 million victimized each day are providing forced labor. Why? "People want inexpensive goods and services," he said. "Tight

margins incentivize recruiting vulnerable people at low or no wages to work dangerous jobs in slavery conditions, either forced against their will in forced marriages."

Unseen's role is to help Nogs (non-governmental organizations) and under-funded governments support and expand their efforts to bring about significant long-term change.

The Fargo group produces products and materials — video and print — to help these front-line groups build their programs. According to Unseen's annual report, its materials helped partner organizations raise nearly \$6 million in 2022, a 692% return on the investment of the donors who support the charity.

Globally, more than 200,000 people in 26 countries were served by the 21 recipients of Unseen's assistance. Among them were 1,295 survivors who received direct services: 52% in sex trafficking, 33% in forced labor, 8% in forced or child marriages, and 7% in other situations. The organizations work in North and Central America, Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia and the Mideast.

Partner organizations, Than said, provide compassionate aftercare for the vulnerable and exploited people whom they assist. "Sympathy does not equal action," Than emphasized, citing the need for support for his Fargo-based nonprofit. "Heartbreak is not enough."

Looking Ahead

October 24

Sergeant at Arms..... Chris Andreasen
Rotarian of the DayJon Benson
Program.....Rich Lentz, Mission in Bolivia

October 31

Sergeant at Arms Katie Fredrickson
Rotarian of the DayJon Riewer
PrgramBrenna Gerhardt, Humanities ND

November 7+

Sergeant at Arms.....Dave Sederquist
Program.....Kelly Krenzel, Hope Blooms

November 14

Sergeant at Arms Rob Remark
ProgramRandy Farwell, RYLA Report