

# ROTARY NOTARY



## Member Birthdays:

Randy Aronis	3/31
Dave Sproul	4/2
Ryan Heikes	4/9

## At Rotary Today:

**Greeter:** Angela Binyon

**Invocation, Flag Salute,  
and Four-way test:**

Tom Church

## Special Guests:

Jennifer Clark

Darin Kater

Tina Mann

Vanessa Whiteside

## Rotary Anniversaries:

Larry McNeil—CHARTER  
MEMBER 38 years

Anne Schneider—16 years

Brian Burrus—13 years

Kim Vining—9 years

Deb Brinegar—4 years

Michael Caffrey—3 years

## Wedding Anniversaries:

Michael and Lauren Caffrey—11  
years

## Quote of the Week:

Success is getting what you want,  
happiness is wanting what you  
get.

—W. P. Kinsella

## MEET WICHITA'S INTERIM POLICE CHIEF, LEM MOORE



Lem Moore was born in St. Joseph, Missouri but when he came to Wichita at age 16 to visit his mother, he loved it so much he stayed. What did he love so much? "The melting pot aspect of Wichita. I saw so many diverse people here!" he said. Lem is the first in his family to graduate from high school, attending Southeast High and graduating from East.

**W**hen you meet Lem Moore for the first time, what stands out are his transparency and sincerity. Four years after being promoted to Deputy Chief, he was named Interim Police Chief following the departure of Chief Gordon Ramsay, who moved back to his hometown of Duluth, MN.

He admitted that he was on track to retire when he received the call earlier this year asking him to serve as Interim Police Chief. After consulting with his pastor, he accepted.

And then the media firestorm hit. Not because of his promotion, but because of incidents involving area law enforcement officers, including some from the Wichita Police Department (WPD).

The first incident was the death of foster teen Cedric Lofton, who was restrained with handcuffs and shackles

and placed lying face down while at the Juvenile Intake and Assessment Center last September. He lost consciousness and never came to, dying two days later. The autopsy report released in late December, a month before Moore accepted the position of interim police chief, called the death a "homicide," resulting in harsh criticism and a call for action.

The second incident involved a group of law enforcement officers who sent inappropriate and racist text messages, resulting in an investigation. After less than two months on the job, Moore was asked to comment on incidents that took place before his appointment. "This [the interim police chief position] was supposed to be a six-month great experience for me!" he told us.

Realizing he had been chosen to lead a group of 700 commissioned officers, he is doing just that—leading. The FBI, which was brought in to investigate the racism case, did not find any criminal or civil rights violations from WPD officers. Moore also emphasized that the incidents in question involve a very small percentage of the total number of officers.

Moore believes strongly that Wichita police must change how they respond to mental health crises and interact with juveniles. He is advocating that SWAT team officers receive civil rights and mental health training. Also, he is meeting with representatives from the City Council, the city manager's office and legal department about what the police department can do better. "This is our time to shine," is what he's telling his officers. "What matters is how you treat people, your vision."

### Announcements:

RYLA camp will be offered this year from May 31 through June 4 in Winfield at Southwest College. Our club would like to sponsor a student or two. Please contact **Greg Ek, Kim Hurtig, or Sarah Wine**, who is chairing this effort, if you know of a high school student who is interested in attending.

To thank Chief Moore as our speaker today, a \$25 honorarium will be made in his name to the East Wichita Rotary Foundation, which provides college scholarships to local students.

### Family Rotary Night at the Wichita Wind Surge:

Mark your calendars! **June 1** is Family Night for all Wichita area Rotary clubs at the Wichita Wind Surge baseball. Come out and see the new Riverfront Stadium and enjoy a summer evening of baseball with your fellow Rotarians. Tickets are \$16 and we'll have special seating.

### Next Week:

Whitney Reader, Jr., and Grant Bauserman of the Wichita Grand Opera will be our speakers.

**NO MEETING** on April 13 because of Easter week.

## ASSISTING AT THE HEAD-TO-TOE HYGIENE PANTRY



Several members of East Wichita Rotary, along with family and friends, came together on Saturday, March 19 to help package hygiene items for families in need. Recipients stopped at a delivery point in front of the Head-to-Toe pantry location on E. 21st St. Volunteers bundled items not covered by food stamps such as soap, shampoo, laundry detergent, and toothpaste, and then gave them to 551 families. EWR members have been volunteering and supporting this project for several years. It is a wonderful example of Service Above Self. Thanks to **Eileen Kludt** for chairing this project!

## PRAYING FOR PEACE



A few weeks ago **Markus Meyer** delivered a beautiful invocation that included a reminder to pray for peace for Ukraine. According to the document Markus read, an adviser to Winston Churchill organized a group of people who interrupted their activities every evening at a certain time to pray in community for peace, security and the people of England. They did this every day and the result was so overwhelming that the bombing was stopped after a short time.

Now we are again organizing a group of people of different nationalities to pray for one minute for the security of our countries, for an end to the problems that oppress us, and for God to guide the decisions of our rulers. The time in the United States is 9:00 a.m.

The prayer Markus offered is: Heavenly Father, two thousand years ago you have shown and taught us a great many things and especially that we are to: Love and serve you above all, love our neighbors as ourselves, pray for our enemies, and pray unceasingly. We pray that you interceded for the greater good of humanity and stop this war in Ukraine and all other areas of conflict in this world.

That you enlighten all earthly leaders and common people to understand that change and the desire of people to want to join and participate does not happen through coercion and violence, but through insight and free will.

And that you give us insight and wisdom in how to best respond to such unprecedented aggression so that peace is the result of all our actions and interventions.

In your holy name we pray, Amen.