



Future Editors

December 3

Brent Mattson

December 10

William McLees

December 17

Michael McMahon

Greeters

November 30

Jim Jensen
Sharon Johnson

December 7

Mary Keller
Ken Kitzman

December 14

Jo Khalifa
Mike Klier

Upcoming Programs

November 30

Dr. David Fuller
President
MSU on the Move

December 7

Andrew Solsvig
Minot Airport Director

December 14

John Kutch
Trinity Health CEO

Minot—Why

by Wesley "Mac" Magaster

I retired from the military three years ago after 26 years of service and choose to retire in Minot. Most of the people I know wanted to know WHY?

I guess I would have to step back 10 years to 1999 – my family and I were living in Misawa, Japan getting ready to end a three year tour. I was deployed to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia when we were given our choices of returning to the United States.

When the dust had settled there two options left on the list, Kessler, Mississippi and Minot, North Dakota. It was a three to one vote in favor of Mississippi. But, I had no desire to sweat it out in the humid south; so against my family's protests I choose Minot.

I had 19 years in the Military and was planning on only doing 20 years, so I thought we can do a year anywhere and the move was put in to motion.

My wife and I picked up our car that was in storage in California, left the girls with Oma and Opa (they would fly up after we had a place to live). We loaded the car and drove from California to North Dakota and as the drive progressed the first thing we noticed was that the distance between towns was getting further and further apart the closer we got to North Dakota.

We spent the night in Bismarck and thought this isn't bad. The next day we drove into Minot – now never being here before we drove up Broadway and thought – well that's it – no mall, no big stores – in fact not much at all.

My wife sat in the car and cried – I was starting to think I made a bad choice and remember this decision was completely on me.

We purchased a house and enrolled the girls in school – Schools in Minot are better than we expected and the girls decided to not want to move before graduating High School.



So our one year turns into three, then college follows and marriages, and a grand baby. So, seven years and one month after we drove into Minot we are still here and I am thinking about finding a job.

I only know of two ways to retire from the military – you either locate a job, move to the job location or you pick a location, move and look for a job. So I started looking in Minot – and as time passes my search radius begins to increase.

I begin looking locally, then Bismarck, and Fargo. I do get some job offers but it meant that I would have to move my family. My search starts to add adjoining states. My wife tells me if I take a job out of Minot, "She will miss me!"

Ok, now is this the same woman that cried the day we drove into Minot – the day that I thought I had made the worst decision ever for my family.

Since no jobs are panning out in Minot - I begin looking at overseas locations like Qatar, Iraq, and other overseas locations. I figure my family can stay here and I will go for a year.

Secretary's Corner Om Madhok

11/23/09

PRESENT MEMBERSHIP: 104

ATTENDANCE: 72.9%

VISITING ROTARIANS: Robin Gordon, guest of Ken Kitzman; Chipper Farrell, Sheldon Schneider, and Brody Pinkerton, guests of Kevin Harmon

STUDENT ROTARIANS: Dakota Larson, Kim Schiele, Sierra Murphy, Kaari Burbach, and Jerrica Luck, MHS Students

FOREIGN EXCHANGE STUDENT: Baatyrzahn Sultanov from Krygzstan

MAKEUPS: Ann Krause, Greater Rochester, MN, 11-15-09

We Missed You!

Dan Albertson	Betty Fedorchak	Jarid Lundeen	Alison Repnow
Reed Argent	Daryl Hodnefield	Brent Mattson	Alan Reynolds
Mike Berg	Terry Hoff	Bill McLees	Milton Rolle
Lisa Clute	Jim Jensen	Mike McMahon	Dean Rubbelke
Fred Crist	Mary Keller	Ronney Merritt	Claude Sem
Don Davison	Jo Khalifa	O.H. Mittelberg	Dean Sommerville
Elicia DesLauriers	Mike Klier	David Olson	Rita Sommers
Robert Dick	Kim Krohn	Jim Olson	Kelly Turneau
Sara Dufner	Fred Lien Jr.	Doug Panchot	Tom Wentz, Jr.
Dave Ellingson	David Looyesen	Chester Reiten	Dusty Zimmerman



It's a little gold wheel with six little spokes, and some cogs and some letters of blue. And this is the symbol you'll wear on your coat, as a trust that is given to you. The gold is the worth which fellowship brings, and the well is the limit of might. Turned by the strength we give to a man/woman when he/she works for the things that are right.

The Prairie Flower is the official publication of Rotary Club of Minot, Minot, North Dakota. It is published every Thursday. Annual membership dues for the year 2009-2010 in the Rotary Club of Minot, ND are \$588. 6/28/09 Om Madhok, Secretary.

John Kenney of Grangemouth Central, Scotland— President, Rotary Int'l
Ajoy Chatterjee of Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada—Governor District 5580

The Rotary Club of Minot meets 12:00 to 1:10 p.m. every Monday at the Grand International of Minot.

Board of Directors: Reed Argent, President; Teal Myre, President-Elect; Ron Merritt, Vice-President; Om Madhok, Secretary; Dave Lehner, Treasurer; William McLees, Past President.

Directors: 2009-Jen Guidinger and Dusty Zimmerman; 2010 –Robert Dick and Brent Mattson; 2011—Mike Berg, Ron Merritt and Tom Will

Standing Members: Peter Hankla, Exchange Students, Ken Kitzman, Scholarship Fund; John MacMartin, and Rotary Foundation.

Birthdays

November 28
Sharon Johnson

December 2
Don Davison

December 6
Roger Winkle



Anniversaries

December 4
Robert & Terry Wagoner

Fines

\$29.00

Tim Vallely

\$2.00 each

Dan Langemo and
Ann Krause's table

\$1.00 each

Who are not Viking Fans,
who are not traveling
during Thanksgiving and
who are not wearing
Rotary pins or logowear;
Bruce Christianson and
Linda Langmaack

TOTAL FINES:

\$154.00

— NO —
MEETING ON
MONDAY
DECEMBER



**Leftover convention
reusable grocery bags
for sale:
ONLY \$2 .00 each!
Proceeds will be used
for a joint service
project between the
Noon Club and the
Sunrise Club. Get your
bags at the next few
meetings.**



Minot Why Cont'd from page 1

I was filling out the paperwork for my clearance and getting ready to go for an interview in Virginia for a job overseas. When I get a call for an interview at Job Service with a new company coming to town and here I am with InfoTech.

The real story here is how did a family that really didn't even want to come to Minot end up choosing to stay here. I have lived many places in the world, 12 major moves in 26 years and a lot of travel in between.

From New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Nevada, California, New York, New Jersey, and then England, Sicily, Saudi Arabia, and Japan – I have seen a lot of different locations. I could have moved anywhere – so again back to the question most the people, friends and family asked was WHY are you staying in MINOT?

Minot has a way of growing on you, what most people who grew up here might not understand is that the grass is not always greener nor the snow whiter in other locations. Minot may not be the center of the world for entertainment, night clubs or Broadway shows.

But – Minot does offer, good schools, low crime, clean air, low unemployment and a hometown feel that you just can't find everywhere else. Growing up in Jersey in the 70s, we could run the streets with your friends, leave your garage doors open without the fear of getting ripped off and a sense of community.

As I moved around the country with the military, I never really felt that type of environment that I had growing up in Jersey with until I came to Minot.

Lately – we keep hearing about how we want to bring more people to Minot and make it grow and on one hand I agree that we have room to grow – but on the other hand I don't want to lose a lot of what Minot offers and if we grow too big – we might just turn into any other big city.

I guess I just hope we grow smartly – Be careful what you ask for, you might just get it.

Let me be the first to wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving – we all have a lot to be thankful for.

I am Going to Look Around and See

For the month of December and into 2010, I am definitely going to do something about my own personal contribution to Rotary. I am going to look around and see if I can find someone to propose for membership in my club.

I am going to spend just a few minutes each week being personally friendly to two or three members with whom I normally have no contact.

I am going to let them know I am personally interested in them as fellow-citizens with ideals in common with mine, even though I never met them elsewhere, socially or in business, and can gain nothing tangible from them.

I know that the success of my Rotary Club is my personal obligation, not just

something I can leave to a committee.

I, myself, am Rotary. I cannot neglect it without missing the benefits that cause it to grow in size and usefulness all over the world.

I do need to do this for my own good. I owe it to my fellow Rotarians, for their good.

-from a Rotary Club bulletin





**SUNRISE ROTARY
THURSDAY
7:00 A.M.
Grand International**

Watch for a
new catalog
in 2010!

Rotary Logo Wear

THE ROTARY STORE

www.ruh.com

Save \$5 to \$6

The Club pays handling

Let ohmitt@juno know

Item#-size-color-price

Will order-club bills quarterly

Especially for new members

As well as all members.

Rotary Logo Wear

100% is our Goal

It shows pride in our club

It gives us esprit' de corps'

Look sharp, be smart

Wear Rotary Logo Wear

Guest Speaker Rick Hedberg 11-23-09

MSU NCAA Division II

Our guest speaker this week was Rick Hedberg, Athletic Director at Minot State University for the past eight years. Rich is a native of Parshall, ND. He received a degree in Math at MSU and went on to teach and coach in Williston. He was the Assistant Athletic Director at UND before joining the MSU staff.

On July 10, Minot State University began the three-year process of becoming a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. The NCAA Membership Committee informed MSU we would be entering year-one candidacy for NCAA Division II for the 2009-2010 season.

Minot State University's Vision for 2013 sees the university becoming one of the premier public, regional universities in the Great Plains. It is their belief that a transition to NCAA Division II is one large step toward realizing that goal.

After applying at the end of May, Minot State was one of more than a dozen colleges and universities attempting the join NCAA Division II.

The decision to apply for Division II membership comes at the end of nearly four years of research by committees from Minot State, the athletics department, administrators, the community and Beaver Booster Club members.

Applying for membership in NCAA Division II did not guarantee Minot State would be accepted. The competitive process to review applications started after June 1 and culminated in the middle of July.

The past four years of work preceding an application for membership is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to becoming an NCAA Division II athletic program.

MSU has applied to join the Northern sun Athletic Conference. The conference includes the University of Mary, Northern (of Aberdeen), Moorhead State (MN), Bemidji State, Winona State, Concordia of St. Paul, and St Cloud State, among others. The

conference plans on expanding by two teams.

Currently, Minot State and the University of Sioux Falls are being considered. If accepted, the plan would be for the conference to split into two divisions: North and South. This would facilitate better scheduling and help to alleviate travel-related costs.

Wrestling and Women's Soccer will be added to the program in order to compete in the Northern Sun Conference.

There are plans to change the football field to artificial turf this spring for the fall sports season.

MSU is looking at changes to the Dome to be more competitive for tournaments with electronic screens with instant replay. There will be upgrading on the seating.

Academic programs – Energy Economics & Finance, Athletic Training and Sport Medicine will also be added to the curriculum.

A new Wellness Center is under consideration and would be added to the west side of the Dome. Complete renovation is being done in Swain Hall which will house three floors housing college of education, athletic training and low tech labs for sciences.

Trivia: Parshall was runner-up this year in the State 9-Man Football Championship, and yes, the last time they won a state title in football was in 1983, with Rick Hedberg at the helm as quarterback.

