



Photo by Sandra Ferris.



Monthly Newsletter September 2016

NEW MEMBERS

AdShark Marketing

BC Contracting

Company

InterOffice Workspace

Furniture

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DAVID HUNSTAD

It was about a year ago that we launched our Moorhead Proud 56560 campaign. We have distributed yard signs, bumper stickers, coffee mugs, and other items to help people express the pride we have in our growing community. But signs and t-shirts don't begin to tell the full story of what the MBA means to the city of Moorhead. Our membership has grown by over 25% in the last year, and we have provided a variety of experiences aimed at connecting our business community with students, residents, and each other. This month we'll continue those efforts with the Bridge Bash party for college students, and in the months to come I invite all of our members to keep building our sense of pride in Moorhead.



"They're a lot alike—they're both here to help people."

-Les Bakke, commenting on Beyond the Yellow Ribbon and the Moorhead Business Association

"Let's Talk Business" Highlights

INTERNSHIP CLEARINGHOUSE

On Aug. 3, Dean Marsha Weber of MSUM's College of Business and Innovation spoke about efforts to establish a clearinghouse for internships, possibly involving all the area colleges. MBA members contributed stories of successful internship programs, and Weber noted the need for more employer education on the process of hiring interns as well as greater student awareness of these opportunities.

DRUG INVESTIGATIONS AND MEDICINAL MARIJUANA

On Aug. 10, Detective Brad Stuvland of the Moorhead PD shared information about his investigative drug team. Among the illegal drugs currently problematic in our area are ecstasy, high-potency marijuana, meth, opioids, and fentanyl. Law enforcement have had no issues so far with Moorhead's recently opened medical marijuana dispensary, which only supplies clients with the drug in pill, vapor, or oil form.

GREAT RIDES BIKE SHARE AND STREETS ALIVE

On Aug. 17, Sara Watson Curry spoke about the Great Rides Bike Share program, the Streets Alive event, and group bicycle rides. Great Rides is working and fundraising to expand into Moorhead, including stations on campuses and downtown. The final Streets Alive event (with roads closed to motorized vehicles) will be Sunday, Sept. 25. Although these events and programs have been great for biking, Watson Curry believes F-M could use better connectivity between various bike lanes and trails.

WHAT IS REAL STRATEGIC PLANNING?

On Aug. 24, Leann Wolff from Great Outcomes Consulting talked about how to do successful strategic planning and what sorts of actions aren't actually this type of planning. Rather than being a long to-do list or a binder that sits on a shelf, a good strategic plan adjusts how you do your day to day work.

HELPING VETS & THEIR FAMILIES BEYOND THE YELLOW RIBBON

On Aug. 31, Les Bakke shared information about Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, a 501(c)3 for veterans and their families that was organized in 2011. BYR's activities include family outings, assistance with home and vehicle repairs, and holiday parties. They're planning a major commemorative event for 2018, the 100th year of the American Legion.

UPCOMING EVENTS

"Let's Talk Business" Speakers

Sept. 7: Kathy Anderson,
Trollwood Performing Arts

Sept. 14: Kristen Aldinger,
Talecris Plasma Resources

Sept. 21: Matt Eidem,
Comstock House

Sept. 28: Rich Duysen,
Moorhead Fire Department

Back to School Party Sept. 8

From 6 to 10 p.m. on the First Ave. Bridge there will be food trucks, kayaking, free admission to the Cultural Center, and a Johnny Holm Band dance.

New American Job Fair

On October 20 the MBA will again partner with Rural MN SEP and the AADA to help to match job seekers to local employers.

560 Connect Location

*Dave's
Southside* **TAP**