



Photo from Wikimedia Commons.



Monthly Newsletter March 2017

FEBRUARY NEW MEMBER

Donabauer Family
Dentistry

RENEWING MEMBERS

Becky's Sewing Center
Central MN Credit Union
Gary Olson Insurance
Gate City Bank
Forum Communications
(ctd. next page)

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DAVID HUNSTAD



If you haven't visited our new website—mhdba.org—we hope you will soon! You'll be able to register for events, check our calendar, connect with other members, and read our newsletters, all in one place. You'll have the option to post a profile picture and your company logo so that other MBA members and the general public will have the chance to get to know you as they visit the site. The website also gives you control over what information is shared with other members and the public (for example, your email address). If you have suggestions for making the site even better, please share them with the Communications Committee (Gwen Hoberg, chair).

"The MBA can help promote the idea that many types of change are good."

– Mark Voxland, in a discussion on downtown Moorhead

“Let’s Talk Business” Highlights

DOWNTOWN MOORHEAD OPEN DISCUSSION

On Feb 1. we held a discussion on the continuing development of downtown Moorhead. Ideas brought up included the benefits of a new convention center or hotel to draw business into Moorhead, the importance of including affordable housing in development plans, the use of the river and its surrounding parks as an attraction, and the need for special events that make Moorhead a destination.

SMALL BUSINESS CHALLENGES AND RESOURCES

On Feb. 8, Matt Magness of the MN Small Business Development Center reviewed their no-cost consulting services. He discussed some challenges of building small businesses (long hours, uncertainty, lags before becoming profitable, and misunderstandings about financial requirements) but also voiced optimism about working in the Upper Midwest: “We live in a part of the country where people are really motivated, have a great work ethic, and are committed to doing the right thing.”

RDO EQUIPMENT

On Feb. 15, Ted Horan discussed the past and present of Ron Offutt’s businesses—primarily RDO Equipment, which has 78 locations across the U.S. and Mexico (including two in Moorhead) and several international partnerships. Servicing as well as selling equipment has been an important part of RDO’s business model, and it aims for a supportive culture for its loyal employees, says Horan.

HISTORICAL & CULTURAL SOCIETY CONTRIBUTIONS TO MOORHEAD

On Feb. 22 we heard from Markus Krueger and Maureen Jonason of the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County. Markus discussed the history of the Episcopal Church of St. John the Divine in downtown Moorhead, a landmark structure currently needing about \$200,000 in renovations. Jonason mentioned that MBA 560 Connect will be hosted at the Comstock house in March and at the Hjemkomst Center in April.

FEBRUARY RENEWING MEMBERS (CTD.)

Kvamme Real Estate

RE/MAX Realty 1

Red River Excavating

Valley Premier Bank

UPCOMING EVENTS

“Let’s Talk Business” Speakers

Mar. 1: Chris Larson and Michelle Horan, Moorhead Country Club

Mar. 8: Geraldine Sloan-Hendrix, Restorative Justice

Mar. 15: Bob Zimmerman, City Engineer

Mar. 22: Amy Hochgraber, M-State

Mar. 29: Carla Solem, Continuum of Care

Spring and Summer Events

Annual Meeting – April 18, starts 5:30 p.m. at the Courtyard by Marriott

Golf Tournament – June 26

560 Connect
March Location



Comstock House
506 8th St S