



# The Paddlewheel

## Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 94—Number 31

February 2, 2016

Moorhead Rotary  
Chartered May 1, 1921  
Club 970  
District 5580

- President Eric Wilkie
- President-elect Lynne Kovash
- Secretary Teresa Joppa
- Treasurer Doreen Filler
- President-nominee Corey Elmer
- President-nominee Mark Bertilrud
- Past President Jon Benson
- Director Cindy Nolte
- Director Russ Hanson
- Director Dave Wahlberg
- Director Dale Hetland
- Director Jill Baldwin
- Director Bryan Davidson
- Director Mark Bertilrud
- Director David Sederquist
- Member at Large Gary Nolte
- Program Coord. Corey Elmer
- RYLA Coord. Randy Farwell
- Sergeant at Arms Team  
Dave Sederquist, Eric Johnson,  
Mike Hulett & Jean Hannig
- Pianist Sharon Fangsrud
- Song Leaders Bill Schwandt,  
Vern Goodin, Bob Hanna,  
John Andreasen
- Photographer Russ Hanson
- Meeting Reporter Teresa Joppa
- Paddlewheel Editor  
Nancy Edmonds Hanson

The Moorhead Rotary board of directors meets the second Tuesday of each month.

- International President  
K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran,  
Colombo, Sri Lanka
- District 5580 Governor  
Craig Loughery, Ely
- Assistant District Governor  
Kay Parries, Moorhead
- District Governor-Elect  
Herb Schmidt, Fargo
- End Polio Now Zone 28 Coord,  
Gary Nolte
- Rotary Endowment Committee  
Cindy Nolte

- Other F-M Rotary Clubs**
- Monday: FM/PM Rotary  
5:30 p.m., Lucky 13 Pub
  - Monday: Fargo West Rotary  
Noon, Holiday Inn
  - Wednesday: Fargo Rotary  
Noon, Radisson
  - Thursday: FM/AM Rotary  
7 a.m., Ramada Plaza

If you attend meetings of any of these clubs, just check in. We have a reciprocal agreement.

**Moorhead Rotary**  
P.O. Box 72  
Moorhead, MN 56561



**This week:** Sergeant at Arms Jean Hannig will introduce our Rotary exchange student, Tangkwa Apinya Simasthien, who will tell us about her home in Phitanulok, Thailand — its history, culture and way of life. Dan Eggiman and Kay Parries are greeters of the day.

**Tonight:** Join fellow Rotarians at the social tonight hosted by Junkyard Brewery, 1416 First Ave. N., Moorhead. Our informal get-together (which also counts as an official make-up) includes a social and samples beginning at 4:30, a tour of the brewery at 5, & pizza plus more craft beers afterward. Come when you can!



### Police chief reports on person-to-person trip to Cuba as travel sanctions loosen

President Eric Wilkie welcomed members and guests to Tuesday's meeting, kicked off with lively renditions of "R-O-T-A-R-Y" and "Happy Birthday."

### Mull over possibilities for 2016 RYLA

RYLA chairman Randy Farwell asked members to think about an important upcoming program — the annual Rotary Youth Leadership Academy. He invited members to nominate outstanding youth in Moorhead and Clay County to attend the summer event, which past participants have called "life changing."



Photos: Bill Schwandt leads a chorus of "Happy Birthday," Violet Deilke, Steve Schaefer & Tangkwa. Randy Farwell requests recommendations for RYLA. Tracey Moorhead tells about her upcoming Rotary service trip to Guatemala. Moorhead Police Chief David Ebinger reports on his recent people-to-people visit to Havana and Cienfuegos, Cuba.

### Moorheads headed to Guatemala

Member Tracey Moorhead and her 14-year-old daughter are soon heading to Guatemala on a Rotary-sponsored service trip. She'll report back on her return.

### Sederquist describes Rotary's 'Marco Polo'

Sergeant at Arms David Sederquist shared the story of Rotary International's own "Marco Polo" James Wheeler Davidson. The Rotarian from Canada crossed the Pacific in 1921, setting up four clubs in Australia and New Zealand. He later went on to help establish

The Board of Directors has received a membership application from David Keller, sponsored by Matt Thomason. He is a realtor with Pifer's Auction & Realty in Moorhead. He will be welcomed into membership after the seven days allowed for comments.



President Eric Wilkie, Corey Elmer & Jon Benson. Rotarian of the Day Jon. Sergeant at Arms David. Troy Nellis, Tom Riley and Rod McLarnan chat with Chief Ebinger after his presentation.

**Guests, 1/26/16**

Tangkwa Simasthien, FES  
 Brandon Lunak, ass't superintendent  
 of Moorhead schools,  
 prospective member  
 Jennie Huotari & Drew Hushka,  
 guests of Corey Elmer

**Visiting Rotarians**

Tom Riley, past district governor  
 Steve Shark, Fargo West

**February Birthdays**

Suomala, Paul	Feb 01
Thomason, Matthew	Feb 12
Beaton, Tim	Feb 17
Elmer, Corey	Feb 23
Sederquist, David	Feb 23
Johnson, Eric	Feb 28

**Club Anniversaries**

Cater, Alma	28 years
Feb 02 1988	
Elmer, Corey	13 years
Feb 11 2003	
Frost, Josh	3 years
Feb 12 2013	
Moore, Noel	17 years
Feb 23 1999	

clubs in Turkey, Greece, Egypt & Iraq. David noted that Rotary's first non-English speaking club was chartered in Cuba.

Happy Dollars were collected on behalf of trips to Arizona, Jamaica, Florida and Colorado; for the F-M Symphony and upcoming Shakespeare Fest; and for Jon Benson's son's band concert (Jon thinks he plays trombone). David left us with an African proverb: "Smooth seas do not make a skillful sailor."

**Ebinger Describes Cuba, Now and Then**

Rotarian of the Day Jon Benson introduced Moorhead Police Chief David Ebinger, who left Little Rock, Ark., for the local top cop job in 2006.

David and wife Lynne spent eight days in Havana and Cienfuegos, Cuba, in December. Their people-to-people trip was

one of the specially sanctioned visits now permitted, as the US and Cuba move toward opening up commercial international travel.

He described the waves of refugees that have come here since Fidel Castro's revolutionary government took the reins in 1959. He and his wife wanted to see Cuba as it is now, before the inevitable waves of tourists and trade alter its culture forever.

He shared photos of the sub-tropical island, a combination of striking vistas, historical sites and tattered everyday buildings and infrastructure. He described the nation's two currencies -- one for international visitors, the other for citizens.

Finally, he talked about the fleets of '50s American autos still on the street, kept running by backyard mechanics with diesel replacement engines and sheer ingenuity.

**Upcoming Meetings: Programs and Assignments**

**Tuesday, February 2**

Sergeant at Arms .....Jean Hannig  
 Program .....Rotary exchange student Tangkwa Simasthien shares insights about her home in Phitanulok, Thailand. Welcome, Tangkwa!  
 Greeters .....Dan Eggiman & Kay Parries

**Tuesday, February 9**

Sergeant at Arms .....Mike Hulett  
 Rotarian of the Day .....Steve Moore  
 Program .....Rocky Schneider, public affairs strategist, F-M Diversion Authority —"Project Update." The F-M Area Diversion Project. It will be the biggest public works project in area history at \$1.8 billion, establishing permanent flood protection with a 36-mile diversion channel and 32,500 acres of upstream staging.  
 Greeters .....Randy Farwell & Neil Qualey

**Tuesday, February 16**

Sergeant at Arms .....Eric Johnson  
 Program .....Matt Lieseth, "The Hornbacher's Success Story." President Matthew Leiseth

began bagging groceries for Hornbacher's 24 years ago as a student at Concordia College. Matt now has responsibility for eight stores in Fargo, Moorhead and Grand Forks. He will share the Hornbacher's story since its founding in 1951, including the development of the recent south Moorhead location.  
 Greeters .....Doreen Filler & Jon Riewer

**Tuesday, February 23**

Sergeant at Arms .....Dave Sederquist  
 Program .....Clay County Attorney Brian Melton, "And Justice for All." First elected in 2006 while stationed in Iraq's Anbar Province with the Minnesota National Guard, Brian was re-elected in 2010 and 2014. He oversees a team of attorneys and staff who handle criminal and civil matters for county.  
 Greeters .....Tammy Finney & Jerry Rogers

**Tuesday, March 15**

**FM Rotary Recital with a Cause**  
 First Lutheran Church .....7 p.m.