



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 105—Number 20

December 3, 2024

Moorhead Rotary Club 1405 District 5580

President Steve Astrup
President-Elect
President Nominee
Treasurer Dave Sederquist
Secretary Teresa Joppa
Past President Dave Sederquist

Directors (2023) Chris Andreasen, Greg Johnson & Steve Schaefer
Directors (2024) Tracey Moorhead, & Ernie Simmons
Directors (2025) Tammy Finney & Jean Hannig
Directors (2026) Nancy Hanson & Tim Hiller
RYLA Coordinator Jon Riewer
Polio Plus Coordinator Cindy Nolte
Program Chair Jean Hannig
Paddlewheel Photographer/Editor Nancy Edmonds Hanson

November Birthdays

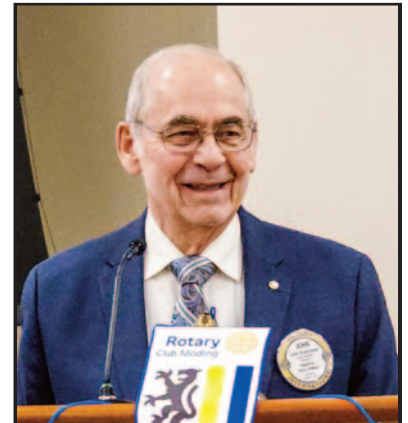
Lunak, Brandon December 4
Andreasen, John December 5
Deilke, Violet December 20
Hanson, Nancy December 24

Anniversaries

Sederquist, Dave and Jane 40 years
Dec. 08 1984

Rotary Anniversaries

Nolte, Gary 36 years
Dec. 13 1988
Parries, Kay 36 years
Dec. 13 1988
Finney, Tammy 9 years
Dec. 08 2015
Aldrich, Alexander 1 year
Dec. 05 2023
Schmitke, Josh 1 year
Dec. 05 2023



Coming Up Tuesday, December 3

Joan Windus of Change Is Good discusses how to simplify downsizing a household. Brandon Lunak is sergeant at arms.

Pastor John Andreasen delivers message of gratitude & thanks

President Steve Astrup welcomed Moorhead Rotarians and guests to a slightly early day of thanks on Nov. 24.

He updated members on several upcoming events — including a holiday social that replaces the club's regular meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 10. Gary and Cindy Nolte will host members and their guests at their home at 117 38th Ave. Circle S. beginning at 5 p.m.

Steve mentioned that the board made several decisions at its meeting the previous week. The board will take over the function of screening and awarding grants for the coming year. He also mentioned that several service opportunities will be coming up in the new year, including Feed Our Starving Children in early January.



Photos/Nancy Hanson: (top) John Andreasen's grandson, also named John, performs while uncle Chris videos his performance. (Above) Exchange student Ellie Zimmerman presents President Steve with a flag and gift. Kay Parries and Bob Hanna. (Below) Eric Wilkie watches while Brandon Lunak records little John's performance. .



Moorhead Rotary

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Sarge Nancy connects first Thanksgiving to refugees' arrival in community today

Sergeant at Arms Nancy Hanson looked back to the harvest feast in 1621 that evolved much later into Thanksgiving. She told of how the native Wampanoag welcomed European pilgrims, helping them learn to grow native crops and hunt native game. She compared that welcome with the reception area churches and families have provided for 21st century refugees arriving in Fargo-Moorhead. "Some welcomed them. Some have not," she said. She told of Zak Amin, who became a translator for American forces in Kurdistan ... before fleeing terrorist threats when the U.S. withdrew from Iraq. He now teaches ESL in the Moorhead schools and helps Kurdish youth rediscover their families' culture.

Eric Wilkie initiated the flow of "happy dollars" with news of the FM Area Foundation's new Caring Catalog. Brandon Lunak was grateful that Moorhead kids were kept safe during a bomb threat the day before. Cindy Nolte told of her family's experience welcoming foster kids from Vietnam.

Jerry Rogers applauded his granddaughter, who was in the play "Mean Girls" (but isn't one herself). Bob Hanna and Steve Schaefer both reported that the MHS musical "Big Fish" was a tremendous success. Teresa thanked guest Cambria for her visit, as well as a good forecast for upcoming Thanksgiving travel.

Finally, the group celebrated Gary Nolte, who turns a year older on Thanksgiving.

Andreasen offspring perform prelude to Grandpa's holiday message

John Andreasen took the podium to share a special Thanksgiving message ... but introduced his presentation in a unique way. His grandson and namesake John, son of John's daughter Kirsten Gamble, performed a selection on his cello accompanied by his mom. Several Rotarians, including his Uncle Chris, recorded his playing.

John said he took inspiration for his talk from a football game. It was fourth down with 4 minutes to play. Only 3 or 4 points separated the teams. There were 4 minutes left and 4 yards to go. A time-out was called.

"Why? It's a game of strategy," he said, then asked, "What are our strategies to live our lives with thanksgiving?"

He cited what the apostle Paul wrote to followers from Greece about living a thankful life, taking time out to give a prayer to a power greater than himself.

"As the quarterback called time out, so did Paul," John said. The key is an attitude of humility, with Christ as its model. "Don't act from selfishness and conceit," he said. "Be obedient and be of service." He compared Paul to the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self."

Finally, John said, Paul also talked of contentment and the acceptance of circumstances. "We must find ways to be content. The true way is to remember and appreciate that there is a power greater than ourselves."

Looking Ahead

December 3

Sergeant at ArmsBrandon Lunak
Program Joan Windus, Change Is Good

December 10 — Holiday Social

Gary & Cindy Nolte host a holiday social at their home, 117 38th Ave. Circle S.5 p.m.

December 17

Sergeant at ArmsCindy Nolte
ProgramPaul Dovre's Christmas Message

December 24 & 31 — No Meeting

December 31 — No Meeting