

The Padlewheel Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 103—Number 23

December 6, 2022

Florence "Tree Tops" Klingensmith: Clay County Aviatrix



Photos/Nancy Hanson: Mark Peihl, HCSCC. President David Sederquist.

Coming Up Tuesday, December 6

Deb Kaul talks about the Memory Cafe, a program for those with memory impairments and their caregivers, at our meeting Tuesday. Jon Benson is sergeant at arms, and Eric Wilkie is Rotarian of the day.

Historian Mark Peihl tells the story of pioneer pilot Florence Klingensmith

President David Sederquist welcomed Moorhead Rotarians Nov. 29 as they started the meeting with singing "Home on the Range" — reviving the long club tradition that was nearly lost during the Covid years of Zoom attendance. Weekly attendance has been growing, too. Joining us again this week were our Rotary exchange student, Sergio, and visiting Fargo Rotarian John Vander Linden.

Party planners need RSVPs this week

Christmas party planning chairman Jerry Rogers announced the club's holiday party will be hosted by Gary and Cindy Nolte at their home beginning at 5:30 Thursday, Dec. 15. He asked that members let him or the Noltes know about attending so that refreshments can be planned.

Jon Riewer, who is again chairing the 4-Way Test Essay Contest, said that seven submissions have been received from high school entrants. He asked for at least one more volunteer to help judge them.

Sarge Sam gathers happy dollars

Sergeant at Arms Sam Wai amazed at least some Rotarians with the news that the Beatles' hit "I Wanna Hold Your Hand" was released 60 years

Rotary Christmas Party — December 15 Our Moorhead Rotary Christmas party is just around the corner on Thursday, Dec. 15. We'll be gathering at Gary and Cindy Nolte's home at 117 38th Ave. Circle S. at 5:30 p.m. for food, fun and fellowship. Please help with the planning by letting the Noltes (701-261-6964) or party chairman Jerry Rogers (218-329-6456) know whether you will be attending.





Jon Riewer updates on 4-Way Test contest. Sergeant at Arms Sam Wai.





Jerry Rogers urges members to RSVP for Christmas party. Jean Hannig and Chilean exchange student Sergio.

Moorhead Rotary Club 1405 District 5580

President	David Sederquist
President-Elect	Steve Astrup
President Nominee	
Treasurer	Emily Gess
Secretary	Teresa Joppa
Past President	Gina Monson

Directors (2023) Chris Andreasen, Greg Johnson & Steve Schaefer Directors (2024) Tracey Moorhead, Ernie Simmons & Megan Wiesneski Director (2025) Tammy Finney RYLA Coordinator Randy Farwell Polio Plus Coordinator Cindy Nolte Program Chair Jean Hannig Paddlewheel Editor Nancy Edmonds Hanson

Committees

December Birthdays

Lunak, Brandon	Dec 04
Andreasen, John	Dec 05
Deilke, Violet	Dec 20
Hanson, Nancy	Dec 24

Wedding Anniversaries

Sederquist, Dave & Jane Dec 08 1984 38 years

Rotary Anniveraries

7 years
34 years
34 years

Meetings

Tuesdays — noon Moorhead Schools Operations Center, 1401 30th Ave. S.



Photo (above): Pledging allegiance.

(Right): Bob Hanna and Dave Sederquist listen to Mark Peihl's presentation.

Other F-M Rotary Meetings 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 ago that day. He also noted that Nov. 30 is St. Andrew's Day honoring the patron saint of Scotland, though he never set foot there.

Members shared good news and happy dollars. Dale Hetland cited the football game pitting the Gophers against lowa and his appreciation for Jerry Rogers, who shared his season tickets. Dave Sederquist noted his son ran in the "Burn the Bird" marathon on Thanksgiving. Eric Wilkie highlighted Giving Tuesday and the F-M Area Foundation's Caring Catalog. Bob Hanna fined someone — himself! — for lax attendance. Finally, Sam expressed gratitude that during the summer tours he led to Greece, and despite bringing a bumper crop of masks, not one participant came down with Covid.

Peihl shares high-flying Klingensmith's story

Rotarian of the Day Jean Hannig announced one of the club's favorite guest speakers, historian Mark Peihl of the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County. He traced the history of the Moorhead Airport's newly christened "Florence Klingensmith Field."



Mark's focused on the story of a Moorhead native who was once nationally known for her daring and skill, Florence "Treetops" Klingensmith. Born Florence Gunderson, she and her family lived near Kragnes when she was a child; her father Gustav was the janitor and bus driver at Oak Mound School. The Gundersons moved to Moorhead when she was in her teens.

Florence and her brothers attended Moorhead High School, where they earned reputations as "good kids" who were also definitely daredevils. Her brother George, a lover of motorcycles, eventually became a motorcycle cop with the Moorhead Police Department.

Florence fell in love with flying after her first ride at an air show at Hector Airport, where she later admitted she was initially frightened but caught the flying bug. She completed the airplane mechanics course at Hanson Mechanical Trade School in Fargo, then persuaded several Fargo businessmen to buy her a plane, promising to promote the city. She achieved national fame as one of the few female air-racing pilots. She died at just 33 when her aircraft's wing ripped and she crashed while taking the lead in a national air race.

December 6

Sergeant at ArmsJon Benson Rotarian of the DayEric Wilkie ProgramDeb Kaul, Memory Cafe

December 13

Sergeant at Arms.....Cindy Nolte ProgramPaul Dovre's Christmas message

December 20 — No Meeting

December 27 — No Meeting

January 3 — No Meeting

January 10

Sergeant at Arms	
Rotarian of the Day Violet D	
ProgramPaula S	Senn,
Soul Solutions Recovery	

Soul Solutions Recovery

Looking Ahead

January 17

Sergeant at Arms	
Rotarian of the Day	
Program	Marty Douglas,
Service Dogs for America	

January 24

Sergeant at Arms	
	Chris Andreasen
Program	Jana Bruschwein,
Peace Academy	

January 31

Sergeant at Arms	
Rotarian of the Day	
Program	
Ronald McDonald House	