



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 106—Number 27

January 13, 2026

Moorhead Rotary Club 1405 District 5580

President Tim Hiller
President-Elect Chris Andreasen
President Nominee
Treasurer Dave Sederquist
Secretary Alexander Aldrich
Past President Steve Astrup

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

January Birthdays

Dovre, Paul	January 7
Astrup, Steve	January 10
Riewer, Jon	January 14
Finney, Tammy	January 29



Coming Up January 13

Librarian Megan Krueger joins us to give an update on the new downtown library/community center dubbed The Loop. Steve Astrup is sergeant at arms.

Sanford's Travis Christopher explains needs filled by hospital's new Peltier Lodge

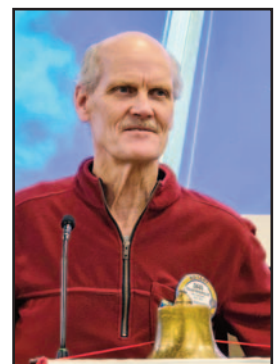
President Tim Hiller welcomed Moorhead Rotarians and our guest speaker, Fargo Rotary president Travis Christopher, to the club's first meeting of 2026.

He opened with two announcements: The Rotary Foundation has exceeded its fund-raising goal, and former member Alex Aldrich is back again. Alex has agreed to serve as secretary after the departure of long-time secretary Teresa Joppa (Norwig), who has moved with her husband to the Black Hills of South Dakota.

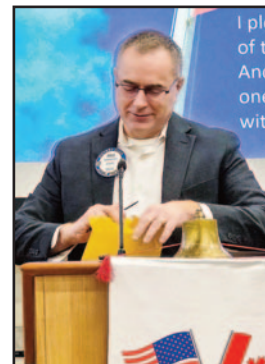
Dale Hetland took the podium, ripping open the envelope containing January's travel raffle winners. Jean Hannig sold two of the winning tickets: third place, a \$100 dining certificate for Rustica, to Fern, and second prize — \$200 in cash — to Elizabeth Jackson. Cindy Nolte was credited with selling the top prize, the trip of the winner's choice, to her husband Gary. Coincidentally, the Noltes were away on a cruise ... and missed the meeting.

Sarge Dave bares January facts

As sergeant at arms, Dave Sederquist shared a list of facts about the month of January. Its name comes from the Roman god Janus. While it



Photos/Nancy Hanson. (Top) Travis Christopher of Sanford Health. President Tim Hiller. (Above) Secretary Alex Aldrich. Sergeant at Arms Dave Sederquist. (Below) Raffle chair Dale Hetland. President-elect Chris Andreasen, Dave Tranby & Bill Woods. (Bottom) Janelle Leiseth, Dale Hetland and Jean Hannig. Eric Wilkie.





Photos/Nancy Hanson:

(Above) Travis Christopher, who is president of Fargo Rotary, described Sanford's new Peltier Lodge (photo, right column), where patients will stay while recovering from cancer treatment.



marks short, dark days and bitterly cold nights here, the coldest month of the Northern Hemisphere's calendar is summer south of the equator.

Happy dollars piled in at his request. While the sarge himself was grateful for a visit to his very first grandson, Dave Tranby reported a trip to Disneyland. Jean Hannig was delighted by her sale of two of the three winning travel tickets. John Andreasen and Nancy Hanson both celebrated Alex Aldrich's return to the club. Alex himself said he's glad to be back ... and will be leading a Habitat for Humanity home-building trip July 19-25 in Asheville, North Carolina. He invited others to join his group by emailing him at alexanderaldrich@gmail.com.

Speaker reports on Sanford's Peltier Lodge

Travis Christopher laid groundwork for understanding the need for Sanford Health's new Peltier Lodge accommodations with background on the Roger Maris Cancer Center. Opened in 1990, the Fargo facility now serves 600 patients per day. More than half of them must travel more than 60 miles for treatment there.

Until 2021, bone marrow transplants — useful for treating a variety of blood cancers — were not available in North Dakota. Patients had to travel out of state to the Mayo Clinic for treatment. Since then, however, Sanford has offered this state-of-the-art care; by now, 100 have been completed.

But the treatment makes often-difficult demands on patients. While every transplant patient's



situation is unique, most will spend two to six weeks in inpatient care. Depending on the type of transplant, patients and their caregivers are then required to spend an additional 30 to 100 days within 20 minutes of Roger Maris for outpatient care and monitoring. Each day, an average of 54 patients need temporary and longer-term lodging. As the blood and bone marrow transplant program continues to grow, it is anticipated that number will double in the coming years.

The new Peltier Lodge, now under construction on the site of the former Scandia Hotel, will offer lodging, as well as support, comfort and connections with other patients and families facing the same challenges. Ground was broken in June 2025. The lodge's first two floors will be dedicated to serving patients in the cancer center's blood and bone marrow transplant program and their families. The third and the fourth floors will be available for patients being treated for other cancers and their families.

Most of the cost of the \$12 million hotel-like project has already been raised, Travis reported.

Looking Ahead

January 13

Sergeant at ArmsSteve Astrup
Program.....Megan Krueger,
Moorhead Library (The Loop)

January 20

Sergeant at Arms.....Jerry Rogers
Program ...Ana Beatriz Prata, Rotary Exchange

January 27 — Rotary Service Day

February 3

Sergeant at Arms.....Nancy Hanson
Program.....Cani Aden, New Roots Midwest

February 10

Sergeant at ArmsJon Riewer
Program

February 17

Sergeant at ArmsDale Hetland
ProgramErin Shapiro, Plains Art Museum