



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 105—Number 46

June 17, 2025

Moorhead Rotary Club 1405 District 5580

President Steve Astrup
President-Elect Tim Hiller
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

June Birthday

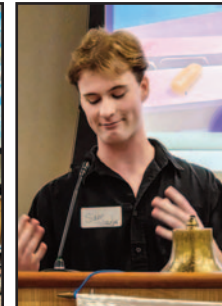
Joppa, Teresa June 27

Wedding Anniversaries

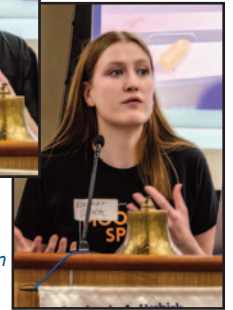
Dovre, Paul & Mardy 67 years
Jun. 03 1958
Tranby, Dave & Sharon 51 years
Jun. 22 1974

Rotary Anniversary

Deilke, Violet 29 years
Jun. 04 1996



Sam Schaefer



Eleanor Culloton

Tuesday, June 17

Laura Lobo is the day's sergeant at arms.
Our program on Down Home is presented
by Emily Kaiser.

Spud Speech stars tell of award-winning program, documentary

Moorhead Rotary welcomed several special guests on June 10 — Moorhead High School speech instructors Andrew Tichy and Rebecca Meyer-Larson, known as Mey-Lar (Mylar) to the multiple award-winning Spud speech team. The occasion was a program by two of her top students: Sam Schaefer, son of Rotarian Steve Schaefer, and Eleanor Culloton.



Photos/Nancy Hanson: Brent Brandt. Sarge Alex Aldrich.
John Andreasen, Janelle Leiseth, Jon Benson & (standing)
President Steve Astrup.
Proud dad Steve Schaefer introduces his son Sam.S

President Steve Astrup (with just one more meeting to go) reminded members of two upcoming events. Next Tuesday, June 24, a 5:30 p.m. evening social at Sanders Flats will take the place of our regular meeting. We'll send off Rotary exchange student Elie Zimmerman, who'll be returning to Austria.

The Noltes host another evening meeting on July 1, at which Steve will hand over the gavel to president-elect Tim Hiller.



Brent Brandt reprises trivia challenge

Former member Brent Brandt joined us and reprised the trivia challenges he formerly hosted each week. In honor of speaker Sam Schaefer, he quizzed members on other movie Sams.

Sarge Alex introduces Cahoot queries

Sergeant at Arms Alex Aldrich, too, challenged





Photos (at right): Guests — MHS speech instructor and coaches Rebecca Meyer-Larson (Mylar) and Andrew Tichy.

members' knowledge with an on-line game of Cahoot. He wound up with an unanswered query: "I've been a member since December 2023. Why am I still not on the opening slide of members?"

Happy dollars came next. Dale Hetland offered a light-hearted buck for, he said, "missing Eric Wilkie's program last week." Steve Schaefer appreciates being the first host family for our new exchange student, who arrives in August. Guest Ken Rosson expressed his thanks for Mylar's teaching and mentoring his own Spud children.



Dad Steve introduces Sam and Eleanor

Steve Schaefer took the podium to introduce the day's guests. His son Sam is one of five speech students featured in the award-winning documentary "Speak," as well as a member of the high school's speech team; Sam graduated this month. Eleanor Culloton, a junior, captains the 70-member team.

Sam told the group about the drama, competition

and lessons of speech tournaments and competitions. He shared the story of how he was chosen to audition and eventually be chosen for the documentary film on high school oratory competition.

The film follows five of the nation's top teenage speech competitors, capturing the euphoria of victory and the devastation of defeat as they craft and perform original oratories over the course of a 9-month season.



The film premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in January and won a top award. He and his family were flown to Utah to be part of the unveiling. "Speak" has since gone on to win a variety of awards at other American film festivals, and opened the Fargo Film Festival this spring.

Eleanor spoke of embracing the speech team's motto: "Changing the world, one word at a time." She reported the National Speech and Debate Association's tournament — the Super Bowl of high school speech — is next week in Des Moines, Iowa. The weeklong competition involves 1,500 schools, with 250 competitors in each category. The basket was passed to collect donations to help with travel expenses to bring the entire 70-member team to the nationals.

Looking Ahead

June 17

Sergeant at ArmsLaura Lobo
Program.....Emily Kaiser, Down Home

June 24 — Evening Meeting

Social to send off Rotary exchange student Elie Sanders Flats, 1610 Seventh St. S.5:30 p.m

July 1 — Change of Gavel Social

5:30 p.m.Nolte Home, 117 38th Ave S Circle