



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 105—Number 47

June 24, 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



Tuesday, June 24

No noon meeting this week! Instead, we'll gather at 5:30 in the meeting room at Sanders Flats (thanks, Ernie) to bid farewell to exchange student Elie Zimmerman and enjoy one another's company.

Kaiser describes Down Home's mission of creating warm, welcoming homes

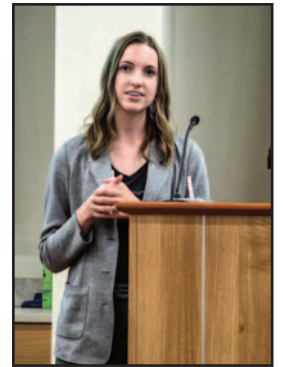
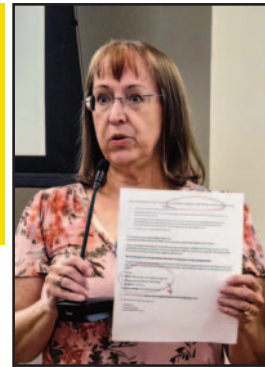
President Steve Astrup presided over his last noon meeting of Moorhead Rotary on Tuesday, June 17, welcoming members along with speaker Emily Kaiser, outreach director of the Fargo-Moorhead nonprofit Down Home.

Steve announced that the club will not meet at noon on Tuesday, June 24, and July 1. Instead, evening gatherings are planned on those days. The June 24 meeting, a social beginning at 5:30, will take place in the meeting room of Sanders Flats, 1610 Seventh Street South. It will be an evening for fellowship, and a chance to bid farewell to our '24-'25 Rotary exchange student, Elie Zimmerman.

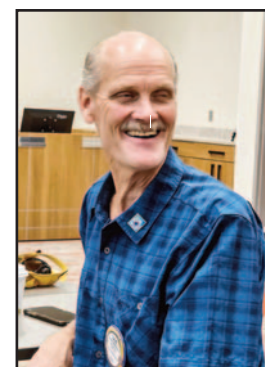
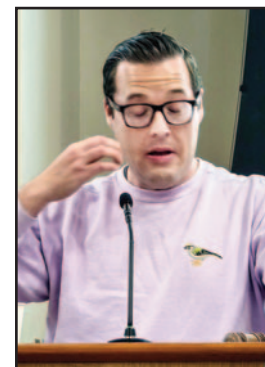
The first July meeting, too, will be a 5:30 social. This one — hosted by Gary and Cindy Nolte in their home at 117 38th Avenue Circle — will feature the installation of our president for 2025-'26, Tim Hiller.

Sarge Teresa shares Father's Day origins

Teresa Joppa stepped in as a pinch hitter, serving as the day's sergeant at arms. She focused on Father's Day, celebrated in the U.S., Canada and the U.K. on the third Sunday in June ... but on other dates in other nations.



Photos/Nancy Hanson: (Top) Eric Wiikie & Jon Benson. (Above) Sarge Teresa Joppa. Speaker Emily Kaiser. (Below) President Steve Astrup. District Gov. Kay Parries. (Bottom) Dave Sederquist. Dale Hetland.





After listening to a sermon on Mother's Day, Sonora Smart Dodd was inspired to create a holiday to recognize her father's dedication as a Civil War veteran and single dad to six children. The first was celebrated on July 5, 1908. It became official in 1913. Woodrow Wilson attended the first in Spokane, Washington.

She also mentioned Heather Ranck's call for volunteers to plant at the Natural Play Hill, the final phase of its development, the next day. Finally, she read a district-wide letter from our Kay Parries, who completes her term as district president this week: "As we look ahead, there are challenges. We need to commit to making membership our # 1 goal. It means exploring creative ways to attract new members to Rotary.

"Don't be afraid to challenge what we are doing and how we do things. Does this work? Or should we be trying something different? We also need to commit to bringing more women into Rotary.

"We need more members involved in our club and the district. Committees should be strong and have a diverse membership throughout the district. I encourage each of you to participate in the decision-making process by joining a committee. We need your ideas!"

Happy dollars celebrate good news

The sergeant's call for happy dollars started off with Dave Sederquist's appreciation to Teresa for stepping in — and his apology for his error in naming the day's sergeant. John Andreasen noted that the Dickinson Rotary club has donated \$6,000 to the Recital with a Cause, earmarked for

contribution to Polio Plus. Kay noted that Duluth is hosting the District 5580 conference Oct. 23. Jean Hannig saluted our speaker and the good work being done by Down Home.

Emily Kasper tells Down Home's story

Sarge Teresa introduced speaker Emily Kasper, the director of mission outreach for Down Home. A native of Moorhead, Emily earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Mary. She has worked with Down Home since 2017.

The FM nonprofit has empowered more than 200 families emerging from homelessness by transforming their empty new spaces into beautiful, dignified homes.

Down Home accepts donations of furniture and home decor from the community. Then volunteers make the spaces into homes. They often represent Sparklight, Fix It Forward, Job Service, the YWCA and other area businesses or organizations.

The volunteers select furnishings and decorative items from among the group's inventory, then put them together in comfortable, welcoming settings in the space where the families are making their new homes.

Emily explained that Down Home differs from Furniture Mission in that it accepts decor items and insures that each apartment or home is fully equipped with "soft goods" like sheets, pillows, blankets and other gear. More information on donating: <https://www.down-home.org/>

Looking Ahead

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