



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 106—Number 41

May 12, 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
Director (2027) Kay Parries
RYLA Coordinator Jon Riewer
Polio Plus Coordinator Cindy Nolte
Program Chair Jean Hannig
Paddlewheel Photographer/Editor Nancy Edmonds Hanson

May Birthdays

Andreasen, Christopher	May 2
Hannig, Jean	May 9
Tranby, Dave	May 14
Moorhead, Tracey	May 27

Wedding Anniversaries

Matthees, Charles and Barbara	
47 years	May 26 1979
Schaefer, Steve and Terese	
34 years	May 30 1992



Coming Up May 12

Sue Baron joins us this week to talk about Golden Drive Homeless Kids. Steve Astrup is sergeant at arms

Recital with a Cause raises \$54,000, with total Polio Plus support topping \$1 million

President-elect Chris Andreasen and Moorhead Rotarians wished a happy birthday to our Rotary exchange student, Ana Beatriz de Suza Prata.

Tom Riley reminded members that May 15 is the final day for ordering Fargo AM Rotary's barbecued ribs at RotaryRibs.com. Fargo PM is raffling an e-bike (or a \$2,000 Scheels gift card), while Fargo West is selling chances on a Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

Final Travel Raffle winners revealed

Travel Giveaway chair Dale Hetland unveiled the final monthly winners of our major fund-raiser. Third place, a \$100 dining certificate for Rustica, was won by Rob Remark's ticket customer Amy Robbs. Janelle Leiseth won the \$200 second prize with a ticket she bought herself. Eric Wilkie sold the ticket for the final trip of the year to Roseanne Casey.

Sarge Kay applauds recital's success

Kay Parries noted that May 5 was the first time in her 37 years as a club member that she has served

Photos/Nancy Hanson: President-Elect Chris Andreasen and Dale Hetland. Exchange student Ana Beatriz de Suza Prata. (Top) Kay Parries. Jon Andreasen. (Middle) Jean Hannig. Jerry Rogers. (Bottom) Kirk Scott. Gary Nolte.





Photos: /Nancy Hanson:



(Left) Julie Christianson of Landon's Light.

as sergeant at arms. She highlighted the history of the recital, which began as an idea John Andreasen had in the shower in 2009. This year's event, the 14th, drew all Rotary district leadership. Coupled with the Gates Foundation's double match, it represents a milestone achievement: generating more than \$1 million for Polio Plus.

Happy dollars celebrated everything from Dave Sederquist's mother-in-law Dorothy Remark's 100th birthday to Gary Nolte's embarrassment that wife Cindy won one of the in-kind gifts he himself had solicited. Jerry Rogers enjoyed spending time in the Carolinas, where he didn't see snow for a couple months: "They've got flowers and everything!" Chris noted his daughter Molly's birthday. Janelle Leiseth highlighted the MHS speech team's success and prom. Nancy Hanson recognized John and mentioned her late husband Russ was also involved in founding the recital. Finally, Bill Woods turned in a dollar in recognition of his 93 birthday April 30.

Landon's Light 'brightens path' for kids

Julie Christianson and Cherish Hoffman joined us to talk about Landon's Light, the local charity founded in memory of Landon Solberg. Diagnosed with inoperable brain cancer, the 12-year-old passed away six years ago.

"Landon's light wants to be the light that brightens the path for others," Julie said. One way it does so is in granting "Miracle Moments" for kids diagnosed with serious medical conditions such as cancer and diseases with a progressive or deteriorating impact.

Eight hundred families have been touched through the program. Its "miracles" range from providing iPads to entertain sick children to providing blankets and toys, and even helping with rent for impacted families. Most recipients are involved with the Roger Maris Cancer Center and Ronald McDonald House.

Landon's Light maintains contact with families over the long haul, Julie said. Along with the initial Miracle Moment, a family may continue to receive "Beyond the Moment" help as they continue treatment.

Its scholarship program has impacted youth, too. Alexander Kain, one of this year's recital performers, has received one this year. Finally, its Project Kindness invites teachers to request help to pay it forward in kindness.

John tallies Recital's financial impact

John Andreasen gave a final report on the contributions, expenses and donations of this year's Recital with a Cause.

Funds raised include:
 * \$29,019 given by Rotarians,
 * \$25,100 given by non-Rotarians,
 * \$450 donated at the event,
 * \$3,224 in in-kind donations, and
 * \$1,500 raised by the Foundation Banquet preceding the concert.

"\$59,208 has been raised so far, and more is coming in still," he told the club. He estimated that, when all bills and commitments are paid, \$46,000 will be sent to Rotary's Polio Plus.

Looking Ahead

May 12

Sergeant at ArmsSteve Astrup
 ProgramSue Baron, Golden Drive
 Homeless Kids

May 26 — Rotary Service Day

June 23 — Rotary Service Day

May 19 — Tour of New Moorhead Library