



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 106—Number 15

October 7, 2025

Moorhead Rotary Club 1405 District 5580

President Tim Hiller
President-Elect
President Nominee
Treasurer Dave Sederquist
Secretary Teresa Joppa
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

October Birthday

Johnson, Gregory October 28

Wedding Anniversary

Hannig, Jean and Jeff 53 years
Oct. 24 1972

Rotary Anniversaries

Andreasen, John 33 years
Oct. 01 1992
Benson, Jon 18 years
Oct. 09 2007
Andreasen, Christopher 7 years
Oct. 23 2018
Simmons, Ernest 7 years
Oct. 30 2018



Coming Up Tuesday, October 7

Author Ruth Hetland — wife of Rotarian Dale Hetland — talks about her new book, *Invisible to Invincible*, at this week's meeting. Our sergeant at arms is Eric Wilkie.



WDAY's Kevin Wallevand talks about state of news media, shares stories

After the first week of service at Micah's Mission, Moorhead Rotarians returned to the school operations center for their regular meeting Sept. 30. President Tim Hill — who was one of the first crew of volunteers Sept. 23 — welcomed members and a special guest, Norwegian actress and playwright Jenna Boe, who was appearing at the Sons of Norway as part of its festivities recognizing the 200th anniversary of Norwegian immigration to America.

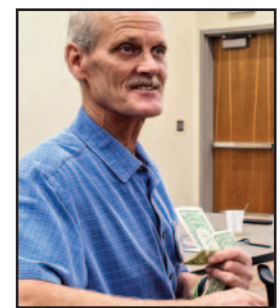
Other volunteers at Churches United included Jerry Rogers, Gary Nolte and Dale Hetland. The next service date is Oct. 28.

Kay Parries reminded members of the upcoming district conference in Duluth.

Tim reminded the club that we need a new secretary, who will begin serving in January after Teresa Joppa, who has held the office for many years, departs for her new home in South Dakota. Nominees are also needed for the 2026-2027 club president.

Treasurer Dave Sederquist reminded members that third-quarter dues are now payable.

Photos/Nancy Hanson: (Top) Reporter Kevin Wallevand of WDAY-TV has covered local stories since 1983. (Above) Sergeant at Arms John Andreasen. (Below) President Tim Hiller. Secretary Teresa Joppa. (Bottom) Raffke chair Dale Hetland. Dave Sederquist.





Photos: Norwegian actress and playwright Jenna Boe.

Jon Riewer and Dave Tranby.



Now's time for selling Travel Giveaway tickets

Travel raffle chair Dale Hetland reported that members have each received 10 tickets to sell for the annual Travel Giveaway. All sales must be completed by the first days of November. Postcards have been mailed to previous customers.

Sarge John tells Norse immigration story

Sergeant at Arms John Andreasen told the story of the Norwegians who, in 18205, crossed the ocean to New York City — 52 of them (soon 53 after the birth of a baby) aboard a ship with a listed capacity of 16. After much delay, including the imprisonment of the captain for overloading the vessel, they made their way to Ohio, where they settled.

Cindy Nolte offered the first happy dollar, quoting her late mother, who wondered why those immigrants settled in such a cold place. Gary noted he's sailed a 50-foo boat on the ocean with six people ... and doesn't care to do so again. Jean Hannig's happy dollars were for her trip to Greece with Sam Wai and gratitude that the date worked out for Kevin Wallevand. Kay Parries looks forward to seeing many Rotary friends at upcoming zone meetings. Jerry Rogers saluted a story by guest Kevin covering the club's project to help increase literacy among local children.

Wallevand reports on media landscape

Kevin Wallevand — no stranger to the microphone — told the group that one of his first stories centered on a Norwegian actor visiting the community who told of his wartime experience preventing the Nazis from taking Norway's "heavy water." That was more than 40 years ago. Today the Vining, Minnesota, native continues to tell stories ... most of them centered on the people of the Red River Valley, where he has become a household name, earning many awards for his reporting.

Kevin talked of how drastically the media landscape has changed since he joined WDAY TV in 1983. "The days of college kids graduating and going to work in local news are over," he said. He cited his experience as a teacher in MSUM's mass communications department: "When I started teaching 20 years ago, every class would be full, with 20 students," he said. "People gathered around the TV to watch the 6 p.m. news together. Now, the same class is drawing maybe four students."

He noted that AI — artificial intelligence — is causing drastic change to the future of news reporting.

He told of the process he follows to find and develop his stories. "Most start with you," he asserted, pointing out that stories typically begin with suggestions from viewers.

Looking Ahead

October 7

Sergeant at ArmsEric Wilkie
ProgramRuth Hetland, author,
"Invisible to Invincible"

October 14 — Evening Social

Social at home of Gary & Cindy Nolte

October 21

Sergeant at ArmsChris Andreasen
ProgramLaetitia Mizero Hellerud
"At Home in the World"

October 28 — Rotary Service Day

November 4

Sergeant at ArmsJon Riewer
ProgramAmy Longtin, Tech4Kids

November 11—Tour of Heather House

HIA Hospice

November 18

Sergeant at ArmsRob Remark
ProgramDayna Del Val,
"Discover Your Spark"