



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 105—Number 12

October 8, 2024

Moorhead Rotary Club 1405 District 5580

President Steve Astrup
President-Elect
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

October Birthdays

Wai, Sam October 3
Johnson, Gregory October 28

Anniversaries

Hannig, Jean & Jeff 52 years
Oct. 24 1972
Elmer, Corey & Brenda 28 years
Oct. 05 1996

Rotary Anniversaries

Andreasen, John 32 years
Oct. 01 1992
Benson, Jon 17 years
Oct. 09 2007
Andreasen, Christopher 6 years
Oct. 23 2018
Simmons, Ernest 6 years
Oct. 30 2018
Lobo, Laura 4 years
Oct. 14 2020

Rotarian Brandon Lunak, superintendent of Moorhead schools, discussed the need for the levy the city's voters will decide on Nov. 5.



Coming Up Tuesday, October 8

Sarah Matthews of the Red River Child Advocacy Center is our guest this week. Eric Wilkie is sergeant at arms.

Supt. Lunak discusses why district seeks proposed levy on Nov. ballot

Dale Hetland, who chairs the Travel Raffle committee, kicked off Moorhead Rotary's regular meeting Tuesday, Oct. 1, with distribution of packets of raffle tickets to members in attendance. (If you weren't there, don't worry — your tickets are coming to you!) He stressed the need to step up quickly to sell the 400 tickets, since the first monthly prize announcements are just a month away. He also shared a spreadsheet with information on past ticket buyers, suggesting that those sold by members no longer with the club should be contacted as well.

Winners will be announced at the first meeting each month from November through May. Each month's top prize is the winners choice of 10 trips for two to destinations scattered from Maine to California. Second and third prizes — \$200 cash and \$100 dinner certificates for Rustica — will also be awarded.

President Steve Astrup mentioned three upcoming dates: the Heart of Clay dessert fundraiser that evening; Dr. Paul Dove's honors at the Chamber of Commerce annual meeting Oct. 10; and the five-club Rotary Golf Scramble Oct. 14. He noted that the annual Rotary 4-Way Test essay competition is now underway.

Sarge John highlights Rotary values

Sergeant at Arms John Andreasen saluted Rotarians who, he said, exemplify Rotary values in their daily lives: Violet Deilke, who has modeled

Fiscal stewardship prioritized: Tax Impact



Under \$15 per month for a Moorhead home valued at \$250,000

If approved, levy will be in place for 10 years

The district's current funding per pupil is lower compared to similarly sized districts. The levy remains below average compared to similar districts, demonstrating responsible financial planning

Photos/Nancy Hanson:

(At right) Travel Raffle committee chair Dale Hetland distributes tickets.

(Below) Sergeant at Arms John Andreasen. Secretary Teresa Joppa.

(Bottom) Bill Woods goes over listing of past ticket buyers. John Riewer.





Photos/Nancy Hanson:
President Steve Astrup.
Jessica Burgum.
Comparison of Moorhead tax burden
compared with similar Minnesota
districts.

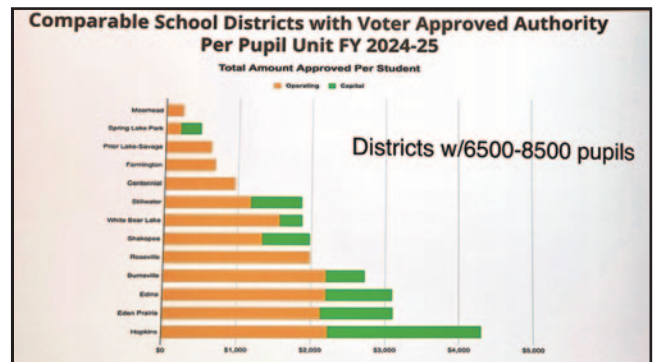
“service before self” throughout her career, walking with clients through difficult times; Heather Ranck, whose experience with her federal agency has demonstrated high ethical standards; David Sederquist, who waited until retirement to accept the presidency so he could put Rotary first; and Jean Hannig, whose involvement with scheduling programs and with exchange students demonstrate hard work. He added four more: Dale Hetland, who takes much good-natured heckling, yet models service with the raffle; Gary and Cindy Nolte, who have funded Rotary service trips from their own pockets; and Steve Schafer, who recruits college students worldwide.

Lunak explains need for upcoming levy

John yielded the podium to Rotarian Brandon Lunak, who heads the Moorhead school district. Brandon focused on the election coming up Nov. 5, in which city residents will vote on a capital projects levy for the district — which, unlike many Minnesota districts of similar size, does not currently have a measure in place to help meet rising costs that are straining the district’s budget.

According to state law, a capital projects levy enables school districts to seek voter authorization to provide funds for approved projects. The term of this proposed levy is 10

School District	ADM	Operating	Capital	Total	Revenue
Moorhead	7,165	223.66	0.00	223.66	1,602,523.90
Spring Lake Park	6,145	194.00	280.00	474.00	2,912,730.00
Prior Lake-Savage	8,751	624.00	0.00	624.00	5,460,624.00
Farmington	6,899	677.00	0.00	677.00	4,670,623.00
Centennial	6,487	953.00	0.00	953.00	6,182,111.00
Stillwater	8,341	1,174.00	691.00	1,865.00	15,555,965.00
White Bear Lake	8,399	1,566.00	307.00	1,873.00	15,731,327.00
Shakopee	7,688	1,338.00	643.00	1,981.00	15,229,928.00
Roseville	7,358	1,984.00	0.00	1,984.00	14,598,272.00
Burnsville	7,321	2,203.00	525.00	2,728.00	19,971,688.00
Edina	8,582	2,197.00	897.00	3,094.00	26,552,708.00
Eden Prairie	8,986	2,129.00	972.00	3,101.00	27,865,586.00
Hopkins	6,537	2,227.00	2,075.00	4,302.00	28,122,174.00
Average/Student:				1,836.90	



years.

According to Brandon, approval of this measure will provide critical funding to support school site improvements, safety, deferred maintenance, software, technology systems and curriculum updates. Among them: Moorhead currently receives only \$233 per student through school bonds approved over the past 20 years. In comparison, Burnsville, Edina and Eden Prairie — all of a similar size — each raise around \$3,000 per student through a combination of bonding and operating levies, while Hopkins, the highest, receives almost \$4,300 per student.

If passed, the Moorhead capital projects levy will generate about \$4.3 million annually for each of the next 10 years. It is estimated to raise annual taxes on a \$250,000 home about \$15 per month.

Looking Ahead

October 8

Sergeant at ArmsEric Wilkie
ProgramSarah Matthews, Red River
Child Advocacy Center

October 15

Sergeant at ArmsJean Hannig
ProgramJoan Windus, Change Is Good

October 22

Sergeant at ArmsChris Andreasen
ProgramPattie Sean, Soul Solutions

October 29

Sergeant at ArmsCindy Nolte
ProgramExchange student Ellie Zimmerman

November 5

Sergeant at Arms
ProgramDevlyn Brooks, Churches United

November 12

Sergeant at Arms
ProgramDistrict Governor Kay Parries

November 19

Sergeant at Arms
ProgramExchange student Jan Prabhaporn

November 26

Sergeant at Arms
ProgramErnie Simmons, AI in the Future