



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 106—Number 13

September 23, 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

September Birthdays

Schaefer, Steve September 1
Nolte, Cindy September 15
Simmons, Ernest September 19

Wedding Anniversaries

Andreasen, John & Carol Sue
53 years Sep. 02 1972
Deilke, Violet & Karl
50 years Sep. 12 1975
Hetland, Dale & Ruth
35 years Sep. 01 1990

Rotary Anniversaries

Nordin, Adam
10 years Sep. 08 2015
Shockley, John
10 years Sep. 21 2015
Remark, Rob
7 years Sep. 18 2018
Hiller, Tim
3 years Sep. 21 2022
Capistran, Jane
1 year Sep. 17 2024



No Noon Meeting This Week!

Volunteers will be serving meals at Churches United. We'll continue this service project on the 4th Tuesday of every coming month.

Miquette McMahon tells of Teach Haiti educational mission in troubled nation

President Tim Hiller welcomed a special guest to Moorhead Rotary on Sept. 16 along with members of the club — our Brazilian Rotary exchange student, Ana Beatriz de Souza Prata of Campos dos Goytacazes of the province of Rio de Janeiro.

Travel Raffle ticket sales commence

Travel Raffle chair Dale Hetland handed out tickets to members who were present. Each Rotarian will receive 10 tickets to be sold for the annual fundraiser at \$100 each. Additional tickets will be available, too. The deadline for completing sales is Nov. 1, with the first prizes to be drawn that week.

Proceeds from our annual raffle are (and have been) used to support a variety of good causes, include these

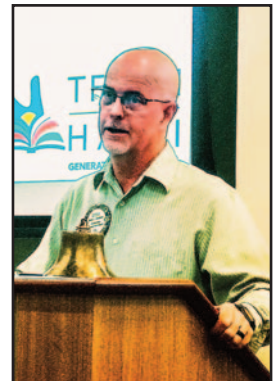
- Churches United — playroom/family gathering room



Photos/Teresa Joppa & Gary Nolte: (Top) Miquette McMahon of Teach Haiti. President Tim Hiller and exchange student Ana Beatriz de Souza Prata of Campos dos Goytacazes, Brazil.

(Above) Five members received Paul Harris Fellows pins — Kirk Scott, Tim Hiller, Steve Schaefer, Dale Hetland and Kay Parries.

(Below) Miquette McMahon. Steve Schaefer.



Looking Ahead

September 23 — Service Project

Volunteers meet at Churches United at 11:45 a.m.
NO REGULAR NOON MEETING!

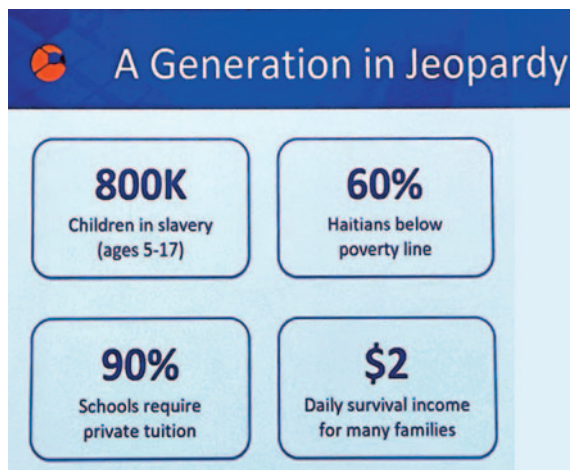
September 30

Sergeant at ArmsJohn Andreasen
ProgramKevin Wallevand, WDAY-TV,
"Telling the Story"

Moorhead Rotary

P.O. Box 72

Moorhead, MN 56561



- FM area Rotary Natural Playground
- Annual sponsoring of a foreign Rotary Youth • • Exchange student
- Sponsoring 2-3 HS students at RYLA summer leadership camp (Rotary Youth Leadership Academy)•
- The FM Youth Symphony
- Fargo YWCA
- American Diabetes Assn. camp for kids with diabetes
- The FM Kicks Jazz Band seminars for young musicians•
- The Rourke Art Gallery's youth programming•
- Moorhead Schools Legacy Fund (scholarships)
- Library books for Moorhead Schools
- 4th of July fireworks display at MSUM
- Rotary 4-Way Test essay contest for youth

More announcements

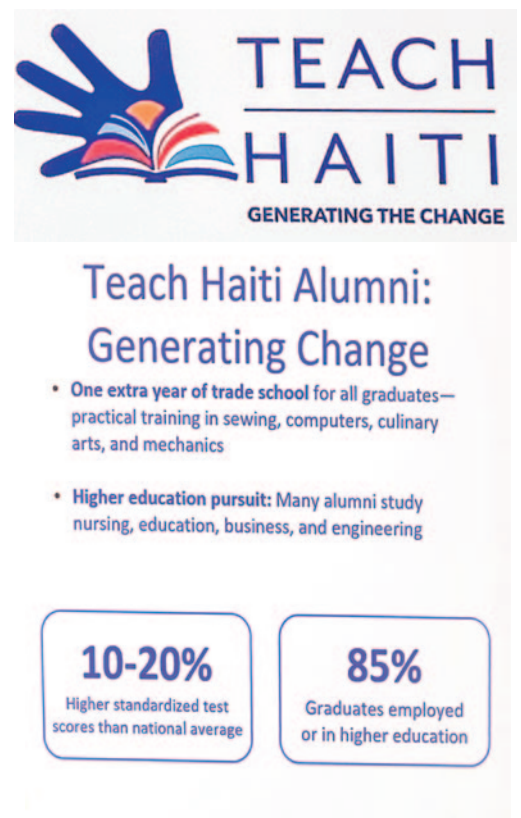
Kay Parries announced that orders for the District 5580 vests were to go in after the meeting. Nominations are open for the next district governor candidates. Anyone interested is asked to speak up!

Applications for outbound Rotary youth exchanges are open for the 2026-27 school year.

Happy dollars were donated on behalf of those helping with the Travel Raffle, for Ana's success on a challenging biology test, and for guest Djaina Sylne.

Teach Haiti founder tells of the challenge of educating children of war-torn Haiti

Steve Schaefer — filling in for the sergeant at arms — introduced guest Miquette McMahon, the founder of Teach Haiti. Miquette has strong ties to the FM and Detroit Lakes areas from her days, first, as a Rotary exchange student in Detroit Lakes, and then as a student at Concordia College. She began Teach Haiti, she told the group, after graduating from Concordia in 2007.



Initial support came from the lakes community, where her appeal for her first school raised 10 times as much as she anticipated. Detroit Lakes and Fargo-Moorhead still supply the largest share of the funding her charitable organization receives. Today its annual budget is \$1 million.

More than 650 children currently attend the two schools Teach Haiti now operates, the first located in the capital city of Port-au-Prince and the second in McMahon's hometown of St. Michel. She hopes to add a third campus in the next few years, and then a fourth, and a fifth. Appropriately, they call them "Schools of Hope."

McMahon told the Rotarians that half a million Haitian children do not attend school. Most schools still operating in the war-torn nation, especially in Port-au-Prince, require private tuition.

Teach Haiti has built a strong record of success in preparing what McMahon calls "a generation at risk." All students are served hot meals every day. Ninety-four percent of its seniors graduate from the academies. She noted that the schools offer education rooted in Biblical values and teach life skills that will prepare graduates for adult life.

McMahon has written a book about her experiences, *The Voice Poverty Cannot Silence*. In it, she shares "the harsh realities of poverty, as well as poignant stories of the sacrificial love of family and God's miraculous provision and protection," according to its publisher.

More information on Miquette's schools is available at www.teachhaiti.org.