



The Paddlewheel

Moorhead Rotary Club

Volume 106—Number 11

September 9, 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
Sep. 12 1975 50 years
Hetland, Dale & Ruth
Sep. 01 1990 35 years

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

**FM Rotary
Golf Scramble
Sept. 15 — Suite Shots**

**Register now!
Form is available
on ClubRunner.**



Tuesday, September 9

Our member Brandon Lunak, superintendent of Moorhead schools, talks about the upcoming school referendum at this week's meeting. Nancy Edmonds Hanson is sergeant at arms.

Historian Markus Krueger tells story of Hardanger fiddles and fiddle-makers

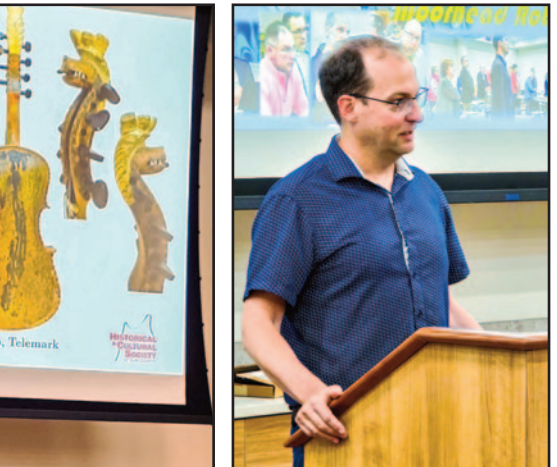
President Tim Hiller welcomed Moorhead Rotarians to the club's regular meeting on Sept. 2. One of our favorite speakers, historian Markus Krueger, joined us to present a glimpse of Moorhead history for the second week in a row.

President Tim Hiller noted that Rotarian Eric Wilkie's father had passed away. He expressed the club's condolences.

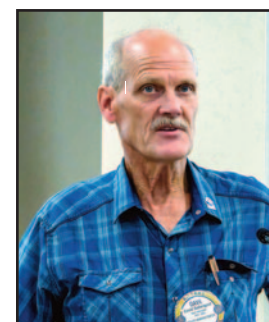
Former district governor Kay Parries shared information about the upcoming District 5580 conference Oct. 24-26 in Duluth. Information and registration links are available at <https://www.rotary5580.org/page/2025-district-5580-conference-duluth>

Order Your 5580 Vests!

Remember those sharp vests that attendees wore to the International Conference? Order your own now from Kay Parries. We'll have prices and sizes in the next Paddlewheel.



Photos/Nancy Hanson: (Top) Markus Krueger. Tim Hiller. (Bottom) Sergeant at Arms Dave Sederquist. Kay Parries with District 5580 Rotary vest.



Moorhead Rotary

P.O. Box 72

Moorhead, MN 56561



Photos:

Janelle Leiseth.

Dave Tranby.

Cindy Nolte.

Kirk Scott.

She also showed off the bright blue vest she and other attendees wore at the Rotary International conference in Calgary this summer. Vests may be ordered directly from Kay.

Sarge Dave details Labor Day history

Sergeant at Arms Dave Sederquist uncovered the history of Labor Day, observed the day before the meeting. He recounted how America's first Labor Day was observed in 1882. It became an official federal holiday 12 years later, thanks to President Grover Cleveland. He queried the group on the most popular food of the late summer holiday: Hamburgers.

Members shared happy dollars in honor of the retirement of Pastor Simon Fensom at Trinity Lutheran Church; trips to the Minnesota State Fair' and the story featuring the Moorhead Spuds in the Minnesota Tribune.

How fiddles are featured in Norse tradition

Markus, the program director for the Historical and Cultural Society of Clay Count, recounted how the distinctive Hardanger fiddle developed into a Norwegian tradition ... and is being kept alive in the New World by musicians. He is part of a group of F-M residents who are learning to craft their own hand-made fiddles in classes taught by Bud Larsen, a national expert in building and playing the iconic instrument.

Hardanger fiddles are related to the classic violin, but differ both in details and sound. The instruments, he said, have twice the regular quota of four strings; the four (or five) extras are mounted beneath those that play each note, resonating to create the droning sound that sets the instruments apart.

Too, they look different. The fiddles are decorated both with inset mother of pearl or ivory inlays and with hand-drawn designs on their faces. Each sports a carved head — often a troll or a crowned lion sticking out its tongue, a symbol of the region.

He told of Gunnar Helland, a Norwegian immigrant from a fiddle-making family who moved to Fargo in 1930 and maintained a violin shop on Broadway for nearly 50 years. Bud Larsen, who apprenticed with Helland, now continued to build the instruments at his home near Brainerd.

District Conference Memorial Service

Please send names of Rotarians who have passed away since the April 2024 conference for inclusion in the memorial service at the District Conference coming up Oct. 24-26 in Duluth. Send a photo along with their name, date of birth, and date of death to gloriad5580@outlook.com before Oct. 1.

Looking Ahead

September 9

Sergeant at Arms.....Nancy Hanson
Program.....Brandon Lunak, Moorhead
Schools Referendum

September 16

Sergeant at ArmsJon Benson
Program.....Miquete McMahan,
Teach Haiti Update (video)

September 23 — Service Project

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

September 30

Sergeant at ArmsJohn Andreasen
Program.....Kevin Wallevand, WDAY-TV,
"Telling the Story"

October 7

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

October 14 — Evening Social

Social at home of Gary & Cindy Nolte