



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

The Normal Spoke

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490

January 16, 2013 Volume No. 63 Issue No. 27

Link to Rotary International <http://www.rotary.org/>

Normal Rotary web site: <http://nrcspoke.com/>

Link to District 6490 Website: www.Rotary6490.org (The District Newsletter can be found on the left side of the main page)

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Head Table: Vandana Naik & Matt Riehle

Greeters: Jeff Lindsay & Meghan Listek

Lottery: Nancy Brokaw & John E. Bishop

Invocation: TBA

Program: Dan Brady, An Update on "Springpatch"

Judge: John E. Bishop

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

Head Table: Students of the Month

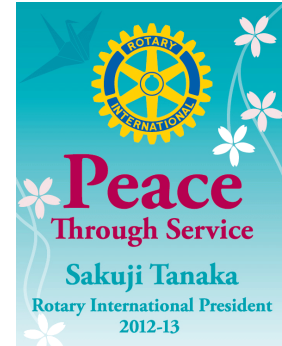
Greeters: John Morris & Stephanie McClellan

Lottery: Bill Caisley & Hank Campbell

Invocation: TBA

Program: Club Mixer

Judge: Bruce Bergethon



Sustaining Members: 23
Club RI Contributions: \$ 14,775

Reporter: John E. Bishop

Photographer: Rob Cranston

Editor: Becky Goeckner

The call to order was at 12:10 by President Art Drake. The Invocation/Reflection was given by Art Runyon followed by the Pledge and one verse of "America" aka "My Country 'tis of Thee", led by Mark Sherman.

There were no visiting Rotarians. Other guests were: **Dan Van Dyke** – Introduced by Ray Ropp. Dan attends BACC / Olympia High School where he's working toward becoming a fire fighter and paramedic like his dad. This fall, he plans on attending ICC. **Jenny Glasscock** – Introduced by Mark Jontry. Jenny attends NCHS. She's recently become interested in crafts and used them as a Relay for Life fundraiser.

Brad Dulee – Introduced by Dick Wagner. Brad attends U-High. Brad has been very involved in athletics at U-High serving as Captain on the soccer, basketball and baseball teams. Brad spoke about how U-High has prepared him for future success by allowing students to develop a strong ability in time management. **Nick Salm** – Introduced by Jeremy High. Nick attends West. Nick is a 4-year member of the Tennis team and this is his second year as a Varsity Captain.

Announcements:

Art Drake announced that Jeremy High had stepped forward to fill the position of Club Secretary for 2013-2014. Jeremy was voted into the position by acclamation. Thanks Jeremy!



Last week's showing of "Journey into Dyslexia" at the Bloomington Public Library had about 20 people in attendance. The event was billed as being sponsored by all five Bloomington-Normal Rotary Clubs but credit must be given to Sunrise Rotary for doing all of the work. If anyone is interested in the topic, Art has contact information for the person showing the film on behalf of the District's literacy efforts.

Susan Hoover was supposed to be here today to talk about the Easter Seals VIP Campaign kickoff but was unable to attend due to an injury. The VIP Campaign kickoff is Thursday January 17 at the Parke Hotel at 5:00 PM. Normal Rotary Club has always been very connected with Easter Seals, but have not done much with/for them recently. The big event is on March 2, so the commitment time is very short.



Connie Gentry reported that the need for the Coats for Kids program has been so great this year that they have not been able to stockpile some coats for next year's distribution. Unit 5 has been giving out coats as quickly as they have been receiving them. Currently, the Coats for Kids fund has less than \$1,000 available. Ordinarily, we pay about \$21 per coat for coats that would list for around \$75. With an upcoming sale, we can get coats for as little as \$12, however, we need more funds to be able to take advantage of the sales. Checks can be made payable to the Normal Rotary Foundation. FYI, since the project began in 2010, Normal Rotary Foundation has purchased about \$27,000 worth of coats and winter wear. Also, Coats for Kids programs have been launched by the Pontiac Rotary Club and by Bloomington Rotary Club.

Rob Cranston announced that there will be a Rotary Youth Exchange student from Brazil attending Normal West next year. More information to follow but his interests include volleyball, soccer and basketball.

Mark Comadena announced a new fundraiser pool to coincide with the annual March Madness basketball tournament. Rather than a bracket, the contest will focus on the Championship game and will work off of a 10x10 grid. A square can be purchased for a \$10 donation. After all squares are filled, digits 0-9 will be randomly assigned to the rows and columns. Participating teams will be randomly assigned to represent the rows and columns. There will be two chances to win – using units position for each team's score the contest will pay \$100 for the half-time score and \$200 for the final score. Normal Rotary will earn \$700 for the Coats for Kids project from the contest.

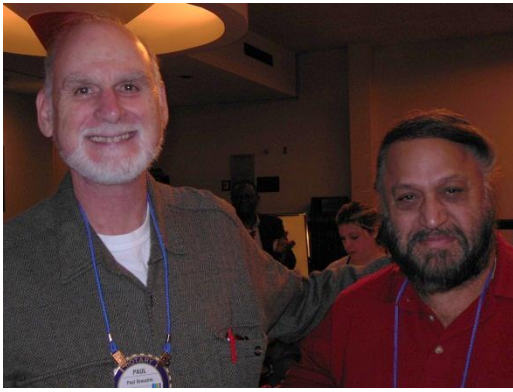


Mark also announced that he is trying to set up a recruitment event. The event is planned to be an open house and is scheduled for the first week in April. Prospective members will be invited to attend the event with a focus on sharing information on the different service activities. An informational flyer and card are being developed. Ideally, this will become an annual event.



Linda Healy announced that the Friends Forever program is moving along nicely. Fundraising has come along nicely and has hit the amount necessary to meet the Normal Rotary contribution challenge. More funds are still needed and personal donations are welcome. Flyers are available.





The Mystery Host was Surinder Sethi. Surinder gave the \$2 to Paul Brauchle in recognition of his time with Normal Rotary. Today was Paul's last Normal Rotary Meeting before he moves south to Mississippi. We'll miss you! Please keep in touch!



Rob Cranston won the Lottery, but he didn't take a photo of himself!



Judge Marcia Dennis took to the podium for Ann Haugo. Marcia offered thanks to Paul Brauchle for his time and years of service to Normal Rotary.

Marcia also called attention to the recent Pantagraph article on the Promise Council which prominently featured our own Linda Healy (who managed to get recognized both as a member of Normal Rotary and as an employee of WGLT. Linda offered the observation that Normal Rotary was mentioned many times during the symposium and that much gratitude was offered for all our club has done.

- Cynthia Kukla was happy to announce her gallery showing at the Eaton Gallery.
- Drake Zimmerman was thrilled about the Coats for Kids success story and was pleased to make a donation for Coats for Kids. He was also pleased to note that the Rotary malaria program has hit 3,000,000 units distributed.
- Elleke Mesdag was happy about Coats for Kids and all of the great work that Connie Gentry has done.
- Art Runyon was happy to offer a reflection on his time in Rotary. In 1968 Art helped to identify a family in need that would receive a Thanksgiving food basket. The following year the same family was identified. Art went to them and asked them what they needed and the response was coats for the kids.
- Carson Varner was pleased to report that his grandson had slept through the afternoon for the first time. Carson was also happy to announce that he was celebrating his 76th semester at ISU.
- Becky Goeckner was happy that Linda Healy was able to get mentioned in the Pantagraph both Normal Rotary and WGLT.
- Todd Anderson was happy that his daughter had gotten the lead in the U-High production of Bye-Bye Birdie.
- Rhada Radakrishnan was happy to take up Carson's challenge and announced that he was celebrating his 86th semester.
- Lyn Landon was happy to have Jason Chambers as McLean County State's Attorney (and today's speaker).
- Vandana Naik was happy to announce that she would be spending the next 6 weeks in India and was looking forward to visiting Rotary clubs while she is there.

Happy Rotarians are pictured on the next page!



Linda Healy



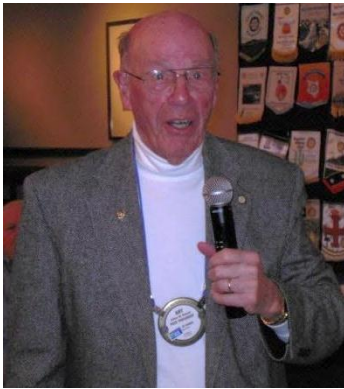
Cynthia Kukla



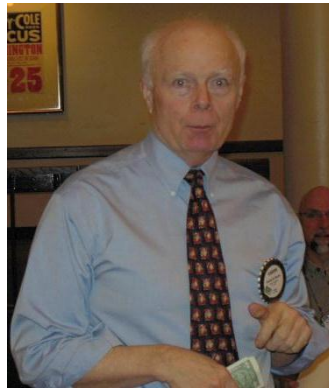
Drake Zimmerman



Elleke Mesdag



Art Runyon



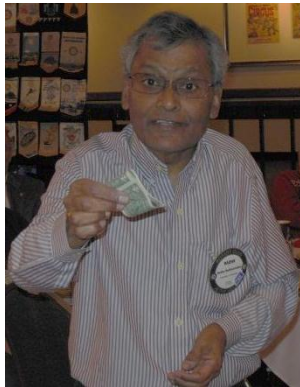
Carson Varner



Becky Goeckner



Todd Anderson



Radha Radakrishnan



Lyn Landon



Vandana Naik



Program: Judge Bill Caisley introduced Jason Chambers. Jason was sworn in as State's Attorney in October. Jason spoke about the State's Attorney's office and the challenges that it faces.

There are 26 prosecutors on staff as well as support personnel. In addition to prosecution, there is: Civil Division; Litigation Prevention; Child Support Division. The county is reimbursed by the state for this service which expedites collections and relieves the burden at the local level. Juvenile Division – gets involved when DCFS removes a child from a home. Jason noted that the first goal in these cases is reunification if/when the home is safe for the kids to return. Except for extreme cases, they do not immediately move for termination of parental rights.

The Victim/Witness Unit serves as a point of contact with the public and provides services for victims and witnesses including trained counselors. In addition to staff counselors, Neville House has three counselors located in the State's Attorney's office. Victim/Witness Unit is one of Jason's high priorities.

The bulk of the office is the Criminal Division. Criminal Division handles felony cases (punishable by at least a year in prison), misdemeanor cases (lesser sentences) as well as traffic cases and delinquency cases (juvenile crime). The Criminal Division has 48 hours from the time of an arrest to get bond set. This makes Saturday court an essential and challenging part of operations as a Friday night arrest cannot wait for Monday morning for a bond hearing.

Once a case is charged and an arraignment handed down, processing can take anywhere from weeks to years. The average for felony cases is 12-13 months. While plea deals have been known to happen at arraignment, they're rare.

The CJCC (Criminal Justice Coordinating Council) has been established to help cut time spent in jail awaiting trial with the overall goal of reducing the jail population. A key priority is to be ready for trial at the first hearing and to avoid continuances wherever possible. After a guilty verdict is passed down, the goal is to expedite the sentencing report. The presumed sentence for a first offence is usually community based (community service / probation). With repeat offenders, the verdict is on the State's Attorney's office to prove that community service / probation would be inappropriate. In the case of gang members, where probation is offered, the State's Attorney's office will request that no contact with known gang members be a condition of probation.

Mental Health issues and Gangs are both issues currently faced by McLean County. (ran out of time before we got to mental health issues. Gang related crime ebbs and flows. Currently, it appears to be at or near a peak. Unfortunately, current feeling is that the gangs have gotten ahead of law enforcement. Major gangs don't have a downstate presence. The current issue is hybrid gangs. Think of them as a minor league sports team. Opinion – Hybrids are more dangerous than the major gangs as they've realized that attention from law enforcement is bad for business and they are about business and making money. Hybrids are more interested in being a gang and violence. They're proficient in the use of social media – recent Black Friday fight at Eastland Mall was between members of two hybrid gangs over a threat posted through social media.

Thought for the Day: Today's SmART remark is from Oscar Wilde, "*Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go.*"



At the Head Table: Bill Caisley & Elleke Mesdag

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

- January 23** – Dan Brady – An Update on “Springpatch”
- January 30** - Club Mixer

February 6 – Club Business & Birthday Auction

<p>The Normal Spoke is a publication of the Normal Rotary Club of Illinois - P.O. Box 333, Normal, IL 61761 Editorial Staff: Paul Brauchle, Jim Carter, and Becky Goeckner Meetings are held Wednesdays at noon in the Circus Room or Old Main Room at the Bone Student Center, ISU.</p> <p>Officers 2012-2013: President - Art Drake (spouse: Jan) 42 Inglewood, Bloomington, IL 61704 E-mail: ardra345@hotmail.com Home phone: 1-309-242-5125</p> <p>President Elect – Dale Strassheim (spouse: Carol) 24843 Nighthawk Road, Hudson, IL 61748</p>	<p>Rotary Foundation & International Projects – Ann Haugo (spouse: Steve Pelphrey) 104 Kite Court LeRoy, Illinois 61752 E-mail : ahaugo@ilstu.edu Business phone : 1-309-438-3955 Home phone : 1-309-962-9225</p> <p>Community Concerns - Hank Campbell (spouse : Mary) 2319 Mabel Road, Normal, IL 61761 E-mail : hcampb@ilstu.edu Home phone : 1-309-530-5134</p> <p>Publicity - Meghan Listek (spouse : Adam)</p>
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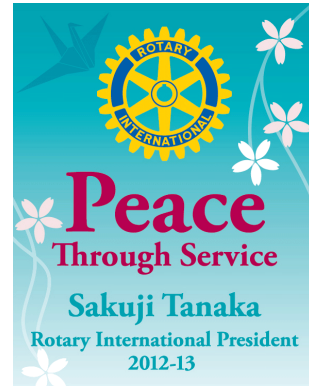
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R. I. President 2012-2013—Sakuji Tanaka



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