


The Weekly Newsletter of the
Only Normal Rotary Club in the World
Chartered June 17, 1949



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

The Normal Spoke

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490
January 9, 2013 Volume No. 63 Issue No. 26
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)

<p>Wednesday, January 16, 2013 Head Table: Elleke Mesdag & John Morris Greeters: Mark Jontry & Cynthia Kukla Lottery: Bruce Bergethon & Gordon Ropp Invocation: TBA Program: Jason Chambers - The Challenges of the States Attorney's Office of McLean County Judge: Ann Haugo</p>		 <p>Sustaining Members: 23 Club RI Contributions: \$ 14,775</p>
<p>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</p>		
<p>Reporter: Paul Brauchle</p>	<p>Photographer: Rob Cranston</p>	<p>Editor: Becky Goeckner</p>

President Art rang the bell at 12:10. As Drake Zimmerman was making his way to the podium, we greeted fellow Rotarians. It took a little time to get us quieted down so that Drake could give the invocation. It was then followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and one verse of "America", aka "My Country tis of Thee".

Student Guests were Jenny Glasscock from NCHS, introduced by Mark Jontry, Nick Salm from Normal West hosted by Jeremy High, Brad Dulee from U-High introduced by Dick Wagner, and Dan Van Dyke from the Bloomington Area Career Center, introduced by Ray Ropp.



Jenny Glasscock



Nick Salm



Brad Dulee



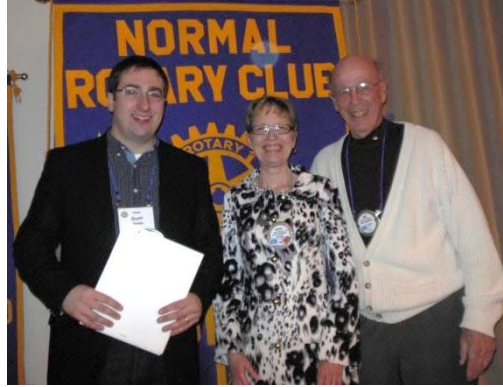
Dan Van Dyke

Announcements:

Today we were slated to vote on officers and directors for the 2013-2014 year. They will take office July 1st. Art noted that there were ballots on the tables for voting; however, John Morris moved, and Jack Wilz seconded, that the officers be voted in by acclamation. We all voted "Aye". The slate of officers and directors voted in for next year includes: Dale Strassheim, President; Mark Comadena, President-Elect; Andy Copenhaver, Vice President; Hank Campbell, Sergeant at Arms; and Rod Wiegelmann, Treasurer.

There was no nominee, yet, for Secretary. Directors were Stephanie McClellan, Marci Schneider and Matt Riehle. Ann Haugo still has another year of her two-year term on the Board.

Kathy Alexander introduced Scott Carnes to the club. Kathy and John A. Bishop recruited Scott for membership. Art Runyon, the longest member of Rotary present, then inducted Scott into the **only** Normal Rotary Club in the world. Welcome, Scott!



In other announcements, the NRC Board of Directors will meet Monday, January 14th at 5 p.m. in Mercherle Hall, an agenda is to be announced.

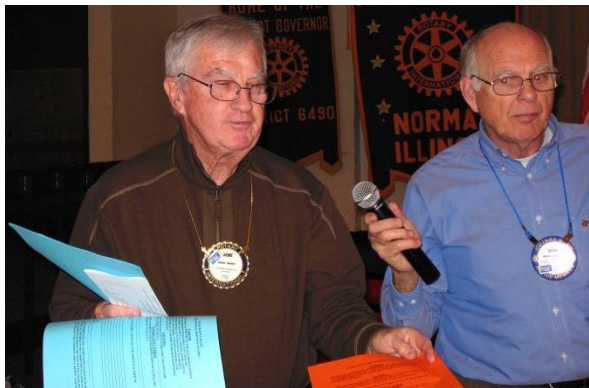
Rotarians from Sunrise are working on a group package to the RI Convention in Lisbon in mid- to late June, with several optional days in Spain. A related brochure will be attached to the Spoke.

Nominations are still being accepted for the Jim Collie Vocational Service Award and the Public Health and Safety Award. See Gene Jontry for the nomination forms.

President Art reminded us of the film "Journey into Dyslexia" to be shown 6:30 p.m. January 10 at the Bloomington Public Library. This film is sponsored by the Sunrise Club as part of their literacy project.

Jack Wilz welcomed Pamela Sweetwood back from her recent surgery. Welcome back, Pamela!

John Morris thanked those Rotarians who helped take down the North Pole Village exhibit at the Children's Discovery Museum on Monday. Those who worked were: Hank Campbell, Becky Goeckner, Gene Gudeman, Gene Jontry, Ron Springer, Roger Weller, Jack Wilz, and, of course, John Morris.



Gene Jontry & Hank Campbell



Welcome Back Pamela!



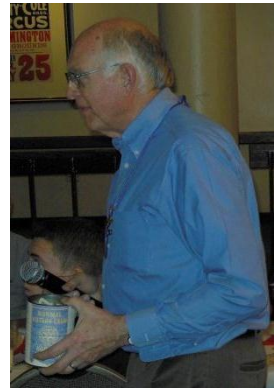
John Morris

Gordon Ropp was the Mystery Host today. He bestowed the coveted \$2 award on Vandana Naik with reference to something like, "Because it is a well-known fact that great things come from short people like us!" Much laughter and clapping ensued!

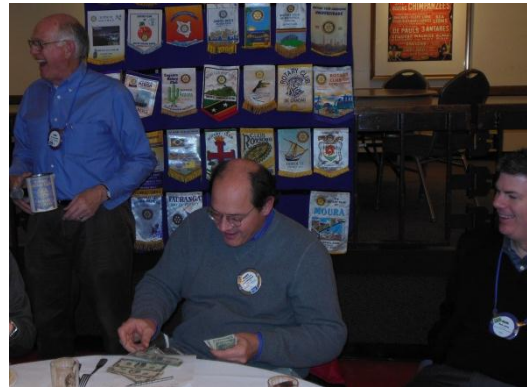




Bruce Bergethon served as Judge. The first order of business was picking the Lottery ticket #605, which was held by Hank Campbell. With Hank collecting the fines Bruce then levied penalties on all those not wearing Rotary pins. Under the category "Activities in Media", he noted that latest issue of Illinois State University Alumni Magazine actually had no story about Rob Glover's son, Tim. Rob was not present so he wasn't able to express his relief.



Then Bruce owned up to WGLT having received four Murrow Awards. Drake Zimmerman immediately offered to pay all related fines at \$1 per offense, whereupon Bruce continued to note many other awards the station had received over recent years. Drake's face got a little longer as Bruce continued to enumerate awards. Fortunately, he stopped at twenty and color began to return to Drake's cheeks.



But other Rotarians had been in the news. Rob Cranston had managed to get his name mentioned three times on the front page of a recent issue of the Pantagraph. Rob happily paid, quipping that the reporter had interviewed him for at least an hour, and in all that time he had apparently not said anything really dumb. He wasn't even misquoted.

In Happy Fines, Ray Ropp was reminded that he needed to pay for an indeterminate reason (Editor's note: he was seen on TV being interviewed). Gene Jontry was happy about a recent reunion of former basketball players who were more than teammates but life-long friends. Dale Strassheim paid a Happy Fine for B.J. Wilken's good work on behalf of the United Way in addition to the WMCA. Ed Tanton told the story of losing their cat in Birmingham, Alabama last Thursday on their way home from Florida. The cat was found and Ed made a round trip to Birmingham yesterday to bring the cat home. New member Scott Carnes paid for his happy Rotary thoughts.



Gene Jontry & Hank Campbell



Dale Strassheim



Ed Tanton



Scott Carnes



Program: Bill Caisley introduced our speaker, B. J. Wilken, Executive Director of the Bloomington YMCA, now known as just “the Y”. B.J. has had experience in similar positions in Christian County and Knox County in Galesburg. He is from St. Louis, went to Southeast Missouri State University, is a former Rotarian, and loves to fish. He then confessed that he is currently a member of the Kiwanis Club.

B. J. talked about the history of the Bloomington Y and the three major program initiatives they are stressing: Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility.

In terms of history, the Bloomington Y started early, in 1855, two years after the Chicago Y was established. A little known fact is that Ralph Smedley in 1907 began the Toastmasters Club in the Bloomington Y and that organization, as we know ultimately grew to international status.

The three major program areas of Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility included a wide range of others, including CPR, Financial literacy, Adventure guides, and Strong Kids. In terms of community impact, in 2010, 440 kids were served through basketball, 185 in summer camp, and 429 in swimming programs. They had 327 volunteers and impacted 3800 lives. In the past, as many as 1 in 6 kids could not participate in the programs they selected because of inability to pay. Generous donors have now made it possible for all to participate. In fact, they now have more than doubled the number of donors they had last year.

One favorite program is the Youth Fitness Program, designed to fight childhood obesity. B.J. showed a series of slides from the Centers for Disease Control, which highlighted the alarming rise in obesity and diabetes in the country across the last 10 years. The problem seems to have most alarming growth in the southeastern states, but Illinois is not immune to the problem. In the local program, children are referred by their pediatricians or primary care physicians. It is making a difference in a substantial number of lives.

The Bloomington Y has a wide range of programs for kids and impacts many lives in a positive way. Where can we fit in? B.J. said that we could help in four different ways:

1. Join the Y as a member.
2. Contribute financially to the programs (help to fund 620 program scholarships).
3. Advocate for the three major programs of Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility. And
4. Volunteer to help in one or more of the Y’s many programs.

Thought for the Day: Today’s SmART remark is from F. P. Jones: *“Experience is that marvelous thing that enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.”*



North Pole Village Crew: Roger Weller, Gene Jontry, Jack Wilz, John Morris, Ron Springer, Hank Campbell, Gene Gudeman, and Becky Goeckner

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

January 16 - Jason Chambers - The Challenges of the States Attorney's Office of McLean County

January 23 – Dan Brady – An Update on “Springpatch”

January 30 - Club Mixer

February 6 – Club Business & Birthday Auction

The Normal Spoke is a publication of the Normal Rotary Club of Illinois - P.O. Box 333, Normal, IL 61761
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 Meetings are held Wednesdays at noon in the Circus Room or Old Main Room at the Bone Student Center, ISU.

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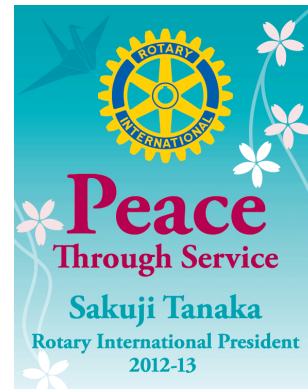
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R. I. President 2012-2013—Sakuji Tanaka



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Carter, Jim PHF* HH PHS	Hoelscher, Mark	Ropp, Gordon PHF* HH	Wilson, Gary PHF

GWRY			
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Chambers, Jason	Houska, George PHF* HH	Runyon, Art PHF* HH	Zimmerman, Drake PHF* HH MD BS PHS DHH
Chapman, Alan PHF* PHS	Howell, Gene PHF*	Rutledge, Don PHF* HH	
PHF – Paul Harris Fellow HH – Hall of Honor PHF* - Paul Harris Fellow/Stone PHS – Paul Harris Society	DHH - District Hall of Honor HM – Honorary Member MD – Major Donors	CM – Charter Member DNRY - District New Rotarian of the Year	BS – Bequest Society Member DRY -District Rotarian of the Year GWRY – George Wolf Rotarian of the Year