



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

The Normal Spoke

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490

March 27, 2013 Volume No. 63 Issue No. 37

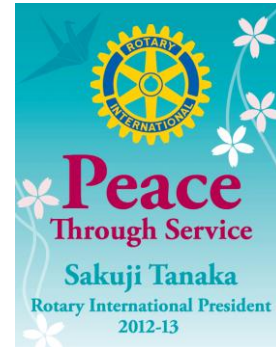
Link to Rotary International <http://www.rotary.org/>

Normal Rotary web sites: <http://nrcspoke.com/> <http://www.normalrotary.org/>

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

April Birthdays – Please bring a gift for the Birthday Auction

- John E. Bishop 4
- Gordon Ropp 5
- Mark Hoelscher 6
- Kevin Smith 6
- Marcia Dennis 7
- Mark Jontry 7
- Allen Goben 9
- Kathy Alexander 14
- Ray Ropp 16
- Meghan Listek 18
- Matt Riehle 21
- Dick Wagner 27



Sustaining Members: 23
Club RI Contributions: \$19,850.02

Wednesday, April 3, 2013

Head Table: Art Runyon & Don Rutledge
Greeters: Scott Carnes & Jim Carter
Lottery: Elleke Mesdag & Matt Riehle
Invocation: Gordon Ropp
Program: Club Business & Birthday Auction
Judge: Marcia Dennis

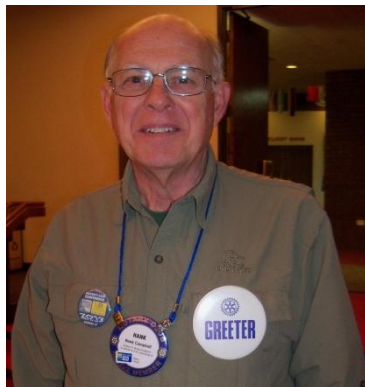
Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Head Table: Marci Schneider & Mark Sherman
Greeters: Jason Chambers & Alan Chapman
Lottery: Gordon Ropp & Ray Ropp
Invocation: Becky Goeckner
Program: TBA
Judge: Bruce Bergethon

Reporter: Jim Carter

Photographer: Becky Goeckner

Editor: Becky Goeckner



Hank Campbell greeted us!



Mark Comadena sold us lottery tickets



Lindsey Henry sold lottery tickets to Heather Dennis. Both are new members!

Presiding – President Art Drake; Invocation Mark Comadena

Guests: No visiting Rotarians today but we had three guests: Cooper Spaulding of BHS will be our outbound High School Exchange student to Denmark. This was his first Rotary meeting. Brenda Wernick, his mother was introduced by Jim Carter. Stephanie McClellan introduced Ryan Fleming who now is part of the Commerce Bank team. Ryan was a Rotarian in Champaign and needs to find a new Rotary home.



Cooper Spaulding



Jim Carter & Brenda Wernick



Ryan Fleming & Stephanie McClellan



Keenan Hollywood was our only March Student of the Month not off somewhere on Spring Break. He sat up front with John E. Bishop. Keenan gave a good reflection on meeting with us.

Among announcements we heard from Connie Gentry that we have been able to buy 800+ coats in our Coats for Kids program – Wow and thanks. Marcia Dennis is still trying to feed the pig in support of literacy while noting we got a number of books and cash, including \$200 from a mystery member.

We purchased 815 coats this year; most will be stored for use next winter. The average price was \$11.95. We had a couple members donate \$100 to the project. Drake has been a huge supporter especially financially. Thanks!

Connie Gentry



We raised a record **\$62.00** yesterday!
 Total books = **25!!!**
 Total change given = **\$155.14**
 + matching donor **\$200.00**
 = **\$355.14** for literacy.
 This is also a record!

The books and a check will be given to the STAR Literacy project of McLean County, which services families with young children up to adults working of their GED. Thanks to everyone for helping to change lives.
 Marcia & Heather Dennis



Next week is designed to bring a guest. Tell Mark Comadena if you are bringing a guest or a group of guests so we can have enough table space and food.

Todd Anderson noted we need someone to pick up a Rotary speaker from O'Hare at the start of the District Conference and then someone to take a speaker to Chicago after the conference. He said the Alan Chapman has done this in the past and indicates that it is a great experience to spend time with an outstanding speaker.

We were told there is a card for Ben Gildersleeve who is in the hospital but seemingly improving.

Alan Chapman was the beneficiary of the \$2 from Lindsey Henry who appreciated his welcome to Rotary and the offer to sponsor her for membership.

Jack Wilz won the lottery and thought he was most deserving. There were a few happy fines, especially from the WGLT crowd.



Todd Anderson



Lindsey Henry & Alan Chapman



Jack Wilz

Program:



Dick Wagner introduced Mark Peterson, Normal Town Manager. Mark first recognized that this is Mary Caisley Appreciation Day and that her husband Bill needs to show proper respect. Mary is recognized for her leadership on the Transit System Board.

Mark then spoke about the positive things that Illinois and particularly Central Illinois have in their favor. This relates to attracting businesses and industry. One thing in our favor is the Midwest Work Ethic, which is very real. He added some comments on the Pension mess. He was less pessimistic than many who we hear from.

He noted that the State of Illinois has been cutting expenses and now it is difficult to get answers from State offices which are staffed with far fewer employees. And, more cuts will be coming.

He then fielded questions. This was an enlightening discussion. Drake Zimmerman was concerned about paying for so much light pollution and energy consumption. Mark noted we contract for lights and he thought we pay \$274 per light per year. Carson Varner said he is an astronomer at heart and wants less light in his area. Cynthia Kukla asked about community gardens and got a positive response. It was an informative presentation. For his efforts he got a Normal Cooks cookbook.

Today's SmArt remark was a warning to those interested in their family roots, from Rodney Dangerfield: *"I looked up my family tree and found out I was the sap."*

REMEMBER the following upcoming dates:

April 13 - Daybreak's Cajun Craze at Lakeside Country Club

April 18 - Rosati's Pizza Fundraiser at Rosati's in North Normal

April 19/20 - District 6490 Conference at the Marriott in Uptown Normal (Also, please consider supporting the district conference April 18/19 through a sponsorship banner, or even a business card ad. See Hank Campbell)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

April 3 – Club Business & Birthday Auction

April 10 – TBA

April 17 – GSE Team from Italy

April 19/20 – District 6490 Conference in Normal

April 24 – TBA

May 1 – Club Business & Birthday Auction

May 8 – Student Scholarship Luncheon

The Normal Spoke is a publication of the Normal Rotary Club of Illinois - P.O. Box 333, Normal, IL 61761
Editorial Staff: 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.

Officers 2012-2013:

President - Art Drake (spouse: Jan)
 42 Inglewood, Bloomington, IL 61704
 E-mail: ardra345@hotmail.com
 Home phone: 1-309-242-5125

President Elect – Dale Strassheim (spouse: Carol)
 24843 Nighthawk Road, Hudson, IL 61748
 E-mail: dstrassheim@thebabyfold.org
 Business phone: 1-309-451-7201
 Home phone: 1-309-726-2468

Vice President – Mark Comadena (spouse: Pamela)
 208 S. Bone Drive , Normal, IL 61761
 Phone: 1- 309-452-2961
 E-mail: mecomad@ilstu.edu

Secretary—Ralph Dude (spouse: Karleen)
 911 Randall Drive, Normal, IL 61701
 E-mail: rh dude@yahoo.com
 Home phone: 1-309-452-3838

Treasurer - Rod Weigelmann (spouse: Brenda)
 2605 Blarney Stone Lane, Bloomington, IL 61704
 E-mail: r.weigelmann@comcast.net
 Business phone:1-309- 828-8611
 Home phone: 664-0818

Sergeant At Arms- Bill Semlak (spouse Joan)
 3 Cheshire
 Mackinaw, Illinois 61755
 E-mail: wdsemlak@ilstu.edu
 Phone: 1-309-359-8172

Past President - Linda Healy (spouse: Pat)
 1230 E. Grove, Bloomington, IL 61701
 E-mail: lhealy@ilstu.edu
 Business phone: 1-309-438-5083
 Home phone: 1-309-827-8517

Directors:

Club Administration – Andy Copenhaver – (spouse : Marcia)
 203 Orleans Drive
 Normal, Illinois 61761
 E-mail : copez12@frontier.com
 Business phone : 1-309-662-2663
 Home phone : 1-309-661-9492

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

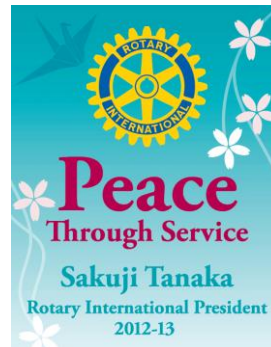
Community Concerns - Hank Campbell (spouse : Mary)
 2319 Mabel Road, Normal, IL 61761
 E-mail : hcampb@ilstu.edu
 Home phone : 1-309-530-5134

Publicity - Meghan Listek (spouse : Adam)
 22 Hodgehaven Circle, Bloomington, IL 61704
 E-mail : mlistek@normalpl.org
 Business phone : 1-309- 452-1757
 Home phone : 319-6347

Assistant Governor: Susan Hoover
 Home phone: 1-309-888-4810
 E-mail: cisghoover@yahoo.com

District Governor: Gordon Bidner (spouse: Sandra)
 5150 E. 2050 N. Road
 Carlock, Illinois 61725
 E-mail vmsa@frontiernet.net
 Home Phone: 1-309-963-4240
 Cell: 1-309-531-1230

R. I. President 2012-2013—Sakuji Tanaka



Members:	Cranston, Robert PHF* PHS HH GWRY DHH	Hunt, Robert PHF*	Schneider, Marci
Adanri, Bayo PHF* HH	Dennis, Heather	Jontry, Gene PHF* HH	Schultz, Mel PHF HH
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Bergethon, Bruce PHF* HH	Dietz, Larry PHF	Kukla, Cynthia PHF	Sherman, Mark PHF* HH
Bidner, Gordon PHF* PHS MD BS GWRY HH	Drake, Art PHF	Landon, Lyn PHF*	Smith, Kevin PHF
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Carnes, Scott	Healy, Linda PHF*	Reitan, Carol PHF*	Weigelmann, Rod PHF
Carter, Jim PHF* PHS HH GWRY	Henry, Lindsey	Riehle, Matt	Weller, Roger
Cermak, Penny	High, Jeremy	Ropp, Gordon PHF* HH	Wilson, Gary PHF

Chambers, Jason	Hoelscher, Mark	Ropp, Ray PHF* HH	Wilz, Jack PHF* HH DHH
Chapman, Alan PHF* PHS	Houchin, Michelle	Rosenlund, Jim	Zimmerman, Drake PHF* PHS MD BS HH DHH
Comadena, Mark PHF	Houska, George PHF* HH	Runyon, Art PHF* HH	
Copenhaver, Andy	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