




The Normal Spoke

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490
 August 7, 2013 Volume No. 64 Issue No. 7
 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)

<p>Wednesday, August 14, 2013 – Meet in the Prairie Room – 2nd floor Head Table: Linda Healy & Lindsey Henry Greeters: Surinder Sethi & Mark Sherman Lottery: Andrew Kouba & Cynthia Kukla Program: Friends Forever team</p> <p>Wednesday, August 21, 2013 – Meet ??? Head Table: Michelle Houchin & Gene Jontry Greeters: Ed Tanton & Ron Timmerman Lottery: Jeff Lindsay & Meghan Listek Program: A Building of Hope: Marci Schneider, Director of Development and Roger Hunt, Interim Executive Director of the Community Cancer Center</p>	 <p>Sustaining Members: 1 Club RI Contributions: \$100</p>	
<p>Reporter: Art Drake</p>	<p>Photographer: Mark Jontry</p>	<p>Editor: Becky Goeckner</p>

In the absence of President Dale Strassheim, President-Elect Mark Comadena led the August 7th meeting of the Normal Rotary Club.

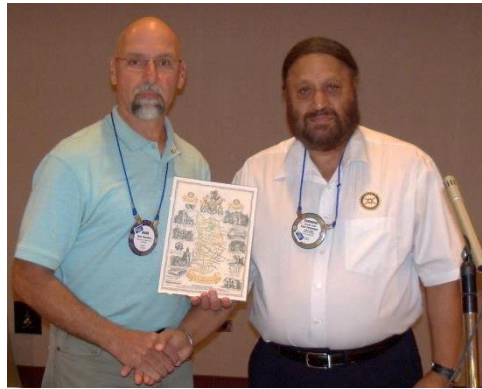
There were no visiting Rotarians today, but Rob Cranston introduced one guest, Cooper Spaulding. Cooper is the outbound Rotary Youth Exchange student, who will leave for Denmark on Aug. 10. Also on Aug. 10, the inbound student from Brazil, Gabriel, will arrive, Rob said. Gabriel is coming from the same region of Brazil as the Brazilian teachers who were our guests last week.



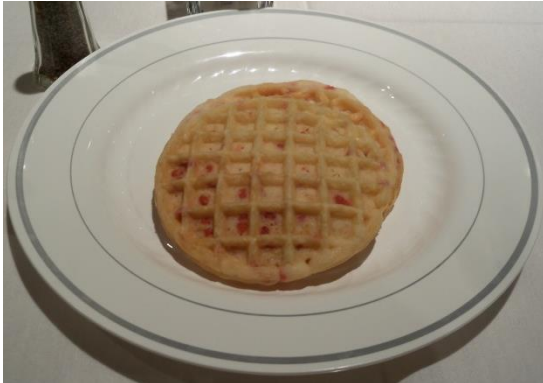
At left: Rob Cranston & Cooper Spaulding. Cooper's jacket already has lots of pins and buttons. It is the tradition of Rotary Exchange Students to exchange pins and buttons with other exchange students and clubs that they visit while abroad. However, Cooper has a head start as he has collected pins and buttons while attending the recent Central States Rotary Youth Exchange Conference. Central States Rotary Youth Exchange is a multi district program for Inbounds, Outbounds and Rebounds. It includes seventeen Districts in the Great Lakes area that include the states of Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, North Dakota, part of Minnesota and the southern part of Ontario, Canada.

Surinder Sethi just returned from a tour of six European countries in 11 days. He presented a banner from a Rotary Club near London which he received in exchange when visiting their club. The “banner” is rather unique in that it has pictures of several historic buildings in the area.

The trip reminded Surinder that he is proud to live in the U.S.



Announcements:



Ron Timmerman asked us to notice the Eggo® waffles that he had placed in the middle of each table. He said he isn't much of a cook so he used the waffles to help us to imagine instead a hot stack of pancakes, some bacon or sausage, and maybe a nice cup of coffee or a glass of juice. Ron told us that Applebee's near Eastland Mall is hosting a pancake breakfast fund-raiser for Normal Rotary from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. August 24th. We need to sell 300 tickets at \$5 apiece, and we will receive \$4 per ticket for Coats for Kids. Ron and his committee will mail four tickets to each Rotarian, and they will be responsible for selling them or buying them for their own use.



John A. Bishop asked Rotarians to mark November 11th – Veterans Day – on their calendars. The five B-N Rotary clubs will hold a special event, “One on One” that evening. Rotarians are asked to invite a veteran who is not a Rotary member to dinner at the ISU Alumni Center - 1101 N. Main St., Normal, IL. Rotarians will pay \$20 for themselves and \$20 for their guest. If you don't know a veteran, local veterans groups are providing us names so we can match you up. If you don't know a veteran and are uncomfortable asking a stranger, please volunteer to serve at the registration desk or to help set up and take down the 50 U.S. flags so others can enjoy their guests' company. This is not a fund-raiser. Instead it is an event designed to honor our veterans for their service. Please think about whom you can invite. A sign-up sheet and a flyer will be available next week.



Mark Comadena reminded us that Rotary Leadership Institute will be held August 17th at Richland Community College in Decatur. Several of our members will attend. You can register online at hoa-rli.org.

The Normal Rotary board of officers and directors will meet at 5 p.m. August 12 at Mecherle Hall.



Bill Semlak reminded us that Hank Campbell and Linda Healy will coordinate an Adopt-a-Highway cleanup with the Friends Forever visitors at 9 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 18.

Art Drake reminded Rotarians to “like” the Normal Rotary Facebook page and “share” its posts with their Facebook friends. During his year as president, Art encouraged Rotarians to climb aboard the Facebook train, and his point was to eventually market Rotary and to market poinsettias. Poinsettia sales will be coming up soon, and we want to use Facebook to maximize our poinsettia impact.



Connie Gentry asked Rotarians to bring donations of shampoo, lotions and other toiletries that you might have picked up at hotels and motels during your summer vacation. These get donated to a good cause. Connie also is asking for donations of crayons, markers and scissors to help Baby Fold children create and enhance their life books.



Judge Marcia Dennis asked “Grammy” Becky Goeckner to draw the winning ticket. That ticket was held by Andy Copenhaver. Andy commented that he won the \$20 just before his wedding and honeymoon and now again upon his return. This was his first and second times winning since he joined the club in 2009. He was so happy that he put the \$20 back in the kukla! Thanks Andy and congratulations on your recent marriage.

Judge Marcia then sweetly demanded \$1 from everyone to demonstrate our appreciation of Gordon Ropp, our monthly birthday auctioneer who is in the hospital recovering from back surgery. Meghan Listek was dinged for her appearances on the TV news. Happy fines came from Andy Copenhaver, Radha Radhakrishnan and Vandana Naik for their travels; from Scott Carnes for his rewarding work at the nursing home and from Art Runyon and Ralph Dude in honor of Ralph and Carlene’s 53rd anniversary. Bruce Bergethon and Mark Comadena also were happy – something about baseball. Isn’t it football season yet?



Ray Ropp conducted the birthday auction in his brother’s absence. He managed to hawk a bottle of wine, a jug of Belgian beer, some fireweed jelly from Alaska and memorabilia from ISU and U of I. And YES!! It was quite obvious that Ray’s a big U of I fan.





Getting to know senior member Bill Semlak. Bill reintroduced himself to the club. Born and raised in Milwaukee, he has at various times, worked in political consulting, taught language arts, and coached debates. In 1974, he and his wife, Betty, came to Bloomington-Normal, where they found a perfect place to raise their four kids. At ISU, Bill has, at various times, served as Director of Forensics, Director of Honors, Chair of Communications, Acting Chair of Foreign Languages and Director of International Studies. He also taught for a time in Grenoble, France, in an ISU program. When he was Chair of Communications he hired Mark Comadena and when he was Director of International Studies he hired Becky Goeckner who following his lead and invitation both joined the Normal Rotary Club. Bill retired in 2000 after Betty encountered health problems. They enjoyed a lot of travel before she passed away in 2003. Since then, Bill has tried to stay active in the community and in Rotary.

Next week, Normal Rotary will meet in the Prairie Room on the second floor of the Bone Student Center.

The Thought for the Day from Albert Schweitzer: *“At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.”*



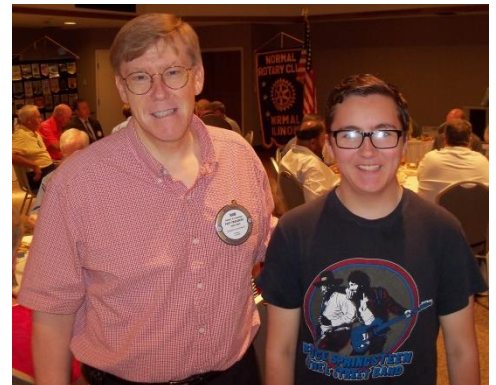
Mark Jontry our lottery salesman & Spoke photographer



Dick Wagner



Mystery Host Art Drake gave the lucky \$2 bill to Ron Timmerman.



Rob Cranston & Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange Student Cooper Spaulding who will spend almost a year in Denmark



Todd Anderson contributed to the Birthday Auction some of his home craft brewed Belgian Hefeweizen or wheat beer. Wheat beer is a beer that is brewed with a large proportion of wheat in addition to malted barley.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

August 14 - Friends Forever team

August 21 – A Building of Hope: Marci Schneider, Director of Development and Roger Hunt, Interim Executive Director of the Community Cancer Center

August 28 – Rob Cranston & returning Rotary Youth Exchange Students: Nina Sultan – Japan; Erin Sheridan – Austria; & Tyler Henson – Argentina

September 4 – Club Business & Birthday Auction

September 11-

September 18-

September 25 -

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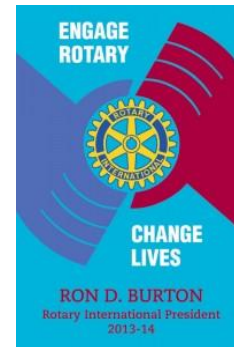
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2013-2014
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