



The Normal Spoke

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490

May 24, 2017 Volume No. 67 Issue No. 45

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

Normal Rotary web site: <http://www.normalrotary.org/>

Link to District 6490 Website: <http://rotarydistrict6490.org/> (The District Newsletter can be found on the left side of the main page)

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

Greeters: Larissa McIlvain & Elleke Mesdag

Lottery: Gordon Bidner & John A. Bishop

June Birthdays – Please bring a gift for the Birthday Auction

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Greg Anvick | 15 |
| Ryan Fleming | 20 |
| Ronald Springer | 24 |
| Larissa McIlvain | 26 |
| Lyle Raper | 28 |
| Jim Rosenlund | 28 |



Wednesday, June 7, 2017

Greeters: Vandana Naik & Mike Petrini

Lottery: John E. Bishop & Nancy Brokaw

Program: Club Business & Birthday Auction

Reporter: Bruce Bergethon

Photographer: Art Drake

Editor: Becky Goeckner



Jim Rosenlund

Normal Rotary Club President Jim Rosenlund called the May 24, 2017 meeting to order at 12:10; Bill Semlak gave the invocation, and Surinder Sethi led the singing.

Guests: Drake Zimmerman introduced Tom Gibson of Grossinger Motors, who was helpful in getting transportation for last year's contingent of Friends Forever.



Tom Gibson & Drake Zimmerman



Matt Wyss

Announcements:

- Matt Wyss reported on the Flapjack Fundraiser, which made \$920 from ticket sales, and \$181 additional from tips, split with the NCHS Interact Club and Friends Forever. Half of the Club stood to be recognized for their help with this successful activity!
- Dick Wagner had a reminder, and tickets, for the Bloomington Rotary Club's pork chop fundraiser on Thursday, June 8 in downtown Bloomington.



Dick Wagner



Ray Ropp

- Ray Ropp reminded us of Rural/Urban Night at the Ropp Farm June 21, and tantalized us with the prospect of judging llamas and a quiz.
- Linda Healy showed the blue Rotary T-shirt (to be worn in the Memorial Day parade, and available to all Club members), and confused some of the group with discussion of “boyfriend” khakis, as well as other fashion terminology.



Linda Healy

- Art Drake spoke of the need for Spoke writers and photographers in June (and beyond.) He also reminded us of the Schnucks card that benefits Rotary (see him for more information) and sought out a Club history (Becky has it.)



- Bill Semlak solicited volunteers for this season’s first Adopt-A-Highway, Saturday June 3rd, and circulated a signup sheet.
- Hank Campbell took to the podium to describe the Club’s search for a new signature project, which had included the possibility of sponsoring a portable “pollinator display” with the Children’s Discovery Museum. Gordon Bidner moved that we unanimously approve this project; motion passed.



Hank Campbell



Vandana Naik & Gordon Bidner

Gordon Bidner introduced two new/continuing supporters of the Rotary Foundation (celebrating its 100th anniversary.) Receiving new stones to add to their Paul Harris Fellow status were Vandana Naik (3rd stone) and Alan Chapman (8th stone). Vandana thanked Surinder Sethi for bringing her into the Club, and Bayo Adanri and Drake Zimmerman for helping to support several projects in India. Alan thanked Gordon Bidner and Jim Rosenlund, and reiterated that the Foundation is “one of the best places you can contribute your resources,” urging others to consider joining him.



Alan Chapman

Bayo Adanri completed the trio of new inductees into the Normal Rotary Club Hall of Honor by describing Dale Strassheim as exemplifying the characteristics of dedication (to faith and family) and vocation (with integrity.) Bayo spoke of Dale’s service at BroMenn, the Baby Fold, and the Boys & Girls Club. Citing the number of “leaders” in the Club, Dale thanked us for honoring him by including him in the Hall of Honor.

Congratulations!

to

Rob Glover, John A. Bishop and Dale Strassheim
2017 Inductees to the Normal Rotary Club Hall of Honor



Dale Strassheim & Bayo Adanri



Greg Anvick & Rob Cranston

Mystery Host: Rob Cranston presented the \$2 bill to fellow Iowan Greg Anvick (born in Maquoketa).

Lottery: Elleke Mesdag won the weekly lottery pot of \$17, but came up with the 3 of Hearts, thus rolling the big pot again (to over \$350.)



Elleke Mesdag



Bruce Bergethon

Judge: Bruce Bergethon opened the floor up for Happy Fines, which included:

--Alan Chapman, for the outstanding success of the recent Tee It Up GFDP fundraiser (over \$100,000).

--Greg Anvick, for being an Iowan

--Surinder Sethi, for the birth of his fourth beautiful grandchild



Alan Chapman



Ken Ropp

Program:

President Jim introduced our speaker, Ken Ropp (son of Ray), owner and manager of Ropp Jersey Cheese. Ken described the growth and changes of the business, founded in 2000. Now employing 16 people, with 60 head of milk-producing cattle, Ropp Cheese has customers in 240 locations, with outlets ranging in size from Common Ground in Bloomington to 40 Hy-Vees in multiple states. Ken said he spends a good percentage of his time on the road (6000 miles a month), and described current work on building a new plant at the farm that will eventually triple production capacity. He invited everyone (especially with children and grandchildren) to the farm for June Dairy Day on June 24.



Thought for the Day from Reba McEntire: "To succeed in life you need three things: a wishbone, a backbone, and a funny bone."

The Normal Spoke is a publication of the Normal Rotary Club of Illinois - P.O. Box 333, Normal, IL 61761
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| Anderson, Todd PHF | Enchelmayer, Paul | McIlvain, Larissa | Smith, Lindsey |
| Anvick, Greg PHF | Ensenberger, Ann | Mesdag, Elleke PHF* | Springer, Ron, PHF* |
| Bergethon, Bruce PHF* HH PP | Fleming, Ryan | Naik, Vandana PHF* | Strassheim, Dale PHF* PP HH |
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| Brown-Nielsen, Dayna PHF | Goeckner, Becky PHF* HH PP | Raper, Lyle PHF* HH PP | Varner, Iris PHF* |
| Caisley, Bill PHF* HH PP | Gudeman, Gene PHF* HH | Riehle, Matt | Wagner, Dick PHF* PHS MD BS HH PP DHH PDG |
| Campbell, Hank PHF HH DRY | Haugo, Ann PHF | Rolley, William | Wagner, Heather (Beal) PHF |
| Carter, Jim PHF* PHS HH PP GWRY MD | Hawkins, Sherry | Ropp, Gordon PHF* HH PP | Weigelmann, Rod PHF HH |
| Chambers, Jason PHF | Healy, Linda PHF* HH PP DRY | Ropp, Ray PHF* HH PP DHH PDG | Widmer, Rob HM |
| Chapman, Alan PHF* PHS HH GWRY DHH | Houtsma, Rebecca | Rosenlund, Jim PHF | Wyss, Matt |
| Copenhaver, Andy PHF PP | Hunt, Robert PHF* | Runyon, Art PHF* HH | Zimmerman, Drake PHF* PHS MD BS HH PP DHH |
| Cranston, Robert PHF* PHS HH GWRY PP DHH | Jontry, Gene PHF* HH | Rutledge, Don PHF* HH PP | |
| Dennis, Marcia PHF* HH PP DNRY DHH GWRY | Jontry, Mark PHF | Schultz, Mel PHF HH PP | |
| | | | |
| 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 PP – Past President | DNRY- District New Rotarian of the Year PDG – Past District Governor | BS – Bequest Society Member DRY-District Rotarian of the Year GWRY – George Wolf Rotarian of the Year |