

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



The Normal Spoke

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490

July 15, 2020 Volume No. 72 Issue No. 03

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

Normal Rotary Website: <http://www.normalrotary.org/>

District 6490 Website: <http://rotarydistrict6490.org/> (The District Newsletter is on the left side of the main page)



Reporter: Art Drake	Editor: Larissa McIlvain	
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President Fred Hahn convened the July 15, 2020 meeting of the Normal Rotary Club via Zoom.

This day in history:

- July 15, 2020, an important day. It is: National Give Something Away Day, National I Love Horses Day, National Tapioca Pudding Day, National Pet Fire Safety Day, and -- of special interest -- Elderly Men Day, which is celebrated only in the small island nation of Kiribati. Adam Savage is celebrating his birthday. If you were born July 15, you have a positive outlook on life and strive for best option solutions. Water is your element. You have a fundamental relationship with water, especially rocky ocean shores and experience emotions in waves. A cautionary note: do not become fully submerged in a sea of emotion.

Announcements:

- Larissa McIlvain and Dayna Brown-Nielsen sent an online survey to our members seeking thoughts on how meetings should be conducted for the rest of the year, given the pandemic environment. Dayna said 30 responses have been received so far. Please respond by July 20. It appears that there is interest in in-person meetings if social distance can be maintained. At the July 22 meeting, they will review survey results more carefully and club members will explore options.
- Fred said we still don't know what ISU will do in the coming weeks, so he's planning for Normal Rotary to offer at least an online meeting option of some kind through December.

- Our July 22 meeting will be held in person at noon at the Ropp Farm. Bring your own sack lunch and a folding chair. Some kind of online feed of that meeting will probably be available, but we don't yet know the platform. Gordon Bidner also has offered his farm for future meetings. The idea is that the expansive farm environment will offer enough space to meet safely.
- Hank Campbell announced that work on the Rotary Club Habitat for Humanity house has been postponed at least until July 25.

Judge: Larissa McIlvain asked for happy fines.

- Alan Chapman is paying to recognize the 40th birthday of his youngest child.
- Art Drake volunteered to pay \$1 because nobody else seemed to be happy, and it was therefore easier to take notes for the Spoke. Art rescinded his offer in light of subsequent happy fines.
- Ann Haugo was happy that the government rescinded its plan to place new restrictions on international students at U.S. colleges and universities.
- Nancy Brokaw was thrilled that the kids' opera she's been working on will proceed in a slightly different format. It will be filmed outdoors and the final product will be sent to the schools in the fall. She's excited to be involved in theater again since many of the other shows she works with have been cancelled.
- Dayna Brown-Nielsen's oldest child turned 23. She posted a picture of when he was 1 alongside a picture of him last week. She was happy that both pictures showed him in very similar shirts.
- Dayna is also happy that her son has been accepted for a Birthright trip to Israel in December. Even if this trip is cancelled, he will still be in line for a future trip.
- Alan Chapman found himself happy again for having met the new superintendent of Unit 5 schools, who is mulling the possibility of joining Normal Rotary.
- Surinder Sethi was happy about the 100 percent chance of rainfall that was in the forecast.
- Bruce Bergethon reminded the world that when he was judge he fined Angie Bubon for her picture that ran in the Limited magazine in which she didn't have a pin. The magazine has taken to printing rerun pictures because there aren't any social events. Bruce said it's the gift that keeps on giving.

Remember to pay your fines and happy fines! You may mail a check to the Normal Rotary Club or consider using your bank's bill pay option to save a stamp. The Club's mailing address is: Normal Rotary Club, PO Box 333, Normal, IL 61761

Program: Our speaker was Bailey Bottorff, a member of the local Rotaract Club. Bailey is a native of Bloomington-Normal and worked for State Farm in Dallas before returning to her hometown.

The Rotaract Club is sponsored by Sunrise Rotary, but its members welcome the opportunity to partner with other Rotary Clubs. Its members typically range from 18-30 years old, although the upper boundary has become kind of fuzzy. The club focuses on community service and leadership development.

The local Rotaract Club is community-based. In the past, there have been Rotaract Clubs at ISU and at Heartland Community College. Bailey said her club plans to reach out to those communities.

The Rotaract Club meets once a month and has speakers. Service activities have included sending items to military service people. The Rotaract Club is facing many of the same challenges that other service clubs have: keeping members engaged, attracting new members, finding appropriate avenues for service, etc. Our club members shared their thoughts and look forward to helping Rotaract any way we can.



Thought for Today:

“Ships do not sink because of the water around them, ships sink because the water gets in them. Do not let what is happening out there get inside you.”



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