



## THE NORMAL SPOKE

The weekly newsletter of the *only Normal Rotary Club* in the world Chartered June 17, 1949
RI No. 3282 District No. 6490



## Website Links:

Rotary International Normal Rotary Club District 6490

## JANUARY 25, 2023

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Reporter: Art Drake Editor: Larissa McIlvain Photographers: Fred Hahn & Mark Jontry

President-Elect Dayna Brown-Nielsen convened the Jan. 25, 2023, meeting of the Normal Rotary Club at the ISU Alumni Center. Bill Caisley gave the invocation, and we sang.

Guests: John Danenberger introduced his guest, Jared Alcorn, owner of Waiting Room Records.



Bayo Adanri and Alan Chapman



Jared Alcorn, Guest of John
Danenberger



Jack Moody and Hank Campbell

## **Announcements:**

- Ron Timmerman reminded us that we will feed the residents of Safe Harbor on Feb. 9. Ron was trying to fill out his sign-up sheet. Desserts are needed, and cash donations are welcome.
- March 18-19 PETS will be held in Effingham. That's training for Rotary presidents-elect who will take office this summer. Dayna will attend.
- April 2 District Foundation Dinner to recognize Rotarians for outstanding service to the Foundation.



- April 29 District Assembly for current and future officers held at the Forum at Carle in Urbana.
  This is an opportunity for District committee chairs and officers to report on progress in their
  clubs and in the District 6490. I think all Rotarians are welcome and this is a great opportunity
  to round out your understanding of Rotary's role in our communities and in the world.
- Feb. 23 Happy hour for all seven Rotary Clubs in the B-N area. This will be held from 5-7 p.m. at Rob Dob's. Bring a spouse or a friend who might be interested in Rotary. This is our opportunity to have some Rotary-centered fun.
- Dayna expects a Super Bowl pool will circulate at the Feb. 1 meeting. This will give our members a chance to have some skin in the big game, which otherwise probably features teams we might not care about. Half of the proceeds will go to Polio Plus, and half to the winners.
- Hank Campbell has returned from the Friendship Exchange in India. His missions were to make friends, to promote RAM Global's fight against malaria and to explore the possibility of an international student exchange between India and Heartland Community College. Condolences to Rotarian Surinder Sethi on the death in his family.
- Mark Jontry reminded Rotarians to check last week's Spoke for information on making nominations for the vocational and health and safety awards.
- Dayna announced that the polo shirts we ordered have been delayed. There's still time if you want to order one.







Hank's goodies from India

Hank Campbell

**Drake Zimmerman** 

**Lottery:** Miranda Johns-Cummings won the \$15 prize but drew the wrong card and missed out on the \$160 jackpot.

**Birthdays:** Art Drake will celebrate a birthday next week. Given the choice between talking and paying \$5 or remaining silent and paying \$10, he blathered and he blathered some more.

**Happy Fines:** Larissa McIlvain fined herself for forgetting to carry out her greeter duties. She also was happy that today's snowfall did not cause schools to call an e-learning/snow day. Otherwise, a few people were happy:

- Hank Campbell was happy to be back in the U.S.A. and happy to have tested negative on two
  covid tests.
- Ron Timmerman was happy that his oldest grandson's college choices are narrowing down to schools that are within easy visiting distance.
- Dayna was happy to announce that our club will feature Annie's Eats cuisine in our rotation.
   And that today's lunch arrived on time. Dayna said she'd welcome suggestions on other eateries that may suit our club's needs and desires.
- Miranda Johns-Cummings said she was happy that today's snowfall was large enough to be beautiful but small enough to keep disruption at a minimum.



Miranda Johns-Cummings



Larissa McIlvain



Ron Timmerman

**Program:** Our speaker was Eric Hodges, director of Emergency Management for ISU. Eric has been at ISU for 29 years. He became ISU's first director of Emergency Management in 2013 and it is now a three-person shop.

With the day's snowfall on everyone's mind, Eric discussed the process that he and others use to determine how to respond to weather events: with cancellations, late starts, early releases, status quo, etc. They call it the 3 a.m. Club, about 68 people representing the National Weather Service, schools, universities, local major employers, local government and public works people who confer at that ungodly hour to trade information and evaluate the weather event so that each entity can decide how to proceed. These people keep an eye on these weather events a few days ahead of time, but these early-morning conferences provide the information to make those last-minute judgment calls. Still, many people in the public would like those judgment calls to come the previous afternoon so they can make their own plans.



Other than the weather, Eric coordinated ISU's response to covid. Other topics include suicide, deaths on campus, power outages, shootings, armed robberies and more.

Next week's meeting: Club Business

**Thought for the Day:** "The hard soil and four months of snow make the inhabitants of the northern temperature zone wiser and abler than his fellow who enjoys the fixed smile of the tropics." -Ralph Waldo Emerson





The Normal Spoke is a publication of the Normal Rotary Club of Illinois - P.O. Box 333, Normal, IL 61761 Club meetings are on Wednesdays at noon at the ISU Alumni Center, Normal, IL

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Rotary International President 2022-2023 Jill Jones a, member of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada



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