



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

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Reporter: Art Drake

Editor: Larissa McIlvain

Photographers: Mark Jontry

President Ryan Fleming convened the March 8, 2023, meeting of the Normal Rotary Club at the ISU Alumni Center.

Guests: Brian Wipperman, CEO of Marcfirst, guest of Linda Healy; Andy Morgan, ISU's new assistant vice president and dean of students, guest of Larry Dietz.



Brian Wipperman and Linda Healy



Andy Morgan and Larry Dietz

Announcements:

- Our club board of directors approved a \$1,000 donation to benefit Midwest Mission, which is sending disaster relief to Turkey and Ukraine. You'll remember that Turkey is still reeling from devastating earthquakes. This effort is being spearheaded by the Springfield Rotary Club, and our donation will go through them. You can send your donation to:

Springfield Rotary Foundation

P.O. Box 615

Springfield, IL 62705

Write "Disaster Relief Fund" in the memo line.



- Safe Harbor still needs new or gently used bath towels.
- The District Foundation Dinner will be held April 2.
- April 29 will be the District Assembly for current and future officers at the Forum at Carle in Urbana.
- March 18-19, PETS will be held in Effingham. (That's training for club presidents-elect.)
- Angie Bubon reminded us that our club scholarship banquet is on May 10. Contact Angie if you'd like to participate in the interviews.
- Dayna Brown-Nielsen reminded us to save July 1 to attend the Cornbelters game. This is one of many social events that are in the works.
- Dayna also reminded us to expect a stellar slate of speakers at future meetings: the Voice of the Redbirds, Jan Meadows of the Promise Council, the president of the McLean County Farm Bureau, Surinder Sethi and Hank Campbell talking about their trip to India, ISU's director of administration and representatives of 4-H and the Cornbelters. Let Dayna know if you have suggestions for speakers.
- Surinder Sethi announced that a Rotary Friendship Exchange delegation will visit this area for 10 days in June. Hosts will be needed. This delegation will come from the same Rotary district that Hank Campbell and Surinder visited in January.
- Art Drake brought some books and offered to give them to anyone who wants them.
- President Ryan presented 100 Paul Harris points to Bruce Bergethon to reward his work on Oktoberfest.



Angie Bubon



Dayna Brown-Nielsen



Surinder Sethi

Lottery: Jack Moody presented the winning ticket and drew the wrong card. If I understand correctly, the winning ticket belonged to lucky serial winner Alan Chapman who didn't even show up at the meeting. The day's prize was \$18. The grand prize will become grander next week.

Mystery Host: Bruce Bergethon presented the \$2 bill to Art Drake for bringing books to give away.

Judge: Linda Healy came to the judge's chair fully loaded and blasted fines out all over the place. In honor of International Women's Day, she fined every Rotarian who has had an important woman in their life. Her own guest, Brian Wipperman, was pictured in The Limited, and I think Linda paid his fine. A slew of others who attended Normal Rotary's holiday party were also pictured in The Limited, and many were fined for failing to wear Rotary pins. It was hard to keep track of all the scofflaws, so I'll give up. Otherwise, there were happy fines:

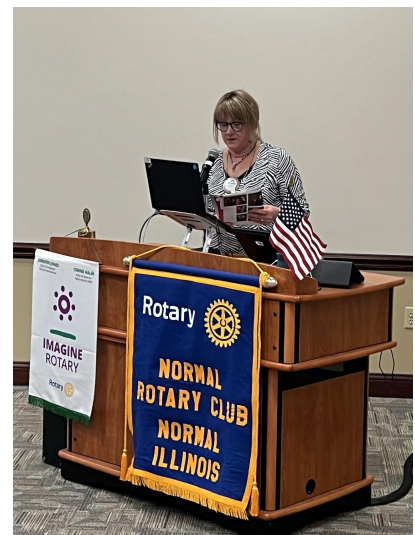
- Ryan Fleming was happy that his 16-year-old son earned his driver's license and rewarded the old man with a hug. Ryan's daughter rewarded this sentimentality with an eyeroll.
- Greg Anvick was happy that a former exchange student will be visiting in July.
- John A. Bishop was happy to be back to Rotary after helping his wife recover from a fall.
- Larry Dietz, feeling happy about many things, paid \$20. He was happy that ISU hired Andy Morgan to its leadership team. He was glad that his wife is recovering from a back problem.
- Drake Zimmerman was happy about a letter to the editor written by Becky Goeckner in support of Unit 5 and happy to belong to a diverse organization like Rotary.
- Iris Varner was happy to have booked their first international flight in four years. She will celebrate her 80th birthday and visit relatives.
- Hank Campbell was happy about RAM Global's work on malaria and happy for the workers on the ground.



Ryan Fleming and Bruce
Bergethon



Jack Moody



Judge Linda Healy



Ryan Fleming



Greg Anvick



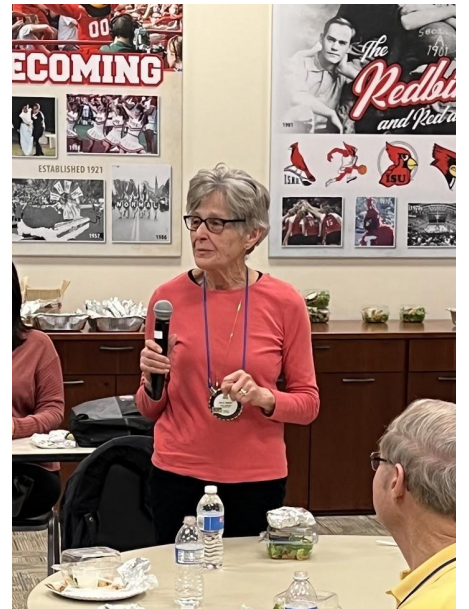
Welcome back John A. Bishop!



Larry Dietz



Bayo Adanri and Drake
Zimmerman



Iris Varner



Program: Our speaker was Normal Police Officer Brad Park and his partner, Officer Olive, a black lab and coon hound mix who is a facility dog or a wellness dog. Brad is community services officer at Normal PD.

As community services officer, he takes Olive to schools, assisted living centers and other places so Olive can make friends. The idea is to let members of the public have positive interactions with police so that when a more urgent police matter arises, the public will feel more comfortable in reaching out. Another of Olive's missions is to help police officers by offering a comfortable presence when the officers are under stress.

Olive is a sweet, non-aggressive dog and is not trained in the functions of what we might think of as a police dog. Olive was trained by a Peoria group that raises and trains service dogs. Olive and Brad had to go through extensive training.

Olive is Brad's dog, although the police department pays Olive's expenses. And Brad is Olive's human, and they spend nearly all day every day together. Olive wears a vest when she is on duty. When the vest comes off at home, Olive becomes a regular dog.



Thought for the Day: "Always be a first-rate version of yourself instead of a second-rate version of somebody else." -Judy Garland



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Club meetings are on Wednesdays at noon at the ISU Alumni Center, Normal, IL

Officers 2022-2023

President - Ryan Fleming
ryan.fleming@commercebank.com
815-739-54984

President-Elect - Dayna Brown-Nielsen
brownda@Unit5.org
309-862-3385

Vice President - Bruce Bergethon
blberge@ilstu.edu
309-8275-7093

Secretary - Jack Moody
jack-moody@comcast.net
309-310-4868

Treasurer - Matt Wyss
mwyss@hbtbank.com
309-397-5919

Sergeant-At-Arms - Bill Semlak
wdsemlak@ilstu.edu, 309-359-8172

Past President - Ann Haugo
ahaugo@ilstu.edu
309-825-1534

Directors 2022-2023

Community Concerns - David Taylor
dtaylor@uwaymc.org
309-828-7383

Rotary Foundation & International - Hank Campbell
hlcampb@ilstu.edu
309-530-5134

Publicity - Larissa McIlvain
Larissa.McIlvain@heartland.edu
309-338-7362

Club Administration - Dayna Brown-Nielsen
brownda@Unit5.org
309-862-3385

Assistant Governor - Laura Pritts
laurapritts93@gmail.com
309-824-0507

District Governor - Connie Walsh
cdwalsh@illinois.edu
217-493-0930

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



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

Members:			
Adanri, Bayo PHF* HH PP	Cranston, Robert PHF* PHS HH GWRV PP DHH	Hirst, David	Schultz, Dianne
Alexander, Kathy PHF* HH PP	Danenberger, John	Hunt, Robert PHF*	Seaba, Seth
Anvick, Greg PHF	Dennis, Marcia PHF* HH PP DNRY DHH GWRV	Johns-Cummings, Miranda	Semlak, Bill PHF* PHS HH
Bergethon, Bruce PHF* HH PP	Dietz, Larry PHF	Jontry, Gene PHF* HH	Sethi, Surinder PHF* PHS HH PP DHH DRY GWRV PDG MD
Bidner, Gordon PHF* PHS MD BS GWRV HH PP PDG DHH	Drake, Art PHF* HH PP	Jontry, Mark PHF	Smith, Kevin PHF
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Brokaw, Nancy PHF*	Gentry, Connie PHF HH	McIlvain, Larissa PHF	Taylor, David
Brown-Nielsen, Dayna PHF	Goeckner, Becky PHF* HH PP GWRV	Mesdag, Elleke PHF*	Timmerman, Ron PHF* HH
Bubon, Angie (Fulton) PHF	Goss Kinzy, Terri HM	Moffett, Dan	Varner, Carson PHF*
Caisley, Bill PHF* HH PP	Gudeman, Gene PHF* HH	Moody, Jack	Varner, Iris PHF*
Campbell, Hank PHF HH DRY PP	Hahn, Fred PHF PP	Riehle, Matt	Weigelmann, Rod PHF HH
Chapman, Alan PHF* PHS MD HH GWRV DHH	Haugo, Ann PHF PP	Ropp, Ray PHF* HH PP DHH PDG	Wyss, Matt PHF
Copenhaver, Andy PHF PP	Healy, Linda PHF* HH PP DRY	Rosenlund, Jim PHF PP	Zimmerman, Drake PHF* PHS MD BS HH PP DHH
Cornille, Keith HM			
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 GWRV - George Wolf Rotarian of the Year