



# 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](#)

**MAY 3, 2023**

Volume No. 74 Issue 40

Reporter: Art Drake	Editor: Larissa McIlvain	Photographer: Mark Jontry
---------------------	--------------------------	---------------------------

President Ryan Fleming convened the May 3, 2023, meeting of the Normal Rotary Club at the ISU Alumni Center. Bayo Adanri gave the invocation.

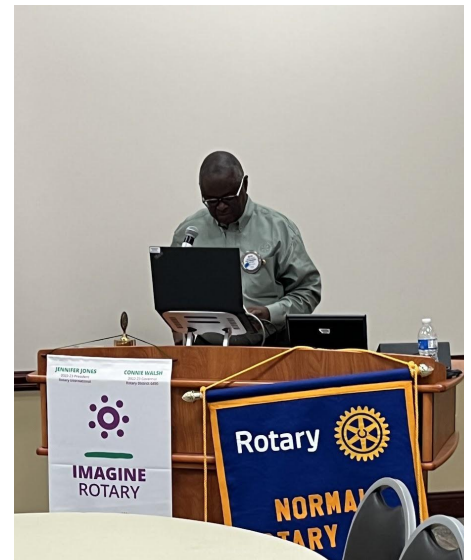
**Guests:** Larissa McIlvain was accompanied by her daughters, Laurelyn and Eliza.



Larissa McIlvain with her daughters, Laurelyn and Eliza



President Ryan Fleming



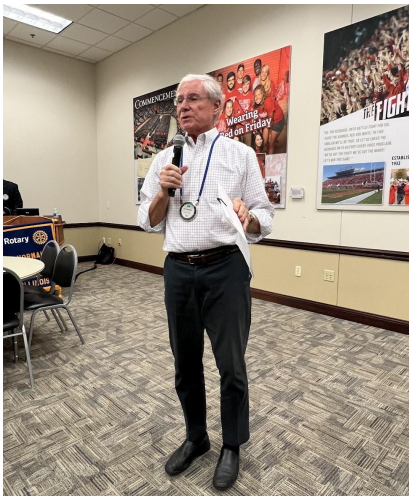
Bayo Adanri

**Announcements:**

- The next Safe Harbor volunteer event will be held May 10. Ron Timmerman says we have all the volunteer servers we need. Volunteers should arrive at 6:45. If you volunteered to provide a dessert, you can give them to Ron at the May 10 meeting or take them directly to Safe Harbor. Also, Safe Harbor still needs new or gently used bath towels.
- Rural-Urban Night at the Ropp Farm will be held June 14.



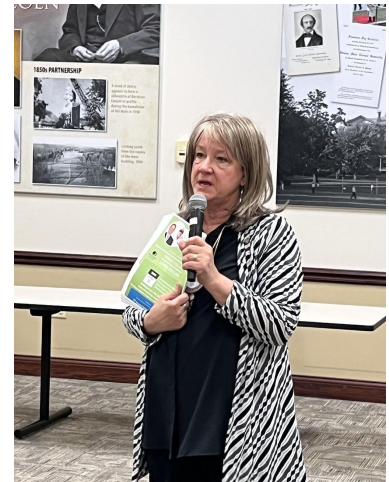
- Our club scholarship banquet will be during our regular meeting time May 10 at the ISU Alumni Center.
- May 20, the Rotary Leadership Institute will be held at Richland Community College in Decatur. RLI sessions offer an opportunity to learn about Rotary and how to make your club more effective.
- July 1 is the Rotary Night at the Cornbelters game. Dayna Brown-Nielsen circulated a sign-up sheet. The cost is \$10 per person, which includes a meal. Or you can pay an additional \$2 and get a hat.
- Rotary Day at the Ballpark will be held July 29 at Busch Stadium. Cards v. Cubs, 6:15 p.m., \$60 per ticket. \$20 of that will come back to our club for literacy projects.
- Dayna Brown-Nielsen reminded Rotarians that we have lots of big events on the horizon: the scholarship banquet will be catered by Olive Garden. Also planned for future meetings are a taco bar and food from Panda Express. She also alerted us to the quality speakers that will be coming our way: the district governor on July 12 and the new ISU president on July 19. Another interesting program will be Carl Olson, executive director of the Central Illinois Regional Airport.
- Linda Healy announced that Marcfirst will host an Evening with Doug and Chris Collins on June 11. You can purchase tickets at: [dinnerwithdougcollins.com](http://dinnerwithdougcollins.com).



Ron Timmerman



Ray Ropp



Linda Healy

**Mystery host:** Gordon Bidner honored Hank Campbell, Bayo Adanri and Surinder Sethi for their deep, longstanding involvement in the cause of Rotary.

**Lottery:** Bayo Adanri won the day's prize of \$18, but drew the wrong card and missed out on the \$426 grand prize.

**Judge:** Larissa McIlvain collected happy fines:



- Bill Semlak was pleased that the Anne M. Semlak Memorial Scholarship was awarded a couple of weeks ago. The scholarship is in honor of Bill's daughter.
- Surinder Sethi was happy to see Gordon Bidner back at our meeting. Surinder also was happy to announce that a host has stepped forward for a couple from India who will be visiting as part of Rotary Friendship Exchange. Surinder needs one more host for one more couple for that exchange which will take place in June.
- Carson Varner was happy to commemorate his family's acquisition of a farm, which has remained in the family since 1853.
- Drake Zimmerman was happy to report that RAM Global membership has reached 1,000.
- Connie Gentry was happy to see her friend, Jan Meadows, at the meeting. Connie also was happy that her doctor says she can now walk so she can attend Rotary meetings. ALSO, she was happy that one of her granddaughters will soon be off on a study program in Spain while another granddaughter will soon be off on a research internship in Africa.
- Becky Goeckner was happy to have attended the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party for her father-in-law, a World War II vet.
- Bayo Adanri was happy that his daughter will soon be off to a study program in Sweden.
- David Taylor was happy about working a late shift as a volunteer for the prom. As the father of girls, he expects this to be the first of a series of prom volunteerism.
- Gene Jontry paid \$1 in honor of his longtime friend, the late Parker Lawless, a community leader.
- Jack Moody was happy to have participated in the scholarship interviews. He also is thrilled about an upcoming visit to Israel and Egypt.
- Bruce Bergethon was happy about the Pittsburgh Pirates' temporary success.

Finally, Judge Larissa led Rotarians in a game of heads or tails. Participants each paid \$1. Half the proceeds went to the winner and half to the club. The winner was guest Jan Meadows.





Hank Campbell



Surinder Sethi

Nancy Brokaw



Bill Semlak

Angie Bubon



Carson Varner



Connie Gentry



Becky Goeckner



David Taylor



Gene Jontry



Jack Moody



Bruce Bergethon

**Program:** Rotarian Mark Jontry presided over the club's presentation of awards to Jan Meadows and to Mike Romagnoli.

Jan received the Jim Collie Vocational Service Award, which recognizes people who have distinguished themselves in their occupation, who are dedicated to serving others and who demonstrate high ethical standards in their occupation.

Rotarian Becky Goeckner presented the award and reviewed Jan's achievements. Jan worked for 35 years as a behavior specialist and teacher in Unit 5 schools. For 20 years she taught night courses at ISU, and she continues to mentor student teachers and honor students at ISU.

Jan has chaired the Back 2 School Alliance which provides thousands of backpacks with school supplies to low-income families in the community. She has been active in the Promise Council, an independent school support program. She created a 10-week course called WOW to develop leadership skills and confidence in elementary school-aged girls. For many years, she served on the executive committee of the Unit 5 Education Association, and she is vice president for the IEA Retired Teachers.

Mike received the Jack Wilz Public Health and Safety Award, which recognizes people whose actions benefit the public health and/or safety of the community. Mike is executive director of the Community Health Care Clinic, which provides healthcare to uninsured and under-insured people.

Rotarian Hank Campbell presented the award to Mike and summarized the health care clinic's achievements. The clinic was started in 1994 after local leaders realized that many people who could



not afford regular health care were showing up repeatedly at emergency facilities. Today, the not-for-profit clinic serves 1,400 patients a year, providing primary health care, health education and wellness programs. An onsite dispensary provides prescription medications. Hank recognized that the clinic's success relies on a dedicated staff and volunteers.

Mike became executive director of the Community Health Care Clinic in 2018. Mike had started at the clinic as a volunteer 14 years previously and worked in several positions there, including operations manager.



Becky Goeckner presents the 2023 Jim Collie Vocational Service Award to Jan Meadows



Jan Meadows and Becky Goeckner



Hank Campbell presents the Jack Wilz Public Health and Safety Award to Mike Romagnoli



Hank Campbell and Mike Romagnoli



President Ryan Fleming, Mike Romagnoli, Mark Jontry, Jan Meadows

**Thought for the Day:** "Help others and give something back. I guarantee you will discover that while public service improves the lives and the world around you, its greatest reward is the enrichment and new meaning it will bring your own life." -Arnold Schwarzenegger

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

### Officers 2022-2023

President - Ryan Fleming  
[ryan.fleming@commercebank.com](mailto:ryan.fleming@commercebank.com)  
815-739-54984

President-Elect -Dayna Brown-Nielsen  
[brownda@Unit5.org](mailto:brownda@Unit5.org)  
309-862-3385

Vice President - Bruce Bergethon  
[blberge@ilstu.edu](mailto:blberge@ilstu.edu)  
309-8275-7093

Secretary - Jack Moody  
[jack-moody@comcast.net](mailto:jack-moody@comcast.net)  
309-310-4868

Treasurer – Matt Wyss  
[mwyss@hbtbank.com](mailto:mwyss@hbtbank.com)  
309-397-5919

Sergeant-At-Arms – Bill Semlak  
[wdsemhlak@ilstu.edu](mailto:wdsemhlak@ilstu.edu), 309-359-8172

Past President – Ann Haugo  
[ahaugo@ilstu.edu](mailto:ahaugo@ilstu.edu)  
309-825-1534

### Directors 2022-2023

Community Concerns - David Taylor  
[dtaylor@uwaymc.org](mailto:dtaylor@uwaymc.org)  
309-828-7383

Rotary Foundation & International - Hank Campbell  
[hlcampb@ilstu.edu](mailto:hlcampb@ilstu.edu)  
309-530-5134

Publicity - Larissa McIlvain  
[Larissa.McIlvain@heartland.edu](mailto:Larissa.McIlvain@heartland.edu)  
309-338-7362

Club Administration - Dayna Brown-Nielsen  
[brownda@Unit5.org](mailto:brownda@Unit5.org)  
309-862-3385

Assistant Governor - Laura Pritts  
[laurapritts93@gmail.com](mailto:laurapritts93@gmail.com)  
309-824-0507

District Governor – Connie Walsh  
[cdwalsh@illinois.edu](mailto:cdwalsh@illinois.edu)  
217-493-0930

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



<b>Members:</b>			
Adanri, Bayo PHF* HH PP	Cranston, Robert PHF* PHS HH GWRY 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 GWRY	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 GWRY PDG MD
Bidner, Gordon PHF* PHS MD BS GWRY HH PP PDG DHH	Drake, Art PHF* HH PP	Jontry, Mark PHF	Smith, Kevin PHF
Bishop, John A. PHF* PP HH	Enchelmayer, Paul	Koos, Chris HM	Strassheim, Dale PHF* PP HH
Bishop, John E. PHF PP	Fleming, Ryan PHF	McClellan, Stephanie B. PHF	Tanton, Ed PHF* PP H
Brokaw, Nancy PHF*	Gentry, Connie PHF HH	McIlvain, Larissa PHF	Taylor, David
Brown-Nielsen, Dayna PHF	Goeckner, Becky PHF* HH PP GWRY	Mesdag, Elleke PHF*	Timmerman, Ron PHF* HH
Bubon, Angie (Fulton) PHF	Gudeman, Gene PHF* HH	Moffett, Dan	Varner, Carson PHF*
Caisley, Bill PHF* HH PP	Hahn, Fred PHF PP	Moody, Jack	Varner, Iris PHF*
Campbell, Hank PHF HH DRY PP	Haugo, Ann PHF PP	Riehle, Matt	Weigelmann, Rod PHF HH
Chapman, Alan PHF* PHS MD HH GWRY DHH	Healy, Linda PHF* HH PP DRY	Ropp, Ray PHF* HH PP DHH PDG	Wyss, Matt PHF
Copenhaver, Andy PHF PP		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 GWRY – George Wolf Rotarian of the Year