

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

January 22, 2014 Volume No. 64 Issue No. 30

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

Normal Rotary web sites: <http://nrcspoke.com/> <http://www.normalrotary.org/>

Link to District 6490 Website: www.Rotary6490.org (The District Newsletter can be found on the left side of the main page)

Wednesday, January 29, 2014

Head Table: John Burrill & Bill Caisley

Greeters: Gene Jontry & Mark Jontry

Lottery: Hank Campbell & Jim Carter

Program: Steve Doran, Friends of the Children of Haiti

February Birthdays – Please bring a gift for the Birthday Auction

Marci Schneider	3
Alan Chapman	8
Stephanie McClellan	8
John Burrill	10
Michelle Houchin	12
Connie Gentry	15
Art Runyon	23
John Morris	28



Club RI Contributions:
\$6,111

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

Head Table: Hank Campbell & Jim Carter

Greeters: Meghan Listek & Stephanie McClellan

Lottery: Alan Chapman & Mark Comadena

Program: Club Business & Birthday Auction

Reporter: Jim Carter

Photographer: Michelle Houchin

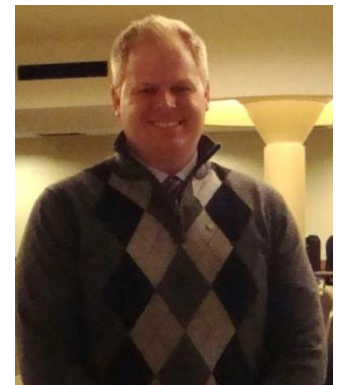
Editor: Becky Goeckner



Dale Strassheim

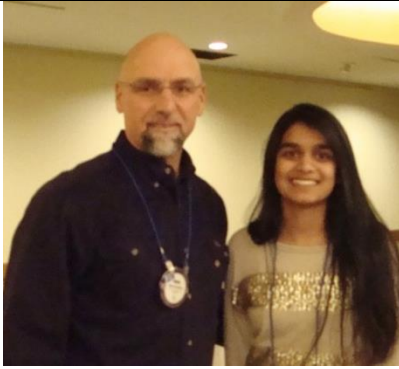
John Burrill and Bill Caisley hustled raffle tickets until President Dale Strassheim convened the meeting at 12:13. He reflected on our weather and compared it to a winter he remembers from the 1970's in Elkhart, IN. It was not a warm story nor were we having a warm day. With no one ready with the invocation, Dale held forth.

Visiting Rotarian: Eddie Larson from Wilmington, IL was our only visiting Rotarian. He is checking us out because his firm is moving here and he wants a place to feel comfortable. Hopefully, we impressed him favorably.



Eddie Larson

Students of the Month: We then heard from three of our students on their service activities. Monica, Megan and Jaleelah told their stories and today did it with the help of the microphone.



Mark Comadena & Monica Patel



Andy Copenhaver & Megan Newman



Art Drake & Jaleelah Muhammd

Announcements:

Next week we will have some 26 teachers from Brazil, similar to what we had last year. Speaking of Brazil, our own exchange student Gabriel Castro is now on the swim team at West. As a member of the team he is supposed to sell candy bars to his family and friends to raise money for equipment. He noted that because we are his family and friends we get to help him in his cause. We did.



In March we will be hosting all of the Presidents of the BN Rotary Clubs. Start practicing good behavior.

Ron Pacha is now home with his two broken legs and hopes to be back with us soon; after all nasty weather is over. With two broken legs it may be a few weeks.



Ron Timmerman reminded folks that we still need volunteers at Oakdale School to help a few kids prepare for a state test. Kathy Alexander and Radha Radakrishna spoke about what they have been doing to help kids and they told good stories.



Mystery host:

Larry Dietz was our Mystery Host. With a big ISU basketball game this evening, he was attired in a bright red sweater vest. John A. Bishop was the recipient of the \$2 bill because he had the foresight to choose a bright red sweater vest. They looked like the 'Bobbsey Twins' with Rotary pins.

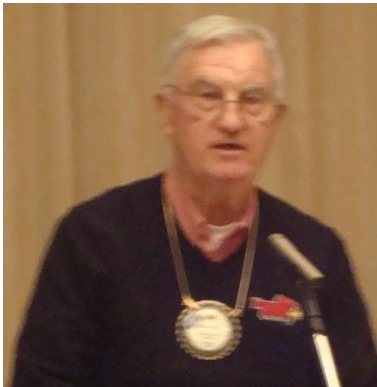
Bruce Bergethon was the Judge of the Day. He recognized Alan Chapman for his leadership of the United Way, as documented in the Pantagraph today. He then asked members to donate a dollar in appreciation for Alan's efforts. Jason Chambers had many photos in the Pantagraph earlier in the week and they showed he was wearing this Rotary pin. Bruce noted after a few fines members realize they should be wearing a pin when they will get their photos taken. As a reminder he then fined everyone present \$1 if there were not wearing pin today.



Of special note - Larry Dietz gave a happy fine recognizing the performance of his granddaughter in a gymnastic performance in Hawaii against international competition.

The Election: Mark Comadena read the slate of officers and directors for the 2014-2015 year. It was moved to accept the slate and seconded. The vote which followed was unanimous to approve the slate. Our officers and directors will be:

President – Mark Comadena
President Elect – Andy Copenhaver
Vice-President – Jim Rosenlund
Secretary – Jeremy High
Treasurer – Rod Weigelmann
Sergeant at Arms – Hank Campbell
Director of Club Publicity – Marci Schneider
Director of Club Administration – Stephanie McCellan
Director of Community Service – Matt Riehl
Rotary Foundation, International Projects & New Generations – Heather Dennis



Today's Program:

Gene Jontry then introduced Larry Lyons, the ISU Athletic Director. He has been in the Athletics program for 27 years but only recently moved to the top. Larry has degrees from UIUC and ISU. He got his accounting degree here. So, he was the business guy when he came on board, with a great love of sports. It has served him well.



He started by telling us about the academic performance of the athletic students. He is very proud of these students, who maintain a GPA of 3.08. 65% of the students are on the Honor Roll. And, they are trying to get students to take leadership roles.

He was on board before Redbird Arena was built. Now he gets to talk about the expansion of Hancock Stadium. He seemed to be most enamored by the Great Club Space on the 4th level with great views of many things other than just the football field. He suggested we have a club meeting in this space someday soon. He then told us about the funding was secured for the expansion. No student fees were raised for this project. He noted Athletics had to wait their turn to get the expansion and that they are looking at more projects when their turn comes again.

He then talked about the NCAA Convention where hundreds of representatives from schools big and small gathered to fight for resources and money. Governance was the word as they try to figure out how to make sense of far too many rules and committees. Football and TV drive the markets and ISU is not one of the drivers. Likewise we are not part of the Five High Resource Conferences. But, we

have a program that produces good athletes and performances that people enjoy watching.

For that great performance on his part Larry was given a Normal Cooks cookbook.

Thought for the day is from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., “*Our Children need our presence, not our presents.*”

UPCOMING DATES:

February 15 – Rotary Leadership Institute in Decatur

March 22 – International Fair

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

2013-2014
 Ron D. Burton



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	Alexander, Kathy PHF* HH	DeSouza, Adriano	Rutledge, Don PHF* HH
		Koos, Chris HM	Schneider, Marci PHF

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Bergethon, Bruce PHF* HH	Drake, Art PHF	Kukla, Cynthia PHF	Semlak, Bill PHF*
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Caisley, Bill PHF* HH	Haugo, Ann PHF	Pacha, Ron PHF* HH	Varner, Carson PHF*
Campbell, Hank PHF	Healy, Linda PHF*	Radhakrishnan, Radha PHF* PHS	Varner, Iris PHF*
Carter, Jim PHF* PHS HH GWRV	Henry, Lindsey	Raper, Lyle PHF* HH	Wagner, Dick PHF* PHS MD BS HH DHH
Chambers, Jason PHF	High, Jeremy PHF	Reitan, Carol PHF*	Wagner, Heather (Beal)
Chapman, Alan PHF* PHS GWRV	Houchin, Michelle PHF	Riehle, Matt	Ward, Robert PHF*
Comadena, Mark PHF	Houska, George PHF* HH	Ropp, Gordon PHF* HH	Weigelmann, Rod PHF
Copenhaver, Andy PHF	Howell, Gene PHF*	Ropp, Ray PHF* HH DHH	Weller, Roger PHF
Cranston, Robert PHF* PHS HH GWRV DHH	Hunt, Robert PHF*	Rosenlund, Jim	Wilz, Jack PHF* HH DHH
			Zimmerman, Drake PHF* PHS MD BS HH DHH
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	CM – Charter Member DNRY - District New Rotarian of the Year	BS – Bequest Society Member DRY -District Rotarian of the Year GWRV – George Wolf Rotarian of the Year