

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 8, 2014 Volume No. 64 Issue No. 28

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](http://www.Rotary6490.org) (The District Newsletter can be found on the left side of the main page)

### Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Head Table: John A. Bishop & John E. Bishop

Greeters: Becky Goeckner & Linda Healy

Lottery: Nancy Brokaw & Dayna Brown

Program: TBA

### Wednesday, January 22, 2014

Head Table: Nancy Brokaw and Dana Brown-Nielsen

Greeters: Lindsey Henry and Michelle Houchin

Lottery: John Burrill and Bill Caisley

Program: TBA



Club RI Contributions:  
\$6,111

Reporter: Heather Dennis

Photographer: Michelle Houchin

Editor: Art Drake



Kristine Apel and Kevin Smith

This week was our first meeting of 2014. Today's invocation was given by Jim Rosenlund, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and the first verse of "America" led by Mark Sherman.

#### Guests:

Kristine Apel, who interns for Rotarian Kevin Smith.



Larry Dietz and Pierce Hunter

#### Students of the Month:

--Monica Patel from Normal West is planning to attend the University of Illinois and major in Biology.



Monica Patel and John Bishop

--Pierce Hunter from University High School is planning to go to SIU-Edwardsville or University of Illinois and study pre-dental or pre-veterinary medicine.

--Jaleelah Muhammd from NCHS is planning to go to SIU-Edwardsville and major in criminal justice. Her goal is to become a police officer.



Art Drake and  
Jaleelah Muhammd

### **Mystery host:**

Matt Riehle was today's mystery host and gave the \$2 to Don Rutledge for advising him on the finer points of Austrian wine.

### **2014 slate of officers:**

Mark Comadena announced the 2014 board nominees. They are:

- President – Mark Comadena
- President Elect – Andy Copenhaver
- Vice-President – Jim Rosenlund
- Secretary – Jeremy High
- Treasurer – Rod Weigelman
- 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 – Heather Dennis

The election will be on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Mark Comadena and Andy Copenhaver for putting together a great team for 2014.



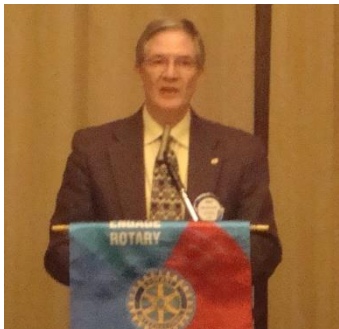
Mark Comadena announces our slate of officers.



Christmas isn't really over until Jim Carter runs out of poinsettia announcements.



Judge Bruce Bergethon rakes in the cash.



President Dale Strassheim asked us to keep Alan Chapman's grandchild and his family in our thoughts and prayers.



Students at Oakdale Elementary need our help, Ron Timmerman reminds us.

### **Announcements:**

--A reminder to sign up for District 6490 team building for club officers (formerly Pre-Pets) which will be held on Tuesday, January 21 at Heartland Community College.

--The board has agreed to continue our involvement in several initiatives including:

- Support the Family Science Day community event sponsored by the Sunrise club by being a \$1,000 sponsor
- Sponsor the Veteran's Day event in 2014 similarly to this year.
- To fully fund six Normal Rotary Club scholarships next year at \$1,000 each.
- The Art Adams Normal Rotary Scholarship at

Heartland Community College will now be called the Normal Rotary Club Scholarship.

- We will continue to support the Friends Forever project, but will probably reduce our financial contributions from \$5,000 to \$1,000.
- The next board meeting is scheduled for January 13.

--Ron Timmerman passed around a signup sheet for the Oakdale School Reading Program. He needs volunteers for Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, as well as substitutes who can fill in when someone is unavailable. Please see Ron to sign up for this program.

--Jim Carter asked everyone who has outstanding monies due for Poinsettias to pay up! Our final numbers aren't in yet, but we delivered close to 2600 poinsettias this year. Please see Jim if you still owe money on your sales.

--President Dale asked us to keep Alan Chapman and his family in our thoughts and prayers. Alan's newborn grandson, Max, is in the hospital.



**Judge:**

Judge Bruce Bergethon fined himself and Gordon Bidner for forgetting to sit at the head table. Todd Anderson won the lottery, and several New Year's happy fines were given.

**Paul Harris Awards:**

Today Dick Wagner and Art Drake gave out seven Paul Harris Fellow awards to our club members. Gordon Ropp, Jack Wilz, Bayo Adanri, Ray Ropp, Hank Campbell, Bill Caisley and Surinder Sethi all received the honor and our thanks for supporting the Rotary Foundation.



And the Paul Harris awards go to...Bill Caisley...



...Bayo Adanri...

**Today's Program:**

Since today was about club business, we had no keynote speaker. However, fellow Rotarian Ryan Fleming came to the podium and told us all a little bit about himself.



...Gordon Ropp...



...Surinder Sethi...

Raised in a small town south of Dekalb, Ryan and his family have been farmers for many years. As a boy, he was a member of 4H and said 4H is like a "cow prom". He went to the University of Illinois where he met his wife. She is a professor at U of I, and he works at Commerce Bank. They have three children.



...Hank Campbell...



...Ray Ropp...

Gordon Ropp led our birthday auction today with the help of Ray Ropp and Gordon Bidner.

To wrap up our meeting, President Strassheim went over his goals for our club for 2014:

- Create excellent and interesting community based programs that will enhance our member's knowledge of the community and engage us.
- Have an active and engaging Judge to help make the meeting interesting and enjoyable and financially rewarding.
- Add and actively engage new members to an already strong club. He would like to add 5-6 new members in 2014.
- Develop one or two Bloomington/Normal five club community projects, in the vein of our Veteran's



...and Jack Wilz. Thanks to you all for your support of the Rotary Foundation!

Day program, and the Memorial Day Parade.

- Have fun each week at our meeting by continuing the getting to know you presentations.

### Thought for the day:

*"No one knows his true character until he has run out of gas, purchased something on the installment plan and raised an adolescent."*

**--Marcelene Cox**

### UPCOMING DATES:

January 15 – Vote on Normal Rotary officers.

January 21 – District Team Building.

February 15 – Rotary Leadership Institute in Decatur

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	Koos, Chris HM	Schneider, Marci PHF
Anderson, Todd	Dietz, Larry PHF	Kouba, Andrew	Schultz, Mel PHF HH
Bergethon, Bruce PHF* HH	Drake, Art PHF	Kukla, Cynthia PHF	Semlak, Bill PHF*
Bidner, Gordon PHF* PHS MD BS GWRY HH	Dude, Ralph PHF* HH DRY	Lindsay, Jeff	Sethi, Surinder PHF* PHS HH DHH DRY
Bishop, John A. PHF*	Dunlap, Mark	Listek, Meghan PHF	Sherman, Mark PHF* HH
Bishop, John E. PHF	Fleming, Ryan	Matsler, Frank PHF*	Smith, Kevin PHF
Blackburn, Joe	Gentry, Connie PHF HH	McClellan, Stephanie B.	Springer, Ron, PHF*
Brokaw, Nancy PHF*	Glover, Rob PHF	Mesdag, Elleke PHF*	Strassheim, Dale PHF*
Brown-Nielsen, Dayna PHF	Goeckner, Becky PHF* HH	Morris, John PHF* PHS BS HH	Tanton, Ed PHF*
Burrill, John PHF*	Gudeman, Gene PHF* HH	Naik, Vandana PHF*	Timmerman, Ron PHF* HH
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 GWRY	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 GWRY	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 GWRY DHH	Hunt, Robert PHF*	Rosenlund, Jim	Wilz, Jack PHF* HH DHH
			Zimmerman, Drake PHF* PHS MD BS HH DHH
<b>PHF</b> – Paul Harris Fellow <b>HH</b> – Hall of Honor <b>PHF*</b> - Paul Harris Fellow/Stone <b>PHS</b> – Paul Harris Society	<b>DHH</b> - District Hall of Honor <b>HM</b> – Honorary Member <b>MD</b> – Major Donors	<b>CM</b> – Charter Member <b>DNRD</b> - District New Rotarian of the Year	<b>BS</b> – Bequest Society Member <b>DRY</b> -District Rotarian of the Year <b>GWRY</b> – George Wolf Rotarian of the Year