



## The Normal Spoke

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490

September 21, 2016 Volume No. 67 Issue No. 12

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

Normal Rotary web site: <http://www.normalrotary.org/>

Link to District 6490 Website: <http://rotarydistrict6490.org/> (The District Newsletter can be found on the left side of the main page)

### Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Head Table: Bill Semlak & Surinder Sethi

Greeters: Angie Fulton & Connie Gentry

Lottery: Gordon Bidner & John A. Bishop

#### October Birthday Auction – Please bring a gift for the auction.

Ron Timmerman	6
Drake Zimmerman	8
Linda Healy	16
Angie Fulton	25
Rob Cranston	27



### Wednesday, October 5, 2016

Head Table: Ron Springer & Dale Strassheim

Greeters: Rob Glover & Becky Goeckner

Lottery: John E. Bishop & Nancy Brokaw



**Reporter:** Sherry Hawkins

**Photographer:** Jim Carter

**Editor:** Becky Goeckner

Jim Rosenlund presided over the Sept. 21, 2016 meeting of the Normal Rotary Club, and Gordon Bidner offered a thoughtful reflection. There were no visiting Rotarians.

Rob Cranston introduced a visitor, Amanda Coleman from Nova Scotia. Because she was a Rotary Peace Scholar, she recognized our Rotary sign in the Bone Student Center hallway. She thought she'd drop in and as a result was invited to stay for lunch. Amanda is pursuing a master's degree in education in Canada and is at ISU to share her story with the Human Library project.

*Editor's note: The next day the Pantagraph featured Amanda in an article about the Human Library Project. Here is an excerpt: "Amanda Coleman traveled all the way from Halifax, Nova Scotia, to Illinois State University to tell her story of resilience, forgiveness and healing. She was one of 52 "books" who shared their stories Wednesday as part of the Human Library project. Coleman shared her story through words and images, including an "altered" book she is creating. An altered book is a form of mixed media that transforms an actual book into a piece of art. In Coleman's case, her idea is to use altered books to relate life experiences. The idea is part of a master's thesis on which she is working that will involve school children creating altered books of their experiences. She also brought eye patches for the students to try to help them understand what it's like not to have vision in one eye. While at least one student in the afternoon session tried the patch, a few nervously fingered them but did not put them on."*



Amanda Coleman

Later in the meeting **Mystery Host:** Gordon Ropp presented the coveted \$2 bill to our visitor from Nova Scotia, Amanda Coleman.

## September Students of the Month:

- Michelle Houchin introduced Jady Talbert from Olympia High School and the Bloomington Area Career Center. She is interested in pursuing her education at SIU. She has been active in her church, volunteering on mission trips.



Michelle Houchin & Jady Talbert



Maya Walker

- John A. Bishop introduced Maya Walker from Normal West. She plans to attend either Ohio State or Illinois Wesleyan to study biochemistry with the hope of becoming a doctor. She volunteers at the hospital and serves as a Sunday school teacher at church. She also plans to go on a mission trip with her church.
- Matt Wyss introduced Radi Diamonika from Normal Community. Radi plans to study biology at the University of Illinois with a goal of a career in sports medicine. He is active in church mission trips.



Radi Diamonika

- Andy Copenhaver introduced Ally Shepherd from University High School. Ally volunteers with Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Her "little" was 6 years old when they started together, and now she's 8. Ally also volunteers at the hospital and does service work with the National Honor Society.



Ally Shepherd & Andy Copenhaver

## Top 5 Reasons to Join Normal Rotary, according to President Jim Rosenlund:

5. District 6490 Club of the Year!
4. We are "Rotary Serving Humanity"!
3. Our president can do one-arm push-ups. (Um, is it the truth?)
2. Meetings are less stressful than speed-dating.
1. (Tahdah!) Nothing is sexier than wearing a Rotary pin around town so you don't have to pay a fine!

## Announcements:

- A Sign-up sheet was circulated for Oktoberfest, an event being planned by Medici's and the Town of Normal.
- Andy Copenhaver says we can expect tickets for poinsettia sales to come soon.
- John A. Bishop reminded us that Veterans Day One on One will be held Nov. 11 – Veterans Day. This event is organized by the five B-N Rotary Clubs. An Army general will speak. Contact John if your business wants an ad in the program.
- Our Sept. 28 meeting will be held in Old Main, just down the hall from our regular meeting room.



Gordon Ropp

**Mystery Host:** Gordon Ropp presented the coveted \$2 bill to our visitor from Nova Scotia, Amanda Coleman.

**Lottery:** Gordon Ropp was lucky enough to win the small pot, but the \$309 grand prize rolls over to next week.

**Judge:** John E. Bishop dispensed justice, collecting money from Nancy Brokaw, for her piece in the IWU Alumni publication; from Linda Healy and others who are going to Italy with the WGLT tour; from Hank Campbell because his son's wedding went well this past weekend; from Dale Strassheim and Bill Semlak, who are happy about turning 70; from Jim Carter who is happy about turning 80; from Elleke Mesdag, who was happy about painting her porch and paying herself for it; from Michelle Houchin in honor of her (and her husband's) 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary, and from Don Rutledge, whose daughter plans a visit home from Austria.



Nancy Brokaw



Linda Healy



Hank Campbell



Dale Strassheim



Jay Tetzloff

**Program:**

Our speaker was Jay Tetzloff, director of Bloomington Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts. He has a wide range of responsibilities, supervising the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts, Miller Park Zoo, the Pepsi Ice Center, three golf courses, two swimming pools and Bloomington's green areas, including about 1,000 acres.

Bloomington has 38 parks, plus 5 future parks that have not yet been developed. The department's budget is about \$15.5 million, which is 11 percent of the Bloomington city budget. The department brings in about 60 percent of its costs.

Because Jay's supervises "quality of life" items, the city council finds it's an easy area to cut, so Jay spends about half his time defending his department from cuts. Parks enhance a community's property values and promote healthy activities. Parks and recreational activities attract people to town as visitors and permanent residents, so they do have an economic benefit for the community, Jay says.

**Jim's Thought for the Day** came from James H. Douglas Jr.: "Our deep respect for the land and its harvest is the legacy of generations of farmers who put food on our tables, preserved our landscape, and inspired us with a powerful work ethic."

**Uptown Normal  
Oktoberfest  
9-24-16**





Rob Crantston  
& Becky Goeckner



Matt Riehle, Stephanie McClellan,  
Sherry Hawkins & David Taylor



Ron Timmerman & Gordon  
Ropp



**Marcia Dennis**  
**Member Profile**  
by Bayo Adanri

**Tell us about yourself:** I have been married to my husband, Mike, for 43 years and we have two children, Justin and Heather, who both live and work in Normal. I have worked for 45 years as a Speech Language Pathologist, first in schools in Pontiac and Decatur and in 1987 I began working at Metcalf Lab School with children with physical, hearing and vision disabilities. In 1994 I began working at the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, formally known as the Speech Pathology & Audiology Department. My job was to teach entry level courses and to supervise graduate students working with clients at the Speech and Hearing Clinic in Fairchild Hall. My expertise is working with children who are non-verbal and cannot communicate verbally.

**When and why did you join Rotary?** I joined Rotary after being selected as a team member on the GSE team to the Philippines in February of 1999. Surinder Sethi nominated me for the position. I was a guest speaker at the

Normal Rotary Club in March about my experiences and Jack Wilz asked me to join Rotary. I remember sitting there and thinking "Please ask me to join."

**What are your Rotary moments?** My Rotary moments started in the Philippines. I saw children and families living in cardboard boxes and in garbage dumps. I also visited Rotary clubs and witnessed these Rotarians taking care of men, women and children who needed food, shelter and jobs/education. I was impressed with Rotary's ability to connect with other Rotarians around the world.

My Rotary moments have continued since that time in working with the Normal Rotary Club and within the 6490 District activities. Since 2005, I have served at the District level as District Trainer, District Secretary and Assistant Governor. I now serve as the Normal Rotary Club's Secretary. I have been blessed to be named New Rotarian of the Year in 2001 and District Hall of Honor in 2015. My favorite saying is "I love Rotary." I also love the Normal Rotary Club. We really are the best club in so many ways. We are extremely active in community, international, youth and club projects. The members of the Normal Rotary Club are an amazing group of professionals that work together and make me smile and laugh every week at the meetings.

**Save the date**  
**Veterans Day Nov. 11, 2016**  
**ISU Ballroom**

**Bloomington-Normal Rotary Presents**  
**One on One Program**  
**Speaker**  
**Major Gen. Paul R. Lister**  
**(U.S. Army retired)**

The Normal Spoke is a publication of the Normal Rotary Club of Illinois -  
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