



## The Normal Spoke

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490

August 15, 2018 Volume No. 70 Issue No. 6

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

Normal Rotary Website: <http://www.normalrotary.org/>

District 6490 Website: <http://rotarydistrict6490.org/> (The District Newsletter is on the left side of the main page)

### Wednesday, August 22, 2018

Greeters: Dianne Schultz & Bill Semlak

Lottery: Gene Jontry & Mark Jontry

### Wednesday, August 29, 2018

Greeters: Surinder Sethi & Dale Strassheim

Lottery: Larissa McIlvain & Stephanie McClellan



**Reporter:** Dianne Schultz

**Photographer:** Fred Hahn

**Editor:** Becky Goeckner

President Sherry Hawkins presided over the meeting of the Normal Rotary Club at the ISU Alumni Center on August 15, 2018. Bill Semlak is so proficient at doing the Invocation, and he was gracious enough to provide our moment of prayer and reflection, again, at today's meeting. As customary, the Pledge of Allegiance and My Country 'Tis of Thee provided a patriotic start to the meeting. Appreciation was expressed to Art Runyon for serving as our Greeter. Assistance with the Lottery was provided by Gene Jontry, Greg Anvick, and Linda Healy. President Sherry announced she will be absent next week, but that Fred Hahn will be presiding over next week's rotary meeting. That means we will need a substitute for Fred as the Photographer at next week's meeting. Larissa McIlvain volunteered to fill-in taking pictures for Fred. Dianne Schultz and Fred Hahn continued to serve as reporter and photographer, respectively, to document today's proceedings in the Spoke. Becky Goeckner is the Spoke Editor.

Visiting Rotarians and Guests: There were no visiting Rotarians today. Alan Chapman introduced Rob Widmer as our club's former Honorary Member in Rob's previous role as President of Heartland Community College. Rob is now retired, and we were glad to see Rob and welcome him back as Alan's guest today! Our President couldn't resist "welcoming back" our fellow Rotarians Andy Copenhaver, Steve Dobski, and Lindsey Smith. Good to see that our Club members have a great sense of humor!

President Sherry shared some **Fun Facts** to open our meeting. Today in History, the Panama Canal was opened for traffic (1914), Britain granted independence to India and Pakistan (1947), and both Maxine Waters (1938) and Melinda Gates (1964) were born!



Rob Widmer & Alan Chapman

Sherry asked the club to express their interest (or lack of interest) in hearing from a possible guest speaker, a physician from Peoria, who would like to come and present on the positives of allowing marijuana to be used for recreational purposes. Many folks were interested in hearing more on this topic, so Sherry will facilitate including this topic at a future meeting.

Sherry announced that the Sponsorship information for the upcoming Oktoberfest fundraiser needs to be corrected to show the correct P.O Box # 333 for Normal Rotary. Appreciation was expressed to Drake Zimmerman and both Heartland and Commerce Bank for already pledging sponsorships for the event ...thanks to all who are working to be prepared for a great event!

The Rotary International President is requesting that each Rotary Member answer the call to plant a tree. Sherry is open to suggestions on how we might respond to this initiative.



Linda Healy

Linda Healy was called forward to serve as **Judge**, announcing the Mystery Host and facilitating the Lottery drawing. Connie Gentry was the **Mystery Host** and presented Hank Campbell with the \$2 bill for his leadership and service with our Rotary Club and to the Community. In typical fashion, Hank looked totally humbled to receive this recognition.



Hank Campbell

David Taylor came forward to draw the ticket for the **Lottery**, and lucky Alan Chapman was the winner of the \$14 daily pot.



Alan's lucky streak was short-lived as he failed to draw the winning Ace of Spades for the \$392.



Alan Chapman & Linda Healy

**Happy Fines:** Lots of Happiness in the room today, as several members offered up Happy Fines:

- Linda Healy shared that her husband's recovery from surgery continues to be great and they received good medical news that there was no indication that his cancer had spread.
- Gordon Bidner celebrated his granddaughter's appointment as President of the International Association of Students in Agricultural and Related Sciences which represents 10,000 members in 55 countries. She is a Senior at Iowa State University. Proud Grandpa...and rightly so!
- Alan Chapman lifted up Hank Campbell in sharing how Hank had a phenomenal impact on a former ISU student....it was the second round of applause for Hank today from the Club!
- John E. Bishop and his wife celebrated their 25 year wedding anniversary. Since he has a great memory, he remembered that former member Penny Cermak and her husband would also be celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> on the same day!
- Greg Anvick was happy to have attended a wedding ceremony on Mt. Ranier...beautiful!
- Dale Strassheim expressed his happiness over the opening of Hammitt Jr-Sr High School at its new location, and thanked Dianne Schultz for her leadership at The Baby Fold.
- Art Drake shared a 12 year wedding anniversary with a \$12 Happy Fine.
- Hank Campbell shared his happiness regarding the establishment (by one of his former students) of an endowed scholarship fund at ISU for disadvantaged students....might be a connection to Alan Chapman's Happy Fine today!
- Both Dianne Schultz and Ron Timmerman expressed their happiness in sharing time, joy, and laughter with their grandchildren....it doesn't get any better!



Gordon Bidner



John E. Bishop & Bill Semlak



Greg Anvick



Dale Strassheim



Hank Campbell



Dianne Schultz



Ron Timmerman

**Announcements:** There were several Club Announcements:

- Both Hank Campbell and Fred Hahn will be attending Rotary Leadership International at Richland Community College on August 18<sup>th</sup>.



- Dale Strassheim announced that September 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the Labor Day Parade starting at 10am. Rotarians should meet, dressed in tan pants and blue rotary shirts, at the North side of the Grossinger Arena at 9:30 to prepare for carrying flags in the parade. Jane Chamberlain chairs the Flag Committee, and each rotary club will be asked to pay \$100 to replace worn out flags. Dale encouraged high participation for this respectful and meaningful display of the flag at this event!

- The Normal Rotary Foundation has approved our Club's \$3000 donation to the Harmony Park Project, and Hank will be submitting a request to the District for a matching funds donation.
- Bill Semlak announced he needs volunteers for Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup> at 9am on the Yuton Road so we can beautify our Club section of our Adopted Highway. Include your phone number on the sign-up sheet in case there is a need to cancel due to weather.
- Sherry Hawkins lifted up Surinder's suggestion that the Club consider an "International Evening" for a themed social event. Many members expressed interest, so there will be a sign-up sheet coming.
- Andy Copenhaver announced that there will be meeting of the Normal Rotary Foundation immediately after today's Club meeting.
- There will be Normal Rotary Club Business Meeting held after the regular meeting on Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>.



## Guest Speakers:



Linda Bollivar & Josie Blumberg



Linda Bollivar, Executive Director for the McLean County Multi-Cultural Leadership Program, and her Development Intern, Josie Blumberg, were introduced as today's Speakers. Josie shared an overview of the MCLP, which is housed at Illinois Wesleyan University, and promotes a pathway to leadership for diverse representatives in our community. The MCLP Leadership Curriculum is based on 5 Core Competencies of Self-Awareness, Authentic Relationships, Servant Leadership, Diversity Inclusion, and Positive Impact. Individuals are selected to participate in a 9 month Learning Cohort of MCLP, in groups that range from 16-30 participants. These individuals receive a monthly mentor as part of their participation experience, and commit to working on designated projects to benefit non-profits in our local community. There are over 200 Alumni that have graduated from the MCLP thus far. Sponsorship donations help support the program. Clarification was provided that the McLean County Multi-Cultural Leadership Program is separate and different from the McLean County Leadership Program operated by the Chamber of Commerce.

**Sherry's Thought for the Day:** *"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."* – Barak Obama

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