



The Normal Spoke

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490

August 22, 2018 Volume No. 70 Issue No. 7

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)

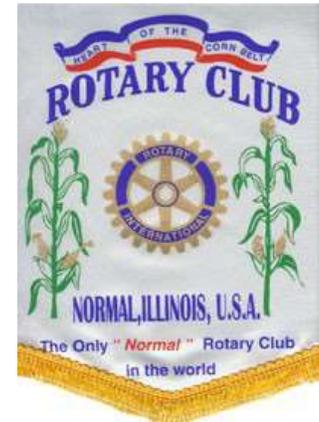
Wednesday, August 29, 2018

Greeters: Surinder Sethi & Dale Strassheim

Lottery: Larissa McIlvain & Stephanie McClellan

September Birthday Auction Please bring a gift for the Birthday Auction

Gene Jontry	3
Bill Rolley	6
Bill Semlak	17
Dale Strassheim	27



Wednesday, September 5, 2018

Greeters: Ed Tanton & David Taylor

Lottery: Elleke Mesdag & Matt Riehle

Reporter: Dianne Schultz

Photographer: Larissa McIlvain

Editor: Becky Goeckner

President Sherry Hawkins was absent from the meeting, but we were fortunate to have fellow Club Member and Vice President, Fred Hahn stepping up to the podium and presiding over today's meeting of the Normal Rotary! Greeters at today's meeting were Dianne Schultz and Becky Goeckner, with Gene Jontry and Greg Anvick assisting with Lottery ticket sales. Becky volunteered to give today's invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and robust voices singing "My Country 'tis of Thee". Dianne Schultz continued to serve as Spoke reporter for the meeting, with Larissa McIlvain substituting as photographer for Fred since he was busy presiding over today's meeting. Becky Goeckner continues to serve as Editor of the Spoke.



Fred Hahn

Visiting Rotarians and Guests: Jan Meadows was doing double duty today, introducing herself as a visiting Rotarian as well as our Guest Speaker. There were no other guests in attendance.

With President Sherry's absence, we could not be entertained with her usual sharing of Fun Facts to kick off the meeting.....but Fred did not disappoint us in his substitute role. Fred shared a very descriptive tale of an individual painting a grain elevator, and how they continued to thin out the paint with water as they worked on the painting project. Needless to say, the quality of the paint job was less than satisfactory with increasing amounts of water being added to the paint. The poor gentleman painter was then told, "Repaint, repaint, and thin no more!" Who is going to tell Sherry upon her return that she has a tough act to follow in the joke telling department?



David Taylor & Scott Ice

Today's **Mystery Host** was David Taylor, and he deservedly chose to recognize Scott Ice for his dedicated work on the upcoming Oktoberfest fundraising event.

**Saturday
September 22
Uptown Normal
4:00-10:00 p.m.**



Bruce Bergethon

Bruce Bergethon stepped forward to serve as **Judge** and to preside over the **Lottery** drawing. Scott Ice's luck continued as Larissa picked his ticket with the daily winnings of \$17. However, Scott did not prevail to win the big pot total for \$410, so that honor will be left to a fellow club member at an upcoming meeting.



Scott Ice

There was NO MERCY in Judge Bruce's court today....despite protests from Gordy Ropp as Bruce proceeded to fine the entire club \$1 for not filling up the so-called "front tables". Additionally, Judge Bruce fined Dianne Schultz, pointing to photo evidence for not displaying her Rotary pin at a recent Women-to-Women fundraising event. Dianne also tried to protest her fine, but Judge Bruce was not having it! Laughter was shared by all, as Bruce displayed his stern decision making mixed in with some good humor.

The Club was still pretty generous this week with spreading their **Happy Fines** around:

- Connie Gentry shared a chuckle about how she spent the beginning of the meeting as Gene Gudeman, since she mistakenly was wearing his name tag!
- Becky Goeckner and her husband Ron, celebrated a 48th wedding anniversary, and generously donated \$48 to the Normal Rotary Foundation. Double happiness there!
- Hank Campbell shared his happiness about working with Hoopeston Rotary and Fairbury Rotary to facilitate each club applying for matching grant funds. Hank was able to help the Fairbury Club submit their grant request, which just means more money to do more good community service work for that club.
- Alan Chapman recognized and celebrated the 70 year anniversary of the Unit 5 School District delivering education services in our community.

Announcements:

- Fred Hahn reported on his experience attending the recent Rotary Leadership Institutel event on August 18th. He felt there were many interesting topics covered in the session providing insight into Leadership, and how to engage rotary members in service to the community. He also enjoyed a session and conversation on how rotary club members can also serve and support each other as fellow Rotarians. Fred felt that attending RLI was a good experience and encouraged other Club members to consider attending the next time the opportunity presents itself.



Becky Goeckner

Becky Goeckner reported that Bill Semlak's wife Joan had to be re-admitted to the hospital, but hopefully Joan will be released later in the week.

- Dale Strassheim reminded us all to try our best to participate in the Labor Day parade, and proudly show our patriotism as Rotarians by helping to carry the flags in the parade. Also be sure to wear your Rotary blue t-shirt and khaki shorts or slacks.



Dale Strassheim

Guest Speaker:



Jan Meadows

Jan Meadows was our Guest Speaker today, joining us to discuss the Promise Councils that have been established in area schools. Jan is retired from Unit 5 school district, but still stays engaged with education as a part-time teacher at ISU and through her school volunteer efforts with the Promise Councils. Promise Councils operate on 5 Principles of providing 1) Caring Adults, 2) Safe Places, 3) a Healthy Start, 4) Effective Education, and 5) Opportunity to Help Others by reaching out and touching the lives of children and youth at schools in our community.



There are currently 13 Promise Councils locally, with more schools wishing that they could establish one to support their students. Each Promise Council can have a different area of focus, depending on the needs they are trying to address for that school. Jan talked about frequent needs that are responded to through the efforts of Promise Councils, where volunteers will help to provide food resources, school and personal hygiene supplies, shoes, and even specific physical needs like providing haircuts or giving someone an electric razor. Promise Councils rely greatly on volunteers to help rally around a need that may be lifted up through the "Shout Out" email blitz, or to provide mentoring or assistance in coordinating Resource Fairs at local schools.

There is also funding available through a variety of resources such as State Farm grants, various fundraisers, PaPa John's, Amazon Smile, Kroger Grants, and other in-kind donations. You can log in at PromiseCouncil.org and cast a vote to help our local Promise Council win a \$25,000 grant (sorry, that voting opportunity ended on August 24th). Results of who will be awarded this State Farm Neighborhood Assist grant will be announced on September 25th! Just as a reminder, the Normal Rotary Club supports the efforts of the Promise Council at Oakdale Elementary, so there are opportunities to get engaged and support there as well!

Fred Hahn's Thought for the Day: He closed out our meeting today explaining with his words of wisdom, why 6 was afraid of 7....because 7 "ate" 9!!!! President Sherry better be ready to amp up her game!!!!

The Normal Spoke is a publication of the Normal Rotary Club of Illinois - P.O. Box 333, Normal, IL 61761
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 2018-2019
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