



The Normal Spoke

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490

September 12, 2018 Volume No. 70 Issue No. 9

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, September 19, 2018

Greeters: Iris Varner & Dick Wagner

Lottery: Ray Ropp & Jim Rosenlund

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Greeters: Rod Weigelmann & Matt Wyss

Lottery: Dianne Schultz & Bill Semlak



Reporter: Art Drake	Photographer: John E. Bishop & Linda Healy	Editor: Becky Goeckner
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Sherry Hawkins

President Sherry Hawkins convened the Sept. 12, 2018, meeting of the Normal Rotary Club in a different location – Prairie South, in the far frontiers of the Bone Student Center. Disorienting. Alan Chapman presented the invocation, and we pledged and sang.

Guest: Jack Moody was the guest of John E. Bishop. We were pleased to hear that Jack plans to join our club. He is senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Towanda and is the retired facilities director for McLean County.



Jack Moody

President Sherry took a few minutes to reflect on what she has learned about Rotary. She has been impressed by the different life experiences each member brings to our meetings. Still, she added, we all come to Rotary meetings on Wednesdays to serve our community and those in need, regardless of differences in backgrounds.

Sherry outlined several goals for Normal Rotary:

- overall increase of 10 percent in fundraising
- bring new energy to the club, get more members involved, work on more/new projects ---put our club's money toward causes where it will have the most impact
- social events, quarterly committee meetings, ask members more often for ideas, seek out new social/fundraising opportunities, have project "captains" speak about their projects.



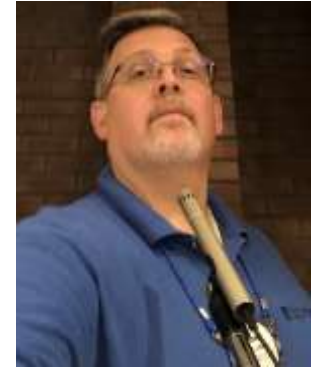
Dale Strassheim
& Bill Rolley

Mystery Host: Dale Strassheim presented the \$2 to Bill Rolley for being an inspiration.

Lottery: Drake Zimmerman won the \$11 weekly prize. But he drew a 5 of hearts from the shrinking deck, so the big prize of \$457 continued to grow.



Drake Zimmerman



John E. Bishop
A selfie

Judge: His Honor, John E. Bishop, started the fining by collecting money from himself for some recent front page news coverage in The Pantagraph. Nancy Brokaw paid up for various exposures in The Limited, where she is a star. Bill Semlak was happy that his wife is recovering nicely.



John E. Bishop



Nancy Brokaw



Bill Semlak & Drake Zimmerman

Connie Gentry was happy to report that fellow Rotarian Elleke Mesdag was not severely injured in a recent car accident. Bill Rolley was happy that his youngest grandson is a college freshman. Hank Campbell was happy that he will participate in a panel discussion at IWU on peace, his own topic being Friends Forever. Fred Hahn recalled that 17 years previously, on Sept. 11, his son was in New York near the World Trade Center, and his daughter in law, who worked in those buildings, called in sick.



Connie Gentry



Bill Rolley



Hank Campbell



Fred Hahn



Rob Cranston

Rob Cranston was happy about plans for his son and family who are coming to visit from Finland. Linda Healy was happy for the addition to a friend's family that and she'll get a chance to get together with her son this week. Drake Zimmerman had something nice to say about lowans, but I had stopped listening.



Announcements:

- President Sherry threw a couple of her coworkers and fellow Rotarians under the bus, ridding out Jim Rosenlund for performing in a band without benefit of his Rotary pin and Stephanie McClellan for being busy at Comm U, also without a Rotary pin.
- Our Oct. 10 meeting will be at the Baby Fold. Details will come out eventually.
- District Conference will be held Oct. 19-20, so don't forget to register. Sherry has been told that our club will receive an award of some kind.
- Next month's business meeting will feature five current projects: Coats for Kids, Oakdale Promise Council, Veterans Day One on One, Adopt A Highway and the Labor Day Parade. This would be a good time to invite a guest and/or a prospective member.
- Sherry reminded us that we will have an informal get together, 7-8:30 a.m. Sept. 18 at the Coffeehouse in Uptown Normal (close to the Children's Discovery Museum)
- John A. Bishop announced that the Veterans Day One on One will be held Nov. 8. If you want to honor the veterans with an ad in the program, talk to John. The deadline for ads is Oct. 15.

Program:



Pam Reece

Pam Reece, Normal's City Manager since April, was the speaker. A Michigan native, she has been employed at the Town of Normal for 27 years in positions that involved such various functions as negotiations, human resources, budgeting and construction projects.

Normal's government officials stick closely with its long-range plans. It's helpful that the elected officials see that vision and follow that path to the future, she said. A key part of that effort is protecting the municipality's credit rating. Normal has cut 20 positions for this fiscal year, due to budgeting trends.



The municipality is very interested in economic development, and sports tourism can be a big part of that. Also on the to-do list is further development of uptown. Pam said that Normal sees future economic development driven by small employers.

President Sherry Hawkins' Thought for the Day:

"What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."

--Jane Goodall



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



You have been invited by Scott Ice to sign up for “Oktoberfest Gate Volunteer.” Please click on the LINK below to sign up or check the slot that you chose at the meeting. Please text Scott (248-207-7741) if you would like to switch slots or if you have any questions. If you would like to add an additional time slot, that can easily be done clicking on the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0944a8ab2fa4f49-oktoberfest>



A different room & a different view – BSC Prairie Room South

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 2018-2019
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