



The Normal Spoke

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490

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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, November 7, 2018

Greeters: Angie Bubon & Bill Caisley

Lottery: Kathy Alexander & Greg Anvick

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Greeters: Hank Campbell & Alan Chapman

Lottery: Bruce Bergethon & Gordon Bidner



Reporter: Bruce Bergethon	Photographer: Larissa McIlvain	Editor: Becky Goeckner
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Sherry Hawkins

President Sherry Hawkins opened the meeting at 12:05. Bill Semlak gave the invocation, and we had another good version of "My Country 'Tis of Thee." (Three weeks in a row!) Sherry thanked the greeters, lottery ticket sellers and Spoke crew, including yours truly, who got unexpected applause. She asked how many in attendance were preparing to take their kids out trick-or-treating, although she then admitted to "bribing her 9 year old with candy" so as to avoid that herself. (Is it the truth?)

Today's "good news" segment was about an 87 year old man who broke his hip while walking to the store to buy a Mega Millions lottery ticket. Telling the nurses he was disappointed not to get a ticket, he was entered into their lottery pool, which won a million dollar jackpot.

Students of the Month were in attendance for their last meeting of the month. They spoke about their experiences attending our Rotary meetings. Mariama Mwilambwe from NCHS learned that Rotary "means finding a community through service," and complimented us for affirming "how much stronger we can be if we do things together. BACC's Matthew Trimble thought Rotary's fight against polio, and willingness to help other people, were "awesome." Parker Mathieson from U High thanked us for reminding him that the question, "What can I do?" is answered by working on service with other like-minded people.



Mariama Mwilambwe



Matthew Trimble



Parker Mathieson

Judge Bruce Bergethon did the **lottery** first. Becky Goeckner presented her winning blue ticket for the \$17 lottery, and was tantalizingly close, with the Jack of Clubs, to winning the big pot of \$557. (Maybe next week?) The judge then called for the Mystery Host. It was Bill Semlak, who, in awarding the \$2 bill, commended fellow Bill (Rolley) for his dedicated attendance.



Bruce Bergethon

Judge Bruce levied a \$5 fine on Past President Hank Campbell, who he said “ought to know better” than to get his picture taken without his Rotary pin (in this case, with a group of other Redbird Rising philanthropic volunteers). Those at tables in the rear were also fined for not filling up the “head table” seats first.



Becky Goeckner



Bill Rolley & Bill Semlak



Bruce Bergethon



Hank Campbell

Many Happy Fines followed, and since the reporter was also the Judge, this is hopefully a complete list:

- **Bill Semlak**, for a good health prognosis for wife Joan;
- **Matt Wyss**, inviting us to a November 18 performance of Handel’s “Messiah” at Grace Church in Morton, featuring both Matt and **Paul Enchelmayer**;
- **Gordie Ropp**, documenting (though not recommending) his recent dramatic weight loss;
- **Becky Goeckner**, inviting us to Friday’s 18ty Annual Around the Corner Artist’s Art Walk, featuring her son-in-law Darin Dawdy;
- **Carson Varner**, who enjoyed presenting papers with two academic offspring at a recent international business conference in Miami (even though it was technically an “**Iris**’ conference”);
- **Hank Campbell**, noting that Vandana Naik not only completed a successful District Grant, but returned 81 unspent dollars;
- **Stephanie McClellan**, for her daughter’s stellar pitching performance;
- **Bill Rolley**, for his granddaughter’s stellar problem-solving performance; and
- **Art Runyon**, who happily introduced visiting Rotarian Jim Stuckey from the Piper City Club, who in turn told a great story about NRC charter member Clarence Ropp. In 1965, the elder Ropp awarded the young Stuckey a Rotary cowbell for winning a milk-drinking contest, which Jim now returned to the Club, We raised a “milk toast” to the memory of Clarence.



Bill Semlak



Matt Wyss



Gordon Ropp



Carson Varner



Hank Campbell



Stephanie McClellan



Bill Rolley



Art Runyon



Jim Stuckey

Announcements and Club News:

1. President Sherry introduced Fred Hahn, back from a few weeks visit in New York. Fred presented club banners from the Brooklyn Rotary Club (which he described as “the men’s only” club) and from the Verrazano Bridge Club. *[Club members were encouraged to visit other Rotary Clubs when they travel. It is a great way to network, meet other like-minded people and learn more about Rotary. You are always welcomed and made at feel at home. Several female members took exception to the inclusion of the Brooklyn Club as a welcoming club]*



2. Sherry noted that Marcia Dennis’ basket for the District Conference auction had netted \$125. Surinder Sethi and Art Drake also contributed baskets. And Drake (Zimmerman) extended his promised revelation of a special District Award, which apparently continues to reside somewhere “in his car.”
3. Art Drake asked for writers and photographers for the November and December Spoke, pleading “Please don’t make me cry.”
4. Andy Copenhaver encouraged us to continue with poinsettia sales, giving the money to him as soon as possible so that the orders can be entered.
5. John A. Bishop gave a reminder about the Veterans One-On-One, Nov. 8, at the Doubletree Hotel.



Art Drake



John A. Bishop



6. Sherry reminded us that, going forward, there will be combined and themed quarterly birthday auctions, beginning with the January 2019 Club Meeting. The theme for that one is “Super Bowl Ready,” and November/December/January birthday celebrants are asked to bring items for the Birthday Auction reflecting that theme.

January 2019

Theme: Super Bowl Ready

Celebrating:
November, December and January Birthdays



April 2019

Theme: April Showers bring May Flowers

Celebrating:
February, March and April birthdays



July 2019

Theme: Some like it HOT

Celebrating:
May, June and July birthdays



October 2019

Theme: Falling for Fall

Celebrating:
August, September and October birthdays



And lest we forget.....our November Birthdays

Vandana Naik	9
Gordon Bidner	28
Rod Weigelmann	29



Last week's Spoke had a "Mystery Photo" in it. Members were asked to guess what the photo was of and to let Becky Goeckner know. Winners were promised a Halloween Treat. According to Becky four club members offered guesses but none were 100% accurate. Dale Strassheim was the first to suggest that the photo was of the Circus Room lights, followed by Sherry Hawkins with the same guess. Hank

Campbell made the same guess but added the fact that the lights were a result of deceased club member Bob Ward. Gene Gudeman offered an off-the-wall guess. The correct answer was that the photo was of the floor in the Circus Room with the lights reflecting off of it. All four were rewarded with cookies from the Ivy Lane Bakery for reading the Spoke and offering a guess.



Becky Goeckner



Dale Strassheim



Hank Campbell



Gene Gudeman

Program:



Adam Lovell



Adam Lovell, the new Director of the McLean County History Museum, gave us some insight into his career path, leading to his taking over the reins at the History Museum in April. He began by thanking Rotary for its tradition of service, and noting that museums of all kinds serve their communities, too. History museums, specifically, help us understand “how we got to where we are now, and where we are going in the future.”

Adam grew up in an academic family and always had an interest in history. He began his museum career with the presentation of historical artifacts, describing how different it was to actually see and handle the bullets fired in a war, as opposed to just reading about the battles. In 18 years his role has evolved from handling artifacts to more administrative roles. He has worked in New Zealand, Michigan, Wisconsin and even Iowa. While working at the Norwegian-American Historical Museum there (in Decorah), he mentored an intern whose fondest wish was to travel to Arkansas, to visit an open diamond mine. Lovell said this showed him the importance of listening to the way in which people articulate their need to “look for treasure.”

Noting that most of his previous administrative jobs had involved “fixing broken museums,” Lovell declared that he hadn’t come to the McLean County History Museum to fix anything – he says his job is to make sure the highly talented staff and volunteers are given what they need to “find their treasure.” He pointed out that the History Museum is rated among the top museums in Illinois (in the same company as the Field Museum and the Art Institute of Chicago.) His objectives are to help increase attendance from local audiences, and to develop “different narratives” for underserved audiences, such as the local Hispanic and LGBTQ populations.

In that no one signed up to write or take photos for the Spoke next month, President Sherry issued an executive order for Jack Moody to write and Matt Wyss to photograph Club proceedings for November.

President Sherry Hawkins’ Thought for the Day:

“The greatest prison people live in is the fear of what other people may think” unattributed
So stop worrying about it, and just be yourself! - Sherry Hawkins



Spoke Reporter Bruce Bergethon noted in his earlier text that *“Sherry thanked the greeters, lottery ticket sellers and Spoke crew, including yours truly, who got unexpected applause.”*

You want to know why there was applause? It’s because of dedication and a willingness to complete the job as demonstrated by Bruce in these two photos!



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