



The Normal Spoke

RI No. 3282 District No. 6490

September 4, 2019 Volume No. 71 Issue No. 10

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 11, 2019 –Circus Room - ISU Bone Student Center

Greeters: Carson Varner & Iris Varner

Lottery: John A. Bishop & Nancy Brokaw

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 – Braden Stage - ISU Bone Student Center

Greeters: Dick Wagner & Rod Weigelmann

Lottery: Dayna Brown-Nielsen & Angie Bubon



Reporter: Ann Haugo	Photographer: Sherry Hawkins	Editor: Becky Goeckner
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President-Elect Fred Hahn convened the September 4, 2019, meeting of the Normal Rotary Club in the Circus Room of the ISU Bone Student Center. Greg Anvick provided the invocation.

Guests:

Alan Chapman introduced Todd Kunze, who is the General Manager of the Normal CornBelts. Todd has been a guest recently, and today, he turned in his member application!

Dayna Brown-Nielsen introduced the two Students of the Month who were in attendance, and each spoke a bit about their service. Shanley Kearney from Normal West described a number of activities that she's involved in with the Red Cross School Club. She volunteers at many Red Cross events, and has also volunteered regularly at McLean County Nursing Home. She is also involved in most of the theatre activities at school. Sara Patten from Normal Community described several volunteer activities that she has done through the Student Council, including at elementary schools and the Midwest Food Bank, and as part of the Iron Hosts, welcoming new students to the school. She is also a member of a softball travel team.



Alan Chapman & Todd Kunze



Dayna Brown-Nielsen, Shanley Kearney & Sara Patten

This Day in History:

- 1682: English astronomer Edmund Halley observed the comet named after him. (Fred offered that it must be the "Edmund" comet.)
- 1882: in its first large-scale test, Thomas Edison's light bulb is used to light New York's Pearl Street Station.
- 1888: George Eastman patents the first roll-film camera and registers "Kodak."

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- 1961: Carol Burnett-Richard Hayes Show premieres on CBS radio.
 - 1972: U.S. 4 x 100m medley relay team of Mike Stamm, Tom Bruce, Mark Spitz, and Jerry Heidenreich sets world record 3:48:16 to win gold at the Munich Olympics; Mark Spitz becomes the first athlete to win 7 Olympic gold medals at a single Games.
 - 1972: American swimmer Melissa Belote with a world record 2:19:19 takes the 200m backstroke gold medal at the Munich Olympics. She wraps up the backstroke double having won the 100m in Olympic record time.

Announcements:

- The next session of the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is September 21 at Richland Community College in Decatur. Crowd-sourced information bought us the news that the location is the Shilling Educational Center. Check-in begins at 8:30. Registration will close on Wednesday, September 18, 2019, at 5 p.m. so that exact numbers can be provided to RCC Café for food preparation. RLI consists of three separately scheduled RLI sessions. Topics include leadership development; leading successful projects; engaging members; building teams; and improving communication. Attendees graduate from RLI after successfully completing all three sessions.
- Oktoberfest will be September 21, 4-10 p.m. Still looking for volunteers, particularly for the final shift, 8-10 p.m. Sponsorships total \$7,050 so far. Ron Timmerman reported hearing the radio ad on the way to today's meeting.
- Linda Healy gave an update on the Rotary House project for Habitat for Humanity. Normal Rotary will be responsible for volunteers every 3rd Saturday. Our first day will be September 14, and 3 more volunteers are needed.
- Linda also provided an update on the Oakdale Elementary Kinder Care project. Normal Rotary volunteers helped 40 students with their transition to Kindergarten, and we received a nice thank you from the Oakdale Kindergarten Team.
- Labor Day parade marchers were asked to stand. They had a warm and sunny day for the parade. Art Drake offered a thank you to the marchers who sent pictures for the Facebook page.
- Cubs/Cardinals game will be on September 29. Somewhere in here there was more banter about some baseball teams, but because nobody said anything about the Minnesota Twins, the reporter felt it was unnecessary to write anything down.
- Art Drake reported on the activities of the Interact Club at Normal Community High School. He attended their recent meetings. They have two meeting times, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. At their most recent meetings, the attendance was 25 for the morning and 8 for the afternoon. They have a new faculty sponsor who seems to be excited about the group. Their projects include Alex's Lemonade Stand at lunch hours, with proceeds donated to children's cancer research; a candy sale fundraiser for Best Buddies, a program that matches students with a special needs buddy; and activities for the Fun Fair at Oakdale Elementary.
- Ray Ropp reported that at the international convention he met a Rotarian from Venezuela. They spoke about this Rotarian's travails as he attempted to leave the country for the convention, as well as the potential of hosting a youth exchange student from Venezuela. Ray has just learned that the student will be here in January, and he'll be coordinating his stay. He's asking for volunteers to assist with hosting.



Judge Linda Healy assessed some fines on baseball fans, seeming a bit disappointed that the Cubs hadn't won. When Bill Caisley showed off his fancy Cubs tennis shoes, Drake Zimmerman offered to pay the fine that he was assessed.

Today's **Mystery Host** was Elleke Mesdag. She gave the \$2 to someone with a delightful Dutch name that means "good with hammer." Perhaps she is recruiting for the Rotary House project? Ron Timmerman cheerfully accepted the \$2, although he said he thought his name was German.



Elleke Mesdag & Ron Timmerman



Angie Bubon

Lottery:

Today's lottery draw was \$25, with the pot for an Ace of Spades draw at \$541.

Drake Zimmerman drew the winning ticket belonging to Angie Bubon. Angie came forward, drew a card, and won on the right to collect the happy fines. Sorry, Angie!

Happy fines:

- Connie Gentry praised the teachers at Chiddix Junior High. Connie has two grandsons at Chiddix, and she learned that the teachers donated their time for two half-days for orientation.
- Bill Semlak offered an apology fine, for not being as active with Rotary as he'd like to be, due to taking care of his wife recently. (We certainly understand, Bill, and are keeping you both in our thoughts.)
- Art Drake offered \$1 because he was so happy with the pecan pie. He said he would have offered \$2, but when he went back to get a second piece, it was gone.
- Hank Campbell reported that the Dreams Are Possible project is close to getting its electrical and HVAC inspections done.



Fred Hahn

Program:

Today's speaker was President-Elect Fred Hahn himself, describing the month-long vacation in Canada that he and his wife Adrienne recently completed. They traveled almost 7000 miles by car and by ferry, and stayed at 17 airbnb locations. They began with an overnight stay in Cleveland (where, Fred noted, the river doesn't burn any longer), and then through New York's wine region to Maine, where they had a very warm and welcoming border crossing into New Brunswick. They met with a Rotary friend of Drake Zimmerman, and Fred described the 50/50 lottery project on which the club has collaborated with a local First Nation.

The ferry at the Bay of Fundy included onboard entertainment. From the Bay of Fundy, they landed in Digby, Nova Scotia, which Fred described as small and quaint. (Dick Wagner inserted that Digby is also famous for its scallops.) From Digby, Fred and Adrienne drove the TransCanada Highway for several

hundred miles to Halifax and then to North Sidney, Nova Scotia. From North Sidney, they had a 16-hour ride on a ferry that can carry about 1,000 people and vehicles. With bars, restaurants, and entertainment on board, the ferry sounded a like a small cruise ship. Destinations in Newfoundland included St. Johns, the capital of Newfoundland and Labrador, and an important harbor for trade. There, Fred reports that he found a medallion that marked St. Johns as the site of the first Rotary meeting in Canada.

Next, they drove on to Gander, which has become famous for the welcoming spirit of the residents. When flights were grounded on 9/11, 38 passenger aircraft and additional military aircraft were diverted to this small airport. Despite its size, the airport has one of the longest runways in the world. Built by the U.S. military in WWII, it is long enough that the airport is a secondary site for space shuttle landings. The community hosted passengers from the 9/11 diverted aircraft for five days. The story has been recorded in the books *The Day the World Came to Town* by Jim Defede (2003) and *Channel of Peace: Stranded in Gander on 9/11*, and the Broadway musical *Come from Away* (2013).



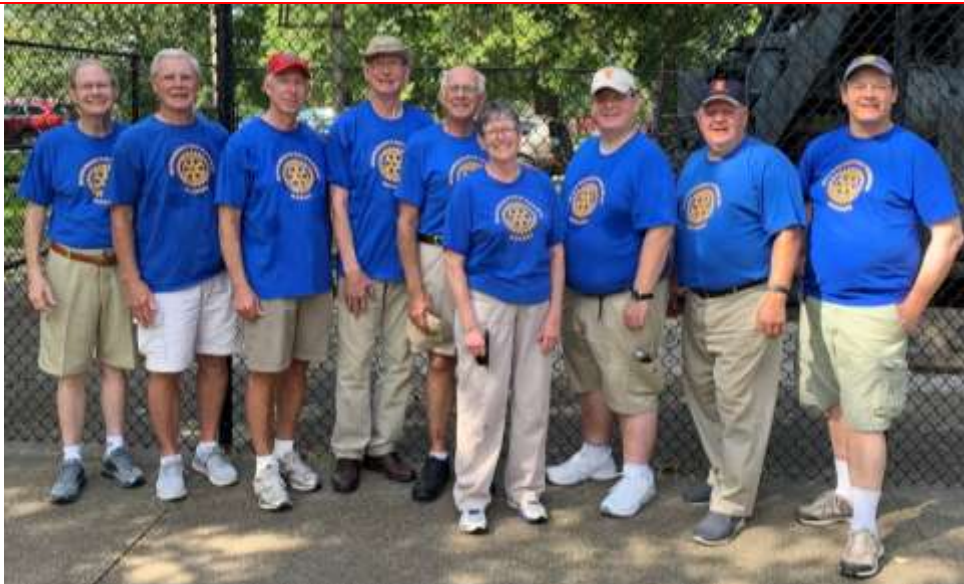
Today's Thought from Fred:

*"Some things are bad, some things are good.
Too bad the bad can't be like the good.
But everything changes a little - and it should.
The good ain't forever and the bad ain't for good".*

I think it is from a song, maybe country and western.



**Labor Day Parade Participants
Monday, September 2, 2019**



John A. Bishop, Ron Timmerman, Alan Chapman, Fred Hahn, Hank Campbell, Becky Goeckner,
John E. Bishop, Ray Ropp & Drake Zimmerman

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2019-2020
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 Decatur, Alabama

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