

The Weekly Newsletter of the  
Only Normal Rotary Club in the World  
Chartered June 17, 1949



## The Normal Spoke

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

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)



	<b>Reporter:</b> Art Drake	<b>Editor:</b> Larissa McIlvair
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President John E. Bishop convened the May 13, 2020 online meeting of the Normal Rotary Club, urging members – or at least the faces on the screens – to cordially but safely welcome fellow Rotarians with something like a wave or an air hug.

### This day in history:

- 1767 – Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s first opera “Apollo et Hyacinthus”, written when he was 11 years old, premieres in Salzburg.
- 1787 – Arthur Phillip sets sail with 11 ships of criminals to Botany Bay, Australia.
- 1861 – The Great Comet of 1861 is discovered by John Tebbut of Windsor, New South Wales, Australia.
- 1884 – Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) forms in New York.
- 1934 – Great dust bowl storm sweeps across the U.S. prairies.
- 1958 – The trademark Velcro is registered.

### Announcements:

- Rural Urban Night is scheduled for June 3. Ray needs a head count, so please call him to RSVP.
- Treasurer Ryan Fleming said that fourth quarter dues statements are being mailed out, and the dues will amount to only \$40 because we have had no in-person lunch meetings. Statements will include a line to donate to the McLean County covid response.
- Ryan also announced that he is looking for ways for people to pay fines and happy fines online. Some people said they will add it to their dues payment.

- Linda Healy says Habitat is still planning to resume home-building on July 1, but that is subject to the state's rules.
- Linda also said that this summer's Friends Forever visit is still on hold. The international Friends Forever organization is planning a virtual open house for Rotarians on **May 21**. Here is the link:  
[https://www.ff.international/open-house?mc\\_cid=2af21294ab&mc\\_eid=d0353fdec2](https://www.ff.international/open-house?mc_cid=2af21294ab&mc_eid=d0353fdec2)
- Jack Moody has volunteered to serve as club secretary after Marcia Dennis stepped down from that role. We owe many, many thanks to Marcia for her service and many, many thanks to Jack for taking on that job.
- President John noted that this leaves an opening in the club's slate of officers for either the secretary or vice president.
- Hank Campbell said the Oakdale Promise Council will hold another food drive from 9 a.m. to noon Monday, May 18. You may drop non-perishable food items and toiletries at the school during that time.

**Judge:** Larissa McIlvain asked for happy fines, and our members were, um, happy to comply.

- Bruce Bergathon was happy about Nancy Brokaw's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, about Drake Zimmerman's election to head the Rotarians Against Malaria Global Action Group and about the background on Ann Haugo's screen, which had sentimental meaning for Bruce.
- Nancy Brokaw was happy that her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday was so much more fun than you can expect during a pandemic. A parade was held in her honor.
- Ryan Fleming was happy to announce that after being treated for testicular cancer, his latest scans show that he is cancer free.
- Linda Healy was happy that Habitat's Giving Tuesday raised \$18,000 in a single day.
- Hank Campbell was happy because he's sure that his newly cleaned garage will be life-changing.
- Alan Chapman said that this was to be the week of the Tee It Up event. Covid called a halt to that. Meanwhile, Max had to go to Chicago for a treatment, and the Tee It Up cause raised \$3,000 in donations to recognize Max's situation.
- President John was happy that his dad's last radiation treatment is behind him, he's been released from the rehab facility and that today was his last dose of daily chemo. John's dad is moving slowly with a walker.

### **Program:**

The speaker was Candace Summers, director of education for the McLean County Historical Museum, where she has worked for 15 years.

The museum is closed to the public due to the pandemic, but all museum employees have been retained and are busy with a variety of projects. One is to digitize 1.3 million photographic negatives donated by the Pantagraph. The negatives date back to the 1930s. The digitizing project is funded at least in part by grants.

The museum staff is also working to create opportunities for online access to its resources. She mentioned Muse2U which offers activities for kids to do at home, such as making butter or creating a pop-up museum.

And the museum is collecting photos, blogs, diaries and other content about local people's experiences with covid and the lockdown. She's encouraging everyone to submit their journals

and photos about the covid experience in order to capture and collect information about this remarkable moment in history.

And the museum's popular Cemetery Walk will be back again this fall, one way or another. Museum staff is trying to figure out how to pull this off safely and still make it a fun, educational event.

The museum's website is: <https://www.mchistory.org/>

**Next Week's program:**

Join us again via Zoom on May 20:

Join Zoom Meeting ONLINE:	DIAL IN BY PHONE:
<a href="https://zoom.us/j/98313994561">https://zoom.us/j/98313994561</a>	1 312 626 6799
Meeting ID: 983 1399 4561	Meeting ID: 983 1399 4561



***Thought for Today:***

“So never be afraid. Never be afraid to raise your voice for honesty and truth and compassion, against injustice and lying and greed. If you, not just you in this room tonight, but in all the thousands of other rooms like this one about the world today and tomorrow and next week, will do this, not as a class or classes, but as individuals, men and women, you will change the earth.”

-William Faulkner, address to the graduating class of University High School, Oxford, Miss. 1951



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