

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 McIlvain	
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### President's Welcome:

President Fred Hahn convened the March 3, 2021 meeting of the Normal Rotary Club via Zoom. Jack Moody gave the invocation.

**This date in history:** Sad to say, Fred announced that nothing much of interest happened in history on March 3, so he decided to recognize March 4 early:

- March 4 is World Wildlife Day and National Pound Cake Day.
- In 1789, the first Federal Congress met at Federal Hall in New York City as the Confederation Congress ceded power to the new government under the newly ratified U.S. Constitution. However, of its 81 members, only 22 showed up for the first session. It would take another month for enough members could meet to actually conduct business.
- In 1809, James Madison becomes the first American President to be inaugurated while wearing American-made clothing.
- In 1829, an unruly crowd mobs the White House during President Andrew Jackson's inaugural ball.
- And in 1865, Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated for a second term of office.
- Chicago became incorporated in 1837.

## **Announcements:**

- The club's first-Wednesday Board meeting will take place March 10 after our NRC meeting.
- Gordon Bidner updated the club about Luis Torre, our Rotary Youth Exchange student. Luis is still trying to get a visa to continue studies in the U.S., but the Rotary exchange expires March 28 along with Luis' current visa. And there is a question whether Venezuela would let Luis back in due to covid travel restrictions.
- Jack Moody will be the events and activity liaison between B-N Rotary Clubs and the district. That entails making sure that our local clubs' activities are published in the District 6490 Newsletter,
- Larissa McIlvain announced that the Normal Rotary Club scholarship applications have been sent to local high schools. If you're interested in serving on the review committee, contact Andy Copenhaver.
- March 18: PETS Training Session 1
- March 20: PETS Training Session 2 and 3
- Normal Rotary will welcome Mike Step, our District Governor on April 28.
- The District 6490 Global Grants Meeting will be held via Zoom on March 4.

That last item segued into discussion featuring Drake Zimmerman about whether the district should set up its own foundation to accept donations and bequests. The Rotary Foundation's wheels grind slowly, making it difficult to set up grants for international projects. On the other hand, Normal Rotary has done a lot of grants through the Rotary Foundation, and the foundation's grant program is nothing to sneeze at.

**Judge:** Judge Larissa McIlvain introduced the club to something new: NRC Hotseat. That involved Larissa firing off a series of questions to see how many questions individual Rotarians could answer in 60 seconds. This was harder than it looks. (What's my favorite app? What's an app?) It was fun.

**Program:** We didn't really have one, but we didn't really need one either.

## **Thought for the Day**

"Education is not free, you must pay attention."

**To sign up to be a Spoke reporter one Wednesday, go here:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044CAAAD2AA3FA7-thespoke>

**To sign up to give the invocation one Wednesday, go here:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044CAAAD2AA3FA7-normal>

**To suggest a speaker:** send an email to Dayna Brown (brownda@unit5.org) or Ann Haugo (ahaugo@ilstu.edu).

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**Rotary International President**

2020-2021  
 Holger Knaack  
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PHF – Paul Harris Fellow HH – Hall of Honor PHF* - Paul Harris Fellow/Stone PHS – Paul Harris Society	DHH - District Hall of Honor HM – Honorary Member MD – Major Donors PP – Past President	DNRY- District New Rotarian of the Year PDG – Past District Governor	BS – Bequest Society Member DRY-District Rotarian of the Year GWRY – George Wolf Rotarian of the Year