

Volume C

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No. 12

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 To learn more about Rotary, visit these websites: www.rotary.org, www.rotarydistrict5650.org, and www.rotary14.org
 Lincoln Rotary #14 meets every Tuesday at Noon, US Bank Building, Nebraska Club, 233 S. 13th St. 20th Floor.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 — JONI THOMAS, “POLIO WON’T STOP ME”

Joni Thomas is a polio survivor and is now helping others achieve their independence as Executive Director of Independence Rising in Grand Island, NE.

Joni began her career in Independent Living with the League of Human Dignity in Lincoln, an Independent Living Center (ILC) of over 35 years. She has assisted people with disabilities in a variety of ways and worked for various agencies. She assisted in transitioning from nursing facilities to the community; assisted newly injured individuals acquire the skills and services to live independently; provided advocacy to individuals attempting to navigate the system of public benefits, and has conducted disability awareness and sensitivity training to schools, universities and various community agencies.

She has worked for Goodwill Industries of Lincoln and the Department of Health and Human Services, implementing employment resource centers to provide job readiness training and life skills and managing federal grants.

In May of 2009 the opportunity arose for Joni to return to the ILC and she became Executive Director of the Center for Independent Living of Central Nebraska, Inc. She continues to develop programs to assist people with disabilities live successfully and independently in the community.

In order to stay busy Joni has a home based business with Pampered Chef and recently became a part-time Uber Driver.



Joni Thomas

CLUB BUSINESS

First Reading: James Han
 Research Assistant with UNL Dept. of Agronomy
 and Horticulture

Classification: Education/Agronomy/Research
 Proposed by: **Keith Larsen**

*(Any objections to this proposal must be submitted in writing to
 the Board of Directors within seven (7) days.)*

Red to Blue Badges — Recent Rotarians receiving the Rotary Charge along with their new blue badges were: **Justin Kalemkarian**, proposed by Art Knox; and **Regina Werum** by Art Zygielbaum. Congratulations!

NEOS Meetings Moving to The Dish — In October, November and December on the first Wednesday of each month, NEOS will meet at DISH, 1100 O Street, Noon-1 p.m. While these meetings are designed to help new members learn more about Rotary and specifically our club, everyone is welcome!

— Co-Chairs **Sandi Fabry**, 402.202.8890, sandi.fabry@gmail.com
 or **Susan Dinsmore**, 402.617.1288, sevnendinsmore@gmail.com

Lincoln South Rotary Club Moving — Due to The Knolls ceasing operations, Lincoln South Rotary will be moving to a new meeting location - The Venue at 4111 Pioneer Woods Dr #100. Their first meeting at The Venue is October 9.

Club Service at our September 15 meeting:

Presiding: Kiersten Hill	Program Host: Randy Bretz	Secretary: Eric Drumheller	Song Leader: Greg Dynek	Pianist: Janet Danielson	
Registration & Cashier: Chris Hove & Charley Ogden	Greeters: Susan Kriz & Doc Chaves	Finemaster: Randy Hawthorne	Sgt.-at-Arms Set-up/Tear-down: Larry Williams		
<u>Birthday Books: Honoree</u>	<u>Book Title</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Birthday</u>
Mike Johanns	<i>The Adventures of Beekle, The Unimaginary Friend</i>	Dan Santat	Everett	April Stevenson	9-Sep
Mrs. Mary Gottula	<i>Firebird</i>	Misty Copeland	Elliott	Kristin Yates	25-Sep
Mrs. Mary Gottula	<i>The Book With No Pictures</i>	B. J. Novak	Elliott	Kristin Yates	25-Sep

CALENDAR

A complete calendar is available on our website – www.rotary14.org

September 22

- **Joni Thomas**, Executive Director, Independence Rising, “Polio Won’t Stop Me” Katie Thompson Host

September 23-24

- Serving at the Gathering Place, 4:45-6:00 pm, Contact Stu Spero, 402.488.2538, sms@nebrwesleyan.edu

September 24

- Board Meeting, 12 Noon-1:30 PM, EducationQuest Foundation, 1300 O St.

September 29

- **Hana Cole**, Rotary Youth Exchange Student returned from Istanbul Turkey, Bob Rauner Host

October 6

- **Mayor Chris Beutler**, City of Lincoln, Valerie Hunt Host
- Dictionary Project – Labeling Party at Green’s Furnace & Plumbing, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

October 7

- NEOS Meeting, Noon, The Dish, 1100 O St. Lower Level, International Service, The Rotary (Int’l) Foundation & Eradicating Polio, World Fellowship & Community Service

October 13

- **Tom Osborne**, TeamMates and Mentoring, Valerie Hunt Host

October 15

- Social Event, 5:30 – 7:00 PM, David Dale Photography Studio, 1621 A Street, Retention/Participation Committee Host

October 17

- Rotary Leadership Institute, 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM, Dundee Presbyterian Church, Omaha, www.rli-heartland.org

October 20

- **Larry Ruth & Paul Zillig**, Natural Resources District (NRD), “The Sky is Falling (Planning for Flooding)”, Valerie Hunt Host

October 22-28

- Serving at the Gathering Place, 4:45-6:00 pm, Contact Stu Spero, 402.488.2538, sms@nebrwesleyan.edu

October 27

- **Business Networking Day**

Other Lincoln Club Meetings:

Lincoln Sunrise Rotary meets on Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m. at IHOP Restaurant at 4501 N. 27th St. 9/22 Club Member Vocationals

Lincoln East Rotary meets on Wednesdays at 11:45 a.m. at Valentino’s, 70th & Van Dorn

9/23 Annual Club Picnic at Grandpa’s Woods

Lincoln South Rotary meets on Fridays at Noon at The Knolls, 22nd & Old Cheney.

9/25 Tammy Ward, Executive Director, Seniors Foundation, “Foundation on Veteran’s Hospital Campus”

Visiting Rotarians and Guests:

Matt Horak from Lincoln South.

Erin Dobesh and **Kelsey Hearnen**, guests of **Randy Bretz**.

Glenn Friendt, guest of **Roger Ludemann**.

David Voorman, guest of **Christina Usher**.

Joan Kurtenbach and **Dylan Mahler**, guests of **Mailani Veney**.

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Picnic a Big Success!

— The International Student Picnic was a great success with fun had by all! We played games and served a barbecue feast to approximately 110 international students from Doane, Union College, Wesleyan and UNL. There were also about 10 members of Rotaract in attendance and 10 people associated with Partners for the Americas to help celebrate Brazilian independence day.

Approximately 30 Rotary members also attended the event. Councilwoman Cyndi Lamm provided the official welcome from the City of Lincoln. Notably,

we received primetime press coverage from Channel 8 and Randy Bretz made a cool video on our YouTube channel that can easily be distributed to other clubs or used to promote the event next year. The video is available here:

<https://youtu.be/w2XDfgYaBZk>.

Take two (2) minutes of your time to see what Rotary is about...it’s worth it! Thank you to all the Rotarians who helped to make this a great event and to these sponsors: Val’s,

Runza, Pepsi, the Nebraska Press Association, Green’s Furnace and Plumbing, Bob Stephens & Associates, Frosty’s Specialty Advertising, Raising Cane’s and the Lincoln Visitors Bureau. We can’t wait until next year when we get to do it all again!

— *Christina Usher, Chair, 402.475.8433, clu@mattsonricketts.com*



Dictionary Project — We have about 3600 dictionaries to be presented to every 4th grader in the city – 60 schools: public schools, private schools, home schools. We begin with a labeling party on October 6, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Green’s Furnace & Plumbing. Free pizza provided. Then we’ll be delivering and presenting those dictionaries. We need volunteers for both the party and for school delivery. Sign up at <http://www.rotary14.org/current-projects/dictionary1.html> or contact:

— *Pat Birch, Chair, 402.261.0955, pbirch@schemmer.com*



Rotaract — Several Rotaract members participated in the Big Red Welcome event at UNL and signed up 60 interested students. At the first meeting they had 16 students attend. At the Student Organization Fair on September 10, another 45 students expressed interest. The mailing list is now over one hundred. The Rotaract board members wish to send thanks for all the support from Rotary members.

— *Keith Larsen, 402.742.0132, Keith@Lincoln55Plus.com*