



Spoke Newsletter

Wednesday August 30, 2017

Attendance: 29 (56%) Attendance with make ups: 29 (64%)



Program Wednesday, September 6, 2017

Amy Dickerson, Managing Director Lancaster Event Center

Program arranged by Rachel Martin

Also: Chris Nealy—Helping Hands for Hadlee

Program Wednesday, August 30, 2017

Dr. Ken Dewey, "It's not normal to be normal in Nebraska."

Program arranged by Paul Horton



Dr. Ken Dewey's lifelong passion for weather began as a small child in Chicago where he routinely collected weather data and clipped weather news reports from the local newspapers for his scrapbook. His passion for weather has remained throughout his entire life. Dewey received his undergraduate degree from Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, IL, his Masters degree from Northern Illinois University; Dekalb, Il., and his Ph D. from the University of Toronto in Canada. Except for two years spent at the National Weather Service Headquarters in Washington, D.C., on a post-doctoral fellowship, his entire career has been spent at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. Nebraska's topography can almost exclusively be described as a gently rolling Plain. Yet, elevations range from 840 feet above sea level (eastern Nebraska) to

5,424 feet above sea level (western Nebraska). Nebraska is predominantly a rural state with only two main population centers: Omaha (population 435,000) on the eastern edge of the state and the state capital, Lincoln (population 270,000), located just 50 miles to the southwest of Omaha. A series of much smaller towns is located along I-80, the main thoroughfare in Nebraska, which extends 450 miles from the Iowa border to the Wyoming border. Around half of the state's population lives in the Omaha-Lincoln area. Although urban influences on climate are minimal in Nebraska, observed temperatures in Lincoln and Omaha are frequently several degrees warmer than the surrounding rural areas. When there is a snow cover across the state, Lincoln and Omaha often show up on satellite images as slighter grayer in color due to the reduced amount of snow cover resulting from snow removal from the streets and parking lots and from urbanized snowmelt. Even with the variation in altitude noted above, there are no major mountains or water bodies in Nebraska that impact the state's climate However, that does not mean that the climate is uniform across the state. The higher elevations across western Nebraska mean they have a longer season of below freezing temperatures, and a longer snowfall season than their eastern Nebraska counterparts. Annual precipitation across Nebraska is more influenced by distance from the Gulf of Mexico than elevation differences. Southeastern Nebraska averages almost three feet of precipitation (34 inches) while western Nebraska averages only a little more than a foot of precipitation (16 inches)

A Rotary Thank You to Dr. Ken Dewey for a very informative presentation about "It's not normal be normal in Nebraska."

However, these averages hide the extremes that have taken place across the state. For example, the least precipitation in one year was only 7.70 inches in Scottsbluff in 1964. Franklin went nine months in 1950 with out any measureable precipitation. And at the other extreme is Falls City, where 57.33 inches of precipitation fell in 1973.

Nebraska's monthly precipitation climatology is linked to average monthly wind direction. The predominant wind flow during the cold season (November through March) is from the north, which brings cold, dry air into the state. Conversely, during the warm season (April through October), the airflow is typically from the southeast, which brings in warm, humid air from the Gulf of Mexico.

It's not normal be normal in Lincoln, Nebraska

Looking at just one calendar day, January 11, from 1918 through 2017 (100 years). Lincoln never once experienced "its normal (or average) low" of 14°F. And, there has been a 6S-degree range in what has been observed in low temperatures on this date. These two statistics make the concept of a "normal" low temperature almost meaningless

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All Four Seasons in One Month

March is perhaps the cruelest of all months in Nebraska with the largest extremes in weather observed during the year. Nebraska has seen well below 0°F temperatures and paralyzing blizzards, as well as early summer-like heat with highs in the 90s. The range between the record highs and record lows for each day in March for Lincoln offers testimony to the extremes of Nebraska's climate. Considering March 11, as an example, the daily range is 103 degrees (with a record high of 84°F and a record low of - 19°F). It would be safe to say that it is possible, at almost any place and any day in Nebraska, to experience all four seasons of weather during the month of March.

Nebraska location in the conterminous United States means that the "Goldilocks" principle dominates. Typically, it's not too hot or too cold compared to the rest of the northern and southern states. With a range from only two days to as many as 106 days with highs 90°F or higher (north to south through the Plains), Grand Island and Lincoln sit in the middle, with annual averages of 36and42days, respectively. During the cold time of year, with a range from as many as 181 days to as few as only 24 days with low temperatures falling to 32°F or lower (also north to south), Lincoln and Grand Island have annual averages of 143 to 146 day s.

Most areas of the United States claim that they "own" their climate. For example, Colorado has a "mountain" climate, New England has a "cool maritime" climate, the Gulf region has a "warm tropical" climate, and the southwest has a "desert climate." Not to be outdone. International Falls in Northern Minnesota can claim that it is officially (thanks to a patent award) the "Icebox of the Nation" Nebraska sits near the center of the conterminous United States and is at the crossroads of contrasting air masses that approach the state from all directions., but never lingering for very long. It is for all the reasons noted above that Nebraska deserves to be known as the "Heartland of Extremes."

For more information on Ken's interesting presentation check out his publication: The Weather and Climate of Nebraska "*The Heartland of Extremes*" Topics Include: Dust Bowl, Blizzards in Nebraska, Life in Tornado Ally, The Endless Cycles of Droughts and Floods, Global Climate Change and many more informative topics.

Chris Nealy will be making a presentation for a fund raiser for Helping Hands for Hadlee. There will be a freewill donation basket passed to help Chris promote this event

Brook Eden May 16, 1989 - Feb 28, 2017

Brook Eden was a daughter, a sister and a friend to many, but most importantly she was a loving and devoted wife and mother. Like all of us, Brook had her struggles. Her biggest struggle was the battle she fought against depression. On February 28th, 2017 Brook lost her battle. The thing Brook would have wanted most was for her precious fifteen month old daughter Hadlee to have every opportunity to be successful in life. There will be a fundraiser put on by family and friends of Brook. All proceeds will go into a fund which will later allow Hadlee the opportunity to go to college.



The Helping Hands For Hadlee fundraiser sponsored by New Covenant Community Church will be held on Saturday, September 30th, 2017. The event will take place at the Cornhusker Social Hall. Dinner for the event is provided by Round The Bend Steakhouse. A freewill offering will be collected. The evening will also feature live and silent auctions.

Life jacket stations promote water safety

Initiative offers flotation devices to borrow for free

ZACH HAMMACK Lincoln Journal Star

Blake Collingsworth understands the value of a life jacket.

in a backyard pool at their home can borrow free life jackets near Wilderness Park after wandering outside during a family get-together.

He wasn't wearing a life jacket. In the wake of the tragedy, Collingsworth and his wife Kathy founded the Joshua Collingsworth Foundation, to promote better water safety and educa-

This summer, the foundation started a new initiative promoting safe swimming and boating at two of Nebraska's state recreational areas with life jacket stations where people can borrow jackets for free.

And the program has been working.

Stations at Branched Oak and In June 2008, Collingsworth's Pawnee lakes near Lincoln -2-year-old son, Joshua, drowned where swimmers and boaters have been emptying out almost daily this summer, says Collingsworth.

> The stations were implemented Memorial Day weekend, in hopes of helping people who may have forgotten a life jacket at the lakes stay safe.



COURTESY PHOTO

Please see STATIONS, Page A5 Life jacket station at Branched Oak Lake.

**Read more of the article on page 5 of today's edition of the Lincoln Journal Star

Lincoln East Rotary Club September Speaker Schedule

Chris Nealy (Short Presentation) - Helping Hands for Hadlee

September 13th – Tony Falcone, Director of Cornhusker Marching Band—arranged by Rachel O'Donnell September 20th—Steve Taylor, UNL Food Science Professor.

September 27th –Development Coordinator Friendship Home—arranged by Rachel O'Donnell





Birthdays:

Gloria Collingsworth—September 3 Dave Miller—September 6

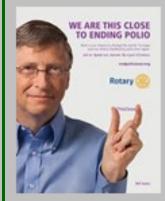


Dale Lloyd—September 4

Roses: Andrea Ahrens—Gloria Collingsworth—Linda Horton—Mary Caudy

June Garrison—Joan Stivers—Diana Tappe















Cashier Duty

August—Al Burdick– Deb Durrie We need volunteers for the following: Month of November Please let Dick Cumming know when you plan to volunteer

Make Ups

Dean Douglas Concessions F.B. Dennis Duckworth **Board Meeting** Chuck Erickson Zambia Project Dave Miller Park Painting





CASHIER

September John Garrison October Paul Horton November Gene Roth

December

Thank You to All Volunteer

Guests & Visitors

Steve Grosserode Ruby James Linda Horton Paul Horton Dave Hilsabeck Lincoln South Ken Dewey Speaker Duane Tappe Diana Tappe June Garrison John Garrison Club #14 Merle Jansen

Joan Stivers **Ed Stivers**



Lincoln East Rotary Club

University of Nebraska Football Concessions

NO HOME GAME UNTIL SEPTEMBER 16th

Dave Caudy and Deb Durre