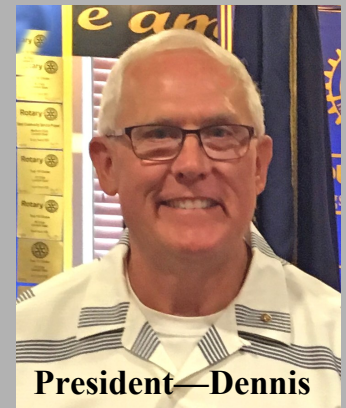


Spoke Newsletter

Wednesday October 30, 2019

Attendance: 17



President—Dennis



What a tribute to the 100th anniversary of Veterans (Armistice) day. Purchasing the “Cost of Freedom,” Serving Hands that is currently displayed in front of the Veterans Hospital on 70th Street. This Wednesday, November 6, 2019, Duane Tappe, Lincoln East Rotarian will recognize organizations that were involved in purchasing the “Hands.” Total Cost: \$16,000.00

What is Veterans Day?

Veterans Day, observed annually on November 11, is a tribute to military veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Not to be confused with Memorial Day, which honors those who died while in service, Veterans Day honors all military veterans, including those still with us.

History of Veterans Day

Veterans Day, originally celebrated as Armistice Day, was first issued on November 11, 1919 by President Woodrow Wilson a year after the end of World War I. The purpose of Armistice day was to honor the fallen soldiers of The Great War for their sacrifice and bravery. 7 years later in 1926, Congress adopted a resolution requesting President Coolidge issue annual proclamations on November 11, making Armistice Day a legal holiday.

In 1945, World War II veteran Raymond Weeks had the idea to expand Armistice Day to celebrate all veterans rather than just the ones who died in World War I. He led a delegation to General Dwight Eisenhower, who was all for the idea. Weeks then conducted the first Veterans Day celebration in 1945 in Alabama and every year until his death in 1985. In 1982, he was honored by President Reagan with the Presidential Citizenship Medal. Weeks was also named the “Father of Veterans Day” by Elizabeth Dole.

Ed Rees, the U.S. Representative from Emporia, Kansas, presented a bill establishing the holiday through to congress. Eisenhower, who was now President and also from Kansas, signed the bill into law on May 26, 1954, 8 and a half years after Raymond Weeks held the first Veteran’s Day. A few weeks later, June 1, Congress amended the bill replacing “Armistice” with “Veterans.” The National Veterans Award was also created in 1954, first received by Congressman Rees for his support in making Veterans Day a federal holiday. Though the holiday is currently and was originally celebrated on November 11, the day was moved to the fourth Monday of October in 1971 due to the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. However, only 7 years later in 1978, it was moved back to November 11.



Lincoln East Rotary Club
Meetings at Valentino's—70th & Van Dorn
Noon Luncheon starting @ 11:45 a.m.

October 30, 2019

Lincoln East Rotary Club “Special Event,” October 30, 2019
5th Wednesday, “Special Event” Tour 4th Floor Morrill Hall UNL

Arranged by Sue Schuerman

Cherish Nebraska, the exhibits say.

It’s a theme made real throughout the new fourth-floor expansion to the University of Nebraska State Museum at Morrill Hall. Opening to the public Feb. 16, the 11,000 square-foot project represents the latest effort to establish the NU State Museum as the “Smithsonian of the Plains.”

“This floor celebrates Nebraska – our natural history and connections to our diverse cultural heritage,” said Susan Weller, director of the museum and professor of entomology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. “I think it’ll be transformational for many people. Someone on our team said to me, ‘I’m from Nebraska, and I’ve never been more proud of Nebraska.’ And it just took my breath away that we helped open her eyes to something she had never realized about the state.”

Much of the privately funded, \$11.4 million expansion explores Nebraska’s ecosystems across multiple time scales, from mere millennia to hundreds of millions of years ago. Several areas illustrate how warming and cooling have transformed the state’s cover from shallow seas to tropical jungles to massive glaciers to its now-familiar prairies. Many highlight the array of animals, plants and bacteria that once flourished – then migrated or perished – amid that changing climate.

“I think people will be surprised to find out that Nebraska is really a crossroads,” Weller said. “We are where East meets West and North and South collide. Because of that, we have some really fascinating diversity.”

Other exhibits explain how scientists collected the vast information that graces the fourth floor. An ice core extracted from Antarctica serves as a lesson in using trapped gas bubbles to determine the composition of ancient atmospheres. A windowed lab space will let visitors watch as researchers examine fossils of the animals and plants that once called Nebraska home. And an exhibit on Paleo-Indians — Nebraska’s original inhabitants — explains how sewing needles found at burial sites confirmed the tiny tool’s outsized importance to surviving an ice age.

The expansion’s theme also speaks to sustaining Nebraska’s air, water and soil, Weller said. By tracing the journey of water — down the Rockies to the Sandhills, through the Platte River to the Missouri, from atmospheric heights to the Ogallala Aquifer — visitors can better appreciate humanity’s influence on water quality. They can also learn about the size and impacts of their carbon footprints, Weller said, along with manageable steps toward softening them.

“We are using Nebraska as a lens on the world,” she said. “Although we use local examples, they address global patterns and global questions.”

“Usually, a museum director really feels fortunate if she or he has the opportunity to redo one major gallery every 10 years,” she said of the expansion, whose opening will help celebrate the 150th anniversary of the university’s charter signing. “There are seven (new) galleries worth of stuff up there. This is almost on par with opening a new museum, as far as square footage.”

That scale required major contributions from many people and organizations, especially the Nebraska-based Theodore F. and Claire M. Hubbard Family Foundation, the Claire M. Hubbard Foundation, Ruth and Bill Scott, and the Nebraska Environmental Trust. It also had Weller’s team calling on the expertise of university, state and occasionally worldwide researchers.

“You really need the support of the community, and the philanthropy that goes with that, to make it possible,” Weller said. “It really is of the community, for the community, by the community.”

“We see this as a magnificent rebirth of the museum, and it will hopefully set the stage for the next 50-plus years.” (Excerpts from an article by Scott Schrage | University Communication)

***A Special Rotary Thank You to Sue Schuerman for making
arrangements for an Excellent Tour of Renovated 4th Floor Morrill Hall.***



Anniversaries & Birthdays

Weeks of October 31—November 6

NO REPORT

Birthdays:

Anniversaries



Basket Passing for Lynette's Angels *Wednesday, November 6*

Here at Lynette's Angels, we are driven by a single goal; to do our part in making the world a better place for all. Lynette Earnest was a woman that represented compassion, trust, faith and life. She was an amazing woman who loved all. Lynette passed away December 21st, 2014 after a long courageous battle with colon cancer. Always thinking of others, Lynette brought her family together one year and asked for Christmas money to be spent on food and gifts for families in need, instead of gifts for her family. The gifts, gas cards, and dinners were purchased for the family chosen, and all were set to be delivered on December 21st. That very morning Lynette passed away. Lynette's family respected her wishes and delivered the gifts that same day. To honor this amazing woman, Lynette's Angels was formed. Each year their goal is to help families in need suffering from cancer.

Guests & Visitors



Cashier Duty

November—Gordon Bair

December—Chris Klingenberg

Contact Minnie Stephens



Wellness Chairman Greg Schnasse has requested information in regard to any illness by club members and/or their family members.

Greg's contacts:

Phone: 402-440-9917

Email: greg.schnasse@gmail.com



Greeter Duty

November 6 Dale Lloyd

November 13 Dean Douglas

November 20 Tom Carlson

November 27 No Meeting



Rotary Clubs of Lincoln

Christmas Party

December 11, 2019

****Make your reservations**

Lincoln East Rotary Club—November Speaker Schedule

November 13—Lindsey Spehn, MBA—“The Global Clifton Strengths Movement”

arranged by Charles Erickson

November 20—Kate Engel—Nebraska Innovation Campus, arranged by Dick Cumming

Lincoln East Rotary Club
Spoke Newsletter
Published by Wayne Casper