



*President—Paul*

## **Spoke Newsletter**

Wednesday November 28, 2018

Attendance: 23(58%) Attendance with make ups: 26(65%)

**Program Wednesday, December 5, 2018**

**Dr. Matthew Blomstedt-Commissioner of Education**

Arranged by Duane Tappe

**Program Wednesday, November 28, 2018**

**Barbara Walker Loos, Aira, Latest Technology for the Blind**

Arranged by Wayne Casper



Barbara Loos, grew up in Weeping Water, Nebraska City, and Lincoln, Nebraska. Her formal schooling took place at the Nebraska School for the Visually Handicapped (NSVH), now the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired (NCECBVI); Nebraska City High School (NCHS); and the University of Nebraska, Lincoln (UNL). Barbara graduated from NSVH, having attended some classes at NCHS, in 1968. She graduated with distinction from UNL in 1973 with a BS Degree in Education, majoring in English and a minor in Spanish.

Barbara has received several awards from the NFBN, including the Richard Parker Memorial Award, our state affiliate's highest honor. In November 2001, the League of Human Dignity presented the Ken Lyndhurst Volunteer of the Year Award to Barbara. *In August 2003, she received the Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award from the Lincoln East Rotary Club.* In 2005, She was presented the Jacobusten Broek Award, the highest honor bestowed upon a member by the National Federation of the Blind.

**Barbara's personal comments received in an email on Wednesday after the Rotary meeting:** "Thank you for The opportunity to share Aira with Lincoln East Rotary Club today. I loved the interaction among those in attendance and the engaging questions people asked. Thank you for a fun experience and for the pen with the four-way test. I did call an agent after I got home and, using the phone camera rather than the glasses for a closer view, Carla read all four to me. She was familiar with the Rotary symbol on the pen because her grandmother was a Rotarian.

### ***The World can be complex. Using Aira is simple***

Aira is a service that connects blind and low-vision people to highly trained, remotely-located agents. Through an app on your smartphone, or through an optional pair of Horizon Smart Glasses, Aira delivers instant access to visual information at the touch of a button – enhancing everyday efficiency, engagement, and independence. Straightforward and simple.

***A Special Rotary Thank You to Barbara Loos for an excellent presentation and demonstration on Aira, new technology for the blind.***

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

**November 28, 2018**

Barbara started her presentation by connecting to April, agent in Atlanta, Georgia. As Barbara turned her head using the camera in her glasses, April described the meeting room; tables, flags, people, television set and other items.

### **On-demand access to agents, a supportive community, and free offers**

From the moment you set up your Aira account, you have all you need to explore the world with enhanced efficiency and confidence. Access agents on-demand for almost any task, take advantage of rideshare integration to get you where you need to be, and use one of our ever-growing list of free Aira Access offers to save you money while doing it. Daily tasks are a breeze when you have vision in your pocket, and when you're part of an expanding community of supportive Explorers.

### **Professional, caring agents anytime you need them**

Aira Agents are people passionate about what they do. They are the hand-selected, specially trained professionals you talk with when you connect with the service any time and from anywhere. Agents and Explorers can do almost anything as a team. Talk to an Aira agent and you are talking to a person who loves their job every day.

### **Worry-free support and constant innovation**

Not only do you get training, ongoing support, and a growing list of offers that provide free access to our service, but we're also constantly looking for new ways to enhance the Aira experience. Like Chloe, our Artificial Intelligence agent. Chloe is capable of handling basic tasks like reading and is always learning more. When you sign up with Aira, you'll have the opportunity to purchase the Horizon Kit, preloaded with Chloe – and ready to provide the ultimate hands-free service.

### **Ready to Explore? Want to know more?**

Connect with us and start the conversation today. 1-800-985-9239—<https://aira.io/how-it-works>—Information on pricing is available online.

## **THE COURTESY RULES OF BLINDNESS**

**When you meet me, don't be ill at ease. It will help both of us if you remember these ten simple points of courtesy:**

- 1.) I'm an ordinary person, who happens to be blind. You can talk to me as you would anyone else -no need to raise your voice. If you have a question, please address me directly rather than asking my companion.
- 2.) I may use a long white cane or a guide dog to walk independently. If I use a guide dog, please don't pet, feed, or play with my dog without my permission. If I'm in an unfamiliar place, I may ask you for directions or assistance. Please don't grab my arm, my cane, or my dog. If I need to and if you don't mind, I'll ask to take your arm just above the elbow and keep a half-step behind to anticipate curbs and steps.
- 3.) When I am in a room, I like to know who else is there. Please speak or introduce yourself when you enter.
- 4.) Please keep in mind that a door left partially open, particularly to an overhead cabinet or a car, is a potential hazard to me.
- 5.) I do not have trouble with ordinary table skills. At meals, I can serve myself and pass items to other diners, so please don't reach over or past me. Just let me know what's being offered and I'll take it from there.

6.) There is no need to avoid words like "see" or "look." I use them too—for example, I watch television

7.) Blindness is just the loss of sight. My sense of smell, touch, and/or hearing did not improve when I became blind. I simply rely on them more than you might and, therefore, may gather more information through those senses than you do.

8.) If I'm your houseguest, there is no need to be extra attentive or to move any furniture; I'll use my cane and other senses to find things or I will ask for your help.

9.) I will discuss blindness with you if you're curious, but feel free to talk to me about anything that interests you. I have as many other interests as you do.

10.) In all 50 states, the law requires drivers to yield the right of way when they see my extended white cane or guide dog. Only the blind may legally carry white canes. Normally I can hear the sound of traffic and will behave like any other pedestrian. If you drive a hybrid or electric vehicle, I may not hear your car approach, so exercise caution and use the horn if needed. You see more blind persons today walking alone, not because there are more of us, but because we have learned to make our own way.

For more information about gifts, bequests, programs for the blind, or other matters concerning blindness or the blind, contact the local chapter in your area or contact:



The National Federation of the Blind  
200 East Wells Street at Jernigan Place  
Baltimore, Maryland 212 30  
Phone: (410) 659-9314  
Email: [nfb@nfb.org](mailto:nfb@nfb.org)



***Thanksgiving Donation total: \$565.00***

A sincere Rotary thank you to all Rotarians who made contributions to the People's City Mission, Lincoln, Nebraska for a Thanksgiving gift.



**Lincoln East Rotary Club**

***Annual Christmas Party, December 12***

Hillcrest Country Club, 9401 E O St

Cocktails at 5:30 p.m.—Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

President Paul Horton extends an invitation to members of Lincoln Club 14, Lincoln Spirit and Lincoln South to attend. We once again will have a Santa Claus toy drive for City Mission. Please bring Children toys unwrapped. Cost: \$30/person





## Anniversaries & Birthdays

Weeks of November 29—December 5

### Birthdays:

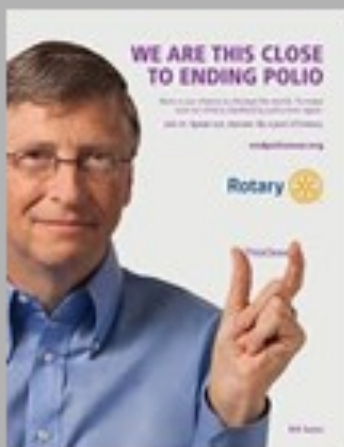
Mary Goldberg—December 4

### Anniversaries

NONE



**Roses: Gene Roth—Nathan Rink**



## Happy Dollars

Duane Tappe	\$ 2.00
Greg Schnasse	\$ 2.00
Gene Roth	\$ 5.00
Jeanne Garvin	\$ 6.00
Darrel Huenergardt	\$ 2.00
Chris Klingenberg	\$ 1.00
Dean Douglas	\$ 1.00
Jerry Christensen	\$ 5.00
Barry Stelk	\$ 5.00
Paul Horton	\$ 5.00
Wayne Casper	\$20.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$54.00</b>



## Greeter Duty

December—Wayne Casper

## Make Ups

Deb Durre	Concessions F.B.
Ozzie Gilbertson	Zambia Project
Ed Stivers	SumFun Picnic



## Cashier Duty

December—Chris Klingenberg

**Contact Dick Cumming**

## Guests & Visitors

Barbara Walker Loos	Speaker
Merrilea Anderson	Steve Grosserode
Darold Karmazin	Club #14
Merle Jansen	Club #14
Barb Roth	Gene Roth

## Lincoln East Rotary Club—October Speaker Schedule

**NO Noon Meeting—December 12, 2018—Christmas Party**

December 5—Dr. Matthew Blomstedt-Commissioner of Education, Arranged by Duane Tappe

*Lincoln East Rotary Club  
Spoke Newsletter  
Published by Wayne Casper*