



# THE COG



A Monthly Publication of the Brookings Rotary Club

**JULY 2020**

## July Programs

### Erich Olson and Ginger Thomson - Program Coordinators for July

July 7.....Don Norton.....Brookings Rotary 2020-21 President  
 July 14 .....Jim Berman.....Dakota News Now  
 July 21..... Dan Little.....District Governor for District 5610  
 July 28..... Caleb Hight.....Covid 19 and nursing home management

## JULY BIRTHDAYS

11 Jeni Norwood  
 17 Mylo Hellickson  
 17 Del Johnson  
 22 Jim Ducker  
 25 Ron Waltz

July Sergeant at Arms is Gregg Jongeling -- should you need something please call 605-691-4015

### **ROTARIAN OF DISTINCTION - DISTRICT 5610 - AREA 4 - GREGG JONGELING**

Gregg Jongeling has been a member of the Brookings Rotary Club since February 17, 1987 and during that time has exemplified the motto "Service Above Self". Gregg has been very active in many aspects of Rotary throughout his membership. He has served as the Chairman of the Club Administration Committee which includes the setup for each meeting since 2008. He has been the Sergeant at Arms of the Brookings Club since 2008 and the editor and publisher of our monthly club newsletter, The COG, since 2010. Through these activities, Gregg has been instrumental in making sure meetings operate smoothly and all members stay informed of what is happening in the local club.



Gregg and his wife, Vi participated on a trip with a group of Rotarians from District 5610, their family members, and spouses in visiting the School of St. Jude in Arusha, Tanzania. Following that trip, they developed and presented a program about the school to other Rotary and Service clubs and assisted in programs and displays at District 5610 Conferences. Following the trip to Tanzania and in conjunction with Brookings Rotary Club, Gregg and Vi sponsor a student at the school.

Gregg and Vi, have also participated in a District 5610 Friendship Exchange to Scotland in June of 2019 with the reciprocal trip from the Scottish Rotarians to Brookings in August 2019. He has also helped coordinate hosting of other Friendship Exchanges from Australia and Sweden for the Brookings Club. **From Ass't Dist. Gov. Steve Carnes**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR JULY**

Ac-Cent-U-Ate the Positive

It was great to hear Past President Jennifer Soma at our June 30<sup>th</sup> meeting recount her year as Brookings Rotary Club President. What a year it was!

- We celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday proclamations from the Mayor and Governor
- We gifted to the city a clock that will stand tall on Main Avenue – celebrating 100 years of Service Above Self
- We concluded giving "Brain Game" books to more than 400 families of newborns
- We began installation of the Born Learning Trails in Hillcrest Park
- We continued the awarding of six \$1,000 scholarships to area high school seniors attending SDSU in the fall
- We acknowledged our 4-Way Test contest winners
- We rekindled a Rotaract Club at SDSU;
- We now have a club consisting of 100% Paul Harris Fellows

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To provide content for the COG please contact  
 Gregg Jongeling 605-691-4015 [gjongeling@gmail.com](mailto:gjongeling@gmail.com)

### July Service Anniversaries

7-27-65	Bruce Lushbough	55 yrs	7-27-10	Barry Dunn	10 yrs
7-15-75	Van Fishback	45 yrs	7-16-13	Ben Hauck	7 yrs
7-02-02	Greg Fargen	18 yrs	7-22-14	Michael Gonda	6 yrs
7-15-03	Dean Kattelmann	17 yrs	7-11-17	Darla Biel	3 yrs
7-27-04	Jim Klinker	16 yrs	7-03-18	Keith Bartels	2 yr
7-28-09	Cathrene Voelzke	11 yrs			

### *(President's message continued)*

- At our meetings, we heard from inspirational speakers and club members who shared the joys and milestones of their lives by giving "scholar dollars" to continue with our philanthropic work.

### **Notice that up until this point, there has been no mention of a global pandemic!!!**

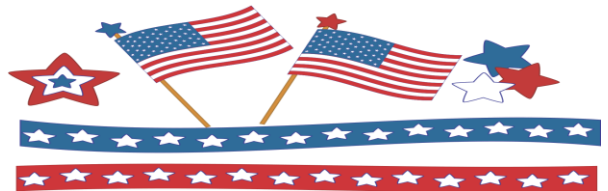
We have learned much over the past few months. COVID-19 is serious, but it has not deterred our purpose. If anything, Rotarians here and around the world have found new ways to make lives better. We recently thanked front-line healthcare workers for their dedication in our skilled nursing centers by giving \$20 gift certificates from local restaurants to 250 professionals who are keeping our older citizens protected. And we are ready to move forward with District Governor Dan Little from Brookings at the helm.

This is an interesting time to be stepping in as President of the 100-year-old Brookings Rotary Club. While we are not meeting in person, it is important for each one of us to remember what Rotary is about. In the Johnny Mercer song, he points out some really tough situations in the Bible that were solved when people "**accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative, and latch on to the affirmative.**" We will move forward by finding new ways to serve the Brookings community, and my goal, now more than ever, is to honor our friendships and tradition of Service Above Self.

President Don

Don Norton  
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[donnorton75@gmail.com](mailto:donnorton75@gmail.com)

**PRESIDENT NORTON**  
**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
**QUESTIONS?? COMMENTS!!**  
**DON WANTS TO HEAR FROM**  
**YOU!!!!!!**



### **Wedding Anniversaries for July**

July 3.....Nadim & Seham Hassoun	July 20.....Teree & Daniel Nesvold
July 9 .....Van & Barbara Fishback	July 22.....Bruce & Ila Lushbough
July 11.....Rich & Jennifer Widman	July 23.....Darla Biel & Marc Serrett
July 13.....Jackie & Tony Lanning	July 23.....Keith & Glynn Bartels
July 14.....Jesse & Teri Ronning	July 24.....David & Diane Odens
July 15.....Don & Kay Norton	July 30.....Barry & Jane Dunn
July 17.....Della & Craig Tschetter	

### **The following Rotarians had perfect attendance in June**

Darla Biel	Larry Janssen	Kay Norton
Steve Carnes	Marcia Janssen	Nicole Rawden
Lewayne Erickson	Del Johnson	Jennifer Soma
Larry Fjeldos	Gregg Jongeling	Della Tschetter
Jim Gilkerson	Dan Little	Cathy Voelzke
Lisa Hager	Don Norton	Vern Voelzke
Nadim Hassoun		



### **July Meal Schedule (on your own)**

July 7.....	Leftovers from the 4th
July 14.....	Salad and fruit
July 21.....	Cold meat sandwich
July 28.....	Two martini lunch

## Brookings Rotary Club Gifts Clock to City of Brookings

**Left....**President-Elect Don Norton addresses the Council on June 30



**Right.....**A rendering (thanks to Stu Melby) of what the clock will look like when installed. Gregg is working with Randy Hanson of Mills Construction to get the required footing installed in early July. Then, the Verdin Clock Company will place the clock as their schedule allows.



## BROOKINGS ROTARY CLUB JOINS UNITED WAY EFFORT WITH "BORN LEARNING TRAILS" PROJECT

**BROOKINGS** – Installation has begun on two "Born Learning Trails" in Hillcrest and McClellans Parks, thanks to support from the Brookings Rotary Club and the Brookings Area United Way.

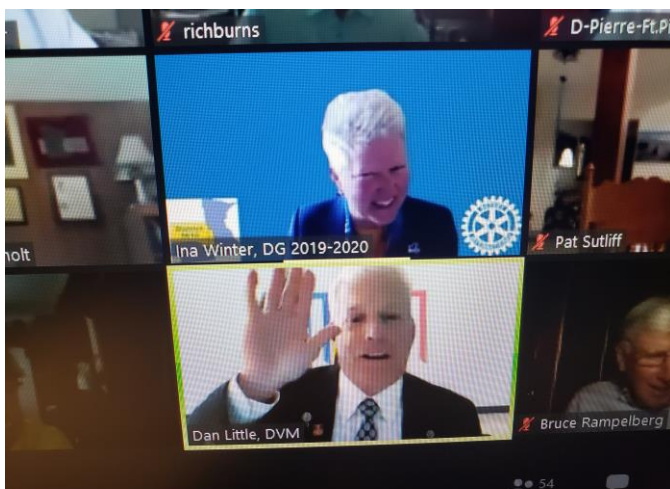
Born Learning Trails are a series of 10 reinforced signs that offer fun, evidence-based learning activities for young children and their families and are a source of free outdoor play in the community.

Funding for the project was made possible by a donation from the Brookings Rotary Club, this year celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> year, as well as a grant from Rotary District 5610, the Brookings Area United Way, and labor from the Brookings Park District and local Rotarians.

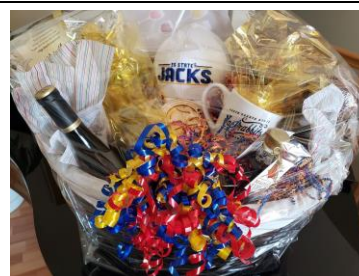
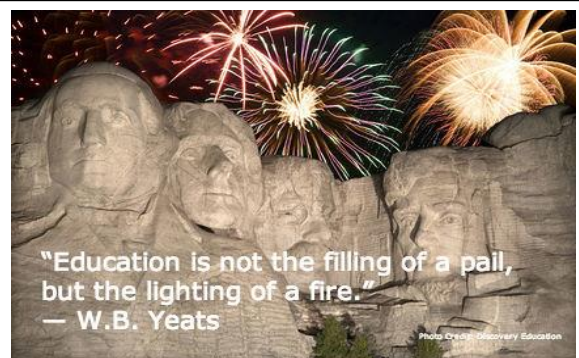
Installation is underway in Hillcrest Park.

**Photo "op" for the news release.**

No actual labor was expended at this time, but some painting will be required on the sidewalk.



Our own Dr. Dan Little was installed (virtually) as District Governor for District 5610. He will serve his term under the restrictions of COVID 19 so all of his activities will be constrained by the PANDEMIC.



A gift basket for the District raffle was assembled by Don and Kay Norton. They even delivered it to the winner in Sioux Falls, Bert Olson.



“ If you want to create fellowship, then you have to give people something real to talk about. ”

*Debra Fine*



## Words with friends

Among the many reasons to join Rotary, one of the most important is social: We like being part of something bigger than ourselves. We like to work with others toward common goals. We like to belong to a community. This need for fellowship has come into sharp relief with the COVID-19 pandemic, with many of us “socially distanced” not only from our Rotary clubs, but from everyone.

Debra Fine, a member of the Rotary Club of Denver Southeast, Colorado, and the author of *The Fine Art of Small Talk*, has made a career of studying how we connect with others and how we can strengthen those connections. We spoke with Fine about keeping in touch with our families and fellow Rotarians via video, as well as about how to reconnect once we start meeting in person again.

**THE ROTARIAN:** Why is “small talk” a big deal?

**FINE:** If you don’t start with small talk, then you don’t make a connection. I’ve been in Rotary 27 years, and wherever I travel as a public speaker, I go to a Rotary club. If you don’t in-

vest in having a real conversation with that person sitting next to you, there is no connection.

**TR:** Where do you begin when you don’t know what to say?

**FINE:** If I met you at a Rotary meeting, I would say, “Frank, good to meet you. What keeps you busy outside of Rotary meetings?” That’s my favorite way to get to know somebody. These days, I might say, “What’s keeping you busy outside of being concerned about the coronavirus?” The key is to not ask questions like, “How are you?” or “How have you been?” If I’m speaking with a Rotarian I already know, I simply say, “What’s new since the last time I talked to you?”

**TR:** How are the conversations we’re holding via video different from those that take place in person?

**FINE:** A lot of the same rules apply, like using people’s names. We get lazy about using names in conversation. When you’re on a Zoom call with eight family members, you can say, “John, what’s going on in your world?” I’m constantly doing that on our family Zoom call. Or you can say, “What’s new that was different from last week?” or, “Bring me up to date on your week.” We have two Zoom calls a week

with our four adult kids, and I always hear myself saying, “OK, outside of this horribleness, what’s keeping you guys busy?”

**TR:** Any tips for talking about yourself?

**FINE:** Rotary is about Service Above Self, about fellowship. If you want to create fellowship, then you have to give people something real to talk about. Just a sentence, not a speech or a narrative. But if somebody says to me, “How’s it going?” I’ll say, “Great. I’m planting some seeds for my vegetable garden,” or, “I just read a great book.” It’s an investment of 20 or 30 seconds, whether it’s in a Zoom call or at a Rotary meeting.

**TR:** Any advice for how to reconnect once meetings start again?

**FINE:** Most of us are in Rotary for connections, whether for business or social reasons. So put the energy into cultivating those connections. Walk into your Rotary club meeting with two or three things to talk about. Don’t sit at the table and say, “How are you?” “Good.” Then we all start playing with our food. We’re Rotarians, for goodness’ sake! Look across the table. Say, “Debra, what’s new with you?” Include everyone at the table. Be a leader. Assume the burden of cultivating connections. Say, “What are everybody’s plans?”

—FRANK BURES