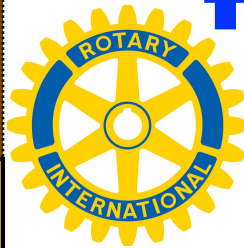


October 31, 2013  
Halloween  
Edition



# The Rotary Banner

East Alton Rotary Club  
Chartered Oct. 28, 1971 District 6460

[www.eastaltonrotary.org](http://www.eastaltonrotary.org)

## Life in the Minors

Last week, Joe Silkwood shared some of his memories and stories from his three years playing in baseball's minor leagues. Joe was offered contracts when playing for SIUE in 1982 from the Cardinals and the Twins. He signed with the Cardinals and left immediately for Gastonia, N.C. Ask him about his size 10 signing bonus.

From Gastonia, Joe was moved to St. Petersburg, FL for a year where he was a part of the starting pitching rotation. In all, Joe played professional baseball for three years (six seasons), all for the Cardinals organization.

Joe's "major league" was in Columbia, where he played in the winter in their major leagues. Baseball in Columbia was quite different than in the US, primarily because of the nature and composition of the crowd. Ushers were armed guards.

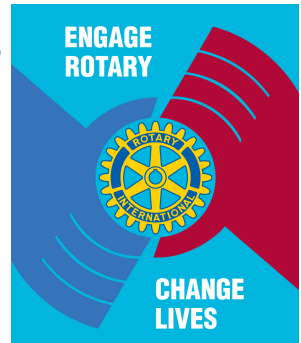
When not in Columbia, Joe played in Little Rock, where the pace was grueling and the pay was pathetic. However, his time in baseball allowed him to launch into coaching, which afforded him the opportunity to finish his bachelors and master's degrees.

Joe says that he appreciated the opportunity to play against some excellent players withing a quality organization like the Cardinals.

## NEWS, NOTES, AND NONSENSE



Pavillion by the Hartford water park, built in cooperation by Bethalth, East Alton and Wood River Rotary clubs.



### MAKE UP SITES

#### MONDAY

##### NOON

•Wood River—St. John UCC, WR

•Jerseyville—Peace United Church

##### 6 PM

•Alton-Godfrey—Alton Sports Tap

•Bethalto—Spirit Hall

#### TUESDAY

##### NOON

•Collinsville—Holiday Inn

•Granite City—Niedringhaus Methodist

•Highland—Michael's Restaurant

#### WEDNESDAY

##### NOON

•Goshen—LCCC Center, Edwardsville

#### THURSDAY

##### NOON

•Riverbend—Mac's Time Out Lounge, 315 Belle St.

•Edwardsville—First Christian

#### FRIDAY

##### NOON

•Troy, Silver Creek—Pizza Man

To locate a club where you are visiting check:

<http://>

[www.rotary.org/en/](http://www.rotary.org/en/)

[AboutUs/SiteTools/](#)

[ClubLocator/Pages/rid](#)

### Upcoming Events

**11-14:** Combined Meeting (no noon meeting)

**11-28:** THANKSGIVING (no noon meeting)

### CLUB OFFICERS

#### PRESIDENT

Rhonda Pluester

#### PRESIDENT -ELECT

Brad Lavite

#### SECRETARY

Lori Palmer

#### TREASURER

Cory Gallivan

#### DIRECTORS

##### CLUB SERVICE

Paul Hoover

##### VOCATIONAL SERVICE

Brad Lavite

##### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mark Allison

##### INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Rod Croxford

##### NEW GENERATIONS

Jeny Lewis

##### NEW MEMBERSHIP

Paul Hoover

##### SERGEANT AT ARMS

Rick Hooks

##### BANNER EDITOR

Larry Lacher

##### CLUB ARCHIVES

Rick Hooks

### FOUNDATION OFFICERS

#### PRESIDENT

Erin Phillips

#### TREASURER

Mark Vaughn

#### SECRETARY

Jeny Lewis

### PROGRAM

#### TODAY

Dick Thompson

Barry Coziahr

Social Media Marketing

#### NEXT WEEK

Mark Vaughn

### BIRTHDAYS

**10-21:** Wendell R.

**11-4:** Ron Eaton

## East Alton Rotary Club

P.O. Box 56  
East Alton, IL 62024

## Service Above Self

### The Four Way Test

- \*Is it the Truth?
- \*Is it Fair to all concerned?
- \*Will it Build Goodwill and better Friendships?
- \*Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

### We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.eastaltonrotary.org](http://www.eastaltonrotary.org)

Like us on Facebook

See our blog at:

[eastaltonrotary.blogspot.com](http://eastaltonrotary.blogspot.com)



## Just For Fun

**What tool does Count Dracula use when he repairs his car?**

A Vamplier

**What's a vampire's favorite fruit?**

A neck-tarine!

**What do you get when you cross a vampire with a cow?**

A hamburger that bites back!

**Why did Dracula flunk out of art class?**

Because he could only draw blood!

**What does Dracula take when he has a sore throat?**

Coffin drops!

**Who does Dracula get letters from?**

His fang club!

**Why do vampires drink blood?**

Because coffee keeps them awake all day!

**What did the bartender say to the vampire?**

This blood's for you!

**How do vampires begin letters?**

Tomb it may concern!

**What is a vampire's favorite holiday?**

Fangsgiving!

**What do you call a cross-dressing vampire?**

Count Dragula!

## Mercy for Africa

A team of health professionals is touring Donkora hospital in Conakry, Guinea, in March when they spot more than a dozen large, greenish masses covering the ground. To the U.S. team members, they look like an art installation; in fact, they are hospital gowns and surgical drapes, laundered and spread out to dry. They are a vivid example of the group's objective: to lower deadly infection rates caused by unsterile procedures.

This Rotary Foundation vocational training team is the first to serve under Rotary's partnership with the nonprofit Mercy Ships. Rotary District 7690 in North Carolina, USA, sponsored the team with a packaged grant, part of the new Rotary grant model that launched worldwide 1 July. The team's five members will train Guinean health professionals at the two national hospitals.

The *Africa Mercy*, a 500-foot oceangoing hospital ship, is docked in Conakry for a 10-



month medical mission. The Mercy Ships staff and visiting experts, such as this team, will tackle a range of tasks, including setting up medical and dental clinics, conducting health screenings, performing surgeries on board, and conducting health care outreach throughout the country. The ship also will serve as a steel-hulled security blanket.

"Mercy Ships looks for ways to continue helping local medical professionals after the ship leaves port," says Michelle Bullington, who helped advise the team. "Improving sterilization techniques would have a sustainable impact."

Rick Snider, former governor of District 7690, worked on a Mercy Ships vessel for five years with his wife, Linda, and coordinated the Guinea project. He recruited assistant governor Jenny Braswell as team leader. A recently retired public health official, Braswell has volunteered on numerous Rotary projects in rural Nicaragua and Jamaica. Her husband, Sherrill, a physician, became Braswell's first recruit for the Guinea team. She handpicked the rest from among former public health colleagues in North Carolina.