



The Rotary Banner

Newsletter Date
February 11, 2010

CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Kevin Stuby

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Chris Herzog

SECRETARY

Lori Palmer

TREASURER

Cory Gallivan

DIRECTORS

CLUB SERVICE

Paul Hoover

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

Rhonda Plueter

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Charlie Kunz

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Rod Croxford

YOUTH EXCHANGE

Dave Miller

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Rick Hooks

BANNER EDITOR

Larry Lacher

CLUB ARCHIVES

Rick Hooks

FOUNDATION

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Erin Phillips

TREASURER

Mark Speciale

SECRETARY

Rose Sebastian

PROGRAM HOSTS

TODAY

Larry Lacher
Tyler Pitchford

NEXT WEEK

Jim Kieu-Olin Brass
engineer

BIRTHDAYS

2-8: Virgil Moore

At least it's not Snowmageddon here Edition

Meeting of the Minds

Last week's lack of a program gave us a chance to brainstorm about, what else(?), money. President Kevin asked the membership to discuss around their new round tables the question, "What do we want to do as fundraisers in the future?"

As with many service clubs, our history shows that only a small percentage of our club actually participates in our various fund raising activities. The ones that we have done in the past have lost their effectiveness and have been abandoned. Still, however, we have our commitment to the scholarship program to fund as well as having funds for various contributions throughout the year. Doing a major project would simply be out of reach for our club at current funding.

The brainstorming session produced a number of possible events. However, it seemed to be the conclusion of those present that we do not want to do more than 3-4 events per year. Perhaps, it was observed, we should do more to make the events that we have more successful rather than trying to dream up new events. In the end, we have arrived at one central truth: no fundraising plan will work unless club members make it work. It boils down to us, working together, to make a difference.

News, Notes, Nonsense and Nothings

Last week 22 club members enjoyed Bob's chili, hot dogs, and mac & cheese.

Erin outlined details of our upcoming Trivia event on March 6. The event will be held at Keasler from 7-10 p.m. Doors will open at 6:30. Everyone was asked to fill a table and to provide two 2-liter bottles of soda for the event. We will have a professional trivia-master doing the questions for us. Cost is \$100./ table for up

to 8 people. First prize will be \$150. There will also be 50/50 and Heads & Tails.

Joe was our acting SAA since Rick fled for chilly Florida (serves him right).

Allen led us in one very Speciale birthday song for Mark.

Red and Paul had their chance to walk away with \$86, but it wasn't in the cards.



MAKE UP SITES

MONDAY

NOON

- Wood River— St. John's UCC, WR
- Jerseyville— Peace United Church
- 6 PM
- Alton-Godfrey— Alton Sports Tap

TUESDAY

NOON

- Collinsville— Holiday Inn
- Granite City— Niedringhaus Methodist
- Highland— Michael's Restaurant.

WEDNESDAY

7:00 a.m.

- Bethalto— Airport
- Goshen—LCCC Center, Edwardsville

THURSDAY

NOON

- Edwardsville—First Christian

To locate a club where you are visiting check:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/SiteTools/ClubLocator/Pages/ridefault.aspx>

Attendance Stats

January Average – 70.19%

January Perfect Attendance:

Eric Barger
Ron Eaton
Cory Gallivan
Allen Hale
Chris Herzog
Rick Hooks
Paul Hoover
Charlie Kunz
Larry Lacher
Lori Palmer
Rhonda Plueter
Brad Pulaski
Wendell Ross
Kevin Stuby

P.O. Box 56
East Alton, IL 62084

Return Service
Requested

SERVICE ABOVE
SELF

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?

One day while at her job as a bank loan officer, Patty Black, had a frog hop onto her desk and say, "I would like to apply for a lily-pad improvement loan." Patty looked incredulously at the frog and said, "I'm sorry, we don't loan money to frogs." To which the frog replied, "I have collateral," as he handed her a small ceramic trinket. Not wanting to be impolite, Patty said, "I don't know. I'll have to talk to the bank manager."

She walked back to the manager's office and said, "There is a frog out here, asking for a lily-pad improvement loan, and this trinket is all he has for collateral." The bank manager picked up the trinket and looked at it carefully. Then smiling he turned to Patty and said, "Why it's a knick-knack, Patty Black. Give the frog a loan."

East Alton blog:

<http://eastaltonrotary.blogspot.com/>

online make-up: http://rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/eclub_list.pdf

Coming Events

March 6: Trivia Night
7-10p.m. at the Keasler Complex.

March 24: Tri-club Meeting
at WR KC Hall

Wheelchair ramp project strengthens club

On a hot day about 13 years ago, as the mercury hit 100 degrees Fahrenheit, Rotarian Roy Gandy delivered an air conditioner to a polio survi-

vor.

As Gandy was leaving, he saw the man crawl across his lawn to get to his truck and realized that without a wheelchair ramp, the man had no other way to leave his house on his own.

Moved by the sight, Gandy, a member of the Rotary Club of Madison County, Georgia, USA, returned a week later to build the man a 24-foot-long ramp that met Americans with Disabilities Act specifications. Since then, Gandy and other members of his Rotary club have built more than 400 wheelchair ramps.

"You can't imagine how some of these people are really hurting," says Gandy of the recipients, most of whom would be isolated without a ramp. Even if recipients have a spouse,

the spouses are often elderly and are not strong enough to lift them out of the house on their own.

A wheelchair ramp can cost as much as \$1,500 to have a contractor build, and many of the people in Gandy's rural community can't afford that. In the United States, if someone is not a war veteran, that person may not be eligible for federal funds for a ramp. And Gandy said state and local funds are typically unavailable in the Madison area.

At a cost of just \$300 to \$600 for materials, Gandy and his fellow club members build ramps for those who don't qualify for federal funds. The recipient pays nothing, although some decide to make small donations.

At first, Gandy didn't think his club would be building so many ramps, because the community

only has about 25,000 people. But as word spread and the local newspaper printed an article on the effort, Gandy's club received more and more requests.

By necessity, club members have become more efficient. What once was an all-day project now takes a crew of 20 members less than two hours. The club owns a trailer loaded with everything needed, including a generator.

"It's gotten so we've done enough of them that we pull the trailer up and everyone knows what to do," Gandy says. "I'm so pleased with the program. It's a wonderful way to serve the community."

But the program has done more than help the community: It has also strengthened the club by attracting younger members who want to be part of the ramp-building effort, Gandy says.

Read More at WWW. Rotary.org