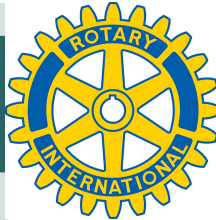


May 5, 2011
Cinco de Mayo Edition



The Rotary Banner

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



Mexican Independence?

Cinco de Mayo is popularly celebrated in the United States on May 5 each year, and is a source of Mexican heritage and pride. Many people mistakenly believe it to be Mexican Independence Day.

The holiday is celebrated in parts of Mexico, but not widely to the degree that it is in the United States. Cinco de Mayo - which literally translates as "5th of May" - came from the Battle of Puebla, a decisive battle during the French occupation of Mexico in 1862.

In 1861, French troops stormed the coast of Veracruz along the Gulf, forcing Mexican President Benito Juarez and his government to retreat from the area. A small Mexican military force of 4,000 soldiers was attacked by a larger French force, which had not been defeated in nearly 50 years. On May 5, 1862, the poorly equipped Mexicans turned back the 8,000-strong French fighting forces near Puebla.

The victory was a brief one. A year later, a much larger French army was able to move in and capture Mexico City and install their own leader, Emperor Maximilian I, to rule all of Mexico. After the American Civil War, the U.S. was able to provide assistance to the Mexican forces to toss the French out.

The Battle of Puebla was the last time a nation in the Americas was invaded by fighting forces from Europe.

The actual Mexican Independence Day, which is celebrated across Mexico, as well as in parts of the United States, is on September 16.

MAKE UP SITES

MONDAY

NOON

- Wood River—St. John 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 AM

- Bethalto—Red Apple

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/AboutUs/SiteTools/ClubLocator/Pages/rid>

COMING EVENTS

5-11/12: Scholarship interviews.

5-12: Paul Harris selection committee following the noon meeting.

5-19: Board Meeting

6-30: Installation Dinner—Julia's

News, Notes, Nonsense, and Nothings

Today we welcome the scholarship students from EAWR HS.

Fried Chicken, roast beast, and corn were enjoyed by those present last time. There were no guests, so Allen took responsibility to get the line started.

Brad and Kevin wandered in before Erin who did not have to sit at the late table thanks to Rhonda's seat-saving. Lori was missing due to her father's surgery. Her absence was duly noted.

Mark S. served as substitute treasurer in the absence of Cory.

It was evident by his lack of a suit that Joe would not be the speaker this week.

Pres.-Elect, Dave, invited those who had or wanted jobs in the club to make their preference known in advance of his upcoming administration.

Rhonda is looking for business of the year nominations.

50/50 tickets were drawn by Roger and Rose. Rose was a *winner* and left the meeting \$65 richer.

PROGRAM

TODAY

Sgt. Brian Archer
Major Case Squad

NEXT WEEK

Chris Herzog
Steve Nonn
Madison Co.
Coroner

BIRTHDAYS

4-28: Paul Hoover

East Alton Rotary Club

P.O. Box 56
East Alton, IL 62024

Service Above Self.

FOUR WAY TEST

- Is it the Truth?
- Is it Fair to all concerned?
- Will it Build goodwill and better friendships?
- Is it Beneficial to all concerned?

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EAST ALTON ROTARY CLUB

P.O. Box 56
East Alton, IL 62024

Return
Service
Requested

Midwives in Pink Jeeps for Haiti

From the Archives

May 5, 1995

-At our last meeting John Keller talked about a program to build a children's playground in Moore park. The playground would be built over a 4 day period, using 500 volunteers and costing about \$50,000.

-Our golf outing is scheduled for May 18th at Belk. Tom Coles was coordinating.

-The Oklahoma City Rotary was accepting donations to help in the bombing relief effort.

-The next board meeting would be held on June 6th. President Rod would announce the as yet undisclosed location.

-The Installation Dinner was scheduled for June 15th at Sunset Hills CC.

A bright pink Jeep Wrangler, staffed with four midwives, races along uneven, dusty roads to reach more than 50 pregnant women in Darlegrand, a rural town two hours north of Hinche, Haiti.

The Jeep belongs to [Midwives for Haiti](#), a nonprofit organization working to ensure that women in remote parts of the country have access to prenatal care and skilled birth attendants. Without the Jeep, many of the women, who have traveled to the daylong February clinic in Darlegrand, would not receive proper medical attention.

The Rotary Club of Western Henrico County, Virginia, USA, along with Bon Secours Health Systems and local individual donors, contributed a total of US \$70,000 to purchase the Jeep, customized for rugged terrain. More than \$20,000 of that amount came from the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund, a donor advised fund set up by The Rotary Foundation.

Rotarians around the world are working to reduce maternal mortality rates and improve access to essential medical services for mothers and their

children. Maternal and child health is one of Rotary's areas of focus.

More than 340,000 women worldwide die each year from complications related to pregnancy and childbirth, most of them preventable. On 5 May, midwives and their supporters celebrate the International Day of the Midwife -- launched by the International Confederation of Midwives in 1992 -- to raise awareness of their role in reducing maternal and child mortality.

Nadene Brunk, founder and executive director of Midwives for Haiti, says long distances, inadequate transportation, and lack of information on basic prenatal care contribute to Haiti's maternal mortality rate, the highest in the Western Hemisphere. A Haitian woman's lifetime risk of dying in childbirth

Mensa Moment

Fill in each blank below with a word that means the same as the word on the left when read normally and fits the definition on the right when read backward.

Cooking utensils_____A partner of crackle and pop

Bridge_____Sleeps lightly

Just for Fun

I heard this story in the late seventies. Just prior to a manned launch an insect was heard in the superstructure of the rocket. The risk analysis and decision had to be made to launch or to delay the launch and purge the insect. The risk was negligible so the rocket launch. The insect was dubbed the Gemini Cricket

