

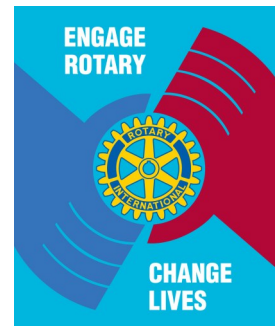
THE ROTARY BANNER

August 15, 2013

Back to School Edition



East Alton Rotary Club
East Alton, Illinois
Chartered October 28, 1971 District 6460



CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Rhonda Pluester

PRESIDENT ELECT

Brad Lavite

IMMEDIATE PAST

PRESIDENT

Eric Barger

SECRETARY

Lori Palmer

TREASURER

Cory Gallivan

DIRECTORS

CLUB SERVICE

Paul Hoover

VOCATIONAL SERVICE

Brad Lavite

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mark Allison

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Rod Croxford

YOUTH SERVICE

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

David Miller

Stan Shoun

Rankin Tech.

NEXT WEEK

Virgil Moore

Kurt Prenzler

Mad. Co. Treasurer

BIRTHDAYS

8-19: Sue Alhemeyer

Why I Love Rotary

Last week, Red introduced “she who needs no introduction,” his daughter, Cathy Wahl.

Cathy talked to the club about what Rotary means to her. She has been a Rotarian for thirteen years at the Jacksonville club. That club sponsors the annual fourth of July parade (Cathy is the chair) and the community Ferris wheel. Cathy has been active in the club and also serves on the district as “Youth Service” director. She and Stan have sponsored eight youth exchange

students over the years as well.

Cathy says that Rotary means Fun, Friendship and Family to her.

In her local and district activities, Cathy has experienced the fun of working with her Rotarian friends and family in many ways. Her involvement in the community and to the betterment of lives has been a source of joy for her. As a result, she has friends all over the world. Rotary has made the world a smaller place for her.

News, Notes and Nonsense

Twenty-three Rotarians and guests dined South of the border last week on Julia's taco bar which matched the fact that it was chilly in the room. Our solo guest was Tommie Meyer for the Wood River club. No makeups were presented. Rod scooted early only to be replaced by Paul who scooted in at his normal time.

We celebrated Daves grandbaby #11 and the induction of Sue Alhemeyer of Wood River Regions Bank as our newest member. Her sponsor was Eric Barger. We were also reminded to purchase Shop for a Cause coupons to Macy's for \$5. The club receives the entire proceeds. SFC day is Aug. 24. So far, we have raised \$115.

Rick was looking for Program of the Year votes, Rhonda was looking for Soap Box Derby sign-ups, Paul was looking for Quarter Auction baskets, and Eric was looking to not embarrass himself pinning Sue.

As a club, we proved that we know our fast food. Thanks to Red, we also know what the new theme pin looks like. Also, thanks to Red, we all know what it feels like to kiss George goodbye.

Mark S. and Dick had predictable luck with the \$50 in the 50/50 pot. Charlie had the same luck with the scratcher.

MAKE UP SITES

MONDAY

NOON

- Wood River— St. John UCC,
- Jerseyville— Peace Lutheran

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
- Edwardsville— First Christian Church

FRIDAY

NOON

- Troy, Silver Creek— Pizza Man

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UPCOMING EVENTS

8-23: Board Meeting

8-27: Shop for a Cause— Macy's

9-7: Soap Box Race

9-17: Quarter Auction

10-11: Chili Dinner, RHS

10-17: Cookout

East Alton Rotary Club

P.O. Box 56
East Alton, IL 62024

Service Above Self

The Four-Way Test

1. Is it the Truth?
2. Is it Fair to all concerned?
3. Will it bring Good Will and better friendship?
4. Will it be Beneficial to all concerned?

We're on the Web:

www.eastaltonrotary.org

Like us on Facebook

See our blog at:

eastaltonrotary.blogspot.com

FROM THE ARCHIVES **Aug. 15, 2002**

-Joe was serving as our Prez, Lori our Secretary and Paul as Treasurer. (Our SAA was Mike Kunz. Anyone remember him?)
-Charlie has a pair of make-ups from Davie, Fl.

-It was noted that our Treasurer was on vacay in Maui. Hum?
-Lori was recognized and fined for the "email of the week." (wonder what that could have been?)

-Joe was heading to vacay, but left us with a few joke to tide us over.

-We return to Busch Stadium for a concession stand stint on the 23rd.

-Our goal was to sell 147 Entertainment Books.

-The question of the day: just how old is Mark S.?

-Upcoming events: Boss's Lunch on October 16th. Chili Supper on September 20th. Foundation roadblock on October 5th.



Our newest member, Susan Alhemeyer

Just For Fun

A guy walking down a street one afternoon passes an old man sitting on the side of the road with a large sack.

The younger guy says to the old man, "Watcha got in the sack?"

The old man responds, "I got some monkeys in that there sack."

The younger man asks, "If I guess how many monkeys you got in the sack, can I keep one?"

The old man replies, "Son, if you guess how many monkeys I got in this sack, I'll give you both of 'em!"

Service Above Self as a Lifestyle

Making his way down flooded streets and around trees uprooted by furious wind gusts, he arrived two hours later at St. Francis de Sales Church in Belle Harbor, New York. FEMA and Red Cross workers had set up an emergency center in the area. Jim Kushner recognized two volunteers who had also arrived to help, both of whom he'd worked with in Haiti after the 2010 earthquake. Like Kushner, they seemed to materialize on the spot in times of dire need, no explanations required. All three immediately began to address critical tasks, such as transferring the gas to jerrycans.

"The people from the afflicted neighborhoods were the ones who were sustaining this relief effort," he says. "Meanwhile Rotary clubs and other groups from all over were arriving every hour, it seemed, with clothes, food, blankets, the works. All good, but the size of the operation alone could've overwhelmed anyone. We were lucky, though; we'd seen it before. I was on the ground after Katrina for six weeks. I think this was worse, the sheer destruction."

Kushner's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training kicked in. So, too, did something less tangible: his instinct to stay focused and calm, no matter what. "I block out my feelings, I turn them off to do the work that needs to be done," he says. "Otherwise it's too much." And afterward? "I try to keep it out of my conscious mind, but I have nightmares, every night."

Now 64 and a Rotarian for more than 30 years, Kushner has made a practice of showing up in disaster areas and trouble zones around the world for over a decade – skirting danger, bucking bureaucracies, and shrewdly assessing priorities in his quest to provide meaningful aid. A Rotarian version of Zelig, Woody Allen's famous "human chameleon," Kushner has somehow gotten himself to Pakistan just after a massive earthquake, to Haiti, Japan, and Tanzania to lend a practiced hand after natural calamities, terrorist attacks, and kidnappings by pirates. It helps that he is a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, an ex-Marine who works closely with the 82nd Airborne, and a translator fluent in French who has worked with U.S. embassy staff members in former French African colonies.

When Kushner discovered that his own community, Inwood, didn't have a Rotary club, he started one himself and became its first president. When a man with disabilities and his wife, both HIV positive, had no place to live after their basement Rockaway apartment was flooded to the ceiling, Kushner helped them move into a small condo he owns for three months, rent free. "You do what you gotta," he says.

Kushner received the RI Service Above Self Award, but perhaps it should be changed to Service Way Above Self. Even then it would fail to capture his compassionate compulsion to do good. "The world is such an insane place," he says. "I can't just sit around and watch."