August 29, 2013

New Badges

Edition



THE ROTARY BANNER

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

ENGAGE ROTARY CHANGE LIVES

CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Rhonda Pluester
PRESIDENT ELECT

Brad Lavite

IMMEDIATE PAST

PRESIDENT

Eric Barger

SECREATARY

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

Lori Palmer Adam King

Water to Wine **NEXT WEEK**

Erin Phillips

John Dunphy Underground RR

BIRTHDAYS

None this Week

A Taxing Discussion

Virgil's guest last week was Kurt Prenzler, Madison County Treasurer. Kurt is a Bloomington native, a University of Illinois graduate and has been treasurer in Madison county since 2010.

Although the treasurer's office does not assess taxes or set tax rates (levies), Kurt's office is responsible for collection of county taxes and for the fiscal management of county funds.

Wile in office, Kurt has managed to reduce the cost of running the office, clean up tax sale ethics and investment practices, and has declined to participate in the pension program.

Kurt says that there are 269,000 people in Madison county, but the Oil Refinery pays the largest part of county taxes at \$26 mil. Edwardsville and Alton school districts receive the most taxes in the county

Kurt recommends that you file for all the exemptions that you are allowed by law. His office can help you with your tax questions and can be accessed at www.madcotreasurer.org/

News, Notes and Nonsense

Eighteen Rotarians and guests dined on roast beast last week. Our only guest was Kurt P. and the were no make-ups (although plenty of makeup) in the house.

Joe served as the sub-treasurer and Erin came in humming her "no court today" song. Dave arrived at the door clutching his heart just in time for the pledge. Quarter auction tickets were distributed for sale. The more we sell, the more we make for the foundation. We are told that all sorts of "girly" stuff will be sold, but none of the stuff that some of the girls wanted.

Rick noted that the program of the year was Loretta Gobel and her inspirational story of recovery from near death, Andy Yakstis and the Sweden GSA team came in second and third respectively.

Lori's table was wrong about summer food and Erin got a bye. Dave named the fine du jour which was particularly painful to our SAA and his exposed knees.

50/50 tickets were drawn for Dick and Virgil. Fortunately, they paid no tax on their winnings and the \$57 rolls over to today. Wendel had similar results 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

Mobile Rotary Club Locator App

UPCOMING EVENTS

9-7: Soap Box Race

9-19: Quarter Auction

10-11: Chili Dinner, RHS

10-17: Cookout

East Alton Rotary

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 August 27, 1992

- -Rod was our Treasurer, Joe our SAA.
- -Today's program featured Bluff City Tours Greg Gelzinnis. He spoke about his GSE (Group Study Exchange) experience. Rick sponsored the program.
- -Next week Paul will introduce Illinois Power Area Manager Ellen Krohne. She was a member of the Wood River club and will talk about "Women in Rotary".
- -Last weeks program was presented by East Alton school representative Betty Cole. She provided a curriculum update. Allen was the program sponsor.
- -The Centennial Kickoff dance would be held on Sept. 12th at DiRomero's restaurant.
- -Mike Peterson announced that he had 25 sets of Centennial license plates left.
- -Red was looking for maga-

Our sympathies to Sue Ahlemeyer who's mother, Norma Wallendorf, passed away on Monday. Visitation will be from 4:00 p.m. until time of service at 7:00 p.m. Friday, August 30, 2013 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton. Pastor Roy Rhodes will officiate. Graveside service will be at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, August 31, 2013 at Valhalla Memorial Park in Godfrey.

Just For Fun

A boy was having a lot of difficulty in French class. To encourage him, his teacher said, "You'll know you're really beginning to get it when you start dreaming in French."

The boy ran into class all excited one day, saying, "Teacher, teacher! I had a dream last night and everyone was talking in French!" "Great!" said the teacher; "what were they saying?" "I don't know," the boy replied; "I couldn't understand them."

Not a Fish, A Fishing Line

After seeing five other potential project sites in four countries, Steve and Vicky Wallace traveled to Oduworo, where the need was great.

The villagers were sick, malnourished, and so lethargic, Vicky says, "they just sat there all day with their heads in their hands." Malaria was rampant. The villagers existed on scraps of food and drank from a contaminated water supply. The nearest potable water source was 2 miles away on foot.

They had no farming tools and no livestock. The village still had not recovered from devastating raids of the past decades, after which anyone who knew how to raise crops either had been killed or had run off. The Wallaces learned that the survivors of Oduworo called their home "the forgotten village."

"Vicky and I were determined to respect and to help preserve the culture of people wherever we went, and to not rush to impose solutions," says Steve. "Our first goal for Oduworo was a fresh water supply, but the elders had to decide on it, not us. In time, I offered a proposal: If they'd dig 10 latrines, we'd provide two boreholes for new wells. The elders met for half a day, then came back and announced, 'We accept your deal.'"

So began Oduworo's transformation. With support from Mark Howison, 2007-08 governor of District 5330, the Wallaces helped start a Rotary Community Corps in the village, which has advised the Rotary members on local needs.

Clubs in the district have raised about \$23,000 for projects in the village. A portion has gone toward agricultural training; villagers have learned how to use farm tools and 40 people enrolled in an organic farming class last year. "When we arrived in Oduworo," Steve recalls, "they were digging seed furrows with sticks and twigs."

Throughout the process, the Rotary Club of Kampala-West has provided critical support. Club members have worked with District 5330 to obtain Rotary Foundation grants for water and sanitation projects, including one to repair nine broken borehole wells and to provide vocational training to villagers so they could construct water tanks.

The Wallaces return to Oduworo every year. An elder told the Wallaces that he had never expected to see a celebration in his village. And he had something to say about the numerous villager projects under way: "You didn't bring us a fish," he told them with a broad smile. "You brought us a fishing line. We thank you."