

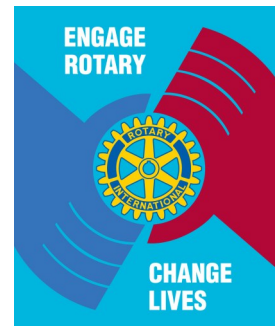
August 8, 2013

**Eighty-eight  
Edition**



# THE ROTARY BANNER

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



## CLUB OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Rhonda Plueter

### 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

Red Littleton

*Cathy Jo Littleton-Wahl*

Being a Rotarian

### NEXT WEEK

David Miller

*Stan Shoun*

Rankin Tech.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

**None this Week**

## **Macedonian GSE**

Last week, Brad introduced us to three of the members of the district GSE team who went to Macedonia in May 2013.

While there the team was based out of Scopia and had opportunity to get to know the country by visiting industries, schools, sight-seeing, and touring. They visited twelve Rotary clubs in this small, emerging nation and returned with new insights about this part of the world.

Macedonia is struggling to emerge from years of warfare and economic decay. The unemployment rate is 32% and the average income is \$300. per month. There economy is stagnant and their agriculture and

industry is primitive by American standards. Nevertheless, they are a warm and inviting people who were welcoming and hospitable to the GSE team.

The Macedonians were interested to learn about America from the team since most of their impression of America comes from movies. They were surprised to learn that we are not at all like the movies.

The three team members were especially interested in Macedonian education, since they are educators themselves. They were fascinated to learn other ways of approaching education than we do in the US.

## **Decisions that Changed History**

Two weeks ago, Nathan Lacher came as the guest of his father, Larry and shared some insights that he gained while completing his Masters in History. Nathan discussed Alexander the Great and Napoleon and warfare tactics that were used in critical moments to change the course of history. In summary, Nathan showed how creative decisions made in critical moments changed the course of battle to an unexpected outcome. The willingness of leaders to abandon the "standard approach" and embrace creative thinking was the key to victory and the mark of true leadership.

## 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

**8-11:** Rotary Day at the Ballpark.

**8-23:** Board Meeting

**8-27:** Shop for a Cause— Macy's

**9-7:** Soap Box Race

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

Like us on Facebook

See our blog at:

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

## FROM THE ARCHIVES Aug. 2, 2007

-Our officer lineup included Brad P, Roger, Lori and Cory.  
-Charlie had a make-up from Davie, Fl.  
-Brad P. was criticized for his week bell ringing (take note Rhonda.)  
-"Harley Diva" Rod was off to Wisconsin for a fly-in event.  
-Our birthday singing had reached a new low.  
-The golf tournament sign-up sheet was making the rounds.  
-Allen and Rick were looking for the polish sausage and kraut.  
-The jackpot reached \$201.  
-Brad P. was planning to propose by-law changes at the August board meeting.  
-Mark S. reported that the Chili supper will be held on September 14th.

## RI President Ron Burton

With his congenial manner and his inclination to keep things simple, Ron Burton has a natural ability to put people at ease. But don't let the easygoing demeanor of Rotary International's new president lull you into thinking that he doesn't get serious when it's time for business.

"If you ask my opinion, you're going to get it," Burton says, his neighborly look morphing into a solemn gaze. "When I feel strongly about something, I will argue like crazy for my position. I suppose that's sort of an ego thing, but if I discern that someone has a vested interest or may be looking at a personal economic benefit, I have a simple suggestion: Apply The Four-Way Test."

An uncompromising sense of ethics may be the only personal quality that the former president of the University of Oklahoma Foundation Inc. is willing to wear on his sleeve. "Like most people, I don't like to be told I'm wrong," he says. "But I can be convinced that there's another way to look at something, and sometimes I'll change my mind. If it's an ethical issue, though, you're not going to tell me I'm wrong. It's not going to happen. I've dealt with too many people over the years who wanted to misuse funds. I've looked them in the eye and said, 'I'm not going to jail for you or anyone else.'"

The vital role of the family in Rotary is at the core of Burton's beliefs. "When we talk about the family of Rotary, I know public relations is a part of that," he says. "But to me, it really is the family of Rotary. If you get your own family involved in this, with your own heart, and it expands to the world, that's the family of Rotary – that's community service."

Throughout his time in Rotary, especially during this past year of traveling and meeting Rotarians from various countries, that perspective has helped Burton appreciate the diversity and ever-growing potential of the organization. "Speaking to Rotarians from around the world has made me more tolerant of different points of view," he says. "You learn that there is another way to do things, that there are differences in cultures and differences in individuals. But the basic tenets come through for all of us, no matter where we are. I'd like to think there are no regional differences in the integrity aspect of the organization, but I believe we may need to do a better job of working on that and highlighting it."

Success in fundraising was a hallmark of Burton's three decades of service at the University of Oklahoma Foundation. During his tenure, he notes, the foundation's assets grew from \$17.5 million to \$890 million. But that achievement is not on the short list of his proudest accomplishments.

"If I had one wish for the American people," he says, "it's that they could go to one of the impoverished countries that Rotarians do so much work in and see how good we have it here."

"At the end of the day, I hope to leave the woodpile just a little higher."



## Just For Fun

- EVER WONDER
- 
- Why the sun lightens our hair, but darkens our skin?
- 
- Why don't you ever see the headline "Psychic Wins Lottery"?
- 
- Why is "abbreviated" such a long word?
- 
- Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor, and dishwashing liquid- made with real lemons?
- 
- Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?