



# The Ratchet



Received Charter No 851 from Rotary International March 1, 1921

Meets Mondays - 6:00 P.M. - Alton Sports Tap Restaurant

[www.altongodfreyrotary.org](http://www.altongodfreyrotary.org)

A Monthly Newsletter

Issue #151 June 2010

## Commencement Thoughts

by Adrianna Jones

2010 Class Valedictorian - Alton High School

During my four years of high school, I have had many different experiences, but the one thing I took away from those experiences will stick with me for the rest of my life. I believe that this excerpt from my class Valedictorian speech best sums up my days at Alton High School and what they meant to me.

“Good evening class of 2010. We all thought that this day would never come, but it’s finally here.

We’re graduating, and we are leaving Alton High School to begin the rest of our lives. We have been in school for thirteen long years and four of those years we have spent here in high school, but this part of our journey is coming to an end.

High school is such a unique place. There is really nothing like it when it comes to education because it’s the point in our lives when we begin to understand who we are and who we want to be. And although we all have our own interests and activities, we are all connected and part of something bigger than just us. We are part of a community.

One thing I believe makes the community of Alton High School so unique is the relationships we form with one another. Some of the bonds we form are stronger than others but none the less we all share some sort of connection with the rest of the students in our class.

How is this possible? Well, it’s simple. Every accomplishment a student achieves in some way affects one of their fellow students and thus creates a relationship. For example, when the basketball team wins a game, the entire school has a sense of pride and fulfillment from that accomplishment.

Our team produces special relationships because it is all inclusive. Everyone who attends Alton High School plays an important role and everything you do contributes. For example, when you do well on a test, win



Commencement, page 3

## Rotary Programs



**Jul 5 No Meeting**

Holiday

**Jul 12 Rolling Hills Golf Club**

Steak Fry at the Rolling Hills Golf Course Club House 6:00 PM. A golf outing will precede the meeting. Contact Richard Johnson for details.

**Jul 19 Alton Sports Tap**

Board of Directors Meeting 5:00 PM. Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Our speaker will be our own Art Williams, who spent much of his career in the oil business dealing specifically with off-shore drilling issues. He will discuss basic issues involved in off-shore drilling and if time allows, will answer your questions. This will be a very informative program in light of the recent developments in the Gulf.

**Jul 26 Alton Sports Tap**

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Our speaker will be Robert Thach, who is a biologist affiliated with Washington University in St. Louis. He has recently finished an exhaustive study of tick-borne diseases, including the rapidly emerging and potentially fatal disease



Mural Progress as of July 5, 2010



Incoming President, Roland Hansen, presents outgoing President, Ford Phillips, with a plaque in recognition of his tenure as President of the club.

## Black Book Goes Digital

Thanks to Larry Thompson, when you receive this issue of *The Ratchet*, you will be able to access *Black Book* information on the *District 6460* website. In order to accomplish this, you will need your member number, which may be found on the mailing label of your copy of *The Rotarian* magazine. The number is located immediately above your name. You should omit the leading zero. The resulting number is a seven digit number which is your password. Your email address will serve as your login ID. You will also need to know our club number, 3203.

In order to get to the correct web location, you should enter the following link, <http://www.directory-online.com/rotary/Login.cfm>. This will give you access to the page where you may enter your login, password, and club number. Be sure to click the *Remember Me* box. When you are logged in, you will have the option of setting the password to your choice.

Once you have entered your login info, you should see a page with several yellow tabs across the top. When you click on the *My Club*

tab, you will see a header for our club which lists our officers. If you scroll down this page, you will see a list of the Alton-Godfrey Rotary Club members. Scroll down until you locate your name and click the word *View* to look at your info, or you may click on *Edit* to correct or change info. After you have completed any changes, you will need to click on the *Update* tab in the upper right corner of the page to verify the changes you made.

You may design reports by clicking the yellow *Reports* tab on the opening page. There are several options from which to chose.

Once everyone gets his/her info updated, one of the most important and useful things that you will be able to do is to automatically email everyone in the club simply by clicking the *Bulk Email* button located above and to the right of the list of member names.

This new *Black Book* will take some time to get used to, but we believe that, with a little help, everyone should be able to keep his/her information up to date and make use of member information.

Commencement

a prestigious award, or write a poem that gets published in the school magazine, you are contributing to the team, because someone somewhere in the school or even in the community is going to hear about that award or that test and applaud you for it, or read that poem and be inspired by it. In that moment, a relationship is formed. They will get a deep sense of pride because they know that there are students in their high school and in their community who care. Nothing goes unnoticed when you're part of such a team.

While I cannot say that I know each of you personally, during these four years we've been together I can honestly say that I have been affected by something that each one of you has done here at Alton High School, and so, I feel connected to all of you. Like the members of the step team and the cheerleading squad who make all of our pep rallies exciting and so much fun, or the members of the Tatler staff who designed what I believe to be one of the best Tatlers we've ever had at Alton High School. I could go on and on about all of the wonderful things everyone in our class has accomplished, but one of the best accomplishments we've achieved here at Alton High School is that we have managed to become not only a team but a family.

High school is not just about the journey of each student as an individual and all of the great things they've done, it's about our journey as a class, and all of the great things we do together. So then graduating is not just an individual accomplishment either, it's something we have all achieved together.

Tomorrow you may not remember a single thing I've said tonight. In fact, you may not remember a single thing I've said five minutes from now. But if you only take away one thing, I hope it would be this line from one of my favorite songs. The song is "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" from the musical The Wizard of Oz, and in the song it says, "Somewhere over the rainbow blue birds fly. Birds fly over the rainbow. Why then, oh why can't I?"

Those birds are flying over the rainbow to accomplish even greater things out in the real world. Why can't one of those birds be a redbird? It's been a long and hard journey to get here, but we all made it, together. Congratulations class of 2010! We did it, and now it's time for us to fly on out of the redbird nest!"

In that speech I talked about flying over the rainbow to fulfill your dreams and do great things in the world. I plan on doing just that in college and the Student of the Year scholarship awarded to me by the Alton-Godfrey Rotary Club is helping to make that happen. I cannot express in words how grateful I am to the Rotary Club for presenting me with this honor. I can only say thank you, a thousand times, thank you! I will try to keep in touch and share with all of you the many things I do in the future, because none of them will have been possible without you, the Alton-Godfrey Rotary Club. Once again, thank you.

known as Ehrlichiosis. If you or your family are spending much time outside this summer, you need to know how to recognize the symptoms of this relatively new condition. (Bring your internist along for this program)

**Aug 2 Alton Sports Tap**

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Program to be announced.

**Aug 9 Alton Sports Tap**

Board of Directors Meeting 5:00 PM. Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. District Governor David Parsons will make his official visit to the club representing Rotary International.

**Aug 16 Rolling Hills Golf Club**

Steak Fry at the Rolling Hills Golf Course Club House 6:00 PM. A golf outing will precede the meeting. Contact Richard Johnson for details.

**August 23, 2010 The Alton Sports Tap**

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Program to be announced.

Bill Hoagland, Program Director



# What's new for clubs and districts

A new Rotary year is set to begin, and with it a number of changes to the way clubs and districts do business.

The annual per capita dues that Rotary clubs pay to Rotary International will increase to US\$50 in 2010-11, as established by the 2007 Council on Legislation. The 2010 Council approved a \$1 increase for the three subsequent years, setting per capita dues at \$51 for 2011-12, \$52 for 2012-13, and \$53 for 2013-14.

The 2010 Council, which met in April, took several other actions that will go into effect 1 July:

- 1 E-clubs will become a permanent part of Rotary International after years of participating in a pilot project. Districts will be allowed up to two e-clubs, which are defined as Rotary clubs that meet through electronic communications. Some of the pilot e-clubs have been meeting solely through online forums, while others have combined electronic with in-person meetings.
- 2 New Generations Service will join the other Avenues of Service -- Club Service, Vocational Service, Community Service, and International Service. Before starting a project, Rotarians are asked to think broadly about how their club and its members can contribute within each avenue.
- 3 Rotarians in North America will have the choice of receiving either an electronic or print version of The Rotarian magazine. Rotarians living at the same address may qualify for a joint subscription.

Here are some changes that will primarily affect Rotary districts:

- 1 District assemblies must be held in March, April, or May, and presidents-elect training seminars in February or March.
- 2 The chair of the nominating committee for district governor must notify the current governor of the committee's candidate within 24 hours, and the governor must inform clubs within 72 hours.

- 3 When a governor-elect position is vacant less than three months before the International Assembly, the successor will automatically fill the vacancy, if he or she is willing.
- 4 If two or more governor election complaints are filed in a district in a five-year period and the Board believes that the RI Bylaws or election complaint procedures have been violated, it may disqualify the nominee, select a past governor to serve, and remove any governor, governor-elect, or past governor who is improperly influencing or interfering with the election process. The Board may dissolve any district and reassign its clubs to other districts if three or more election complaints are filed in a five-year period.

Here are some changes that will primarily affect Rotary clubs:

- 1 No club may limit membership based on sexual orientation.
- 2 Clubs must inform their district governor of a proposed change to the club name or locality at least 10 days before voting on the proposal.
- 3 The immediate past club president will be considered a club officer and a member of the board.
- 4 The RI Board may suspend or terminate the membership of any club that retains any member who has misused funds from The Rotary Foundation or who otherwise has breached the stewardship policies of the Foundation.
- 5 Clubs accepting a transferring or former Rotarian must first secure a certificate from the former member's club confirming that person's membership. The former club is obligated to verify that the member does not owe any debts to the club. A prospective member cannot join a new club until all debts have been paid.

From *Rotary.org*

## Club Officers 2010-2011

President.....	Roland Hansen 820 Creekwood Lane, Godfrey, 466-1970
Vice-President.....	Mike Tillman 1902 Paris Dr., Godfrey, 466-1928
Secretary .....	Jasper Fisher 3885 Fosterburg Rd., Alton, 259-3177
Treasurer	Bob Hamilton 4003 Stoneledge Court, Godfrey, 466-4362
Executive Secretary .....	Melissa Seymour 3026 Edwards St., Alton, 462-7206

## Board of Directors 2010-2011

Mike Fitzgerald-1st yr	Sam Stemm-2nd yr
Ebony Huddleston-1st yr	Gail Weinrich-2nd yr
Chuck Norman-1st yr	Brock Hendricks-3rd yr
Jeni Thompson-1st yr	Mike Osborne-3rd yr
Pete Zimmer-1st yr	John Rain-3rd yr
Dick Jones-2nd yr	Larry Spain-3rd yr
Ron Mayhew-2nd yr	Jess Woodman-3rd yr
Ken Spells-2nd yr	Ford Phillips-PP