



The Ratchet



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

www.altongodfreyrotary.org

A Monthly Newsletter

Issue #148 March 2010

Another Successful Chili Chowdown



Rotary Programs



Apr 5 The Alton Sports Tap

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Our program will involve a presentation by fellow Rotarian and new Chief of Police for the City of Alton, David Hayes. He has a number of innovative ideas and plans to deal with crime and other issues in the Alton area for the new administration. It will be a thought-provoking program.

Apr 10 Springfield

District 6460 Assembly - Training for club officers and committee leadership.

Apr 12 The Alton Sports Tap

Board of Directors meeting, 5:00 PM. Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Students of the Month for April will be honored.

Apr 19 Rolling Hills Golf Course

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.

Apr 26 Lockhaven Country Club

Gordon F. Moore "Service Above Self" Dinner
 HONORING JAMES L. GOODWIN
 Cash Bar - 5:30 PM Dinner - 6:30 PM
 Cost - \$30.00 EA in Advance \$35.00 EA at Door

	Eat In	Carryout	Cash Sales	Pecans
Lunch	176	103	\$196.00	\$76.50
Dinner	319	117	\$424.00	\$178.50
Total	495	220	\$620.00	\$255.00
Member Tickets			\$7,600.00	
Expenses			\$2,045.86	
Profit			\$6,174.14	

Combined totals for eat in and carryout were 715. This is an increase of 43 over 2009. Thanks to everyone involved in making this event a success.

Student Essays

In this month's issue of *The Ratchet*, we are again focusing on original compositions by our students of the month.

My Marquette Journey

by Kaylee Eveans



**"Oh, the places you'll go!
Today is your day.
You're off to Great Places!
You're off and away!"¹**

My Marquette journey is almost finished, but I feel prepared to make the right choices and head down the right path to a successful future. I have been fortunate to have a terrific education at Marquette, a supportive, loving family, and a strong, faith filled church life.

**"Oh, the places you'll go! There is fun to be done!
There are points to be scored. There are games to be won.**

**And the magical things you can do with that ball
will make you the winning-est winner of all."¹**

All four years of high school I have been a part of the soccer and basketball team, and was captain of both. Last year, for the first time in Marquette history, our girl's soccer team went all the way to state. Not only did I get the honor to be captain for this team, but I even scored a goal in the semi-final game. We lost the final after playing four overtimes and penalty kicks. Although it was a tough loss, our team came together and was proud because we realized that we had made Marquette history. After that season I received all conference, all area, and all sectional awards.

**"I'm sorry to say so,
But, sadly, it's true
that Bang-ups and Hang-ups
can happen to you."¹**

Before all of this success, things weren't going so well for me. Before my freshmen year I tore my left ACL in a club soccer game. After surgery that June, I had to attend physical therapy and go to the gym everyday to make sure my knee would be back to normal in the spring. But my sophomore year, right when I was getting my confidence back on the soccer field, I tore my right ACL the night before leaving for 3v3 nationals. Once again, I had a long road to recovery. After all of the physical therapy, and people telling me that I

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Experience As Teacher

by Andrew Bosomworth



In many ways, I have been pretty ignorant throughout my life. Like a lot of people I met growing up, I was more concerned with how I felt, what I wanted, and what mattered to me. I did not ask many questions that involved how other people felt or how I could help others. Sure, I held the door

for people and asked them how their day was going and did many other gentlemanly things, but these actions were, at best, of a cursory nature. I do not think I changed anyone's life in a lasting manner by holding the door for them. This self-centered attitude, however, began to break down when I started high school.

The changes were largely brought about by my various roles in the Marching 100. During my first year, I quickly learned that I was not the only person in the Front Ensemble whose opinion mattered. I learned important lessons about what could be lost if I ignored people who knew and saw different things than I did, which became even more important by the time I was a senior and I was essentially put in charge of the Front Ensemble. Understanding the people in my section helped me show them how to improve not just physical issues like technique, but deeper mental issues like musicality.

One person in particular helped me really see the benefits of reaching out and working to understand a person whose background was much different than my own. This particular student had autism. In effect, his own brain made playing in a marching band environment almost impossible for him to do well, since a good performance requires a constant awareness of the music being played all around you as opposed to mere awareness of the music you are making. It was a frustrating problem that in retrospect I see may have been handled better,

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Experience



but the student now plays much better than he did. I found that I did not need to change his mind very much to help him learn. For the most part, I had to change mine. I had to ignore the annoyance and occasional anger he could bring to my life and try to understand him better. It was definitely not the easiest path I could have taken, but by striving to be less ignorant of the needs of others, I helped another person.

If there could only be one important thing I learned from that one person, it would be that I enjoyed bringing music to someone who otherwise would not have had a chance to experience it and helped him to improve in it. Experiences like this one are the highlights of my music experiences. I am happiest when I can teach someone skills that they might not have learned without me, I am glad that I have had the opportunity to help others learn to love music as much as I do, and I hope to continue to do this for others in the future.

Interact News
by Cami Giertz, Sponsor

Rotary Interact Club has been able to organize many events and volunteer work in the community throughout this school year. In the fall, students volunteered to help work at the Gilson Brown Fall Festival. We were also able to host a St. Baldrick's event which raised just shy of \$4000 that went to help fight children's cancer. To earn money to help fund service projects, we had an Applebees dine and dash night where 10% of the nights dining profits went to Rotary Interact. Later in the spring we are looking forward to completing an international service project and being able to send members to the RYLA event.

May 3, 2010 Jacoby Arts Center
Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. The Mural Project will be presented including a viewing of the projected image on the side of the Visiting Nurse Association Building.

May 10 The Alton Sports Tap
Board of Directors meeting, 5:00 PM. Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Students of the Month for May will be honored.

May 17 Rolling Hills Golf Course
Alton Godfrey Rotary Golf Challenge
4 Person Scramble
Rolling Hills Golf Club
1:00 Start
\$100 Fee includes:
Lunch, 18 holes of Golf and cart, & Dinner

The Alton Godfrey Rotary Club Golf Challenge will benefit our Student of the Year Scholarship fund and Community Projects.

Three Flights with Top Prize \$300, Second Prize \$200, Third Prize \$100

May 24 Spirits
Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Student of the Year will be recognized. High Schools will receive recognition plaques listing the names of the students who were recognized as Students of the Month during the 2009-2010 school year.

May 31 No Meeting
Memorial Day Holiday

-Bill Hoagland, Program Director



Marquette

couldn't do it and that I should just give up, it was hard for me to find the strength to keep fighting. But I did. I worked my hardest in the gym everyday and at therapy three times a week. Not only was it physically excruciating, but also a major challenge mentally. Luckily, I had help from my friends, family, team, and faith to see this situation in a different light.

**"You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes
You can steer yourself
any direction you choose."** ¹

It would have been easy to be discouraged, and give up my soccer career, which is what people told me to do, but I decided to learn from these experiences instead. I realized that there is more to life than soccer. Although I loved it, I learned that soccer was just a vehicle to my future. This experience has been the biggest obstacle yet, but I got through it. After all is said and done, I am not bitter about the situation because it has made me grow up and work even harder in everything I do because I know now that I can get through anything.

**"Life's a Great Balancing Act.
Just never forget to be dexterous and deft.
And never mix up your right foot with your left."** ¹

After learning all these lessons, I took my life in a different direction. I stepped up in school, because



those classes that were once impossible to me were no longer that. I was even asked to be a part of the National Honor Society, and was awarded with the Silver Medallion. I also discovered something else that I love, and that is working with kids. My dad gave me the idea to become a volunteer at the Boys and Girls Club in Bethalto, so I gave it a shot. Once I got warmed up to the kids I started going more and more, and now it is what I look forward to doing every day. Whether I am just doing a puzzle, coloring, or playing basketball with the kids, I always leave with a smile and an exciting feeling that I want to come back the next day.

**"You're off to Great Places!
Today is your day!
Your mountain is waiting.
So...get on your way!"** ¹

Since I discovered this new love of mine, I have decided I will go to school to be a teacher and minor in Social Work. I was recently accepted to Oakland City University where I will carry this out. I hope to someday give back to my community the awesome experiences they have given to me.

**"Wherever you fly, you'll be the best of the best.
Wherever you go, you will top all the rest."** ¹

1. Dr. Seuss "Oh! The Places You'll Go"

Club Officers 2009-2010

President.....	Ford Phillips
	1007 Henry St., Alton, 463-0769
Vice President	Roland Hansen
	820 Creekwood Lane, Godfrey, 466-1970
Secretary	Mike Tillman
	1902 Paris Dr., Godfrey, 466-1928
Treasurer	Jasper Fisher
	3885 Fosterburg Rd., Alton, 259-3177
Executive Secretary	Melissa Seymour
	3026 Edwards St., Alton, 462-7206

Board of Directors 2009-2010

Dick Jones-1st yr	John Rain-2nd yr
Ron Mayhew-1st yr	Jess Woodman-2nd yr
Ken Spells-1st yr	Bob Hamilton-3rd yr
Sam Stemm-1st yr	Ebony Huddleston-3rd yr
Gail Weinrich-1st yr	Don Moyer-3rd yr
Brock Hendricks-2nd yr	Jeni Thompson-3rd yr
Mike Osborne-2nd yr	Jeff Weber-3rd yr
Larry Spain-2nd yr	Scott Neudecker-PP