



The Ratchet



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

www.altongodfreyrotary.org

Issue #160 March 2011

Four More New Members

Rotary Programs



Front row, new members Augie Wuellner, Gary Ayres, Tom Zigrang, Liz Parker
Back row, sponsors John Hopkins, Dennis Wilson, Don Emde, Ed Morrissey

On Monday, March 28, the Alton Godfrey Rotary Club met at the Jerry F. Costello Confluence Field Station, located on Route 143 just downstream from the new Lock and Dam 26 in Alton. The program featured a 30 minute tour of the new facility and was followed by a catered meal from Lewis and Clark College. A commemoration of the club's 90th anniversary was held during the meeting. Since spouses were invited, we had an attendance of about 85. It was a good evening for more than one reason. John Hopkins and his committee have been making a concerted effort to add new members. As of this writing, our club has inducted six new members in the past few months. During this meeting, four of these new members were inducted. They are Augie Wuellner, Gary Ayres, Tom Zigrang, and Liz Parker. Let's make sure we welcome them to our club and help them become involved in whatever activities they choose.

Apr 4 Alton Sports Tap

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. The presenter will be Charles Erickson, M.D., of Lincoln, NE. Dr. Erickson is a pediatrician in Lincoln who volunteers his services to hospitals in Zambia. This is a project sponsored by Rotary District #5650, in Nebraska. Dr. Erickson, who is a long-time friend of Bob Hamilton, will discuss his experiences in Zambia as a part of this effort.

Apr 11 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 16 MacMurray College, Gamble Student Center, Jacksonville

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

Apr 18 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.

Student Essays

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

The Younger Generation

by Christopher Rhoads



The United States is a most unique country, unlike any other in this world. The freedoms that are promised, the opportunities that are afforded its citizens, and the general lifestyle that is present are all characteristics that set this country apart, if not lift it above the rest. However there is one struggle, a trial per say, which connects a certain minority here in America to every other member of that

minority in the world: the attempt to bridge the generation gap. Like a disease that infiltrates the body, so the thought is instilled in the minds of today's younger generation that it is incompetent, good for nothing except taking up space in the schools and homes and disrespecting higher authorities. If this generation, my generation, allows this thought process to consume itself, it will go a long way towards fulfilling this unfair prophecy.

The process of elder generations attacking and even devaluing the younger generation is not new. In fact it is clear that this is merely a continuation of a pattern that occurs not just here in the United States but around the world. This pattern demonstrates the rise of a generation, fighting against the perceptions and beliefs of the generation before it, until it gain its turn to take control of a country's population and instill its own beliefs and customs. However, all too predictably when the next generation comes along to take its place, a civil war takes place. The generations exchange figurative punches as each attempts to make its mark on society. This civil war never reaches an armistice, rather it simply rests for a moment to replenish its arsenal and begins again. When will a generation arise to stop this nonsense, to finally, peacefully, coexist with the one before it? Now is the chance for my generation to accept this challenge. Now is our only chance.

There is a certain amount of irony attached to this whole situation. The younger generation is the one that contains this nation's, this world's rather, leaders of tomorrow. Entrepreneurs, politicians, and educators of the future are all a part of this generation, yet they are continually battered and beaten down by those superior to them in age. This makes no sense to me. Encouragement and guidance should be pouring out of the mouths of the previous generation, not insults and abuse. However, my generation has a huge opportunity before it.

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Four Years of My Life

by Eric Moynahan



For the past four years, I have been a student at Marquette Catholic High School. The experience of high school has been a great ride. I value everything I have learned, and everyone I have encountered in my four years. I can look back at all I've achieved learned, and experienced and be proud of who I have become.

I live in Granite City, Illinois. I chose to attend Marquette because I truly believed this would give me a better learning environment and more opportunities. Going into my freshman year of high school, I was going to a different city where I really did not know anyone. However, I made friends rather quickly. In my freshman year besides soccer, I joined student council, played basketball, and was on the track team. Looking back now, freshman and sophomore year went by fast. I knew that I was where I was made the right decision on where to attend high school.

In my junior year, I started varsity as a defender. In the beginning, our team was shaky and not playing as well as we could. But, after a tournament, we were absolutely unbelievable. We won all of our remaining games and played Metro-East Lutheran for the regional championship. At the end of regulation the score was tied 1-1. No team scored in the overtimes so we went to a shootout. In the first round of shootouts, each team had the same amount of goals so we went to another round. They scored on their first shot, and we missed ours. However, we kept on going. I was the fourth shooter for my team. I ran up to shoot the ball, the goalie went one way, I went the other, and scored. I went crazy because I thought we had won the game. However, they still had one more shot, and if they missed, then we would win. Our goalie saved it and we won the game. It was unbelievable. The fans rushed the field, and it was crazy. I remember my picture in the paper and everything. However the next day Coach Ames told us that the IHSA had overruled the call on the field due to Metro East appealing our win. Due to the shoot out rules, no rule book was referred to during the game. Metro-East was given the regional championship. This was one moment I'll never forget, the agony of defeat.. I continued to serve as a member of student council and scholar

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Life

bowl. Also, I was inducted a member of National Honor Society and joined the WYSE (Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering) team. Besides medaling first in math at regionals and sectionals, I went on to medal fourth in chemistry at state; the only one in my school to do so.



Now, I'm a "senior" oh what a feeling. It is a busy and exciting time minus schoolwork, obviously, and deciding on which college to attend. I was nominated Piasa Leader of Tomorrow, the recognition was greatly appreciated. I was elected co-captain by my teammates, it was a true honor. We defeated Alton High School in the rivalry game (Senior Night) which was overwhelming, and we won our conference going undefeated. We had another chance at the regional championship; this time against Greenville. This game was absolutely insane. The only goal scored was by a freshman on our team, and he was "the man" that night. Our defense gave a shutout. We were regional champs, we were number one. Our next game against Columbia did not turn out well, and we lost. But, it was still a season, I'll never forget. I along, with three other students, was named Illinois State Scholar which is something I've very proud of. I was still a member of student council. I enjoyed helping with homecoming, and other activities. Also, in scholar bowl, we won the regional championship, we were a great team collectively, but lost at sectionals. In National Honor Society, I was named Sergeant of Arms. On WYSE, I won third and first at regionals and sectionals, respectively and will be moving on to state.

I along with my classmates went to New Orleans for our senior mission trip in March. I learned so much in just a few short days. It was a life experience I will not forget. Our motto is serviam at Marquette, and it is truly a motto to leave by. It feels really good to give back and expect nothing in return. I am still unsure about which university I would like to attend but know I will make the right choice (U of I). Senior year winding down has really made me think a lot about high school and life. I will definitely miss all the friends I have made over my four years. These are some good people that I know will go on to do great things in their lives. I appreciate everything that I have learned from all of my teachers over the past years and appreciate their patience in putting up with me. I thank Marquette for everything it has given me and hope to carry what I have learned to college and to the next step: life as an adult. Last, but certainly not least, my family and specifically my parents. My mom and dad have gone above and beyond in helping me throughout my life. Without their courage, support, and love, I would not be the person I am to day. They have given me everything a person could ask for and from the bottom of my heart; I thank them for that. Life is not easy, and one must work at it. I still remember this quote that goes something like, "It does not matter how many times you fall; it just matters how quick you get up and keep on moving." Life will have its ups and downs and I will continue to move forward. I will take the knowledge I have learned from high school, friends, and family to college and then into adulthood.

Apr 25 The Alton Sports Tap

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Fourth Quarter Club Assembly. Plans for 11-12 Rotary year to be announced. Committee organization presented.

May 2 The Alton Sports Tap

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Our speaker will be Bill Iseminger, the Assistant Site Manager for the Cahokia Mounds State Historical Site in Cahokia. He will discuss the history of the site and the Native Americans who inhabited it. This program is highly recommended by those who have heard it.

May 9 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 16 Rolling Hills Golf Course

Alton Godfrey Rotary Annual Golf Tournament. Shotgun start 1:00 PM. Steak Dinner at 6:00 PM.

May 21-25 New Orleans, USA

Rotary International Convention

May 23 The Alton Sports Tap

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

May 30 No Meeting

Memorial Day Holiday

Bill Hoagland, Program Director

Younger

Should it choose to rise above this hypocrisy and prove the rest of the world wrong, we can begin a new pattern.

This generation is full of leaders, ready to take a stand and make a difference in this world that we live in. Whether the generation before us proves a welcome advisor or an obstacle, the young people in the world are prepared to take their place in society. This generation gap is one that can be bridged, and with a greater percentage of students obtaining a version of post-high school degree, it will be bridged. Together with my peers, I am ready to start a new pattern and become one of many leaders in society. Will you join me?



Chili Supper Financial Report

	Eat In	Carryout	Cash Sales	Donations
Lunch	148	109	\$240	\$14
Dinner	283	111	\$288	\$11
Total	431	220	\$528	\$25
Total for eat in and carryout 651				
Expenses				
Metro supply		\$731.85		
Soda, Cheese, Water		\$293.27		
Schwegel's		548.52		
Main Street UMC		\$300.00		
Total Expense		\$1,873.64		
Income				
At Door		\$553.00		
Member Tickets 90 * 80		\$7,200.00		
Total		\$7,753.00		
Profit		\$5,879.36		

Club Officers 2010-2011

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

Board of Directors 2010-2011

Mike Fitzgerald-1st yr	Ken Spells-2nd yr
Ebony Huddleston-1st yr	Sam Stemm-2nd yr
Chuck Norman-1st yr	Gail Weinrich-2nd 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
	Ford Phillips-PP