



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

A Monthly Newsletter

Issue #144 November 2009

Volunteerism

From The Editor

The recent Rotary District 6460 Conference held at Lewis and Clark Community College was by all accounts very successful. There were over 200 Rotarians in attendance.

We heard from everyone in attendance how well the conference was organized, and the entire conference committee deserves a lot of credit. The committee members were Larry Thompson; Ron Mayhew; Bill Moyer; Martha Morse; Jeanine Kelly; David Parsons, Rotary Club of Springfield; Kris Rosentreter, Rotary Club of Carlinville; Melissa Pantier, Rotary Club of Jacksonville; Karen Schainker, Rotary Club of Springfield; Joel Satterfield, Rotary Club of Springfield; Dick Robinson, Rotary Club of Springfield Sunrise; Becky Miller, Rotary Club of Springfield Sunrise; Gordon Jumper, Rotary Club of Jacksonville Sunrise; and Barb Reeves.

The true heroes of most events of this kind are the volunteers, and the ones from our club were no exception. The group which was recruited by Bill Moyer did a tremendous job. This exceptional group is listed below. *Congratulations and Thank You* from everyone who attended the conference.



Rotary Programs



Dec 7 St. Anthony's Health Center

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Annual Christmas Program - Spouses Night.

Dec 9 Schools in Alton and Godfrey

The Rotary Club of Alton-Godfrey will distribute dictionaries to fourth grade students beginning at 9:00 AM. Contact Ken Spells for more information

Dec 12 Alton National Cemetery

Members of the Rotary Club of Alton-Godfrey and other community members will place weaths on graves of military veterans beginning at 10:30 AM. Contact Bill Moyer for more information.

Dec 14 Alton Sports Tap

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

Dec 19 Alton & Godfrey Schnucks

The Rotary Club of Alton-Godfrey will ring bells for the Salvation Army Tree of Lights Campaign. Contact Ed Morrissey for more information.

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Dick Jones | Scott Neudecker | Dale Kelley |
| Ford Phillips | Mike Fitzgerald | Charlie Sheppard |
| Jasper Fisher | Tom Juravich | Jack Jacoby |
| Mike Osborne | Larry Spain | Don Nicholson |
| Dale Neudecker | Mike Tillman | Art Williams |
| Jim White | Dave Walker | Ed Morrissey |
| Rod Elias | Paul Maley | John Hopkins |
| Andy Bowen | Denny Foster | Jeni Thompson |
| Don Emde | Gail Weinrich | |

Student Essays

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

God and Baseball

by Zach Eggering



As a senior at Marquette Catholic High School, I am involved in many activities including baseball. I have always loved baseball ever since my parents began to play wiffle ball with me in the backyard. By the time I started organized baseball, I'd already fielded 10,000 ground balls, hit my share of

backyard homeruns, and slid until my knees ripped out of my pants. Baseball is a very important part of my life.

Another activity that has been a big part of my life is serving at Mass. I have been an altar server since the summer after 4th grade and love doing it. I will continue to serve as long as I can.



Why am I talking about serving and baseball? Because God, service, and baseball are intertwined. I see many parallels between baseball and my life in Christ. Through Him, with Him, and in Him, we shall obtain victory on and off the field.

God is not just a person far away in an unknown place, He is here among us. He is not an unknown figure of "do's and don'ts", rules and regulations, anger and hate. He is someone I can talk to and learn from. He is also a baseball player. He is the most important position. A position I just happen to be, a catcher.

Baseball, page 4

I Will Never Be The Same

by Daniel Parham



On July 12-18, 2008, I met the God of my salvation through the personal relationship of attending Turning Point Ministries Camp in Zanesville, Ohio. Turning Point Ministries Camp is a church camp which was built to help saints build a better or more intimate relationship with God. This camp helped in opening up my blinded eyes to see the things I was missing in my walk with Jesus. Prior to this camp, I struggled with prayer, reading my Bible, fasting, understanding of the word, and living that holy and acceptable life, which I was supposed to give to God. but God turned my life completely around by arranging for me to attend this camp, and I will never be the same.

Through this camp in Zanesville, Ohio, God has formed me into a new being. My old ways are diminished, I am truly walking in the newness of life that God desires for his chosen people to walk in. After experiencing the atmosphere of praise and worship, prayer, and seeing the spiritual things that I lacked as a saint, God who knew that I was going to go to this camp far before I did, stepped in and put me in alignment to His perfect will. Since attending this camp, I have experienced some life changing events. I have approached life in a different viewpoint. My relationship with God has become so intimately close and each day I desire to become closer.

The Same, page 4

Pics From District 6460 Conference



Alex Schenk & Caroline Thompson
Alton-Godfrey Interact Kids



District Interact Clubs and Inbound/Outbound students meet at the District Conference



WIU Professor Fetene Gebrewold and daughter, Lydia



Terri Fitch, RI President's Rep and District Trainer Tony Williams

District Leaders Give \$100 to Fund a Shelter Box



Michele Olsen, DGN Gordon Jumper, PDG Fred Osborne, PDG Keith Lape, PDG Ron Riggins, PDG Chuck Farrar, DGD Suzanne Ellerbrock, PDG Ken Buel, Gary Olsen, DGE Dave Parsons, Mike Schneider, DG Larry Thompson



Corridor 67 Panel - IDOT Rep. Frank Opfer, Don Miller, Moderator Dick Rawlings, Senator Deanna Demuzio, Rep. Jim Watson, Rep. Rich Myers, Gordon Jumper

Dec 21 Rolling Hills Golf Course

Regular Meeting 6:00 pm. Club Christmas Party. Family night. Special guest will be Santa Claus to provide a preview of his upcoming world tour.

Dec 28 No Meeting

Holiday

Jan 4 Alton Sports Tap

Regular Meeting 6:00 PM. Our program will feature Dr. Susan Lindsey, the new Director for the Alton YWCA. She will discuss the Alton facility, what services are offered there and her vision for improving it. Prior to taking this position, Dr. Lindsey served for 17 years in various executive positions at the Wild Canid Survival and Research Center in Eureka, Missouri.

Jan 11 Alton Sports Tap

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

Jan 18 Rolling Hills Golf Course

Steak Fry at the Rolling Hills Golf Course Club House 6:00 PM.

Jan 25 Alton Sports Tap

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

-Bill Hoagland, Program Director



Baseball

Why is God a catcher? Let's think about this. He's a sturdy individual with a great sense of balance. He takes what is thrown at Him and never complains.

As I go through life, it's like I am pitching. I make mistakes and sometimes those mistakes turn into a 400 foot homerun. No worries! God comes out to the mound and tells me to shake it off and get the next batter out. Sometimes that is all it takes to get my head straight and to get my life back on track. Another mistake may be letting a man get on base. That runner may try to steal a base, but God is there to throw him out. God does not discount free will. He calls for the right pitch that I should throw, but it is up to me whether or not I want to throw it.

God is not just a defensive player; He can also deliver with a bat too. No matter what kind of evil gets thrown His way, His keen eye makes Him a force to be reckoned with and allows Him to get the big hit to win the game.

God is everywhere on the field. He is the team's manager who puts his best lineup on the field depending on which pitcher is starting. He is the base coach telling me when or when not to go and to send me home to score. Sometimes He is cheering with the fans and encouraging me all the way no matter what the score.

You will have all of these things and much more when you trust in the one true God. He plays every sport and plays each of them well. I know that I will never doubt God and I believe that it was God who said "Play Ball!"



SERVICE Above Self

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

The Same

God has shown me that I could have been the saved young man that I am now years ago. Before God took me to this camp, I thought I knew it all, I thought I was saved, I was accustomed to just your every day ordinary church service and life, but God has shared with me that he isn't looking for just ordinary saints, he is looking for those radical saints that are crazy for God. My shell has been cracked and God has blessed me to do things that I am not used to doing. I desire to continue to walk with God and since that week in Zanesville, Ohio, I will never be the same.

Out of all the other billions of people in the world, God chose me to be a part of his body. God made up in his mind that he would allow me to live the sixteen years of life that I lived prior to the week that changed and decided that when I was getting ready to become a junior in high school, that he would take me to a life changing camp in Zanesville, Ohio, and since that camp and forever I will never be the same.



Board of Directors 2009-2010

Dick Jones-1st yr	Dave Walker-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