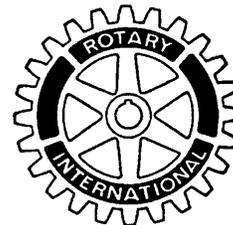


# The Ratchet



Received Charter No. 851 from Rotary International March 1, 1921  
Meets Monday - 6:00 P.M. - Moonlight Restaurant on Fosterburg Road  
www.altongodfreyrotary.org  
P.O. Box 848, Alton, Illinois 62002

Issue #80

*"Lend a Hand"*

October 2003

### CLUB OFFICERS 2003-2004

President.....Mike McCormick  
4815 Kaskaskia, Godfrey, 466-8899  
Vice President.....Larry Thompson  
3200 Ridgeway Ave., Godfrey, 467-0077  
Secretary.....Sharon Johnson  
301 Prospect, Alton, 465-8244  
Treasurer.....Jeannine Kelly  
322 E. Broadway, Alton, 465-0123  
Executive Secretary Melissa Seymour

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2003-2004

Ford Phillips-3rd yr     Dan Saeger-2nd yr  
John Rain-3rd yr     Terry Woefel-2nd yr  
Mike Seymour-3rd yr     Larry Hauck-1st yr  
Von Vandiver-3rd yr     Tom Juravich-1st yr  
Josh Farley-3rd yr     John Keller-1st yr  
Ron Mayhew-2nd yr     Sam Stemm-1st yr  
Bill Moyer-2nd yr     Dave Walker-1st yr  
Scott Neudecker-2nd yr  
Past President Ed Morrissey

## The Legend of the Piasa Foundation

'Many thousand moons before the arrival of the pale-faces, when the great Magalonyx and Mastodon, whose bones are now dug up, were still living in the land of the green prairies, there existed a bird of such dimensions that he could easily carry off in his talons a full grown deer. Having obtained a taste of human flesh from that time he would prey upon nothing else. ...

Many of us are familiar with the legend of the Piasa Bird, but few of us know the legend of the Piasa Foundation. Many moons after the successful defeat of the Piasa Bird, it was determined to commemorate this great accomplishment of bravery by carving and painting a sculpture of the great bird on the side of the bluffs in the area where the great bird once roamed. Because the bird consisted of so many colors, new stains and dyes would need to be purchased from distant areas. Since this would cost more than the local group of Illini had in their annual budget, it was determined a fund raising campaign would be necessary.

Years later, Alton Godfrey-Rotary took on the challenge to erect a painted metal sculpture at Norman's Landing. The estimated cost of this project was \$50,000. Lead by Chief, Jerry Thomas, the club sold "Restore the Piasa" buttons for \$1.00 and raised \$12,000. Along with the sale of buttons, the club applied for and received permission to organize a 501 (c) not for profit corporation called "The Piasa Foundation" so that contributions could be made to the fund and contributors could use the donation as a tax deduction.

In the early 90's when the Lincoln-Douglas Square project was undertaken, commemorative bricks were sold to raise money for the project. All contributions were deposited in the Piasa Foundation fund. Due to the overwhelming response to this fund raising effort,

Continued on page 2

## Our Rotary Calendar



**Nov 3 Moonlight Restaurant**  
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m. Bob Hamilton will speak on health care issues.

**Nov 10 Moonlight Restaurant**  
Board of Directors meeting, 5:00 p.m. Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m. Students of the Month for November will be honored.

**Nov 17 Moonlight Restaurant**  
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m. Club Assembly for the election of new officers and board of director members. There will be other reports to the membership.

**Nov 24 Moonlight Restaurant**  
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m. The United Way organization will report on the progress of this season's campaign and other programs.

**Dec 1 St. Anthony's Health Center**  
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m. Annual Christmas Program - Spouses Night.

**Dec 8 Moonlight Restaurant**

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## Board Minutes for September

The September 8, 2003 meeting of directors of the Alton-Godfrey Rotary Club was called to order at 5:00 p.m., by President Mike McCormick. Others in attendance were Mike Seymour, Tom Juravich, Dave Walker, Sharon Johnson, Bill Moyer, Larry Hauck, John Rain, Ron Mayhew, Larry Thompson, Ford Phillips, Ed Morrissey, Josh Farley, Sam Stemm, Jeanine Kelly, Terry Woelfel, John Keller, Von Vandiver and the Executive Secretary Melissa Seymour.

Others in attendance: District Governor, Rod Buffington; AG Rose Marie Brown

On a motion by John Rain, seconded by Tom Juravich the minutes were approved. On a motion by Dave Walker, seconded by Tom Juravich the treasurer's report was approved.

Jack Scoville and Brian Campbell were proposed for membership pending publication and attending two meetings. On a motion by Dave Walker, seconded by Sharon Johnson the memberships were approved.

On a motion by Dave Walker, seconded by Bill Moyer the resignations of Steve Stobbs and Larry Kaplan were accepted.

In Club Service a letter was presented from the Boy Scouts asking for a donation. The Board said that we do not normally make donations to organizations but will pass it on to the membership for individual donation.

In old business Ed Morrissey and Larry Thompson along with an architect went to Columbia, MO to view the new Salvation Army facility that was built for a cost of 1.4 million. This building is the same housing size as the one anticipated in Alton. Larry Thompson said 570 mailings are going out tomorrow asking for donations for the Booth House. Checks should be made payable to the Piasa Foundation/Booth House.

Bill Moyer has not received final word from Grampa Woo concerning ticket prices if the cruise is a Rotary fundraiser. Dave Walker said 12 applications for the Gordon Moore Award were received. Three were removed because the applications were not complete. The award dinner will be either January or February of next year.

In new business, a request was received from the Sons and Daughters of America, Inc. asking for donations to provide relief for our soldiers. A motion was made by Sam Stemm, seconded by Scott Neudecker to dedicate the proceeds from the carwash to this organization. A committee and schedule is being set up for collecting money at the meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Seymour, Executive Secretary



Lend a Hand

## The Legend of the Piasa Foundation..cont.

the Lincoln-Douglas Square was funded leaving a balance in the Piasa Foundation.

Frequently, Alton-Godfrey Rotary is asked to contribute to a community event or cause. In some cases, funds are taken from the Piasa Foundation. The policy for determining whether to use the Piasa Foundation or other funds is not well defined. The Alton-Godfrey Rotary board of directors has the authority to spend the funds from the Piasa Foundation. The board is to follow guidelines practiced in the past. Since these are not written out, new board members need to have the policy described before each spending decision.

The general policy for spending Piasa Foundation funds for projects is based on how the money was raised. Since the money was contributed for a community improvement by members of the community, it is determined that a new request be evaluated to be sure it benefits the entire community. For example, money from the Piasa Foundation was contributed to the Wadlow Chair project, the Lindbergh House, the Bill Drake Memorial Basketball Tournament, the Christmas tree, Habitat for Humanity, and the greenhouse constructed on the Oblate Father's property for the Community Supported Garden.

The fund raising efforts for the centennial project will result in the construction of a new Booth House for the Salvation Army. It is not considered to be a project which will "benefit" the entire community but is most worthwhile and is receiving considerable support from the community. Since contributions to this project should be tax-deductible, checks for the Booth House should be made out to "**The Piasa Foundation**" and Melissa will make deposits into a separate account designated for the Booth House.

An annual report of The Piasa Foundation is filed each year in June with the officers as Bill Moyer, president, Dale Kelley, vice president, and Terry Dooling, treasurer. By-laws exist in a file and Terry will submit a copy of the by-laws to the club board of directors. Past presidents of AGR compose the board of directors of The Piasa Foundation and since six current Alton Godfrey Rotary board members are past presidents, a committee will be formed from this group to provide guidelines for using funds from The Piasa Foundation in a report due at the January board of directors meeting.

—Larry Thompson,  
2003-2004 Vice-President

## 2004-2005 Alton Godfrey Rotary Officer and Board Member Election

New officer and board member nominations are being taken by the officer nominating committee. The committee will submit a report to the board at the board meeting on November 10 and the election of new officers and board members for 2004-2005 will occur at the club assembly on November 17<sup>th</sup>. This is an opportunity to get involved. Contact a board member to make your intention to be an officer or board member known.

## The Rotary Program...continued

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

**December 13 Hathaway Hall**  
Rotarians are invited to attend the Christmas program of the Alton Symphony Orchestra. A silent auction will take place at the reception immediately following the concert.

**Dec 15 Moonlight Restaurant**  
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m. Bob Gill will speak on James B. Eads, engineer and architect of the Eads Bridge and many other river projects.

**December 22 Salvation Army**  
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.

**December 29 No Meeting**  
Holiday

**Jan 5 Moonlight Restaurant**  
Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m. Details to be announced.

**Jan 12 Moonlight Restaurant**  
Board of Directors meeting, 5:00 p.m. Regular Meeting 6:00 p.m. Students of the Month for January will be honored.

—Joel Copley/Bill Hoagland

### October Treasurer's Report

Previous Balance	\$9,843.09
cleared payments	-\$4,035.62
cleared deposits	\$10,662.94
Cleared Balance	\$16,470.41
uncleared payments	-\$7,851.72
uncleared deposits	\$4,810.80
Account Balance	\$13,429.49
New Checks/Payments	0.00
New Deposits/credits	\$3,522.00
Ending Balance	\$16,951.49

## Students of the Month for October

**JOE HOLLERAN**, a senior at Alton High School, and **LAURA AMMANN**, a senior at Marquette Catholic High School were honored by the Alton/ Godfrey Rotary Club as the Students for the Month for October at the Club's regular meeting at the Moonlight Restaurant on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Joe Holleran** is the son of Dennis and Sally Holleran of Godfrey and he entered his senior year ranked first in a class of 421 students. Holleran has consistently been on the school's high honors list and is a member of the school's National Honor Society of which he is presently serving as the Treasurer. He has been selected to the National Society of High School Scholars and was selected to Who's Who Among American High School Students for the past two years. During his junior year he was selected to the United States Achievement Academy and was selected this year for a 2003 St. Louis Gateway Leadership Network Young Achiever Award.

He has participated in a variety of academic competitions such as the Scholar bowl, the WYSE Academic Challenge Team, and a number of Mathematics contests. Joe is also an active member of the Spanish and Social Studies Clubs. He is a participant in the Saturday Scholars program at Alton High.

Holleran finds time to participate in a number of community service activities working on student Pride projects, the Bucket Brigade, and participating in church activities and projects. He was also selected as Youth Awareness Congress Representative of the Loyal Order of Moose and makes special presentations to community children's groups

Holleran has been a member of Alton High's tennis team throughout his high school tenure. He was captain of the tennis team and was named to the All Area Tennis Team last year. He was also a second team all conference selection in tennis and was recognized as the Scholar Athlete in that sport. He has participated in a number of amateur tennis tournaments usually finishing among the top finishers.

**Laura Ammann** is the daughter of John and Elizabeth Ammann of Godfrey. She has consistently been listed on the school's high honor roll and is in the upper ten percent of her class.

Laura is extremely active in Marquette's Campus Ministry and has been a member of the School Newspaper staff. One of her articles was chosen as the best feature story within the paper during the 2003-2004 school year. Ammann has been very active and dedicated to her work with young children. She has worked at the day care centers at St. Patrick's and McKinley schools. She has worked in the St. Ambrose Nursery, the Evangelical Bible School, and served as a volunteer for the Homeward Bound Homeless Fair at St. Louis University.

She plans to attend Lewis & Clark Community College and major in Early Childhood/Pre School Education

Mike McCormick, President of the Rotary Club, presented each of the students with a plaque recognizing their selection to this honor.

—Tom Juravich