

Spring
Weekly

Reader



Volume 6, Issue 125, April 15, 2010

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

Folksy Tales from a Baseball Nut

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 4/15 PISD Candidate Forum
- 4/22 Denise Hickey
"Earth & Water Day"
- 4/29 Chris Parr
"Antarctica"
- 5/6 City of Plano
"Employee of the Year"

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 4/3.....LOWELL CULVER
- 4/5.....RUTLEDGE HAGGARD
- 4/9.....LARRY FLANNERY
- 4/11.....ANDY SAYERS
- 4/12.....KIRK BELL
- 4/13.....ALICE HOBBS
- 4/22.....KEN ROBERTS
- 4/26.....JOHN SHAO
- 4/27.....RICK KASMISKIE
- 4/28.....JERRY KEZHAY



EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

BEFORE the meeting, we were all wondering about the baseball bat leaning up against the lectern. It seemed out of place with as gentle and genteel a President as **Queen butterfly**. When **SKIP JENKINS** asked, "What in the heck do you do with this thing?" Susan suggested, "Let me show you." Skip demurred.



Susan whacked the bell (better than the Skip) at 12:15, summoning **IB the Good** to pray and **Dennis Fuller** to lead us in the Pledge. She thanked **Louise Davis** for greeting. When calling **SERGEANT JENKINS** to account (for guests and visitors), Susan couldn't resist adding, "His team didn't quite cut it" in the finals. Apparently she isn't aware of the adage about living in glass houses, because it gave Skip the opportunity of pointing out that Wylie didn't make the playoffs. Then, an equal opportunity insulter, Skip went on to suggest that "perhaps next year Howard can enjoy" success for his team.

Skip told **John Ralyea**, a Visiting Rotarian from Pittsburgh, that we weren't *really* trying to embarrass him by pointedly giving him our Club Banner even though he could not reciprocate. He didn't even have to rise to receive it, since **Lenny** took it to him. It may have been his *adopted* guest, because Lenny didn't know that a real guest of his had arrived. Skip assured him that he'd be billed nonetheless.



Karla Oliver passed the five-year mark in Perfect Attendance. I guess we'll keep her. Soon our attendance will advance, since we'll be back up to 120-member strength! President-Elect **PRINCE**



JOHN ERNST is grateful to Susan for achieving his Administration's goal!

Susan mentioned receiving a birthday check from **CAPTAIN KIRK**, noting that he was "catching up with me." As illogical as it sounds, mathematically, it must be true, since while he's counting up, she's now counting down.

Doyle Dean was offered the coveted privilege of going first with his **Students of the Month**. Susan told us that he was thus blessed because he's soon to retire. When that happens, we'll lose 1/2 our fix of our monthly humiliations. We'll have only **Plano East** to show us how very ordinary we are...unless we can persuade **Sarah Watkins** to parade her *Vines High über*-achievers before us. **Sainted Editor** begs her not to do so; it's bad enough when the *Senior High* examples are trotted out.



Speaking of which, **Cindy Wang** garnered a 4.49 GPA that earned her *only* 6th rank in the graduating class of thousands. She's not following in her Mother's footsteps. Mom is a Digital Signal Processing Engineer. Daughter is into (District Championship) UIL Literary Criticism! Well, there is a smattering of mathematics left in her; she's after an Econ degree from *U Chicago* and then a Law Degree. She's practicing that as a *Congressional Youth Advisor* to Rep. **Sam Johnson** (VR). Besides English, she speaks Chinese and French (and is conversant with but not in Latin). That will stand her in good stead with the study abroad year in France she's destined to take.

Vineet Gopal has her beat in tenure; he's been 12 years in PISD to Cindy's 11. But his 4.49 GPA only earned him 7th rank due to rounding differences in higher decimal places! Nevertheless, it is likely to earn him a spot at **MIT** studying Physics or Computer Science with a minor in Music. Music? **MIT**? (Well, it *does* have the *MIT Media Lab* where Vineet can study *Music, Mind, and Machine*.)



continued on page 2

Then he'll move across the street to *Harvard* for the MBA. Vineet is already the consummate businessman for the 21st Century. He has 1,000 *YouTube* subscribers for his flute recordings.



Karen MacDonald took up the gauntlet with her own pair of super-students. How will she react when the competition resigns? Then she'll have a monopoly. Capitalism doesn't work well with monopolies.

Her first charge was **Maya Sachdeva**, a full International Baccalaureate candidate. She can be forgiven for ranking 222 out of 1,381, since her favorite course is *The Theory of Knowledge*. **Epistemology** is a topic not usually broached until graduate school, so **Sainted Editor**, at least, is impressed. She has been President for Life of the Speech and Debate Club, so she should have done her own Classification Talk. Indeed, she placed 3rd in the Four-Way Test competition. She was #1 at the National Debate Tournament in Public Forum Debate. And apparently it's a toss-up between *Colgate College* and *Bryn Mawr*, if they've got a Tae Kwon Do Scholarship to go with her Black Belt. Picking up dropped change has earned her favorite charities \$116 over the years.



And for the token white dude, there was **Brandon Howle**. (If they were brandin' me, I'd howl too.) All of his classes are Advanced Placement. And he ranks 11th with a 4.36 GPA. But all work and no play makes for a dull scholar, so Brandon plays Right Field for the varsity baseball team and is ranked 11th in the District on French Horn. He's off to UT Austin for a Chemical Engineering major with a *soupçon* of business. He is a deacon at his church; therefore we must believe him when he says that he's never missed a (whole) day of school.

Susan conceded that he would thus make a better Rotarian than some unnamed members.

Earnest Burke wanted us to inspect (but not touch) the merchandise on the sawhorses. Our



business' n a m e c o u l d adorn one like it for a sufficient



level of sponsorship. He offered *Starbuck's* coupons for those who could answer questions about the date (1933) and number of entrants (19) in the 1st Soap Box Derby. When he asks those a *third* time, we should all win free caffeine.

Phillip Bozzo told us to look in our mail for an invitation to the *HOBY* gala. It's free to come, but going is another matter. There will be Live and Silent Auctions to capture your donations.

Kelly Palmer informed us that former member **Jim Smith's** body is rejecting an organ implant, and he has not long to live. The family asks that you not visit him but remember him in your prayers.



Susan is angling for an award from District 5810 for our work with *Memorial Elementary*. She read a letter of testimony from Principal **Maricel[m]a Hayek Helms** that ought to do the trick. The letter earned applause.

Ean Sullivan introduced the fill-in for the fill-in. Originally, the speaker was to be **Dale Petroskey**, Executive Vice President for

Marketing of the *Texas Rangers*. However, Dale couldn't make it, and he sent **Joe Macko** instead. Thank the Deity; would we really have rather had a PR dude than a self-confessed baseball nut? Joe is not just the Field Manager for the *Rangers*. He's a baseball player from the minors with a long and interesting career. So long was it that he hobbled up onto the podium on two new hips and two new knees!



And once there, he regaled us with anecdotes. Indeed, we very nearly got the same one twice, but it sounded a bit familiar to him too, so he switched stories in mid-tale.

He says he's only missed 13 *Ranger's* home games in 43 years! And he's not going to miss today's *by crackey!* At 1 pm, he's outta here, since the *Rangers* are playing this afternoon.

He hefted the bat, saying that he carries it in the event of road rage. If some driver offends, he takes it out of the trunk and asks the hothead, "*Can I help you with anything?*"



Actually, this bat was one of 100 he purchased for \$8 each long ago. He sells them to newly-weds after wood-burning their names next to the Club emblem. He says 99% of the purchasers are the wives.

<http://www.dallasobserver.com/content/printVersion/273355>

If you want to tell the players in Joe's stories, you'll need the scorecard given in the above link. It chronicles the *Dallas Eagles* team for which Joe played in the early 50's. One of his teammates was **Eddie Knoblauch**. He was playing centerfield against the *Houston Bucks* when, in the 3rd inning, Eddie came running in, refusing to return until the rattlesnake had been dispatched. Forty-four ballplayers each grabbed himself a bat and sent the snake to his Maker with a vengeance. The umpire insisted Eddie return, and he did so, reluctantly, but paying much more attention to the ground around centerfield than to the game. The City of Dallas sent Animal Control onto the field the next day and found a nest of two dozen rattlers!



Joe proudly proclaimed himself the 10th leading home run hitter in the minors. But that wasn't surprising when you learned his secret: every time he homered, a wealthy fan handed him a check for \$25 as he rounded third.

After satisfying himself that there were enough Aggies in the audience to take offense, Joe read a "letter" from an Aggie Mom to her son. It consisted of one Aggie joke ("*I'm writing this slowly*

since I know you don't read fast.") after another ("First time I used our new washing machine, I pulled the chain, and the clothes disappeared."). And it concluded with "P.S. I was going to send money, but I've already sealed this envelope."

Joe has three children. One he lost to cancer after a promising career with the Cubs. Joe raises funds from a golf tournament to benefit the schools at which his son enrolled. Another son takes care of Joe, and his daughter is a traffic cop in Cedar Hill.



Fergie Jenkins, the only Canadian in the Baseball Hall of Fame, played for the *Rangers* in the mid-seventies. He caught a water snake while fishing and had Joe freeze it. He left the frozen snake as a joke for a first base coach, who, stumbling across it, ran for the dugout and refused to come out the rest of the game.

Don Zimmer coached for the *Rangers* for a few seasons but then was fired and told he could stay on for a week. With nothing to lose, he cornered an umpire at first base, haranguing him for a full two minutes before disgustedly throwing his chewing tobacco at the umpire's feet. They both looked down to discover that Don's teeth went with the tobacco.

Jim Pearsall played for the *Cleveland Indians*. He told Joe about a stuttering outfielder, **Jim Bagby**, who harassed an umpire with impunity from his distant position. Unfortunately, he continued the harassment while he was in the dugout, and got ejected from the game. Surprised,



he asked, "H-h-h-how did h-h-h know it was m-m-me?"

Jim Boudreau called Bagby to check that all the players were in their rooms. When he asked about Bagby's roommate,

Bagby said he'd get the man, who was showering. The next voice on the phone asked, "H-h-h-hello?" Bagby and his AWOL roommate were both fined.

Gaylord Perry got ticked off at a short locker room attendant who couldn't hang clothes on high hangers. People heard the poor fellow calling for help, but they couldn't find him until someone looked under the training table, where he was taped up.

Susan explained about the flashlights. Joe told her he made \$86,000 on *eBay* auctioning autographed baseballs. He'd brought some for sale.



She thanked **Howard** for sticking it out again. He said that he hoped the next Administration would be "1/2 as good."

Susan identified May 3rd as Teacher Appreciation Day at *Memorial Elementary*. She asked for items for hospitality bags for their teachers.



Then she announced that she was off to her colonoscopy.

Cary Israel complained that that was just a little "too much information." With that bomb, she led us in the Four-Way Test

and closed the meeting at 1:02.

We want to thank **Randy Wright** for beginning his career as Club Photographer with this issue.



Know someone who would
make a great Rotarian?
Invite them to be your guest
at Rotary!

The 4 Way Test:

Of the things we think, say, and do:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill & better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Plano Rotary Club Board of Directors 2008-2009

President

Susan Shuler

President Elect

John Ernst

Vice President

Brad Shanklin

Secretary

Lenny Schwartz

Treasurer

Karla Oliver

Past President

Rick Maucieri

Sergeant at Arms

Skip Jenkins

Membership Chair

Nathan Barbera

Membership Vice Chair

Ben Criste

Service Chair

David Ellis

Service Vice Chair

L B Showalter

Public Relations Chair

Mehrnaz Iranmehr

Public Relations Vice Chair

Bob Bauer

Club Admin. Chair

Camille Ussery

Club Admin Vice Chair

Octavio Ortiz

Foundation

David Allison

Foundation Vice Chair

Earl Simpkins

At Large

Chris Parr

Boyd Craig

Earnest Burke

Kenny Wilson

Kirk Bell

Casey Stewart

Bulletin Editor

Chris Parr

Bulletin Photographer

Ean Sullivan

Bulletin Designer

Kim Oliva

Alphagraphics

Printing by Alphagraphics

Park & Coit

The Plano Rotary Club

PO Box 864316

Plano, Texas 75086

972.596.2585

Member NEWS

AWARDS:

Harold Sullivan Award
Chris Parr

Athena Award

Alice Hobbs 2008-09

Fred Moses Award

Richard Butterfly

Business Executive of the Year

Gary Base

Kersey Cane Holder:

Earl Simpkins

Citizen of the Year:

Beth Duncan Webb

Rotary Make Up Website:

www.rotaryclubone.org

New Member Proposals:

Scarlette Dale

Proposed by: Lynn Schwartz

Classification: Dry Cleaning

Support Our Advertisers

ELLIOTT'S HARDWARE

Making hardware easy.

Dallas 4901 Maple Ave.
Dallas, TX 75235
214-634-9900

Plano 2049 Coit Rd.
Plano, TX 75075
972-312-0700

Mesquite 116 E. Kearney St.
Mesquite, TX 75149
214-324-5087

www.elliottshardware.com

**Quarterly Dues are
due this month. Be
on the lookout for
the invoice in the
mail.**

PROSPERITY BANK

HUBERT G AARON
President
Preston Road Banking Center

16800 Preston Road
Dallas, Texas 75252
www.prosperitybanktx.com
NASDAQ Stock Symbol: PRSP

Phone (972) 312-9167
Cell (214) 394-9599
Fax (972) 312-9207
hubert.aaron@prosperitybanktx.com

Bell & Valente

A Limited Liability Company
AN INDEPENDENT FIRM

Kirk Bell
Managing Partner, B&V, LLC
Financial Advisor, RJFS

5048 Tennyson Parkway, Suite 120
Plano, TX 75024
(972) 493-1025
(972) 493-7272
Fax: (972) 493-1065
Email: kirk.bell@raymondjames.com

Securities and Investment Advisory Services offered through
Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.
Member FINRA/SIPC.



Power | Sound | Miles

David Allison

1208 K Avenue | Plano, TX 75074
972.423.2781
www.exhaustauthority.com

HUFFINES HAS IT!

Since 1924 www.huffines.net

RAY HUFFINES **PLANO** **HUFFINES** **HUFFINES**
Chevrolet Hyundai Chrysler • Jeep
Dodge
1001 Coit Rd @ Plano Pkwy 800 Coit Rd @ Plano Pkwy 4900 W. Plano Pkwy @ Chas
Plano Plano Plano
(972) 867-4000 (972) 867-5000 (972) 867-6000

All Service, Body and Parts Departments Open All Day Saturday.

J. Marc Lewis & Associates

CORPORATE AND PERSONAL TAXATION

J. Marc Lewis JD, LL.M., EA
Enrolled to practice before the IRS

Lakeside Commons
5045 Lorimar Drive
Suite 280
Plano, TX 75093

marclinc@airmail.net
Tel. (972) 618-8224
Fax (972) 618-2021



Stephen E. Vitasek
Executive Chef/Owner

Office 469-443-0406
Fax 469-443-0489
Cell 214-215-8589

PO Box 865677 Plano, TX
svitasek@tcrr.com
www.rosefoodservice.com

Catering & Cafeteria Management for Individual, Corporate, & Educational



EVELYN MOLINA
Direct Line 469-446-1041

840 Central Parkway East
Suite 130
Plano, Texas 75074

972-516-9550 • Fax 972-516-9868
evelyn@alljanitorial.net
www.alljanitorial.net

Insured & Bonded • FREE ESTIMATES
Complete Office Maintenance, Construction,
Industrial & Residential Cleaning



AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK OF TEXAS
www.anbt.com

Casey W. Stewart
Banking Center President

972-309-0001 ext. 5937
214-863-5937 direct line
214-863-6160 fax
caseystewart@anbt.com

Plano Parkway Banking Center
1101 East Plano Parkway
1st Floor Bank Lobby #E
Plano, Texas 75074



alphagraphics®

DESIGN ■ COPY ■ PRINT ■ COMMUNICATE

2001 Coit Road, Ste. 170
Plano, Texas 75075
Phone 972.867.9216
Fax 972.519.9181

Kenny Wilson

Owner

Cell 972.639.8615

kwilson@alphagraphics.com

www.plano408.alphagraphics.com

MORGAN LEGACY GROUP
Because Life Has Purpose



President | **CHUCK MORGAN, CSA, MBA**
4100 Spring Valley Rd., Suite 500
Dallas, Texas 75244
P. 972.267.8181
F. 972.267.8180
E. chuck.morgan@morganlegacygroup.com
W. www.MorganLegacyGroup.com



Boyd D. Craig, Consultant
Over 38 years experience

ASPR, INC.

Air Conditioning • Heating • Electrical
Residential, Commercial & Industrial

972-424-6701
www.asprinc.com

boydcraig@verizon.net
TACLA001637C EL24196

1000 14th St., #163 • Plano, TX 75074

We are in business to keep you comfortable and save you money!



John Shao, PhD, CFA
President

5521 Roland Drive
Plano, TX 75093

(972) 608-3374
1800 346-3692 FAX
(403) 413-6809 MOBILE

www.john-shao.com

john@john-shao.com

ARTA Travel
5700 West Plano Parkway
Suite 1400
Plano, Texas 75093
Telephone 972.422.4000
Fax 972.422.2331
www.artatravel.com

Larry Flannery, CTC

Vice President
larry@artatravel.com



Jim Anderson
Residential Sales Specialist

Phone: (214) 647-1111
eMail: jvareality@tcrr.com
Fax: (866) 821-8379



18383 Preston Road, Suite 150
Dallas, Texas 75252
www.jvareality.com

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated



THE AUTO SHOP

Professional Automotive Repairs including:
Air Conditioning • Inspections • Clutches • Transmissions • Differentials
Engine repairs • Factory Scheduled Maintenance • Tune-Ups • Electrical • Brakes



Jerry P. Kezhaya
President

www.TheAutoShop.com

2560 East Plano Parkway
Plano, Texas 75074



972-578-0588 - T
972-581-0998 - F

Rick Maucieri
President

Grant Leighton
Associates
PO Box 865066
Plano, Texas 75086
972.422.0169 Voice
972.881.9373 Fax
rickm@glalandscape.com

**GRANT
LEIGHTON**
Professional
Landscapers