

Summer  
Weekly

# Reader



Volume 8, Issue 6, August 5, 2010

The Plano Rotary Club  
www.PlanoRotary.com



## PREHISTORIC PRESIDENTS



### UPCOMING MEETINGS

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/4 .....SKIP JENKINS  
7/6 .....PHIL DYER  
7/7 .....JOHN ERNST  
7/7 .....AL GODWIN  
7/12 .....HOWARD SHAPIRO  
7/13 .....EARNEST BURKE  
7/15 .....DAVID BOWMAN  
7/20 ..... DWIGHT MCFOLIN  
7/22 .....MATT JACKSON  
7/22 .....JIM MONROE  
7/24 .....DOUG OTTO  
7/26 .....BRYAN STAMPER  
7/30 .....L.B. BROACH



**E**ARNEST Burke was *Photographe du Jour*. His camera is a Sony, and so it takes a Memory Stick® as its flash drive. Usually, *Sainted Editor* gives the photographer a flash drive and then collects it from him (or her, but we've had no distaff volunteer) at meeting's end. But he had Secure Digital® and Compact Flash® drives, not Memory Stick®. Then he recalled that the PDA on which he types the Bulletin is also a Sony device, and, sure enough, it held a Memory Stick® with stuff on it. Certainly the Sony PDA wouldn't mind lending Earnest's Sony camera its storage. And it seemed not to until he returned the Stick to the PDA. Then he discovered Sony's camera changed the format from Sony's PDA, and his storage was lost. Thank God for backups! You do backup, don't you?



Exalted President-Elect **Brad Shanklin** summoned us to attention at 12:15, calling upon Reverend Mueller for the Prayer and **Nancy Humphrey** for the Pledge. "Thanks, *Bob*." Brad thanked **Marty Murff** and Earnest Burke for greeting. Noting that the flags had been swapped, Brad fined Sergeant-at-Arms **SKIP JENKINS**, who objected that fines were in his bailiwick. Brad informed him that he was outranked.

Skip helped us recognize (some of us need the help) visiting Rotarians and Guests, including **Sherman Millender's** wife of 53 years ("Way to hang in there" was Skip's comment), **Alan Feigenbaum's** (Brad: "Did I get it right?") guest, **Sylvia Karmanoff**, and **Kenny Wilson's** son.



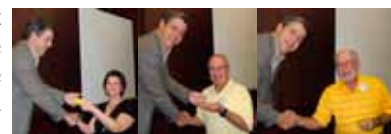
Earnest exhorted us to provide auction items for the *Hendrick Golf Tournament*. We were to check the brochures on our table and call either him or *Scary Bob*, and one of them would drop by to collect the items.

Brad acknowledged a birthday check from **LB the Good**. We should alert **Hugo Esparza** about possible birthday cake conflagration. Brad also held aloft the flag of a Pittsburgh Rotary Club

that **Jeff Fraunheim** had attended.

Perfect Attendance pins were awarded to **Jessica**

**Jackson** (6), **Skip Jenkins** (15), and **Sherman Millender** (32 eventful years).



**Lenny Schwartz** officiated at the Induction Ceremony

for **Bob Pikna**. Bob's sponsor, **CAPTAIN KIRK**, was AWOL, enjoying a family vacation in Colorado, so Skip stood in for him. **Susan's** "Woo Hoo!" at mention of the *Plano Children's Medical Clinic* in **Ken Robert's** stirring Induction Speech, earned her a "Stop that over there!" rebuke from Lenny.

Brad was a little reluctant to turn the meeting over to **Ean**, the Master of Ceremonies for the day. Brad asked, "How long is it going to take?" to which Ean replied, "As long as it takes." Ean had summoned as many of the Past Presidents of the Club as were still above the sod. And each told an anecdote about his year in the office. With the spotlight thus returned to them, all concept of time was obliterated, and we ran over with Ean promising that we would visit the remainder of the Presidents at a later date. Since several of them have resigned from the Club yet returned at Ean's cajoling, they can now look forward to a second round of rubber chicken and peas.

Going back all the way to 1967 (43 years ago, Jessica wasn't yet a gleam in **Gary's** eyes),

**Charles "Carlos" Cox** was President of the Club. He asked our indulgence to "pause for a personal moment," and told us of his love for his many friends in the Club. He said he suffers from physical limitations imposed upon him by *myasthenia gravis* (an autoimmune disorder that attacks nerve sheaths, rendering



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muscles weak). And his hearing began to slide to the point where he couldn't understand the table conversation let alone the program at Rotary. So he "backed out," but he still misses it.

Then he reminisced about his year as President, a time he referred to as "antiquity." Plano Rotary Club (PRC) was meeting at the Community House on Avenue J at 12:15 pm. He spoke of an unnamed disagreement with the Lion's Club that left PRC with the short end of the stick. We boasted 40 members then. But attendance was poor, so the Club purchased a live monkey to be cared for by anyone who missed a meeting (without making up). That monkey was a real challenge, so attendance rose to over 90%, hitting 100% for two months out of the year. The good attendance persisted longer than the monkey, who Charlie suspects was poisoned.



Skipping forward 10 years brought us to **LB THE RADIANT**. The PRC was still meeting at the Community House, and a new policy arose whereby if you complained about the food, you were the Food Committee the following week.



**LB** never did figure out why he was referred to in *Orville Fudpucker's Bulletin* as "The Turkey." But **Terry Dobbins** wasn't known for his shining platitudes, an attitude that has been passed down to **Sainted Editor**. However, **LB** has a pretty good idea who was to blame for the appearance of an actual turkey at one of the meetings.

He commented on one program featuring a black & white movie that was particularly poor. Then, ever sensitive, he paused at that point to say "Hi, Steve" to **Steve Miller** (PRC President 2003-04). Whoever was responsible for that program, it had the distinction of being the only PRC program that was ever cut short.

But he was proud of the Club's accomplishments, especially the *Palmer Drug Abuse Program* that garnered a full house of clients even though the City of Plano was in denial at the time. **LB** was proud too of *his* Bulletin, which **Sainted Editor** inadvertently insulted by asking, "Is this Terry's?"

**Mark Geller** claimed amnesia concerning his 1980-81 Presidency. He claimed he "forgot it the minute I turned it over."

So the stage was set for **Sherman Millender** to whom Mark turned it over. Sherman counted "10 people here who are still members from my year." The Club had moved to **Tino's** original Cantina on 15<sup>th</sup> Street. That year, it moved to Collin Creek Mauled Community Room.

Sherman was panicked by the appearance of the Rotary International Convention in Dallas. He knew



that PRC would be called upon for volunteers, and finding them "was like pulling teeth." Still he managed to muster 46 of the 84-member roster.

All 84, however, were involved with finding programs. Many came to him, as Plano Senior High (PSH) Principal, for speakers, and he obliged them with teachers whom Terry Dobbins sought to humiliate by inserting four nude photos into their slide presentations! But, as an equal opportunity humiliator, he treated even Catholic nuns thus. (Indeed, he managed to disrupt each and every program except the one presented by Executive Librarian **Maribelle Davis**, who, having been warned, didn't let the slide tray out of her possession.)

Sherman told of PSH Design students presenting slides of a fashion show. When the pirate slides popped up, the students didn't skip a beat. Instead, they embrace the nudes with the comments, "And this is another of the models who will be present this Saturday night; so be there!"



**Gary Basham** was President in 1984-85. He reinforced the notion of PRC as "a very irreverent group. But then the women got involved, and we've been better ever since." Someone piped up, "You didn't say that back then!"

Gary recalled the to-do about his birthday. **T.L. Morgan**, Gary's predecessor, told him to introduce "Betty Smith," as a member of the Rotary Exchange Study Program, to talk about Rotary in England. "Betty" started with a passable British accent and then began to disrobe to a boom-box rendition of "The Stripper."

The speaker that day was **Dale Hansen**, then an announcer on Channel 4. Dale was so impressed with the Club's laid-back style that he laced his presentation liberally with expletives. When word got back to his boss, he was fired from Channel 4 and migrated to Channel 8. Even today, Dale thinks the incident was funny. But it was an example of T.L.'s nickname for Gary: "Lost Control Basham." But for all the loss of control, the Club's membership was at 100 by his year's end.



**Howard Shapiro** ('85-87) arose to Gary's comment, "*You didn't want women in Plano Rotary!*" Howard was thrust early into the office by virtue of his predecessor's, **Ray Houpt's**, death. RI had blessed women Rotarians not just Rotary Anns. The newspapers interviewed Howard asking, "What do you think about women in Plano Rotary?" Howard replied, "What self-respecting women would *want* to join our Club? We do men's things. We took no prisoners and respected no one."

Following Howard in office was **Keith Stockwell**. PRC finally moved to the Pitchfork Hotel (*née* the Harvey House). But no one told Keith. He showed up at the Mall only to be "arrested," and brought to the Harvey House in cuffs. Immigration and Naturalization Service "agents" treated Tino similarly.



1994's President, **Johnny Lewis**, was proud to serve during our 50<sup>th</sup> year. He spoke of being appalled by a single woman holding a married man's hand, but shocked to learn that "Lola loved the Club" and wanted to be married AT ROTARY once her lover lost his current entanglement. Indeed, her wedding planner, **Mary Margaret Taylor** (!), called Johnny asking if that were possible. Johnny called RI, prefacing the request with "Y'all won't believe this." But RI had no objection, so the wedding took place at a regular Rotary meeting, the first of its kind. Tino gave the bride away. **David McCall, Sr.**, was in charge of the candles. Howard Shapiro and Mark Geller were flower boys, walking down the aisle hand-in-hand. **Nathan White** and a pastor performed the ceremony. The \$10,000 wedding was certainly



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"the most spectacular in Rotary history." Johnny refused to report on the success of the marriage, but he hinted that in involved "jail time."



Skip Jenkins and Ean Sullivan spanned the millennial divide and were "joined at the hip" during their presidencies. Their first story involved a dispute between **Ted Dickey** and local hospitals about the sheets shrouding his corpses. To tease him, the members all robed themselves in sheets, much to the surprise of a visiting **Fred Moses**, who commented, "Every other time I've visited, I felt welcome!"

"Hatfield and McCoy" strife was brewing in the Club that was resolved by the creation of Plano Sunrise Rotary. Terry and his slides went there.

A fire at the Plano Children's Medical Clinic provided the impetus for its adoption by PRC. We raised funds for a 5,000 sq. ft. building plus a quarter of a million bucks mad money to fund the clinic. What began as a 23 employee operation grew to 78. Ean told us to go see the Rotary wheel



over the door. It was inspired by a similar adornment for an elementary school in Puerto Vallarta also funded by PRC. Ean thought, "Why can't we have something like that at home?"

It was a memorable year for "environmental disasters" as Ean recalled the result of one Rotary Roundup in Haggard Park. He had called **Tom Muehlenbeck** about liability at the time, but **Bruce Glasscock** shouted out a caution that "the statute of limitations hasn't run out!" Nevertheless, Ean showed a video of "defense attorney" Jo

Via explaining to Ean what deep doo-doo he was in.

She described "Sausage-gate" as resulting from the caterer's dumping of the BBQ remains into a drainage ditch that fed a creek that ran into the pond in Haggard Park. She referred to "the last bag of evidence" that Ean held (while **FLASH** inexplicably tickled his ear). She chastised him for "covering up Sausage-gate" by commandeering a clean-up crew of Rotarians, sworn to secrecy, and wading the creek, flashlights securely clamped between teeth so as not to arouse attention. Jo concluded by painting a vivid image of sausages floating in the creek.

Since we had run out of time, Brad concluded the meeting asking **LB THE RADIANT** if the Club was subject to loose monkeys and turkeys, pornographic slides, strippers, desecration of City property, and the Ku Klux Klan, why he "chose to stop only that one meeting?" Then Brad led us in the Four-Way Test and released us upon a relatively innocent world at 1:06.



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?

### 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:

Proposed By:

Classification:

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