

Winter  
Weekly

# Reader



Volume 6, Issue 118, February 25, 2010

The Plano Rotary Club  
[www.PlanoRotary.com](http://www.PlanoRotary.com)

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

2/25 ..... TBD

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/1.....MARIBELLE DAVIS  
2/10.....CARY ISREAL  
2/13.....KARLA OLIVER  
2/16.....JIM MURRELL  
2/19.....DOYLE DEAN  
2/22.....DENNIS FULLER  
2/26.....ED RAWLS  
2/27.....KYLE WALTERS



EVERY  
ROTARIAN  
EVERY  
YEAR

## Cary On

**P**RINCE John intimated a *coup d'état* to displace Queen butterfly, but Susan's absence was explained by the death of her Father-in-Law. She and her husband are in Sweetwater for the funeral.



The VP thrice struck the Rotary Bell at 12:15, calling upon **Brian Stamper** for the prayer and **Kirk Bell** for the Pledge. ("Thanks, Bob.") He neglected to credit **Phillip Bozzo** and **Brad Keith** with greeting.



**SERGEANT SKIP** noted no Visiting Rotarians this day. Was it something we said? **Tino** struggled through his introduction of **Cathy Fang**, and **Randy**, tutor to the core, showed us all again how to introduce guests, demonstrating on his Sister **Willie** and Brother **John**. He noted that John is his much younger brother; Skip commented, "Isn't everyone?"

Skip introduced his guest, State Board of Education candidate **Tom Ratliff**, chastising himself for the political ad he offered and fining



himself \$5 into the bargain. He also made a rash promise not to do it again. Does this mean that he can't invite Tom in future?

**Don High**, candidate for Collin County Court at Law #6, gave us a mnemonic, "*Don Hightime*," which amused perennial punster, John Ernst, who eschews Pitchfork breads on the grounds that "*the bun is the lowest form of wheat*."

John accepted birthday checks from a "venerable" **Doyle Dean** and "*the always lovely*" **Dennis Fuller**.

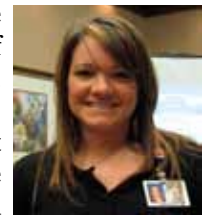
**Ean** introduced the Assistant Principal of *Memorial Elementary*, **Katie Armstrong**. Illustrious as his guest was, Ean was even more impressed with his second guest, **Christian Guzman**, a student in the Chess Club. Christian knew nothing about chess when he joined the Club, but he has already won 3 of his 4 games with Ean, and the 4<sup>th</sup> is still ongoing. Ean called him his "rising star" said, "*It does my heart good to know Christian*."

Katie invited us to *Memorial's* Poverty Simulation; we can RSVP to it at 469-752-2510.

John asked for a show of hands of those who will attend the District Assembly Saturday (from 7:30 am to noon). He noted that **Hugo** and **Kirk** among others were attending.

**Nathan Barbera** announced Happy Hours and New Member Orientations.

John chastised a meeting-missing **Marty Murf** with a simple reference to *eclubone.org*



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**LE THE RADIANT** gave an emotional recap of his recent surgery and thanked all of us for our kind thoughts and prayers on his behalf. His radiation implants at MD Anderson in Houston have killed his prostate cancer.

**Jo Via** hid behind the lectern long enough to introduce the day's speaker, **Cary Israel**. She said that although he's only been in Plano for 10 years, he has had an enormous impact upon both the community and education. She called him a "visionary," and noted that she was not alone in this opinion: the Chamber has chosen him for **CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**.



With uncharacteristic modesty, Cary insisted that the award was to the credit of the College, its students, faculty, and, of course, its illustrious Board, populated with the likes of Tino Trujillo and **Dave Hammel**. Indeed, "I live in Allen. How did I get the award?"

**Jessica** sprang to Cary's PowerPoint™ presentation, changing slides in response to his call. (We really need to invest in an "air mouse.")

This year is the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *Collin College*. It began in McKinney in 1985. The statistics came thick and fast. An 18%+ growth in enrollment means that the College is now home to 46,182 students, 6,000 of whom are sharing some \$25 million in financial aid.

Plano is now the #1 ranked ISD in terms of concurrent enrollment in *Collin College*. This shrinks the Time to Degree at a time when the Texas Legislature has dictated that college students take no more than 5 years to graduate. However, only 23% of PISD graduates go to *Collin College* as compared with 29% of Allen's high school graduates.



Cary busts his buttons over *lowering* the tax rate every year since he's been enthroned. It now stands at 8.6¢ per \$100 home valuation. And for our kind donation, we get certificate-trained nurses, fire fighters, and, generally, a more educated populace.

The College ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in nation in the number of international students (700), eclipsed only by *Miami* and *University of Houston*.

The tuition at Collin College is the lowest of all community colleges in Texas. The charge to students is only 12% of the actual costs whereas the "peer average" is 14.4%.

Concerned that the barrage of numbers would put his audience to sleep, Cary inserted a puff slide with what he claimed to be actual bumper stickers including "Normal people worry me."

He lamented the cost of Chemistry texts (and texts in general), which can cost more than the tuition. Chemist **Chris** objected that this could be remedied with e-texts,

but Cary complained that publishers and faculty authors are doing everything in their power to frustrate that. Nevertheless, *Collin College's* tuition and books set students back only \$2,369 compared with Austin's \$19,682 (includes housing so the comparison is flawed) and SMU's \$35,960.

Cary regaled us with the number of fire fighters (661) and law enforcement certificates (522) and even culinary artists (207) issuing from the College over the past 5 years. He said that he's concentrating on future jobs in hot areas such as nursing, dental hygiene, teaching, and accounting.

More bumper stickers followed: "Well behaved women rarely make history." And the ever popular "Keep honking; I'm reloading."

The entire curriculum of the College is online (even the laboratories?) as 6,227 students sweat their computers in 229 sections. He said that it is only possible to get a degree entirely with weekend courses at *Collin College*. 2,778 students are taking that route. He promised us that the classes do not interfere with Church! **Sainted Editor** wanted to know if they interfered with Temple. Cary threw a tee shirt at him for the impertinence. Then he threw one at **Howard Shapiro** for his excellent golf game on the Sabbath.



He said that he is hopeful that he can convince local universities to also offer complete baccalaureates with only weekend courses. (That might run counter to the State's 5-year mandate.)

A friend to business, the College develops the workforce of 41 companies and their 13,764 employees through 1,400 specialty courses.

*Collin College* has recently opened a Higher Education Center in McKinney offering many baccalaureates, a dozen Masters, and even two (educational administration and higher education) PhDs.

Cary crowed about his award-winning faculty, the most recent being the 2009 US Professor of the Year, Dr. **Tracey McKenzie** (Sociology). Together with Dr. **Rosemary Karr** (2007) and **Brad Baker** (2000), Collin is the only community college to have earned three! Indeed only two universities (*Williams* and *Kansas State*) have that many and none more. The awards flow over three slides.

Lunching with his students, Cary learned their concerns are for more scholarships, cheaper textbooks, and a four-year *Collin College*.

The issues that keep him up nights include:

- Scholarships
- Demographic changes
- College readiness
- Reduction in State support
- Rising costs
- Needs for a Spring Creek library
- Regional Fire Training Facility

His final bumper sticker was "**RLFIACD**," which he



## Cary On continued...

challenged us to decode. He put us out of our misery by telling us it stood for "Rotarian Larry Flannery is a Cross-Dresser."



*Scary Bob* asked Cary if he supported an attempt at a \$200,000 take at the next Hendrick Golf Tournament. Cary said that depends on how much of it goes to the College.

Tom Ratliff asked about electronic textbooks, and Cary replied that the publisher Pearson now controls 2/3 of undergraduate text production and is drying up the used text market to maximize its profits. The implication is that e-texts are a threat to those profits that will be met as well.

**Herb Hoxie** asked about *SAIL* (Seniors Active in Learning). Cary said that for a modest fee, about 500 seniors are taking everything from mahjong to humanities courses. He giggled the candidates present by mentioning that *SAIL* patrons vote in higher numbers than the general population.

Howard Shapiro asked where the issue of new library construction was stuck, and the answer was "with the Trustees."

In response to a question from **Gary Base**, Cary noted that he was hoping for better cooperation with local universities to avoid duplication of efforts. "All of higher education needs to become more efficient."

He said that 1/3 of Texas counties pay no community college, but their students go there anyway. It would be nice to get something out of Rockwall,

for example.

John admired Cary's aim with the tee shirts, but Cary announced that he "held the record for the most walks in a single inning in Detroit."

Perfect Attendance pins went to **Jamie Schell** (20) and Howard Shapiro (32).

Throwing caution to the winds, and against the advice of members who noted that the meeting was already several minutes over time, John called **FLASH** to the podium to give us a report on the Winter Olympics.

Larry told us that prior to her Olympic skiing, **Peekaboo Street** had been a nurse, but the hospital had to fire her. Jo Via, paid to be his straight man, asked, "Why did they have to do that?" Larry replied that she had once answered the telephone, "Peekaboo ICU."

John led us in the Four-Way Test and triple belled us out at 1:07 pm.



## Member NEWS

### AWARDS:

**Harold Sullivan Award**  
Chris Parr

**Athena Award**  
Alice Hobbs 2008-09

**Fred Moses Award**  
Richard Butterfly

**Business Executive of the Year**  
Ray Huffine

**Kersey Cane Holder:**  
Earl Simpkins

**Citizen of the Year:**  
Beth Duncan Webb

**Rotary Make Up Website:**  
[www.rotaryclubone.org](http://www.rotaryclubone.org)

**New Member Proposals:**

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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?

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