

Winter
Weekly

Reader

Volume 54, Issue 116, February 6, 2014

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS

February 6

Jamee Jolly -
"Texas House of Representatives District 66 Primary Election Candidate Forum" (Joint Forum with Plano Chamber of Commerce)

February 13

Alex Johnson -
"Four Way Test Contest"

February 20

Earnest Burke -
"Annual Black History Celebration Program. (Meeting adjourns @ 1:30)."

February 27

Carol Mitchel -
"Truth About Hypnosis."

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Davis, Maribelle	Feb 01
McLean, Lynne	Feb 01
Kramer, Jason	Feb 07
Israel, Cary	Feb 10
Oliver, Karla	Feb 13
Dean, Doyle	Feb 19
McGee, Jim	Feb 20
Fuller, Dennis	Feb 22
Henry, Chris	Feb 23
Moebius, Carolyn	Feb 27
Parker, John	Feb 27
Walters, Kyle	Feb 27



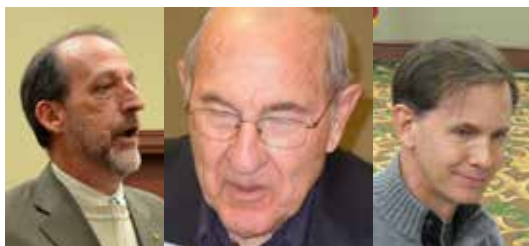
EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

Crossing the Yalu

Sainted Editor has Lori Phantom Crotchétienne Roberts to thank for filling in for him on the last *Weekly Reader*. Come to think of it, he still has a makeup to do. Well, the Bulletin comes first.



CAPTAIN KIRK drew our attention to the start of the meeting at 12:14, directing DG **Ean Sullivan** to the Invocation and **Yoram Solomon** (ably assisted by *Scary Bob*) to the Pledge. **HE** credited **Jan Sullivan** with Greeting when **HE** meant **Janice Allman**, but she forgave him. ☺ And he called **Nathan** the **Barberian** to welcome Visiting Rotarians and Guests.



The **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS** welcomed **Dennis Luellen** (Frisco), **Ed Williams** (Dallas), and **Kent Stone** (Richardson Central). As we were becoming rowdy, *Scary Bob*, bucking for the Sergeant's job, growled us into submission.



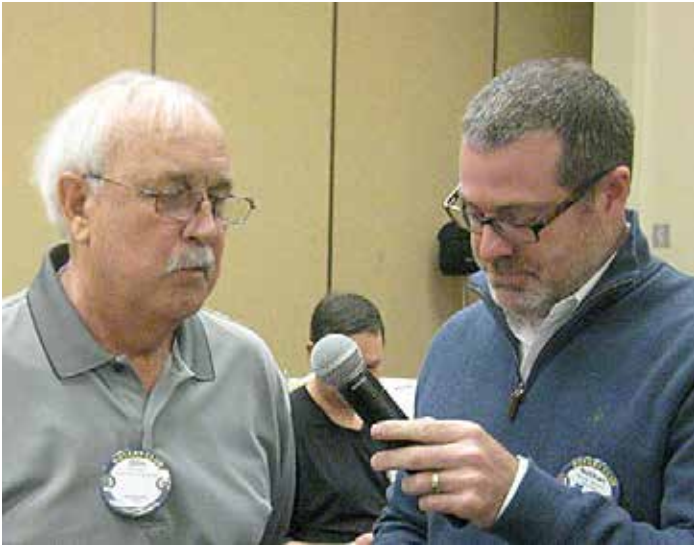
Dennis had brought a political candidate as a guest (cheeky of him). **Cami Dean** gave a stump speech (more conservative than Thou) that cost Dennis \$5. **KIRK** introduced "haircut contestant," **Jim Aldendifer** and, appropriately, men's grooming maven, **Mike McCullough**. **Mike Robnett** welcomed 1st Man **Glen Callison**, husband to City Council's **Jean Callison**, but who has



caught the public service bug and is running for District 66 (West Plano). **Gene Champagne**, cognizant of today's military speech, introduced **Hope for the Warriors** activist, **Gus Cabarcas**. **Lenny Schwartz** reintroduced us to Prodigal Son **Ed Rawls**. And **Errin Froggart** fed daughter **Emily**.

Speaking of "newly-minted Royalty," Nathan approached **Olin Jaye** as "King of Plano Chamber of Commerce." Olin was willing to undergo **INSIDE THE ROTARIAN STUDIO** as long as he wasn't "asked about the sheep." (Bahh!) He was born in Austin, raised in Plano, schooled in Tucson, and degreed at UNT. His nickname was "Butch." In college, he "played every sport poorly," then entered the Air Force (4 years) before becoming a "federal bureaucrat."

continued on page 2



His favorite movie: *Dancing with Wolves*. Vacation: a "beach with warm, white sands." His profession was commercial real estate, and he is about 20 years a Rotarian. His favorite Rotary memory is the celebration for Rotary's 100th anniversary.

Patti Schwartz was rattled to be given the floor but recovered to announce the birth of her (and presumably Lenny's) 9th grandchild, **Ann Marie Todd**.

Alex Johnson announced changes in our Four-Way Speech Contest to include qualifying speeches by 20 competitors at *Plano Senior High* to winnow the field to the top six. Those will vie here on February 13th. **Jersey Mike's** will supply the feed for the prelims thanks to Gene Champagne. Then some nonsense ensued about Gene being a *McKinney Chamber* (?) Ambassador that **Sainted Editor** clearly misunderstood.



Dennis Luellen lauded the attendance (250) at the previous Saturday's **Chili Cookout** where Lori *Phantom Crotchettienne* Roberts won a trophy "shorter than Ken."

KIRK announced that the recent survey garnered 60 responses and begged 30 more participants to go online to finish it. Then **HE** reminded us that our meeting of **March 6th** would be held instead at **Rutledge's Party Barn**. And the Board Meeting (usually the 2nd Thursday) is rescheduled to March 20th.

Debbie Watson proselytized for the February 15th *Plano Symphony Orchestra* Valentine's Gala with seats going for \$130 now but \$150 next (this) week. Those eager to attend on another's nickel can contact Board Director Chris Parr who has two seats left at his table.

Ean touted the February 22nd 5810 Gala benefiting the RI Foundation. Tickets can go toward your Paul Harris Fellowship. *Plano Rotary* has five tables, and some have seats you can claim *gratis*, should you choose to hang on to your shekels.

The **BELLE** of the Club then had the temerity to call upon **FLASH Flannery** for what turned out to be commentary on the New Jersey Governor's woes. Larry claimed he chatted with **Gov.**



Christie, who, trying to lose weight, told his staff to "Close the fridge." They apparently misunderstood.



KIRK then introduced **Lt. General Rick Lynch**, U.S. Army, retired, and author of "Adapt or Die," 196,667th rank in Amazon.

Rick Lynch...is the Executive Director of the *University of Texas at Arlington Research Institute (UTARI)*. He is a graduate of the *U.S. Military Academy at West Point*, New York. He earned his master's degree in Mechanical Engineering with a concentration in Robotics from *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*. He served in the United States Army for 35 years. His commands included the Third Infantry Division in combat and III Corps and Fort Hood. In his last position in the Army, Lt. Gen. Lynch managed all 163 Army installations around the world, a workforce of 120,000 people and an annual budget of nearly \$13 billion.

Under the direction of Lynch, UTARI is focusing on short-term communication of research particularly in the area of Assistive Technologies. With the UTARI team and collaborators, specific industries and areas of research are being targeted. They include Advanced Manufacturing, Applied Robotics, and Medical Technologies.

Lt. Gen. Lynch has been married to his beautiful wife, **Sarah**, for over thirty years. They have two adult children, **Susan** and **Lucas**, and one grandson, **JW**. They also enjoy time with their two Labrador Retrievers, **Maggie** and **Bailey**.



Gen. Lynch said that he approached his high school counselor, **Eileen Lowell**, with a desire to go to college but no means to do so. She told him that he didn't need funds to go to military academies; indeed, they'd pay him to go. *West Point's* acceptance came the day before that from *Annapolis*, so he missed becoming a sailor by 24 hours.

He told tales out of school about his Dad, "drafted in 1945 and the worst soldier" imaginable. He even promoted himself from private to Lt. Gen. after being discharged.

He was a bit kinder to his wife, who was in the audience keeping him honest. She was Director of Parks & Rec when he sought to register a softball team. "She buzzed me incessantly until I took her out" (presumably on a date, since she was still extant). Her Dad was a Sergeant in the Army and had left her with the advice, "Don't marry a GI!" So, though "it took \$690 in flowers, it was worth it" to marry her. Now he takes her everywhere with him, because, during his Army career, he was apart from her for 13 years.

He sees the impact of 12 years of war in the Middle East "in the eyes of the servicemen" (and women). Multiple deployments have led to increased suicides as soldiers tell him "my four-year-old son calls me by my first name," so unfamiliar are they to their families. So he thanks not only those in his command for their service but also their families for their sacrifice. That's why he so enjoys presenting to Rotary, because we "place service above self."

He offers to write a personal thank you note to any serviceman (or woman) of our acquaintance if we but email him their address. Rick.Lynch@uta.edu

With the statement, "In the Army, it ain't the generals; it's the sergeants," he introduced his Chief Operations Officer, Sgt. **Don Phelps**, U.S. Army, ret'd.



He said he wanted to leave us with two thoughts. The first was of UTARI to which he did not retire from the military so much as “transition.” He invited us to visit and had provided a brochure on the venue to our tables.

The second thought was for Wounded Warriors. When asked by family members of the fallen whether or not they had died in vain, he would have denied it while still in command, but now that the U.S. has all but abandoned Iraq and Afghanistan, they have become safe havens for Al Qaeda. So he cannot now deny it in good faith.

The U.S. “walked away prematurely,” and he still prays for the fallen. He claims there are those who have already forgotten 911 and don’t understand that “we fought them” in the Middle East “so that we wouldn’t have to fight them in Plano.”

He works with the Gary Sinise Foundation building mortgage-free homes for paraplegic veterans in a project called Finally Home. But, “as a nation we are walking away from veterans.”

He mentioned his book built upon “nine leadership principles,” the most important of which are Faith and Family. He begins each day with a thought to Joshua 1:9, “...for the Lord God will be with you wherever you go.”

Change requires Adaptive Leadership.

One must inculcate an attitude that sees opportunities rather than obstacles. When he commanded 25,000 troops in Southern Iraq, his budget was cut from \$20B the first year to \$15B the second, forcing him to focus on efficiencies of operations.

His wife’s motto is “People don’t care what you know until they know that you care.” So he recommends that you “Love your subordinates like your children.”

He was “stopped in the street” by a subordinate wife who said “You say you send our husbands home, but you’re just teasing us.” Thereafter he issued orders that nobody works on the weekends without his express approval, and no one sought it.

He took his Dad to visit his Mom’s grave, and noted the tombstones upon which were engraved start dates and end dates separated by a dash. He exhorted us to “Live your dash.”

KIRK claimed that **HE** wasn’t “going to pick on him” as he was a year younger, but instead **HE** praised Lt. Gen. Lynch as one who “walks the talk.” And **HE** cited the book as “a great read” to be found on Amazon when the supply he’d brought with him ran out.

Then **HE** presented Lt. Gen. Lynch with the “coveted Plano Rotary Clock,” and led us in the Four-Way Test, releasing us on an unsuspecting world at 1:03.

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Guests & Visiting Rotarians

Guest

Cami Dean
Mike McCullough
Jim Aldendifer
Glen Callison
Gus Cabrcas
Ed Rawls
Emily Froggatt

Guest Of

Dennis Leullen
Kirk Bell
Kirk Bell
Mike Robnet
Gene Champagne
Lynn Schwartz
Errin Froggatt

AWARDS:

2013 Citizen of the Year

Dr. Myrtle Hightower

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Visiting Rotarian Home Club

Dennis Luellen	Frisco
Ed Williams	Dallas
Kent Stone	Richardson Central

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