

FALL
Weekly

Reader

Volume 9, Issue 70 January 24, 2013

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com



UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 24:
Dewy Elliot, COO
Trident Response Group
January 31:
Karla Oliver
Plano ISD "Teacher of the Year"
February 7:
Lorraine Brock
President, Get Organized
February 14:
Octavio Ortiz
Four Way Test Contest
February 21:
Earnest Burke
Black History Month
Meeting Adjourns @1:30
February 28:
Mayor Phil Dyer
State of the City

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Hammel, David	Jan 01
Little, Pamela	Jan 04
Via, Jo	Jan 05
Anderson, James	Jan 08
Curtis, Jerry	Jan 12
McWhorter, David	Jan 15
Aris, Jerry	Jan 17
Showalter, L. B.	Jan 17
Millender, Sherman	Jan 19
Brodhead, John	Jan 20
Burton, James	Jan 21
Feigenbaum, Alan	Jan 21



Sainted Editor wants to thank **Lori Phantom Crotcheters Roberts** and **Hubert The Man Aaron** for their yeoman jobs as *Rédacteur en Chef de la Semaine* (Editor of the Week) while **Pat** and **Sainted Editor** watched penguins take a leaf from **Busby Berkeley's** playbook. (Only in the *Geriatric Club of Plano* would members get that reference.)

LENNY THE LAMPLIGHTER conjured up a semblance of attention at 12:16 with a vaguely **Rudyard Kipling** but actually a self-quote:

What makes a man?

When you stand for justice even if
you lose your seat at the table,
When you walk for freedom
without a crutch to lean on,
When you risk your life for others
without surety that you will gain
anything,
That is a man.

Martin Luther King, Jr., was a man

This was, of course, because the day's speaker's, **Earnest Burke's**, topic was **MLK** and Plano's celebration of his life and legacy.

LENNY called upon **IB the Good** for the **Invocation** and **Randy Brodhead** for the **Pledge of Allegiance**. ("Thanks, Bob!") He acknowledged the lovely and talented *Phantom Crotcheters* for **Greeting**, and called **Reedy Spigner, SERGEANT DU JOUR**, to welcome visitors of all stripes.

Visiting Rotarians included **Helen Undecipherable** (*Plano West*), **Ken Chute** (*Allen*), **Brandon Gallagher** (*DeKalb, IL*), and **Kent Stone** (*Richardson Central*).



We welcomed guests **Russ Junkins** (**Tino Trujillo**), newly-minted PFD Chief **Brian Crawford** (**Bruce Glasscock**), **Bob Goodman** (**LENNY SCHWARTZ**), PHA Deputy Director **Brenda McDonald** (**Earnest Burke**), **Meredith Walker** (**Bob Pikna**), **Taleen Savant** (**Rick Horne**), "favorite ex-Wife" **Lynda Pittman** (**John Pittman**), **David Craig** and member candidate **John Caldwell** (**Lori Roberts**), **April Spigner** (**Reedy Spigner**) and **Lisa Haag** (**Brandon Gallagher**).



LENNY mentioned the "extremely large (birthday) check" from **LB THE RADIANT**. He was less flippant with the birthdays of **Jerry Aris**, **Randy Brodhead**, **James Button**, and **Alan Feigenbaum**, with a nod to the past birthday boy, **Dave Hammel**.

Celebrating "Rotary anniversaries," **HE** cited **Chris Parr** (11) and **Olin Jaye** (19).

continued on page 2



Moving quickly to forestall mass defections, **LENNY** convened a special purpose **CLUB ASSEMBLY** at 12:24. With **Octavio Ortiz** moving to more responsibility in Sarasota, FL, **LENNY** was obliged to both congratulate him and replace him on the Board of Directors. **Karla Oliver** asked for a nomination of **Ben Criste** to fill Octavio's shoes, got it and the second, took the voice vote, and it passed. **LENNY** adjourned the **ASSEMBLY** at 12:28.



Sarah Watkins was summoned to give her Classification Talk. She spoke of her rise through the **PISD** ranks, culminating in Principal at *Vines* and now *Plano Senior*, which will be her final stop. She noted that the position is "*a day and night job*." She mentioned one daughter at *UT Austin* and the other at "*UT Norman*." She keeps her sanity on the tennis court.

LENNY revealed the 2013-14 Rotary Theme (under **Ean's** administration) of "*Engage Rotary; Change Lives*."

Chris Parr presented **LENNY** with a pair of banners from Rotary Clubs at which he made up in Buenos Aires. Although it appeared as if he made up the story about being obliged by the *Miercoles Rotary* to present an origami swan to our President (and send back the photographic proof), it was indeed true. He may, however,



have taken liberties in describing the requirement as "*giving the President the bird*."

LENNY himself took liberties with his introduction of Earnest Burke, saying that it was fortunate he needed no introduction because "*I have nothing good to say about him*."

Ever graceful, Earnest thanked Lynn and proceeded to introduce a (very professional) video clip produced by the students at **Cary Israel's Collin College**. But all the careful preparation by **Jim Cooper** and his protégé du jour, *Phantom Crotcheter*, were for naught; the new sound system refused to mate with the computer's audio. Then when that difficulty was resolved, the video projector refused to display the clip.



Earnest vamped, saying he would "*permit the technical department to work on that*" while he proceeded with his carefully-timed comments. Cary wanted the assembled to know that the difficulties were not due to *Collin College's* fine product.

He mentioned the flyer on our tables outlining the 2013 response of Plano to the **MLK** celebrations. It represents the 30th year of event which will involve access to many free activities for all. Earnest, the Vice Chair of the event, thanked Cary and the *City of Plano*, the All-American City. He is proud that the event's purpose is "*to unite the community*." Participants should "*feel the fit in without creating an ID profile*."

The "technical department" was ready for another go. Again the audio failed. Earnest asked to stop the clip again because we were "*running short on time*." But the *Phantom Crotcheter* wasn't about to give it up; she tried the 3rd time since "*the third time's the charm*." But computer glitches plagued the effort. After a cold restart, the clip ran correctly, dramatic music and all!

"*Deep in my heart, I do believe: we shall overcome someday. As a black man, it meant everything to me.*"

"*Risking everything you hold dear to accomplish what you believe in.*"

"*Knocked down but got back up!*"

"*His legacy breaks the barriers that divide us.*"

Earnest spoke of giving back to the community to yield a better quality of life. He wanted the event to get schools involved for a better sense of community.

He paused and pointed out that he had practiced four options for this address but none of them had included technical difficulties. So he'd cut to the chase.

He wanted us to look our neighbor at table in the eye and repeat: "*Neighbor, I'm not who I was, and still not yet who I'll be, but I will be better!*"

Earnest explained that Dr. King's vision was "deeply rooted in the American Dream."

Civil Rights started in Montgomery, Alabama, with a bus boycott. But such acts of civil disobedience are hardly

new. Earnest pointed to the Boston Tea Party of 1773, “1773, *Dr. Parr, not the current Tea Party!*” It is justified when a moral obligation, “*based on a higher power,*” contests with written law. “*It moves us forward.*”



He asked how many of us have seen the current movie, *Lincoln*? It is rife with poetic justice. It is now 150 years since the **EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION**, an Executive Order that freed almost all American slaves. (The “free states” could continue slavery, oxymoron though that is.) Finally the 13th Amendment freed all American slaves. Still Texas didn’t get the word for two more years.

Four activities are planned for Plano’s MLK celebration. Earnest hoped that he would see many of us at many of them. Collin College will sponsor one, there will be a Unity Walk, and a civic program with Dale Long as the keynote speaker. At 7 pm on Sunday,

there will be a program at the Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church.

He offered a prize to the first one of us to tell him the number of the Constitutional Amendment giving Women the vote. 19 won a \$25 gift certificate.

In Q&A, someone asked him about his bracelet. He explained that it is the entrepreneurial effort of a mentored 11-year-old student. It is a braided rope that easily unwinds to a much longer strand in case you’re “*At the End of My Rope.*”

He concluded by asking us to “*judge not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character*” (**MLK**), and thanked us for our attention.

Lenny said that he appreciated Earnest’s “*efficiency and technology,*” then presented him with the obligatory **OPERATION ONCE IN A LIFETIME** dogtags AND a *Plano Rotary* check for **\$1,000** to support the **MLK** Program. He explained that the bucket monies are supporting *Habitat for Humanity*.

After leading us in the Four-Way Test, he emancipated us at 1:00.



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**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?

Guests & Visiting Rotarians

Member NEWS

Guest

Russ Junkins
Brian Crawford
Bobby Goodman
Brenda McDonald
Meredith Walker
Taleen Savant
Lynda Pittman
John Caldwell
David Craig
April Spigner
Lisa Haag

Visiting Rotarian

Helen
Ken Chute
Brendon Gallagher
Kent Stone

Guest Of

Tino Trujillo
Bruse Glasscock
Lynn Schwartz
Earnest Burke
Bob Pikna
Rick Horne
John Pittman
Lori Roberts
Lori Roberts
Reedy Spigner
Brendon Gallagher (Visiting Rotarian)

Home Club

Plano West
Allen
Dekalb, IL
Richardson Central

New Member Proposal:

John Caldwell
Classification: Finance
Proposed by: Lori Roberts

David Craig
Classification: Heating & Air
Proposed by: Lori Roberts

AWARDS:

Athena Award:
Camille Ussery
Citizen of the Year:

Jamie Schell
Outstanding Corporate:
Citizen of the Year:
The Shops at Willow Bend
(Octavio & his team)

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