

FALL
Weekly

Reader

Volume 9, Issue 71 January 31, 2013

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com



UPCOMING MEETINGS

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 has a bone to pick with Club Administration. His sworn duty is to lampoon one and all (himself included), but the C.A. insists on bringing sacrosanct subjects to the weekly programs that are above reproach. Give us a good, mendacious sales slug or a politician on the take, something **Sainted Editor** can sink his teeth into!

LENNY THE LAMPLIGHTER made a semblance of summoning our attention at 12:15, regaling us with multiple quotations:

"Volunteering is an act of heroism on a grand scale. And it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds; it changes the odds."

—President Bill Clinton

"There is no better exercise for your heart than reaching down and helping to lift someone up."

—Bernard Meltzer

"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I do know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve. Those among you who will be truly happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."

—Dr. Albert Schweitzer

LENNY then informed us that **Dr. Hendrick** had broken his shoulder and had been hospitalized. He is not yet available for visitation.

LENNY invited DGE **Ean Sullivan** (married 25 years now to the once anorexic **Jan**) to give the Invocation and **Cathy Fang** to lead us in the Pledge. "**Hi, Bob!**" (**Bob Pikna** asked the speaker if he knew *Scary Bob*, and **Dee Elliott** responded, "*No, but I think I just heard him.*")

LENNY also thanked Jan for greeting.

SERGEANT-DU-JOUR, **Reedy Spigner**, welcomed **Bert Kraft** (Metro), **David Downs**



(Pioneer), **Annie Hwang** (Port Lavaca-on the coast, midway between Houston and Corpus Christi), PPD Chief **Greg Rushin** (Sunrise) and ADG **Kent Stone** (Richardson Central).



Guests of Club members included **Rola Burnett** (Kirk Bell), **John Caldwell** (Lori Roberts), **Jensen Yu**, **Yvonne Tsai**, and



Kate Hall (Cathy Fang), **April Spigner** and **Denise Turnball** (Reedy Spigner), **Meredith**



Walker (Octavio Ortiz), and Kathy Blank (Jamee Jolly).

Reedy concluded by thanking A&M for allowing his alma mater to “beat the tar out of you.” Blow though that was, **LENNY** returned to the podium to congratulate **Kelly Palmer** on 11 years of (perfect) attendance.



LENNY thanked **John Yeung, John Longstreet,** and the entire staff at **QUAKER STEAK & LUBE** for an irreproducibly fine Rotary Social on the 22nd. Bob Pikna despairs of finding another such. (Thanks to ADG Kent for the photos of the event.)

PRESIDENT LAMPLIGHTER also congratulated **Earnest Burke** on the **MLK** event the previous weekend, and he noted that Earnest was pleased with the Club turnout which amazed him at about 50%.

HE also noted a milestone in Polio Plus as only one case of polio was reported worldwide last week. (There was, however, a worrisome report last week of a Pakistani polio strain showing up in Egyptian sewage! With the assassination of six Pakistani polio workers last year, vaccination has slowed there, raising fears that the virus will linger, migrate, and re-infect polio-free nations.) **LENNY** worried that DGE Ean will slowly take over our meetings as Ean wandered forward saying that he couldn’t “resist an opportunity.” Ean spoke of an address by the “#2 guy at the World Health Organization” (Dr. WHO?) who told the



International Assembly that Rotary’s goal will certainly be met in 2014 and perhaps even this year.

Gary Basham suggested that members wear their Paul Harris Fellowship pins, indicating that it may even substitute for the Rotary pin. There was no immediate comment from the **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS** as to whether fines would be adjusted accordingly. **LENNY** chimed in that the Club’s goal was 100% PH participation by the end of March, so those few who have opted out can expect to receive a chat with him in the near future.



Bert Kraft invited us to drop \$50 for a ticket to **Metro’s Casino Night** on February 23.



Nathan Barbara cheerfully coughed up the \$5 fine for a political ad by guest David Downs running for Lee Dunlap’s seat on the City Council.



Bob Pikna arose to introduce the day’s speaker, Dee Elliott, cofounder and Chief Strategist of the *Trident Response Group*, a business threat assessment and solution organization. Dee’s position is in international finance. He is also a graduate of the *U.S. Naval Academy* (1970), a classmate of Bob’s. More to the point of the talk, Mr. Elliott (and Bob) are Board Members for **HEROES ON THE WATER (HOW)**, a volunteer group that arranges kayak fishing experiences for disabled veterans.



<http://www.heroesonthewater.org/home>

Dee thanked Bob for the “essentially correct introduction.” He explained the description with an anecdote of a speaker introduced as having made a great deal of money on stocks. That speaker also said that was essentially correct, “but we didn’t make it; we lost it. And it wasn’t me; it was my brother. But aside from that...”

He described how Bob’s and his boys played soccer together years ago. So their association goes way back.

Mr. Elliott explained that *Trident* works for “leaders around town, structuring solutions to offset risk.” He takes employees from Navy SEAL teams, taught “how to break things.” They exploit that training to guard against breakage. (It would be a shame if your business breaks. We offer youse guys protection.)

He spoke of a photo wall of employees, each with a sobriquet. “Iron-man” earned his stripes “hooking and jabbing” in Afghanistan. “Birdman” had seven deployments to the Middle East. “Sniper” had four. “Abner” **Wahab** served as interpreter for *General Petraeus* before being retired by an IED. And Dee’s own photo involves **John Paul Jones** accepting a surrender sword from a “surlly” British Captain (presumably **Pearson** of the *Serapis*).



In between exhortations to the audience to continue to elect conservative public officials (preaching to the choir), Mr. Elliott mentioned the many charities for which he and his employees work. Among them: *Carry the Load*, *Sons of the Flag Warriors*, and *Heroes on the Water*. He spoke of the “threat to [our] Constitution,” but declined to say from what quarter. He pointed to unrest in Mali, Algeria, and Benghazi. He decried our “careless approach to social media” that leaves us vulnerable to cyberthreats. He was incensed about the vulnerability of our economy, propped up by Chinese investments. In short, he was prepared to talk on a wide variety of conservative issues, but, instead, promised to hew to his titular topic for whatever remained of his time.

Breaking that promise, he threw up his hands at the “i-Generation,” with its i-Carlys for little girls that foster a “state of total disobedience.” But the “good news” was:



Through “conservative governance,” *HOW* is helping meet the “monumental need of military veterans.” Our adversary overseas has “no respect for human life,” and desires only to “achieve Paradise by killing Americans.” And the current “Administration is reducing manpower and funding,” leaving fighting men (and, presumably, women) vulnerable. Still their spirit is high: the Naval Academy recently accepted a class of 1,100 out of 20,600 applicants. But it must be demoralizing to witness “the treachery of those who we are there to help.” The cost is Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome. Close knit military communities mean that veterans come home to close proximity with the families of fallen comrades. Even stateside drone operators, removed from the field, suffer the stress of “killing dozens in the morning and coaching soccer in the afternoon.”

Medical advances mean that instead of 42% of wounded dying (WWII), only 13% don’t make it. There are, for example, 300,000 cases of concussion from recent conflicts and 18 suicides daily! Fortunately, there are many volunteer organizations assisting veterans today. They help with issues of connection and trust.

HOW has served 5,000 vets for only \$100 each (gas money). Mr. Elliott presented a 3-minute video in which clients told of the contentment reached fishing. *Center for the Intrepid* partners with *HOW* to treat kayaking as therapy, returning vets to “a life of service.” He urged us to send clients his way with the phrase, “Have I hooked you yet?”

LENNY mentioned a nephew with the Purple Heart and asked past service members and families of same to stand. They were roundly applauded. He was sure Dee would be “thrilled” to wear **OPERATION ONCE IN A LIFETIME** dogtags. After leading us in the Four-Way Test, **LENNY** dismissed the assembly at 1:03 with the exhortation: “Y’all be careful out there!”

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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

Guest

Rola Burnett
John Caldwell
Kathy Blank
Kate Hall
Yvonne Tsai
Jensen Yu
April Spigner
Denise Turnbull
Meredith Walker

Visiting Rotarian

Burt Kraft
David Downs
Annie Hwang
Greg Rushin
Kent Stone

Guest Of

Kirk Bell
Lori Roberts
Jamee Jolly
Cathy Fang
Cathy Fang
Cathy Fang
Reedy Spigner
Reedy Spigner
Octavio Ortiz

Home Club

Metro
North Texas Pioneers
Port Lavaca
Plano Sunrise
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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