

Winter
Weekly

Reader



Volume 6, Issue 112, January 14, 2010

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

True Confessions

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Jan 14 David Allison & Earl Simpkins
Celebration of Rotary Foundation

Jan 21 District Attorney John Roach

Jan 28 TBD

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/1.....David Hammel
1/5.....Jo Via
1/8.....James Anderson
1/12.....Brad Shanklin
1/12.....James Smith
1/17.....L.B. Showalter
1/17.....Jerry Aris
1/19.....Sherman Millender
1/20.....John Brodhead
1/21.....Alan Feigenbaum
1/30.....David Ellis

E**A****N** swears he didn't forget he was responsible for the photographs in this Bulletin. He just didn't show up on time; pressing business concerns. Oh, yeah, Ean; like it's **Jan's** fault. (Ean's running her property owner association business while she's gallivanting about with professional development opportunities.) Fortunately, **Randy** brought his Brownie and captured the flavor of the meeting for us. In return, **Sainted Editor** promised him some exposure, as it were, published forthwith: he and **Dianne** in *flagrante delicto*. Being Randy, he's proud of this perversion.



It must be approaching election time again. (Indeed, when does it ever cease?) Councilman **Lee Dunlap** loudly cautioned **Earnest Burke** against sitting at **Sainted Editor's** table for fear that loose lips will provide him fodder for this yellow journal. Any press is good as long as we spell your name right, eh, Lee?

Princess **Ernst** (heir to the throne of **queen butterfly**) called the meeting to order at 12:11, cajoling **Brian Stamper** to pray and **Bob Bauer** to pledge. The greeter (**David Ellis**) went unheralded, but John, embarrassed by this revelation, won't forget to credit it in future. He noted that he had consigned Susan to the island of Elba, characterizing her as **Napoléon Bonaparte** and, inadvertently, himself as **Louis XVIII**.

SERGEANT SKIP looked out over a sea of **burnt orange** as he contemplated



their (rather one-sided, as it turned out) battle with the **Crimson Tide** that evening. But we weren't all Sons of Austin; it's just that the *Pitchfork*

had put out only **burnt orange** napkins. Now we know where their sentiments lie.

Oddly, there were no Visiting Rotarians, but it might have been the weather, which was **FRIGID!** **Tino** was AWOL, so his guest, **Cathy Fang**, had to introduce herself. **Chivalry** is dead.

John revealed a security audit that had been performed at **ARTA Travel**, wherein it was discovered that **FLASH FLANNERY** was using an odd password:



Mickey-Minnie-Pluto-Huey-Dewey-Louie-Donald-Goofy-Sacramento

When the auditors inquired about this, **FLASH** explained that he had just followed their instructions and constructed a password that included 8 characters and a capital. John had re-gifted a blonde joke circulated among **BOMBAY SOCIETY** members. Their **GRAND POOHBAH**, **Ron Ternosky**, will doubtless discipline **LORD HAW HAW** (John's title) at their next gig. John announced 5810's **Rotary International Leadership Institute** whose 16th class will be held January 30-31. For only \$250, you get a night at Sherman's *La Quinta Inn* and a boot camp like *Leadership Plano* for Rotarians. Those interested are encouraged to download

<http://www.clubrunner.ca/Data/5810/html/35554/RILIBrochure1.pdf>



True Confessions *continued...*

to fill out and return to **Ginny Ryan**.

IB the Good announced that **GA Davidson** was here, even though he ought not to be. GA's younger brother has died, and the funeral was today, but the day's **FRIGID** weather had cancelled GA's flight to Arkansas.

Kelly Palmer announced that **Alex Schell** is now out of the hospital.



John Ernst introduced the introducer (John Ernst) of today's speaker, our very own **Earnest Burke**. John told us that Earnest had an announcement that would take up the rest of the program! He explained that Earnest had been a CIA spook, working with nukes. (So was Randy Wright! We're surrounded.) John elaborated on Earnest keeping up his Security Clearance (it's really lapsed) for special treatment at **COSTCO**.

Earnest thanked John for the "eloquent introduction," and proceeded to the three-step elocution process:

1. Tell 'em what you'll say.
2. Say it.
3. Tell 'em what you've said.

We were to learn about Plano's **Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebrations** that begin on Saturday, January 16, and run through Thursday, January 21st. Find more at

<http://planomlk.org/>

Earnest had supplied cheat sheets. He told us of an epiphany he experienced, dreaming about MLK, Jr. It concerned the introduction of a young man to the charismatic Reverend at a rally in Birmingham, AL.

The young man, we'll call him "Ricky," lived with his family, including his younger brother, Aubrey, in a suburb called Eureka, pronounced "*Uricka*" by its inhabitants. So he was *Ricky of Uricka*.

Ricky was the consummate baseball player; his team won almost all their games. He played in a field out behind his house. And his ears were well-tuned to the voice of his Mother, calling from the back-door. He knew he had to come when called or there would be "*consequences*."

He was usually called just before dinner, but on the day in question, he heard his Mother's voice well before the appointed hour saying, "*Ricky, come home! We're going to a rally.*"

Inexplicably, he had to take a bath and dress in his Sunday best for the walk to the bus line ½ a block away.

"Momma, why we goin' to this rally?"

"We're goin' to hear Dr. King," she replied.

"OK," he said, oblivious to its import.

In 20 minutes they were in downtown Birmingham and moving toward a park overflowing with more people than Ricky had ever seen (at baseball or football games). Someone introduced MLK who then spoke to the crowd. Even at that young age, Ricky was taken aback by the power in the Reverend's voice. His subject was Segregation. But soon another voice was heard from the crowd shouting, "*They have us surrounded!*"

There followed panic and screaming as police, German Shepherds, and firemen (with hoses set to the level required "*to strip bark from trees*") moved in on the rally. The audience ran and was met with released dogs and fire hoses at the periphery of the park.

The family ran with Ricky in charge of holding onto Aubrey as they escaped the mayhem. But Aubrey was torn away from Ricky's grasp, and the noise was so great that the Mother couldn't hear Ricky's plea, "*Mom, stop! I've lost my brother!*"

When at last they reached a place of shelter, she finally heard him and chastised him as they turned back into the fray. When they reached 6th Avenue and 16th Street (University of Alabama campus), Ricky's ears picked up another familiar voice, that of Aubrey, calling his name. There he was, on the shoulders of a stranger, being carried to safety.

Relief, joy, fulfillment cascaded through Ricky, who hugged the leg of the white man bearing Aubrey to the safety of his Mother. He never got the man's name, but he learned that day that some people have good character regardless of the color of their skin.

Later, he asked his Mother why there was such obvious anger in the members of the police, and she replied, "*I will ask you to pray for them, for they know not what they do.*"

Far from apocryphal, the story was intimately known to Earnest who confessed to being the youngster who lost his brother on that day. He fleshed out more of the times and environs by mentioning that, although the nearest high school was only two blocks away, "Ricky" was obliged by segregation to attend an all-Colored one four miles distant.



Martin Luther King, Jr., was arrested in the spring of 1963, and spent his incarcerated time writing "*Letters from the Birmingham Jail*" in support of an activist Civil Rights Movement. There were "*many controversial events in MLK's life,*" but "*the Reality of what he did was obvious.*" He unified a community under a common cause. (And he changed the discrimination laws in the City of Birmingham, which now sports a *Martin Luther King Drive*.)

Earnest detailed Plano's MLK activities for us.

- **Saturday 1/16** a *Unity Walk* starting at 9:45 am

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(gather at 1740 Ave. G at 8:45) to City Hall where a program is planned for the Council Chambers at 11 am. Also at 11, there'll be a *Health Fair* at the *Douglass Community Center* followed by a free lunch.

- **Sunday 1/17** the *MLK All-Community Choir* will perform at *1st United Methodist Church* (thank you, Gary) at 7 pm.
- **Monday 1/18** a *Power Leadership Breakfast* (Sen. **Shapiro** in attendance) will be held at *Collin College's Spring Creek campus* at 7:30 am, and
- **Thursday 1/21** there will be a tribute to MLK by *Plano Independent School District* at the *Plano Centre*.

Earnest was surprised when there were no questions, but Randy explained it, "You tell a good story!" John Ernst, saying, "We support everything you do," offered Earnest Rotary's check for \$1,000 for the *Unity Walk* and scholarships.

Scary Bob asked **Nathan Barbera** why there were no published standings in the Fantasy Football League, and Nathan promised them "next week." (See below, Bob.)

Scary Bob wanted his middling position touted, but Ean explained that his position was assured from the start when "he chose only Jewish players."



John asked Ean if he had any other disparaging remarks, and hearing none, he led us in the Four-Way Test starting, "**Ean**, of the Things we Think,

Say, and Do..." and dismissed us at 12:50.



PLANO FANTASY FOOTBALL LEAGUE FINAL STANDINGS

NFC DIVISION

1. **Mark Johnson** 13:4
2. Brad Shanklin..... 10:7
3. Nathan Barbera..... 7:10
4. Bob Epstein..... 7:10
5. David Allison..... 7:10
6. Gerald Brence..... 7:10

AFC DIVISION

1. **Martin Jackson** 13:5
2. BenCriste..... 9:8
3. Michael Baldwin..... 9:8
4. Mark Waterbury..... 8:9
5. EanSullivan..... 6:11
6. JohnErnst..... 6:11

Memorial Elementary needs Science Fair Judges on Wednesday,

January 27, 2010

at 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM.

Lunch will be provided.

For more information,

contact: Lillian Stankunas at Lillian.Standunas@pisd.edu

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?

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