



Spring  
Weekly

# Reader

Volume 117, Issue 177 June 11, 2015

The Plano Rotary Club  
www.PlanoRotary.com

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**June 11th**

Judge Sam Lindsay -  
"The Current State of  
Affairs Regarding  
Policing"

**June 18th**

Diane Reeve -  
"The Health Benefits of  
Martial Arts"

**June 18th**

Diane Reeve -  
"The Health Benefits of  
Martial Arts"

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Jeff Frauenheim	Jun 01
Charles Milby	Jun 07
Blair Ritchey	Jun 08
Mark Waterbury	Jun 08
Mark Geller	Jun 09
H. Wayne Hendrick	Jun 09
Bradley Keith	Jun 12
Bob Bauer	Jun 19



## RATTLESONAKES&BATT

**I**T IS, of course, immensely satisfying to see that one's lifeblood is read and appreciated by members (and their spouses), but even *Sainted Editor* suspects



that **Karla Oliver** and **Mary Jo Dean** are merely using the *Weekly Reader* as a screen from *Scary Bob's* roving camera eye. Please, ladies, tell me I'm wrong!

**President Wonderful** called the Rotary Moot to order at 12:15, cajoling **Earl Simpkins** to do the Invocation and **Rutledge Haggard** to lead us in the Pledge. **Karen Sheldon** was again thanked for Greeting. (Surely we have some Newbies who should be doing that for the recognition.) Lastly, Acting **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS Kelly Palmer** stood in for **AWOL Nathan Barbera**.

Kelly announced no Visiting Rotarians, but we did indeed have one from *Park Cities*, **David Goodson**. Instead, Kelly called upon **Bob Pikna** to welcome his guest, but Bob was AWOL too, so **LB THE RADIANT** took up the slack and introduced us to **Howard Shapiro** who "hasn't been here in a long time." But, having received the busi-



ness card of Bob's guest, he announced a Roastmaster, **Larry McPherson**, who should have come last week to normalize us on **Bill DeWhitt's** presentation. **Rick Horne** bragged on son, **Zack**, who had just completed PESH's International Baccalaureate Program, graduating 27<sup>th</sup> out of 1,550! He has been accepted to *Notre Dame* where he'll study Finance and Korean.



Rutledge welcomed Brother **Owen Haggard** and guest **Eddie Jones**, and **Debbie Watson** fed grandson, **James Isbell**, currently attending Wylie ISD (the one near Abilene?).

**Lenny Schwartz** did the honors of recognizing members' perfect attendance records. He fêted **Lynn McLean** (3), **Ken Roberts** and **Bob Botts** (19), **Hubert Aaron** (132, but, citing dyslexia, amended to 23), **Randy Brodhead** (30 "and still looks good in shorts"), **Jeff Frauenheim**, **Alice Hobbs**, and Rutledge Haggard (all 20), and **Karla Oliver** (10).



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**Olin Jaye** took the spotlight to pontificate, “*I was born on a small farm near Bandera, TX.*” Then he settled down to his announcement regarding our July 2<sup>nd</sup> Patriotic Meeting with the five Plano Rotary Club Presidents and Rep. **Sam Johnson** (R., 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Texas). (Sainted Editor will be in Mongolia then, so will someone ask Sam if he remembers the time **Maribelle** and I discussed adding an institutional loop to the cable TV franchise he was promoting? The eventual winner did include that option which saved the City millions in fees.) In addition to that program, Olin advised us that we’ll hear from the new PISD Superintendent on September 10<sup>th</sup> and the new Collin College President on September 17<sup>th</sup>. (Sainted Editor will miss the latter too, being in the Crimea on that date, dodging Russian separatist missiles.) Our Independence Day celebration will feature Debbie’s PSO’s Brass Quintet.



Earnest announced a “brief” Foundation meeting to follow our luncheon and called upon the “*infamous, dynamic, world-renown, highly-coveted, perpetual*” **David McWhorter** who offered to “*make up for*” shameless infomercial programs of late by bringing us the current



**MISS TEXAS**, Monique Evans, who, taking a page from **Yoram Solomon**’s book, photo-bombed David as he prepared to introduce her. (Yoram returned the compli-

ment taking a selfie with her which went to his Facebook page within 30 seconds. Working on re-election so soon?)

A 23-year-old senior at the *University of Texas* (Austin), Monique Evans captivated the audience and judges to be named Miss Texas 2014. An accomplished ballerina, she won the talent scholarship and the interview scholarship awards to achieve the title over 51 other contestants from all around the state of Texas.

She is traveling across the state promoting her message of “*Remember Your Heart: One Beat at a Time*” and will speak to thousands of students, encouraging them to take the “*Miss Texas 48-hour Challenge*” to ensure young people will maintain a healthy lifestyle. Monique competed at the *Miss America Pageant* and was named as a Top 15 Finalist.

David concluded, “*And she threw out the first pitch at a Rangers game.*”

Monique reiterated (for those who’d attended the Citizenship Award Program) that her father had been a Rotarian in Florida. She admitted to “*an unusual childhood*” which involved growing up in Far West Texas (or should that be Far West, Texas?), moving to California, having her family sell everything they owned except the red suburban which they used to tour 47 states. Later she IDed KY, MT, and VT as the three states she missed on their whirlwind tour.



Next they tackled the world, hitting 87 countries, “*backpacker-style.*” They sought out world history and culture, diving, for example, to sunken battle-ships in Guam. Later, on her tour as Miss Texas, she met ex-servicemen in Waco who had fought the Battle for Guam.

Her first kiss had been in Egypt, a peck on the cheek from a cheeky Egyptian boy who fled in terror on seeing her Father. Eventually, she returned to Texas and school and ballet class.

As a child, she “*never had the courage to tell my own story.*” She was “*shy, and had no voice in class.*” But she thought the best way to overcome that was to enter the Miss Texas competition, which she lost three years running. Year One: 8<sup>th</sup> place. Year Two: 11<sup>th</sup> place. Year Three: 16<sup>th</sup> place. So she was confident, by mathematical progression, to score 23<sup>rd</sup> place in Year Four. So the pressure was off; she relaxed, could “*be myself and won!*” Then she took up travels again, this time all around the State.

One trip took her to the Sweetwater Rattlesnake Round-up and an obligation to step into a pit of 15,000 pit vipers. Appropriately suited up with special pants tied at the ankles, she provided the mandatory photo-op.

The Miss Texas Contest has been given a grant to speak to 1,000s of elementary and high school assemblies. She tries to instill in Title I students the urge to attend college. She studies nutrition at UT.



It has been “an amazing year,” and she appreciates all she’s been given, including “another Mama,” **Susan Shuler**, her Business Manager, who sends her love to the Club.

Howard Shapiro asked how old she was when the family pickup up and vagabonded it. She was six, and was home schooled on the two-year trip.



Someone asked to hear again the story of the Wimberley flood, so Monique related how her brother had hustled everyone to the upper floor of the house in which they had gathered the family for her grandmother’s 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. She has the standard sibling rivalry; “if you want a brother, you can have mine.” But he became her hero that night as the river and the snakes rose. He gathered up neighbors, adding them to the crowd upstairs as water filled the home. The fridge floated up to bang the downstairs ceiling.

They watched cars and homes float away, but theirs withstood the storm. The next morning, several of those who spent the night found no homes to which to return.

She vowed, “I’m not going back when Grandma turns 100!”

Earnest asked her the hard questions. How old? 23. What weight? “100,” she lied, but added that she’d have to work it for bikini season. Aspirations? To become a physician in preventative medicine. Do you dance? (This he asked of a ballerina?!?) Have you considered becoming a Rotarian? “Are you taking appli-

cations?” You’re in. Do students want to be like you? “A girl wanted me to be her Mom!” Do you volunteer? “Every day.”

“Did you know that **LE’s** grandson wants to marry you?” Well, he’d have to get in line, for she’s “engaged to three different men.”

Then Earnest coached us to stumble through “highly-coveted, perpetual calendar, useful into perpetuity,” but we failed him again. With a nod to Miss Texas, “We have to stop meeting like this,” he announced that Karen has **Tino’s** address in Mexico, led us in the Four-Way Test, and disbanded the Moot at 12:48.



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Rutledge Haggard

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