



Spring
Weekly

Reader

Volume 25, Issue 89 June 6, 2013

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS

June 6

John Ernst - Collin County
Adult Clinic
"Healthcare in Collin
County & Where it's Going."

June 13

Ean Sullivan - District Gov.
Installation
NO LUNCH
Frontiers of Flight Museum-
6pm

June 20

Jordan Pugh, #32 Washington
Redskins (Safety)
"Never Forget the Leftovers"

June 27

Lynn Schwartz-
Presidents Final Meeting

The Hendrick Scholarship
Foundation golf tournament
committee will be meeting right
after Thursday the 6th Rotary
Meeting...We need as many
volunteers as possible!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Frauenheim, Jeff	Jun 01
Milby, Charles	Jun 07
Waterbury, Mark	Jun 08
Geller, Mark	Jun 09
Hendrick, H. Wayne	Jun 09
Keith, Bradley	Jun 12
Bauer, Robert	Jun 19
Yeung, John	Jun 29



Tiara & Cape

Randy W got the plum assignment today. He played paparazzo to **DaNae Couch's Miss Texas**, snapping a full digital chip's worth of photos of her. But **Diana** has nothing more to worry about than **Senator Shapiro**, whose husband actually STAYED until the bitter end of the



meeting and volunteered to take instruction from the baton-twirling pageant-winner! Of course **Howard's** lame excuse was that she was finishing up law school, and he was sizing her up for an internship. (33-25-35)



LENNY THE LAMPLIGHTER was AWOL today, so **CAPTAIN KIRK** took over, condemning **Ean Sullivan** to the Invocation and **Karen Thunert** to the Pledge, thanking **Scary Bob** for providing 50% of the group's volume. He thanked **Bob Pikna** for greeting and summoned **Andy Sayers** as **SERGEANT DU MOIS**.

Andy had no visiting Rotarians to fête, so he moved on to guests. **Alice Hobbs** introduced **Jason Kramer**, **Ben Criste** welcomed *nonPareil* minions, **Gary Moore** and **Missy Points**, **Ean Sullivan** welcomed School Board Also-Ran, **Yoram Solomon**, **Earnest Burke** offered **Sally**



Magnuson the opportunity to tout the run-off election and urge us to the polls on her behalf, **Jerry Kezhaya** introduced **Jeff Logue**, and **Sarah Akers** bade us welcome **Jim O'Reilly**.



Sarah Watkins diminished us all in comparison with her two top seniors, Salutatorian **Amy Xia** and Valedictorian **Aileen Huang**.

Sarah butchered Amy's parents' names, but she must be used to it, given the sheer weight of an Honors List, top-heavy with Asian names. Amy's off to a Chemistry degree (*Sainted Editor* cheered) at *Columbia*. Aileen is instead headed for *Yale* and a degree in Mathematics or Economics (not mutually exclusive, Aileen).

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KIRK wished Randy Wright a Happy 76th Birthday and extended similar felicitations to **Jeff Frauenheim** and **Wally Reed**.

Instead of a weekly quotation (or even a), **KIRK** asked for member brags. No one volunteered; perhaps they were aware that other clubs charge folks who offer brags on their families or businesses. So **KIRK** changed tactics and asked for all those who've had new babies, or rather, given the average age of those in the *Geriatric Club of Plano*, grand- or great grand-babies to stand. **Mark Geller** embarrassed himself being caught standing.



Earnest Burke hazarded the information that his son was recently married in Chicago. **Jerry Kezhaya** said his Canadian wife had recently become an American citizen. **Randy Brodhead** said his daughter was married last Saturday. **LE THE RADIANT** said, "Hi." Someone offered the *Rangers* win of the previous week. Another mentioned a daughter recently graduated. Randy offered his granddaughter, **Katie McMullen**, as gaining a scholarship for her 65 mph pitching at *Henderson State* (AK).

CAPTAIN KIRK had a \$20 *Rangers* ticket to auction off to the highest bidder, proceeds to benefit the Club, and Randy Wright whipped **John Ernst** into such a frenzy that he offered \$25. SOLD!

KIRK reminded us that the next Social is at *Urban Crust*. He then called upon **Susan Iron butterfly Shuler** but had to rescind the call when he realized we had one more spot of bother to perform. So instead, Ben Criste presented \$10,000 to *nonPareil* as their take from the re-



cent Soap Box Derby. Spokesman Gary Moore told the gathering that this almost doubled last year's contribution and it will go a long way toward the group's goal of tending to the needs of autistic adults.



Now Susan was permitted to introduce *Miss Texas* from her position of volunteer with the *Miss Texas* Pageant. DaNae Couch, 24, is a student at the *Texas Tech Law School*, having graduated with Honors from *Baylor* with a BA in English. She has won a variety of national twirling titles and was a Featured Twirler for the *Golden*

Wave Marching Band. Having won the preliminary fitness, overall fitness, preliminary talent, and overall interview awards, she went on to the *Miss Texas* title in 2012. She represented Texas at the *Miss America Pageant*, placing in the top 10. Her agenda is to speak on "*Hope for Family Recovery: Life Beyond Addiction*" from experience with an sibling addict.



Miss Texas Couch (is that anything like *Miss Ottoman Sofa*), told us that pageantry wasn't in her blood. She had, of course, seen Beauty Pageants before, but her life was devoted to baton twirling instead. She spoke of being kicked off the racketball court where she practiced baton. The same teacher who so rudely interrupted her Art Form, also recommended she try pageantry. His clinching argument was that the *Miss America Pageant* offers the world's largest scholarship purse for women. DaNae had a *Baylor* scholarship but she was looking forward to law school, and needed help there.

She described her novitiate, not even knowing how to walk in heels. So she worked "*harder than I thought possible*" only to discover that others had worked harder still. So she only finished in the top 10. That earned her school funds. Finishing in the top 5 the following year earned her even more. And when she was third runner-up subsequently, she decided that she'd "*give it only one more shot*." Then the bottom fell out of her family.

She was unaware of her brother's addiction until he went to rehab. That motivated her to gain an audience for her message of hope by winning *Miss Texas* last summer. She has spoken since at countless schools including Susan's *Wylie ISD* where a 7-year-old girl asked, "*If someone offers you a drink, but you aren't sure that they've put a pill in it, what do you do?*" DaNae's answer was "*throw it in the trash*." The little girl was relieved. Later her Principal apologized for the question, noting that the girl had come to class with a *Jack in the Box* cup full of *Jack Daniels*, courtesy of her mother. DaNae opined that her role was useful even if it helped just that little girl. She embodies the adage: *if someone would but give me a tiara and a cape, I could save the world*.

She has developed *DaNae's Da Dos and Da Don'ts* for her classroom presentations. And her exposure to students makes her sanguine about Texas' prospects. She says the younger generation (she's 24?!) is "*eager to make a difference*."

As *Miss Texas*, she has seen more than her share of parades, fairgrounds, and public events. She's taken more than her share of pictures with cows, chickens, turkeys, and rattlesnakes! But the highlights have been "*interacting with Texans*" and the hot-air balloon rides.

Although she didn't win the *Miss America* contest, she's content because "*Texas is its own country anyway*." Or at least its own Republic.





In response to a question about her law school, she said that the Dean of the school showed up in Las Vegas for the pageant! And in four years of competition, she's earned enough scholarship money to finish law school next year with no debt.

Susan asked her what event took her furthest from her comfort zone. Without hesitation, she indicted the *Rattlesnake Roundup*. She saw Miss Snake Charmer dropped into the snake pit, and the promoters bullied her into following suit. She got "*chapped up*," and bravely faced the squirming horde, breaking into a sweat when asked to hold the snakes. She politely declined a return engagement.



That compares with the photo taken astride a prize cow that was advertised to be terminally sleepy. But when DaNae mounted it, the cow decided to stand, catching DaNae's boot heel in the rigging. (It must've made for an interesting photo.)

In response to another question, she said that she'd earned \$40K from pageants and \$65K from a Baylor scholarship. That's more than a twirler can expect, especially since a baton *artiste* had never won Miss Texas.

DaNae showed her talent with *Figure 8s*, *two-handed spins*, *fish tails*, *Houdini rolls*, *elbow pops*, finishing with a 3-baton juggle.



Ean was pushed to learn to twirl, but he declined citing weak wrists, so Howard strode forward. Bored with the spin instructions, he asked, "*When do we start throwing it in the air?*" Someone suggested, "*He's a natural.*" I suppose that's part and parcel of the three-ring circus that is **Richard Gere's** criminal court. Howard attributed his success to "*a lot of yoga.*" He did get to throw AND catch his baton to enthusiastic applause.

KIRK didn't trust himself. On **HIS** return to the podium, **HE** commented, "*I'm biting my lip.*" But **HE** threw caution to the wind and said that it's not surprising that "*a pre-law student would be comfortable around snakes.*" Then **HE** recommended DaNae join Plano Rotary, which clearly "*could use some younger members.*" **HE** offered her the customary dog tags and called for announcements. Someone asked, "*When does Lenny get back?*"

Swallowing that rebuke, **KIRK** led us in the Four-Way Test and belled us out at 12:54.



Guests & Visiting Rotarians

Guest	Guest Of	Proposed Members	AWARDS:	
Jeff Logue	Jerry Kezhaya	Proposed member: Brian Crawford	<u>2012 Best Community Partner</u>	<u>Athena Award:</u>
Jason Kramer	Alice Hobbs	Classification: Fire Chief	Children's Theatre	Camille Ussery
Missy Points	Ben Criste	Proposed by: Bruce Glasscock	(Sara Egelston Akers)	
Gary Moore	Ben Criste	Proposed member: Wallace Reed	<u>2012 Best Community Organization by the Junior League of Collin County</u>	<u>Citizen of the Year:</u>
Yoram Soloman	Ean Sullivan	Classification: Insurance	Children's Theatre	Jamie Schell
Sally Magnuson	Ean Sullivan	Proposed by: Herb Boxie	(Sara Egelston Akers)	<u>Outstanding Corporate:</u>
Sally Magnuson	Earnest Burke			The Shops at Willow Bend
Jim O'Reilly	Sara Akers			(Octabio & his team)
Amy Xia	Sarah Watkins			
Aileen Huang	Sarah Watkins			

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Plano Rotary Monthly Social Event
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