

Rotary



BE THE INSPIRATION
2018-2019

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Mar 21st
Trisha Cunningham
Hunger in Plano and North Texas -
North TEXAS Food Bank

Mar 28th
(NO NOON MEETING)
Bruce Glasscock
Retirement Party
5:30pm @ Haggard Party Barn

Apr 4th
(NO NOON MEETING)

Apr 10th (Wednesday!!!)
Plano City Council
Candidate Forum



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Johnson, Marshall	Mar 10
Hightower, Myrtle	Mar 11
Schell, Jamie	Mar 18
Garza, Gary	Mar 31
Glasscock, Bruce	Mar 31



WINTER Weekly

Volume 272, Issue 337, March 21st, 2019

Reader

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

Earth Day Deniers

HUBERT AARON took the photographer's bit between his teeth this day, wielding **Sainted Editor's** itty bitty point'n'shoot. So any defects in these photos are hereby officially charged to the camera! Thanks, **Hubert**.

Sainted Editor is waiting for **Prince Jeff Beckley** to advocate for lamb to be among the three proteins to which we're entitled by **Gleneagles**. He would be known henceforth and forever more as **Mutton Jeff**. But as expensive as lamb is, we'll not see it at **Gleneagles**.

Jeff managed to work the bell at 12:16, summoning **Rick Horne** for the Invocation and **NANCY HUMPHREY** for the Pledge. He thanked **Joe Camarena** and **Larry FLASH Flannery** for greeting. **FLASH** said that in last week's **3 Minutes of Fame**, he neglected to tell us that he is dyslexic (or, as he might put it, lesdyxxic). Someone helpful said, "I thought you were a Republican," to which he pled guilty.

SERGEANT NANCY commented on the applause that greeted her saying, "The first time I mentioned getting one clap," **FLASH** pounced upon the double entendre. **NANCY** recognized the brood Judge **Johnny Lewis** had brought with him, and Johnny introduced two of his three granddaughters,



Meredith and **Morgan** (**Stephanie** was AWOL) and his "bride of 50+ years, 7 of which were happy," **Sharon**. (One can only imagine the pillow recriminations.)

FLASH welcomed back **Dr. Varun Joseph**, a dentist seeking a Rotary Club. Joe



Camarena welcomed back **Peggy Fenwick** (to be inducted at a subsequent meeting), and **Rick Horne** welcomed back another inductee, **Eric Eisenhard**,

a financial planner with **Raymond James**. (So then the Club will have two! (**CAPTAIN KIRK** is with **Raymond James** as well.) **NANCY** also mentioned that **Sharon Lewis** is from **Sunrise Rotary**.

"Let's see; who should I pick on?" mused **NANCY** as she wandered ominously about the room. She settled upon **CAPTAIN KIRK**, "as soon as he finishes his tea." **KIRK'S** first car: a **Nash Rambler**, booty from his Dad's job as a bail bondsman. Favorite band: **THE EAGLES**; Nancy concurred.



He'd a hard time coming up with the weirdest thing happening on the job. Finally he decided it was the incident that almost got him killed testing a student Air Force pilot; far from sticking the landing, the student froze and **KIRK** had to perform a "60° wing rock" to come anywhere close to the runway. One thing we might not know about him is his summoning a band to play for his Gary, Indiana, high school prom; they paid \$400 to book **The Jackson Five**. His **TARDIS** choice would be to tour Switzerland, Austria, and Germany. (He and **Beverly** could accompany the **Parrs** and **Maucieris** there this summer.) He admitted to no tattoos. **KIRK** said he'd be

continued on page 2



seeking sponsors for our **Citizenship Banquet** he's hosted for six years; it runs for two nights, **May 21st and 22nd** at *Collin College*.

Her mission accomplished, **NANCY** tried to leave the room (to return the guest list to **Karen**) and earned kudos from Jeff, to wit, "A *great Sergeant-at-Arms but not a great door opener.*" He followed that up with an even more embarrassing joke: he had us sing **Happy Birthday** to those born in March. "*Truly, truly awful, but thank you for trying.*"



Jeff awarded Rotary Service Pins to 10-year-veterans, **Sarah Watkins** and **Jerry Aris**. He mentioned the condolence cards circulating for **Sarah Akers** who has recently lost her son. He announced the Memorial Service for this night at *Restland* and the Funeral on Saturday. We can give donation checks to Karen.

John Caldwell announced that **Alex Johnson** and the Interact Clubs are collecting school supplies to send to Puerto Rico. We are to furnish spiral notebooks and sharpened pencils. He's also seeking contestants for our **Four-Way Test Speech Contest**; so we are to encourage our children or (more likely) grandchildren to try out on 30 March.

Jeff noted **NO REGULAR MEETING** on March **28th** so we can attend **Bruce Mr. Clean Glasscock's** Retirement Party 5:30 at **Haggard Party Barn**. **FLASH** asked if it included spouses and required an RSVP. Yes and yes.



Olin Jaye arose to introduce our speaker *du jour*: **Colin Hegarty**, President of the Golf Research Group and author of *Single Figures in an Irish Summer* (ranked #5,351,892 in Amazon). He was here as an **EarthX** volunteer to speak on *How*

Environmental Issues Have Progressed from the First

Earth Day. Olin began "*Years ago, before Johnny Lewis was north, Rachel Carlson wrote Silent Spring,*" a book about an unfolding ecological disaster. More recently, **Trammel Crow, Jr.**, has created the **EarthX** event to discuss the environment and Man's influence upon it. The event draws many visitors and volunteers such as our speaker who is a "*golf course designer and developer*" from the **Land of Brexit**, but "*no longer an Alien.*"



Colin first stroked us by saying that he'd spoken at several Rotary clubs, but we have "*a wonderful atmosphere here!*"

EarthX will be held in **Fair Park** on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, **April 5th, 6th and 7th**. It will also appear in Mexico City and elsewhere as several Earth Day celebrations occur across the Globe. It consists of various conferences, musical, and film festival events; indeed the associated film festival is the world's largest one devoted to environmental issues. "*It's a fabulous place to take children.*" (Presumably they can boycott school to protest the mess politicians are planning to hand the next generation.) Colin maintains that we'll be exposed to "*ideas you've never seen before,*" and it's just "*fun walking around.*"

Apparently there's a conference called a "*hackathon*" that attracts 1,000 college students, who, with sleeping bags and enough caffeine, manage to produce apps and programs (somewhat redundantly) of benefit to the environment. And there're other programs where chefs train one to eat "*more sustainably.*" And all of it is free. Indeed, Colin claims it's "*the best free thing*" going on in Texas that weekend.

He decried the loss of natural spaces. He recalls one where he used to hang out, drinking wine, that's now a parking lot. Our development is "*spreading north to Lake Texoma.*" He challenged us to think of such places we've known and to shudder at what they've become. As an example, he told us of his Grandmother's home outside Cork (south of Ireland) with its rocks and tide pools. The beach there is now covered with plastic. And it's "*not just Ireland but the whole world.*" He cited the son of **Jacques Cousteau** as a one-man garbage collector of beach plastic.

Returning to his Grandmother's house, he recalls the 40' of clear water now turbid with algal bloom, and the cliff's stone wall now disappeared from the rising sea level which has worn back the cliffs. Here he lost all the climate deniers in the Geriatric Club of Plano.



Colin recalled travelling across Texas, which is 7½ times bigger than the **Land of Brexit**, so much so that one must refuel half-way across it. His child marveled at the rusted autos in one gas station, musing, “*Why does the World have to be so sh*tty?*” to which, uncharacteristically, no doubt, Colin replied, “*It will probably still be sh*tty when you’re old.*” Not the most uplifting of thoughts.

But it needn’t be so if we apply the Four-Way Test. It will get better if you follow the dictum, “*Try to leave it as you found it.*”

He turned to Johnny’s grandchildren and solicited questions from the kids saying, “*It’s your world, not ours.*” But Olin saved them from embarrassment by asking whether or not golf courses are environmentally sound uses of the land. Colin admitted that at least some of them aren’t; he cited the case of one in Arizona that uses 650,000 gallons of water a day. And in third world countries, some people are being “*chucked off their land*” so that resorts may be built. On the other hand, 20% of the golf courses in Dallas are now gone, having been replaced by concrete. That’s a loss of open space. He decried the paving of Texas countryside.

Come to think of it, Trammel’s family is the largest development enterprise in the world. But, he maintained, research has shown that lottery winners “*are much less happy afterwards.*” And “*Crow puts his passion into the environment and flies coach.*”

Colin gave example of how the tree grows from the bent branch. **Audubon** had a pet parrot and a pet monkey, the latter killing the former one formative day. He spent the rest of his life “*trying to paint birds that looked alive.*” The inventor of Google Earth was in-

fluenced by a coloring book which covered the whole world. His brother traveled and was “*instilled with a vision of the environment*” and noted “*if Texas goes green, the US will go green, and the world will go green.*” Texas can “*be that domino that can change the world.*”

Ric Kasmiskie thought that making young people aware of the environment is the answer. Colin told of an Italian restaurant that asks whether or not patrons need a straw; 60% can do without.

Returning to beach pollution, Colin noted that the average family uses 60 plastic packaging per week, thus funding a \$4B industry.

Johnny Lewis took over from Colin to bestow a Paul Harris Fellowship on Jeff. In so doing, he touted the good works Plano Rotary has done from fire trucks in Mexico to shipping containers of wheelchairs. The school built by 5810 in Puerto Vallarta during **Herb Hoxie’s** reign has been given “*a facelift by the City*” of Puerto Vallarta.



Continuing his policy of Paul Harris for his whole family, Johnny awarded them to his grandchildren.

Jeff led us in the Four-Way Test and sort of belled us gone at 1:08.

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