



WINTER Weekly

Volume 191, Issue 256, March 23rd, 2017

Reader

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

PIED PIPER OF PLANO



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Mar 23

Louis Jacobs

"Sea Monsters from Plano West High School and Africa: The planned Paleo Angola Exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution."

Mar 30

Mark Liebman

How To Get Published

Apr 6

Norman Beck

The Man Who Will Bet on Anything



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

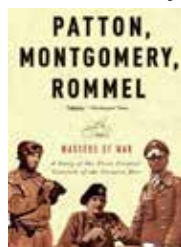
Marshall Johnson Mar 10

Jamie Schell Mar 18

Bruce Glasscock Mar 31



Scary **Bob** returned as Bulletin Photographer this day, but he paused in his duties long enough to stump for *The Military History Breakfast Book Club* program on **Terry Brighton's** PATTON, MONTGOMERY, ROMMEL, *Masters of War* to be held at 7:30 AM at Canyon Creek Country Club. In includes a continental breakfast on **Bob**. RSVP to him at macabee1948@aol.com



Prince Richard horned in on our revelries at 12:12, calling upon **Earnest Burke** for the Prayer and **Pam Little** for the Pledge. We actually had a Greeter (**Carrolyn Moebius**) today, but we had no **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**, so **John Caldwell** filled in. He noted zero Visiting Rotarians. Carrolyn Moebius welcomed **Jeri Chambers**, a *Leadership Plano* grad who's running for the *Colin College* Board. Carrolyn forked over \$5 for extolling Jeri's virtues. **Howard Matson** said that his guest, **Mike Brewer**, wasn't running for anything. So Howard deserves Carrolyn's \$5.



Prince Richard fined **Ric Kasmiskie** \$5 for missing his **3 MINUTES OF FAME**, but Ric was still gathering his lunch. He drew **Jo Via** as next week's victim. Moving right along, Rick honored Pam Little for 5 years of Rotary Service and **Jamee Jolly** for 6. Then he traded **Tamara Dreyer's** **RED BADGE** for a **BLUE** one. He announced a Social Hour joint with *N. Tx Pioneer's Club* on March 29th at **VICKERY PARK** in Plano. RSVP to *N. Tx Pioneers* President **Pat Miner** (pat.miner@gmail.com).

Ric, having thoughtfully returned from the buffet table, began his **3 MINUTES OF**

FAME with his birth in Wisconsin and tenure in DFW for 35 years. He met his wife here and they have two boys, now men, 27 & 30. The eldest runs film festivals and the



youngest is a designer. Ric used to be in the Telecom business but now handles real estate (see the back cover). His wife works at *TI*. He joined Rotary at the behest of **David Allison** (see the back cover), worried about the time commitment but loving it all. "You all are great people!" (The fine withdrawn.)

SPIRITWARE Feigenbaum directed our attention to the sheet circulating for Rotary logoed gear.

Prince Richard mentioned being at a "ground-breaking with shovels but no dirt" the previous night. It was for the new (non) digs for the **PLANO CHILDREN'S THEATRE**. This was by way of an introduction to **Sara Akers** who was to introduce the speaker. She referenced **Mike Mazur**, the Managing Director of **PCT**, who, as luck would have it, had won a 4-Way Test Contest as a youth. But today's speaker was to be **Darrell Rodenbaugh**, the President of the Governing Board. Sara also gave a nod to **Larry Flannery**, Jo Via, and others in the Club who were supportive of **PCT**. She also mentioned a generous \$1M in-kind donation of *Starwood Properties* for the new venue.



Darrell eschewed the podium, preferring to walk among the sheep, for he was intent upon the fleece. His explanation for the tactic was, *"When you're as tall as I am..."* (Tall 'nuff to raise \$125K in scholarships alone last year.)

Seeking connection with his audience, he noted that his sister, and a Governor of Kansas, was active in Rotary International. So that apparently made him a Rotarian by sibling.



When it became clear that **PCT** had outgrown its venue at 15th and Custer, Sara explained its plight at Rotaries, asking where it might move. Another Rotarian said, *"I know where!"* That revelation resulted in the previous night's groundbreaking at **THE SHOP AT WILLOW BEND**. It will be in business by September, according to Darrell, and *"double our programming and reach."* It will *"allow us to extend our therapeutic program."*

He explained that **PCT** is *"really a community center,"* and we support the community, don't we? It teaches its students 10 elements, and its guiding mission is to give kids the nerve to go on stage. The new 22,000 sq. ft. venue will serve the organization *"for the next 25 years,"* and it's the *"only venue of its kind in West Plano."*

The partnership is synergetic; **PCT** is projected to bring 190,000 new patrons into the mall, enlivening it. (**Justin Roche** must have winced at the suggestion that was necessary.) It's all part of a \$150M restoration project to include a new hotel and restaurants.

PCT's new venue will include four presentation stages, a dance studio, and five rehearsal spaces among other things. The main stage will house 220 patrons. A second stage will have 160 seats. There are four practice rooms, a *"black box"* theater, and a specialty room. It lies at a mall entrance, so visitors must pass it on their way in. It will have a *"storefront"* extending it into the mall next to **Dillard's** with access to restaurants and the mall.

Having softened us up, he moved into aggressive sales mode. He was here today with *"a proposition,"* and *"ask."* He wished to offer **Plano Rotary** the naming rights to the theater. He offered visibility for the Rotary Wheel to 189,000 visitors a year: our logo in the hallway, our wheel in the lobby space. He's seeking 40 sponsors, and Rotary International could be one (if we act today). Our sponsorship would be hailed in every playbill, seen by the estimated 80,000 patrons. \$5K underwrites a practice room.

But he needs not only *"treasure,"* but also *"time and talent."* And we needn't feel singled out; Darrell is seeking funding from the community at large. He has secured about 50% so far, that's pretty good for *"a volunteer just like you."* With our help, **PCT** can continue to make *"a profound impact on children."* (He doesn't *really* hit them.)

He feted **Rutledge Haggard** for *"stepping forward"* to sponsor the Dance Studio. And Darrell told us that a mere \$5K/yr gives Plano Rotary naming rights to a theater stage for 10 yrs. And he'd appreciate an alacritous decision because *"sledgehammers begin swinging next week."*

In response to a question from John Caldwell, Darrell told us that it was 25 years ago that Sara *"created an uncommon theater experience."* Working with disabled children, she created *"troupe' therapy."* It is a unique program that excited parents who *"swear by its impact."*

Our attention was directed to a **PCT** flyer on our tables entitling us to two complimentary seats at the May 11th production of **PIPPIN**, a musical.



Rutledge asked for a schedule of productions, and Mike Mazur rattled off as many as he could remember:

- *Singin' in the Rain*
- *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*
- *Alice in Wonderland*
- **PIPPIN**

- *Trumpeter Swan*, a North Texas premiere
- *Curious George*, a show touring **PISD**, and
- *A Chorus Line*

Prince Richard suggested that, were **PCT** to mount an adult version of *Cuckoo's Nest*, it could find its cast at **Plano Rotary**. Then he offered our Desk Organizer and made his concluding announcements. We will all be invited to the opening of the fully-accessible playground at **Jack Carter Park**, funded in part by **Plano Rotary**. Final construction awaits two consecutive days of 50° weather to pour concrete, but the 1200' well has been sunk and it is pumping water for the park.

As President-elect, Rick attended PETS and “*drank the Kool-Aid.*” He came away inspired to institute sweat-equity projects “*to help the local community.*” They won’t be fundraisers but rather hands-on service projects. He has enlisted us to suggest half a dozen projects we might tackle over the course of his reign.

He led us in the 4-Way Test and permitted the revelries to resume at 12:51.



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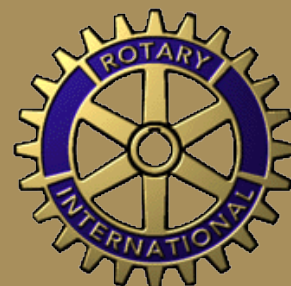
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Thank you Kenny Wilson

The Plano Rotary Club

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Guests & Visiting Rotarians

Guest

Jeri Chambers

Mike Booher

Visiting Rotarian

None

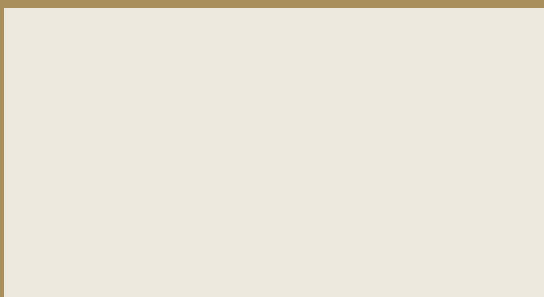
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Starting at Season's 52

5:30pm - 8:00pm

Progressive Dinner, Drawing & Giveaways
With Proceeds Benefitting

**Plano Children's Medical Clinic
Health Services of North Texas**

Co-Chairs Kristi Nelson, NBC 5 DFW Anchor
Dr. Raymund C. King

Tickets \$125/PERSON

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