

Spring  
Weekly

# Reader



Volume 8, Issue 32 March 24, 2011

The Plano Rotary Club  
www.PlanoRotary.com

## ST. LARRY'S DAY

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 3/24 Lilian Pinkus - Israel Beyond the Conflict
- 3/31 Joseph F. Beaty - Special Agent in Charge of George W. Bush Protection Division
- 4/7 Dr. Neecie Moore - Marla Graves "Certified Risk Management Specialist"

### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3/1.....Ben Criste
- 3/3.....Herb Ziev
- 3/10.....Mark Johnson
- 3/11.....Chris Henry
- 3/11.....Myrtle Hightower
- 3/18.....Jamie Schell
- 3/24.....John Pittman
- 3/28.....George Wong
- 3/31.....Louise Davis
- 3/31.....Bruch Glasscock

**REPORTERS** inserting themselves in the news are frowned upon professionally. (Thank God that *Sainted Editor* would never stoop so low!) But, apparently, it's OK for photographers to do so, as **Randy Wright** got into the spirit of *St. Patrick's Day* by not only the wearin' of the grin but also his dark green, crushed velvet tights, bright green tee-shirt "tuxedo", and his leprechaun hat made for him by **Diana**. *Prince John* considered that Randy was his "own announcement," and Randy explained that many members had wished to wear their own tights but didn't have any. Someone shouted, "Please don't offer them up!"



**Don Shannon**, Bagpiper Extraordinaire. Reflecting the depth of his *Irish Heritage*, *John* wore a pale green shirt as he commented that this was the day on which those of us with *Irish Heritage* gladly suffer the rest of us to claim it. (*Sainted Editor* wouldn't know that, representing the Black and Tan, as he does.)

*John* commended **Mary Jo Dean** on becoming the Community Relations Officer for *Presbyterian Hospital*! **Mary Jo**, **Carole Greisdorf**, and almost all others



having lunch this day, were clad in **green**. Indeed, the tumblers on every table were filled with **green** water, usually as welcome as yellow snow. But then the **orange** tea didn't change color, so Protestant Ireland was as represented as Catholic Ireland on our tables this *St. Patrick's Day*.

*Prince John* called upon **Ean O'Sullivan** to offer up Irish Prayers. Ean did so, ending with Irish Blessings like "May the wind at your back not be" a breaking wind. With that, Ean sat down and let the "Black Irish" **Earnest Burke** lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Later in the "program," John thanked **Gary Basham** and **Jerry Kezayha** for greeting, but at this point, he called upon **SERGEANT SKIP** to welcome Visiting Rotarians and Guests.



**SKIP** welcomed Sunrise Rotarian **Russell Head** then opened the floor to hosts to welcome their guests. So Ean introduced Soap Box Derby Consultant **Kevin Frank** as well as pianist **Rebecca Baker**. **Thad Stammen** won the Prize for Most Guests by inviting us to welcome his children, 7-year-old **Dayton**, 11-year-old **Sierra**, and his psychiatrist wife, **Dr. Christie Stammen**. **John Pittman** introduced **David Hook**, **Jerry Arias** welcomed **Jason**



continued on page 2

**Rice**, and **Gary Basham** commented on his “*vertically-challenged*” guest, City Councilman **André Davidson**.



Prince John then turned to day’s “program” by saying, “*Larry, we haven’t heard from you in a while,*” at which point **FLASH** stood for the first of his many trademarked rotten Irish jokes.

An Irishman walked into a bar (no surprise so far) and ordered three Guinnesses. He sipped from each until he had drained them all and departed. The next night, he was back to repeat the performance, but the bartender asked if he wished them served sequentially rather than simultaneously, thus preserving their chill. The man declined, continuing to order three at a time. One night when the curiosity of the patrons rose to trump the taciturn, the bartender obliged them by asking why he ordered three Guinnesses at once, and the man told him he was ordering for his two absent brothers as well as himself. They had all agreed to drink one another’s health even though separated.

One night, though, he ordered just two stouts, and, fearing the worst, the bartender went to console him by making him a gift of the two drinks on this sad occasion. The man appeared puzzled, but then broke into a smile and said that, no, his brothers were fine; he had just given up drinking for Lent.

Obligatory groans of appreciation arose from **FLASH’S** captive audience.

Perfect Attendance pins were captured by **Louise Davis** (3) and **Ben Criste** (4).



Prince John, taking his cue from **FLASH**, offered up the following story.

O’Malley proposed to his beloved on St. Patrick’s Day, gifting her with an impressive diamond ring. The lass showed the ring to her jeweler father who recognized it as a fake. Furious, the wounded fiancée confronted her suitor who calmly explained that, it being St. Patrick’s Day, he had presented her with a sham rock.



Obligatory groans of condemnation arose from John’s captive audience.

He redeemed himself by reading from a letter by (the AWOL) **Cary Israel**, thanking us for our generous **\$30,000 donation** to the endowment of a soon-to-be perpetual **Collin College** Scholarship.

**Emelia Ahmed** begged us once again to sign up and show up for maintenance of *Hope’s Door*, the Collin County venue for battered and abused spouses and children. She needed just 10 volunteers from the Club to be able to hold up her head against the other five Plano Rotaries. She would know soon what tasks remain for our commitment on Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.



Padding the admittedly weak program, Prince John called upon Thad Stammen for his Classification Talk. With his support group intact, Thad explained that he hailed from Southern California and was a product of *Pepperdine College*, graduating in 1999. His business is to find on-line audiences for “*niche businesses,*” which might mean those specializing in nests or ornamental wall recesses. He helps them by improving their position in the result lists from **Google** searches. **Google** doesn’t make that easy since it changes its search criteria every so often to thwart Thad’s kind of ranking advantage while leaving sponsored rankings unchanged. Since the first-ranked link is much, much more likely to be clicked than even the second-ranked link, Thad’s services will be perpetually sought. In addition, he is a hired gun to kill negative online reviews; one hopes that doesn’t extend to taking out negative online reviewers. That would make him *Scary Thad*.

**Rutledge Haggard** rose to recognize the *Hendrick Scholarship Foundation* for its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. He invited us to upgrade from the RoadKill feast to the **2011 Taste of Elegance** extravaganza at *Southfork Ranch* next (last, as you read this) Monday, benefitting Hendrick Scholarships. We were to contact Rutledge or **Jenny McCall** were we to require the \$75 tickets.



“*Larry, we haven’t heard from you in a while*” brought another onslaught of Flannery humor.

An Irishman, an Englishman, and a Scotsman each ordered a pint. And three buzzing flies landed in each drink. The Irishman blew the foam and the fly off his drink before quaffing it. The Englishman spooned the fly out of his before doing likewise. The Scotsman reached into the suds, grabbed out the fly, and shook him vigorously, repeating, “*Spit it out!*” over and over.

A groan of exasperation swept **FLASH’S** captive audience.

In an effort to calm the unruly mob, Prince John had the piper play his soothing instrument. Don Shannon played us a medley of such typical Irish ditties as *When Irish Eyes are Smiling*, *America the Beautiful*, the *Marine Hymn*, the theme from *Dallas*, and an Irish jig. He wore the traditional kilt, but it wasn’t appreciated by our Jackelope. His sporran was of rabbit fur!

“*Larry, we haven’t heard from you in a while*” provoked a complaint that we’d exhausted **FLASH’S** new material, so he fell back on a tried and true standard of his repertoire.



Timothy takes his children to the circus, and there they encounter a large tent housing an elephant beneath a sign saying that the beast can tell someone’s age. Not believing it, Timothy places his son Shawn before the pachyderm, which paces out each of Shawn’s 7 years! Next Maureen



confronts him, and he correctly paces out her 11 years! Timothy, thinking the elephant can never guess an adult's age, stands before the beast which turns and breaks wind before turning back to pace out a count of two. "Sure and it knows I'm farty two."

How many beans did you say?

Before the ensuing riot gathered strength, Prince John promised and produced Ean and Rebecca Banks to render *Danny Boy*.

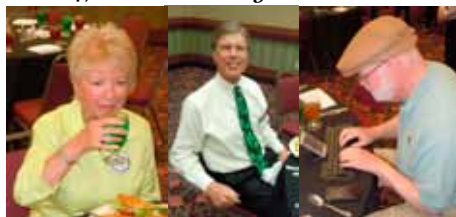
Since **LARRY** was "low on material," he proposed a toast, "May you be in Heaven an hour before the Devil knows you're dead."

Randy, well into the spirit of the day, told of the time **Dale Hansen** was Rotary's speaker. He witnessed the Club's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday gift to then President Gary Basham, namely a stripper. Dale assumed all the stops were out, so he laced his talk with copious obscenities. Gary finished the story; **Bob Collins** ratted on him to his TV station and got Hansen fired.

Prince John told of two Irish women comparing their husbands. The first said that hers must be a saint because he'd not even looked at another woman in two years. The second said that she had that beat; her husband hasn't had a drink in that long, and they'll celebrate his abstinence as soon as he gets out of prison.

**Scary Bob Epstein** encouraged us to come hear his speakers over the next couple of weeks.

Prince John led us in the Four-Way Test and had Mr. Shannon pipe us out at 12:47 with *Amazing Grace*.



**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?



## **Member NEWS**

### **AWARDS:**

**Harold Sullivan Award**

Randy Wright

**Athena Award**

Rebecca Caso

**Fred Moses Award**

Richard Butterfly

**Business Executive**

**of the Year**

Gary Base

**Kersey Can Holder:**

Vance Bryson

### **Citizen of the Year:**

Beth and Duncan Webb

**Rotary Make Up Website:**

[www.rotaryclubone.org](http://www.rotaryclubone.org)

**New Member Proposals:**

Jason Rice

Classification: Theater

Proposed By: Randy Wright

Debbie Watson

Classification: Plano Symphony Orchestra

Proposed By: Alice Hobbs

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