

Winter
Weekly

Reader

Volume 12, Issue 76 March 7, 2013

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com



UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 7:

Jim Cooper, Principal,
Ascendant Leadership
*"Emotional Intelligence
for the Workplace."*

March 14

Ray Dent, Author
*"Would Santa Anna Be
a Good Rotarian?"*

March 21

TBD

March 28

TBD

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Criste, Benjamin	Mar 01
Wray, Wilson	Mar 06
Johnson, Marshall	Mar 10
Henry, Chris	Mar 11
Schell, Jamie	Mar 18
Craig, David	Mar 22
Pittman, John	Mar 24
Wong, George	Mar 28
Davis, Louise	Mar 31
Glasscock, Bruce	Mar 31



WHO was that dashing, young editor seen plying the School Board hottie with drinks while chatting up the Mayor about the irony of taking a Rotary make-up for a **Happy Hour** at which he was three sheets to the wind on his flight of girly hard ciders? The Mayor, mindful of the editor's propensity to lampoon one and all, suggested that he sit out the next meeting (at which the Mayor constituted the program). But, since the Mayor had unwisely advertised a major revelation at that meeting, the editor was obliged to attend. Seeing him there, **Phillip** (as we'll disguise him) said, *"It's not too late to leave!"*



PRESIDENT LAMPLIGHTER opened on a somber note at 12:20, notifying us of the funeral scheduled for PDG **Mark Healy**. Then, *apropos* the day's theme, **State of the City**, he vouched safe unto us the following quotations:

Leaders can inspire cities, and cities can inspire leaders.

—Jim Hunt

What is the city but the people?

—Shakespeare

When you look at a city, it's like reading the hopes, aspirations, and pride of everyone who built it.

—Hugh Newell Jacobsen

Then **LENNY** cajoled **IB** the Good to Pray and **Nancy Humphrey** to Pledge. (*"Thanks, Bob!"*) Not knowing who greeted, **HE** left off that bit. Next **HE** called **Jan Sullivan** to her last duty as **SERGEANT DU MOIS**.

She welcomed Visiting Rotarians **Andy Miller** (Laramie, WY) and **Charlie Rampacek** (Fredericksburg, TX). **Jeff Fraunheim** introduced **Curt Olson**, **Jim Cooper** welcomed "Aggie Mom," **Deborah Stewart**, **Jo Via** bade us receive **Courtyard Theater** Director **Ron Smith** and



cheerfully paid the fine for him to advertise jazz greats coming to the venue the 1st Thursday, **Kyle Walter** hosted Boy Scout Troop 1776's leader, **John Carney**, **Bruce Glasscock** was blind-sided by a trio of guests when he'd reckoned only one, J.C. Penney leaders **Michael**



Hanson and **Mark Israelson**, then the City's Director of Marketing and Community Engagement, **Mary Vail-Grube**. In host **LARRY**

FLANNERTY'S absence, **Jamee Jolly** welcomed **Shelly Gomez** and **Brandon Schneider**, Nancy Humphrey recognized returning regular, **Karen Thunert**, and **Reedy Spigner** fed daughter **April**.

LENNY, noting that he's not an "Aggie Mom," turned Bevo's frown to a smile in honor of the day's **BURNT ORANGE** napkins. **HE** noted birthdays for **Ben Criste** and **Bill Wray**, but, being absent, neither responded. And **HE** awarded **Jerry Aris** (4) and **Jim Youngblood** (29) Attendance Pins.



LENNY recognized an AWOL **Chuck Morgan** and a PWOL **David McWhorter** for the crackerjack job they did arranging programs of late. They were applauded.

Nancy Humphrey gave us a *Williams Middle School* update, calling for even more Rotary businesses to take part in their Career Fair March 8th from 9 am to 1 pm.



Lori Phantom Crotchettienne

Roberts arose to thank the dirty dozen who had put up shelving for **OPERATION ONCE IN A LIFETIME**. She proselytized for at least that many to effect the move of their headquarters the following (last) weekend. **Ken Roberts** and **Sainted Editor** were speaking

behind her back about **Crotchet Rage**, particularly dangerous, says Ken, because of the needles involved.

LENNY reminded us of the March 16th *Gala*. We were to see **Ean** or him for more information. **HE** also noted today as the last one for Bucket Bucks to go to *Habitat*.

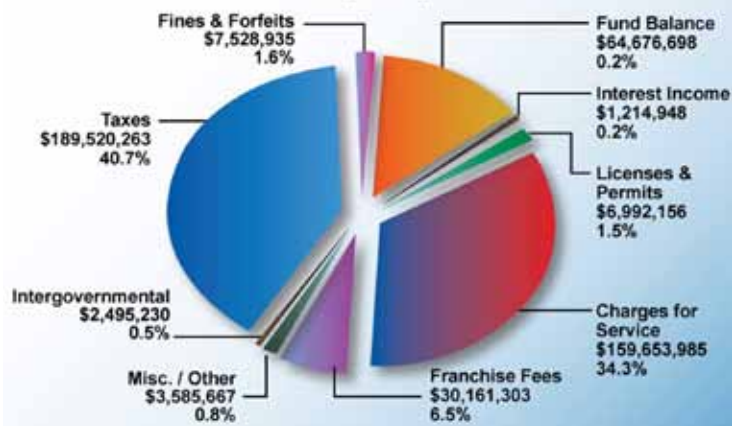
PRESIDENT LENNY introduced a Man Who Needed No Introduction, that esteemed leader of the **Best Run City**, Mayor Phil Dyer.

Phil began by advising Andy Miller that Wyoming Cowboys were easier to root for than the Dallas variety. Then he stumped shamelessly for *Courtyard Theater's* jazz season, and waxed eloquent about how fortunate we are to live in such a great place. "*Great City Manager, Great School District, Great Collin College, thank you, Cary*," he said. He cautioned that the picture for his presentation was too small for all to follow, so, sycophant to the last, **Sainted Editor** leapt up to adjust the projector, enlarging the image, and, for good measure, doused the stage lights, plunging Phil into a disconcerting darkness.

Mayor Dyer began with the City Organizational Chart, emphasizing again that he and the City Council are elected by and work for the citizens. That's why they earn the big bucks. He encouraged us to return incumbents **Lissa Smith** and **Ben Harris**, and he noted his own retirement from public service and his would-be successors, **Harry LaRosiliere** and **Fred Moses**, but he made no endorsement there. He touted the upcoming Bond Election.



2012-13 Combined Budget Resources \$465,829,185



He noted that while the Feds aren't obliged to (and cannot) balance their budget, the City is so constrained. He pointed out the sources of revenue for the City and said that the Council has slashed \$40M over the last lean years. Now, with the improving economy, some of the flesh that was rendered is being restored. We are fiscally sound, having 30 days of operating reserves. The 48.86¢ per \$100 house evaluation turns out to be the lowest of any local communities. And the 2¢ added for Economic Development have raised \$5M per year, but have brought in 10x that in new franchise taxes. He noted that businesses pay more for City services than they cost so that residents may be charged less.

City employees, who have suffered through the downturn, are now seeing pay raises, including longevity pay. And new capital projects are now being funded at \$400K.



About 20% of house taxes go to the City. Less than \$1K per year on Plano's average \$243K home supports the City. On the \$26B in property values, the tax receipts are about \$50M (more from found monies that went astray). The General Fund supports Police and Fire at 63%, far and away overshadowing the next category, 11% for Parks and Recreation.

The Economic Development monies have added 16K good-paying, skilled-labor jobs to the City. And the City's emphasis on education has encouraged businesses to develop here in our "*development-ready environment*." A solid utility infrastructure hasn't hurt either.

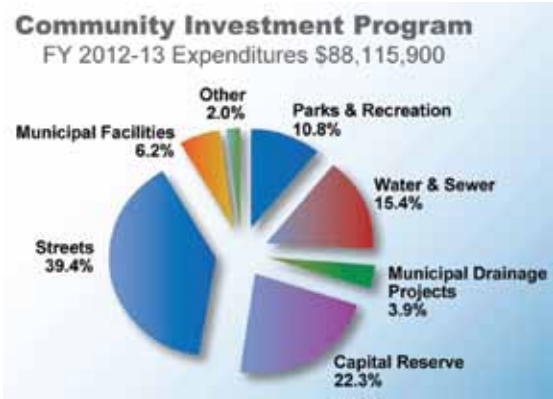
Then the Mayor ticked off his administration's accomplishments in attracting and retaining businesses. He noted the soon-to-arise *Hilton Granite Park* and said it will go a long way toward improving hotel room availability in the City. *Tyler Technologies* will expand to create 350 new jobs. And *Ericsson* is creating 1,600!



Phil encouraged us all to point potential employers to the development website:

PLANOTEXAS.ORG

He found time to note the dozen city offices that have been recognized nationally and accredited. And he also pointed out the many benefits to befall the citizenry of a City well-funded by its businesses.



LENNY couldn't resist noting that Plano is the 9th largest city in Texas, and 85th in the nation! Then **HE** said that in passing the credit for Plano's success to others, Phil demonstrated a rare humility, and **HE** asked us for a standing ovation, with which we readily complied. Phil was presented with "incredibly expensive" dog tags benefitting **OOIAL**.

Asking for announcements, **LENNY** was dismayed to hear one from Ean regarding **John Ernst's** designation of his home town, Stockton, CA, as the "most miserable" in the nation. Presumably that's why John migrated.

Apparently there were 20 seats left for **Jack Ingram's** performance on the first

Thursday at *Courtyard Theater*. **Rutledge** congratulated **Ron Smith** and **Michelle** for doing a bang-up job on that scheduling.

After leading us in the Four-Way Test, **PRESIDENT LAMPLIGHTER** belled us gone at 1:03.



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**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?

Guests & Visiting Rotarians

Guest

Curt Olson
Deborah Stewart
Ronald B. Smith
John Carney
Mary Vail-Grube
Brandon Schneider
Shelly Gomez
Michael Hanson
Mark Israelson
Karen Thunert
April Spigner

Guest Of

Jeff Fraenheim
Jim Cooper
Jo Via
Kyle Walters
Bruce Glasscock
Larry Flannery

Bruce Glasscock
Bruce Glasscock
Nancy Humphrey
Reedy Spigner

Visiting Rotarian

Andy Miller
Charlie Rampacek

Home Club

Laramie, NY
Fredericksburg, TX

AWARDS:

Athena Award:
Camille Ussery

Citizen of the Year:
Jamie Schell

Outstanding Corporate:
The Shops at Willow Bend
(Octavio & his team)

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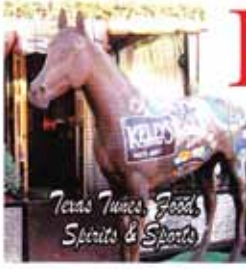
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