

Spring
Weekly

Reader



Volume 6, Issue 128, May 13, 2010

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

Club Buys Frame!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

5/13	PISD Foundation
5/20	Tom Harmon "Rotary Wheelchair Program"
5/27	Patriotic Celebration
6/3	Troy Villarreal "Medical Center of Plano"
6/10	Senator John Corona

MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/1.....	RAY HUFFINES
5/5.....	GARY BASHAM
5/5.....	JOHN PRIEST
5/6.....	CHRIS PARR
5/11.....	DAVID ALLISON
5/13.....	GERALD BRENCHE
5/20.....	KELLY PALMER
5/21.....	BOB EPSTEIN
5/23.....	HARRY POLLY
5/27.....	MARY JODEAN
5/27.....	LYNN SCHWARTZ
5/29.....	RANDY WRIGHT



EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR



Sainted Editor turned 69 sometime during this Rotary meeting, considering his birth day, his birth time, the number of intervening leap years, the time zone of his birth, and the presence now of Daylight Saving Time. But he wasn't harassed about it even though he duly submitted his check to the *Plano Rotary Foundation*. **queen butterfly** can



be forgiven for the omission as she was distracted by the day's schedule of events. **SC** was also distracted by the existence of the *National Day of Prayer* ceremony for which he was technical assistant that evening. (**Ean** was its featured soloist since **Jodi Todd** was ill, and this is the first time **SC** has heard Ean's singing voice. Impressive! He must also thank **Lenny** for the Jewish prayer.) **SC** was so distracted that he neglected to provide the extra DVDs he promised for those who didn't get a chance to collect one. (**SKIP** says that he makes it a habit not to fine editors for such infractions in sure and certain knowledge of their retaliatory powers.) Let's see if he's collected his wits next week, but then at 69, how many has he left? Ah, only one year left to take advantage of being a sexagenarian.

President Susan opened the meeting early at 12:10, calling upon **LB the Good** for the prayer and **Jerry Arias** for the Pledge. She thanked **Ben Criste** and **Boyd Craig** for their *Batman and Robin*, tag team greeting. (Now they'll squabble over who gets to be *Batman*.)

After Sergeant Skip chastised a Banner-less Visiting Rotarian, Susan noted that on May 18, the PISD School Board is likely to confirm our very own **Sarah Watkins** to take **Doyle Dean's** place as Principal of *Plano Senior High*! Sarah was treated to a round of applause. Presumably, Doyle understood it wasn't for his vacating the position. We honor him in a well-deserved retirement. It's just that someone cuter will introduce the *überstudenten* from PSHS here in future.



Since **Tino** had made it to the meeting, he



was called to the podium by **Prince John Ernst** to assist as sponsor in the induction of new member **Cathy Fang**. Tino coached Cathy in the proper reply to John's commitment queries, and she dutifully replied "**Si**" to both of them. Mindful of the necessity to gig **SC** with his lexicology, John added "**plethora** of members" to his "**eleemosynary**" organization. This will be amusing; will a sesquipedalian* John add a new polysyllabic adjective each time he hosts an induction? Soon it will become unintelligible. Since he had torn Cathy away from the food line, John sent her back there at the induction's end.

*(You have **David Ellis** to thank for that, John.) Perfect Attendance pins went to **Rex Lowe** (14) and **LB THE RADIANT** (38).

Susan retained **LB** and called **Fred Benfendorfer** to the podium for an award announcement. Warming to the spotlight, Fred waxed eloquent about a recent meeting in San Antonio, attended by **LB**, **Herb Hoxie**, and **Brad Keith**, among others. He swore blind that all three of them behaved themselves, and while the assembly readily believed that of Herb and Brad, the jury was definitely out on **LB**. He described how District Governor **Dave McFadden** announced the District's share of the 150 (worldwide) *Service Above Self* awardees, but he became more animated as he explained that there are only 50 recipients of the Distinguished Service Award (worldwide), and 5810 still snared one. Fred introduced him as a personal



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Club Buys Frame! *continued...*

friend of 27 years, **LB THE RADIANT!** **LB** received a standing ovation from an impressed Club. **LB** was uncharacteristically speechless; we've found something that humbles him! Now how do we convince *Rotary International* to award it to him annually?



CAPTAIN KIRK solicited volunteers for the **BATTLE OF THE BADGES BLOOD DRIVE** at Elliott's Hardware on Tuesday, May 18. Kirk says he needs staffers for two hours each starting at 2 and 4 pm.

Earnest Burke, Prince John, and Ken Roberts all harangued us about our soon-to-be *Soap Box Derby*. Volunteers were sought for Race Day on Saturday, May 22, but also for setup on the previous Friday. John told us that we have expenses of \$11,000 and current sponsorships of twice that, but he's looking for another \$4,000 (no, \$10,000, corrects Earnest) to pull significantly ahead of last year. Ken insisted that volunteerism at this event counts as a make-up; so if you take five shifts, you can skip this month's worth of meetings. But he lied; since you can only skip meetings within two weeks of the make-up, don't volunteer for more than four shifts. ☺



Susan awarded two **ROTARIAN OF THE MONTH** plaques for the same month. Apparently, it was a tie. They went to "Team Dads" Ken Roberts and Brad Keith for their efforts on behalf of *Memorial Elementary Soccer*.

Susan noted that Monday's game was even shorter than the three quarters promised due to rain. Fortunately, the 40 eager kids were photographed before the game wearing their new t-shirts designed by two of the kids and presented by our club. Susan now offered one to Ken, suggesting he put it on, to which **Phil Dyer** responded, *sotto voce*, "Please, no; I've just had my meal!" But, to be fair, the kindly Mayor (who will never again sit at *Sainted Editor's* table) wasn't slamming the students' artwork, just Ken's physique.

The **Iron butterfly** noted that today there was a Scavenger Hunt at *Memorial*. Students who find the hidden apples will turn them in for prizes.

Memorial Principal Maricel[m]a Helms, Associate Principal **Katie Armstrong**, and Custodian **Lino Aguilar** were called to the podium for a presentation.



At lunch on 22 April, a student choked on an innocent piece of kiwi fruit. A teacher pummeled the student's back to no avail then called for assistance. Lino, who had performed a life-saving *Heimlich Maneuver* just last month on a shopper at *Sam's*, stepped forward, and saved the little girl thus earning himself *Memorial's* **HERO AWARD**. Maricela consoled Lino, nervous about accepting the award, with the statement, "Heroes are a group of people just like you. You'll be just fine." He was roundly applauded.



By the way, Maricela has turned the tables on a *Sainted Editor* who characterizes her as **Selma Hayek** by having the office at *Memorial* refer to him as **Brad**



Pitt. But even a cursory examination of the evidence yields far more justice to my claim for her than her claim for me. Although, it is true that *Sainted Editor* bears a most striking resemblance to the early years of **Benjamin Button**, Pitt's most demanding role.



Karla Oliver, eschewing the attentions of photographer, **Randy Wright**, cautioned those of us with a hot \$1,000 bill in our pockets to consider investing it in *Leadership Plano*, the application deadline of which is June 15. She proved, with a show of hands, how well populated our Club is with proud *LP* graduates. And, if we aren't sanguine about adding ourselves to that roster, Karla wants us to at least canvass the community for likely takers.

Octavio Ortiz introduced the day's Ring Master of Ceremonies, "Mr. Plano" City Manager **Tom Muehlenbeck**, saying, "Tom wants full applause." What he got was a *wai* or kowtow from Mayor Dyer, to which Tom replied, "I'll take what I can get."



He came to the lectern to announce the City of Plano's **EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**, chosen by the employees themselves. This year it was **Greg Rushin's** employee, Supervisor **Nicole Offerdahl**, Public Safety Officer for the Plano Police Department. So proud of her is PPD, that they've erected a web site with an account of this Rotary presentation!



http://pdf.plano.gov/pcn/stories/2010/nb050710_Rotaryemployeeyear.pdf

But first, of course, Tom had to introduce the full panoply of City Officials in attendance today as well as Nicole and her father, **Larry Offerdahl**. Besides our regulars, Councilmen **Lee Dunlap** and **Lissa Smith**, and Deputy City Manager



Bruce Glasscock, we had Deputy City Manager **Frank Turner** and Assistant City Managers **Mark Israelson** and **LaShon Ross**. Indeed, this luncheon cleared out the City Manager's Office. From the City Council side of Municipal Government came Councilman **Ben Harris**. Representing cops were Nicole's immediate supervisor Sergeant **Chris Curd** and Assistant Chief



Ed Drain. Since the former Queen must crown the current last year's **EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**, **Joan Shopoff**, was in attendance. Speaking of crowning, the tiara would have served its only real purpose today, but it and the boa were notably absent. Susan allowed as how good help was hard to come by.



Some of us awakened as Tom pointed out that "if it happens in Plano, it'll be on *PTN*. Channels 6 or 30." And he gestured at the camera that was covering all those awakenings. Smile! ☺

Having spent 1/2 his time off-topic, Tom turned the real business at hand. Nicole came to PPD in June 2000 and rose to Public Safety Supervisor five years later. She works the "C" shift, the 3rd watch that keeps **Howard Shapiro** in business. Howard was speechless with gratitude.



Nicole has won Department **EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR** in 2002, 2003, and 2008. But the task that won her the big burrito was her part in the *Automated Field Reporting Program* (AFRP). Previously, cops reported to handheld tape recorders for later

Club Buys Frame! *continued...*

transcribing at Headquarters. That meant that it was days before the reports were available.

With AFRP, cops finish their reports on site in their vehicles, and they are transmitted electronically to headquarters, being available essentially immediately. It was a significant operations change that required the training of 200 patrol officers.



Ed Drain acknowledged the difficulty of the new system. *"It's not just a word processor."* Indeed the first pilot implementation failed but for offering clues to needed software revisions. With those accomplished, Nicole had just six months to bring the department up to speed on the new system. Chief Rushin would have been here to honor Nicole today, but he's in Austin for mandatory training, something with which Nicole is intimately familiar.



Mayor Phil asked Lee, Lissa, and Brian to the podium to help honor Nicole. While they gathered, he encouraged us all to attend the 1 pm ceremony in Haggard Park next (last) Wednesday honoring fallen officers. Then, on behalf of a quarter million grateful citizens, he read a proclamation honoring Nicole. He said that she'd not get to keep it today since the same ceremony was scheduled for Monday's City Council meeting.



Tom then proffered a framed photo of Nicole that he said would hang in a place of honor in City Hall for the next year. At the end of the year, she'd get to recover the photo, but, due to budget cuts, the City would recycle the frame for next year's recipient. Groans of incredulity greeted

this announcement.

Central Market's **Michelle Owens** told us that her business is about more than "soccer Moms getting their juices." They also get to provide gift baskets for the City's



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH. Tom acknowledged that it was heavy enough to get the strapping officers to help her out to the car with it.

Susan then presented her with the traditional \$500 Rotary check and suggested she save it for a suitable frame a year hence. Nicole thanked one and all for the honors and goodies, saying that she enjoyed working for the City and was grateful not only to her staff but also to her supervisor.

Susan explained our flashlight bait and switch to Nicole, and then she taunted Howard with the special interest that kept him at the meeting to its end. She encouraged us to attend the Memorial Bobcats vs. Memorial Bobcats game that evening at 4:45, suggesting that we help erect the nets.

There followed an announcement about iPhone battery chargers, the purchase of which would benefit Plano Rotary, but despite being an iPhone owner, **Sainted Editor** didn't understand it.

Susan led us in the Four-Way Test and closed the proceedings at 12:53.



Member NEWS

AWARDS:

Harold Sullivan Award
Chris Parr

Athena Award
Alice Hobbs 2008-09

Fred Moses Award
Richard Butterfly

Business Executive of the Year
Gary Base

Kersey Cane Holder:
Earl Simpkins

Citizen of the Year:
Beth Duncan Webb

Rotary Make Up Website:
www.rotaryclubone.org

New Member Proposals:

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The Plano Rotary Club

PO Box 864316

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972.596.2585

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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?

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