

Fall Weekly

Reader

Volume 90, Issue 152, November 6, 2014

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS

November 6

Melissa Woodward -
"Sex trafficking in America"

November 13

Susanna Charleson -
"Dog for the Job: The Expanding Role of Service Dogs & How Communities can Support Them"

November 20

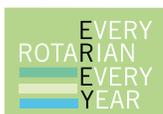
Bob May -
"Honoring the Negro Leagues: The Best Season, The First Ninety Days"

November 27

Thanksgiving Holiday
No Meeting

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Allan Murovitz	Nov 3
Lissa Smith	Nov 3
Olin Jaye	Nov 5
Martin Jackson	Nov 12
Patti Schwartz	Nov 29



TRUST BENEFICIARIES

CUB PHOTOGRAPHER, *Scary Bob*, was distributing baseball cards today. *Sainted Editor* held his up and exclaimed excitedly, "I've got *Scary Bob*!" PDG **SECRET SANTA**, sitting next to him, declared, "So do I! You want two?" Wife, **Jan Sullivan**, sitting next to him, declared, "He must be handing them out one per family." Seeing that she didn't get one, Ean gallantly offered her his, but she declined. She's obviously not a baseball fan.



President Wonderful

declared us open for business at 12:19, anticipating a short program. But the chatty denizens from **HENDRICK SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION** outfoxed him, and we ran four minutes over. He politely inquired about the availability of Jan Sullivan for the



Invocation and **Justin Roche** for the Pledge. They were. Also answering the call was **SERGEANT BARBERA** who declared Guest vs. Visiting Rotarian score as 3 to zip.



Mark Geller cast about the room, looking for his guest, **Brian Baker**. Someone cruel asked, "Why won't he sit with you?" **Emily**

Froggatt introduced daughter **Errin**. (Man, that family's into double letters!) And



Sarah Akers bade us welcome her father, **Dr. James Eggleston**.

INSIDE THE ROTARIAN STUDIO, Nathan claimed, was determined this day strictly by the luck of the draw, and **Rick Horne** drew the black jelly bean.



Rick was born in Fort Smith, VA, to a Navy father, so it was natural that he became "a surfer dude." He "moved around a bunch" landing at a high school in Frankfort, KY, where he "was a ... student" (the hesitation occasioned by Nathan's asking what kind of student he was). He started university at *Western Kentucky* but graduated in Chemistry from *UT Dallas* (where he suffered *Sainted Editor's* ministrations). After getting his graduate degree, he worked for *Ashland Chemicals*, but for the last year, he has been a Client Account Manager for *Gilbane Federal*. "So a business guy?" Nathan surmised.

Favorite movie: **Caddyshack**. Musical group: *Emerson, Lake & Palmer*. Athlete: **Bo Jackson**. 1st car: Chevy **VEGA**. *Coke* with a **Corona** chaser. He's been three years in Rotary, joining because he was a volunteer at heart. He'd chaired **Jo Via's Balloon Festival** and now serves as Vice Chair. His

favorite Rotary Moment is the **Soap Box Derby**. Asked his favorite restaurant, he momentarily forgot **Tino** is a member and answered, diplomatically, “*All of them.*”

Earnest almost spilled the beans, saying, “*We’ve received a birthday check in the amount of, ah, Jan Sullivan.*” That’s the way to encourage distaff contributions, Earnest! Indeed, he chastised “*October*” for being in danger of becoming dead last in the **Birthday Bucks** sweepstakes.



Janis Allman declared our part in and the **PLANO INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL** as a whole “*a big success.*” **Sainted Editor** blurted out the 18,000 attendance estimate. She rattled off a long list of members to thank, mentioning that **Yoram** had dropped by with **Officer Parker**, the Dancing Cop. (Yoram added a photo proof thereof to his *Facebook* page.)



Earnest thought our cooperation with the Festival represented an excellent example of *Light Up Rotary*.



Nancy Humphrey introduced the day’s speakers with a preamble about the Golf Tournament. Those of us going to the dinner (that **REPLACES** next week’s meeting) on Wednesday at the *Haggard Party Barn* should have signed up. Planners need an RSVP. She said the Ball Drop has finally been sponsored (jointly by

Kelly Palmer and **Sainted Editor**). We are encouraged to come to the dinner to bid on auction items.

All the proceeds are destined for scholarships for students with crushing hardships. The *Hendrick Scholarship Foundation* not only funds tuition but also offers mentorship and educational planning as was envisioned by **Wayne Hendrick**, a masterful *PISD* Superintendant of many years. Wayne was born in Lovejoy, TX, to a family of 7 siblings! His mother insisted that all finish high school and four went on to college degrees.

Many of the *Hendrick* staff were present (not counting Board members **Mary Jo** and **Kelly**). **Lori Cecil**, Event Manager, wasn’t mentioned, but **Charla Fletcher**, Exec. Secty., was present at a table outside, collecting donations.

The Mistress of Ceremonies was **Marcy Wilson**, Executive Director. She spoke of the many beneficiaries of our largesse. She thanked Plano Rotary and said that the Foundation doesn’t take our help for granted. She wanted us to know that our help for her kids has a long-term influence.



She referred to one of her charges who told her, “*I won’t let you down.*” That is significant because as far as Marcy is concerned, Life has let all of them down. Theirs are tales of “*abandon, neglect, and abuse.*”



Marcy asked us to imagine what the world looks like from the perspective of such children who are told “*you don’t deserve to live. How do they view Life*” if it’s one long struggle for survival. *Hendrick Scholarships* have given them hope; they believe that “*Life has promise for them.*”



She mentioned **Alex S.**, a *Hendrick Scholar* who appeared before us in 2012. His parents, alcoholic and jobless, had divorced, and his brother had died. Alex works as a waiter but has maintained almost a 4.0 grade point average at *Collin College*. But one day, presumably exhausted by his schedule, he passed out and struck his head on the pavement. He awoke in the ER with raging headaches which have morphed into epileptic seizures. He was withdrawn from all his classes after the Drop Date, which means they were recorded as *Fs*. It appalled him to have those on his record, so he fought successfully to change them to *Ws*.

He apologized for “*having wasted the scholarship.*” But he has been reinstated and taken summer classes to get back on track. Without insurance, his involuntary hospitalization has come at a horrendous cost. The hospital has offered him a (presumably multiple lifetime) payment plan. The epilepsy has denied him the right to drive, so he rode the bus to his job and now is back in school doing “*all right.*”

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Marcy had brought another two students to tell their tales. She seeks those willing to bear all, but most of the 50 have backed out as being too humiliated to explicate their circumstances. Some find, however, the experience cathartic; once they start, they are compelled to confess all. Fortunately, **Ryan Phillips** and **Kyle Edwards** stuck to their scripts, or we’d still be there.



Ryan is a Mechanical Engineering major at *Collin College*. He was four years a cadet with the *Civil Air Patrol*. (*Scary Bob* must have perked up.) That experience “*gave structure to my life.*” It was necessary as he suffers dyslexia. It makes him “*good at History but bad at Reading and Writing.*” The Cadet Corps helped him develop social skills and gave him an abiding curiosity about how

airplanes work. This, in turn, fueled his interest in Mechanical Engineering. He praised the Hendrick Scholarship program for helping his career, and he thanked us for our generosity.



Kyle told us that he too attended Collin College. He comes from East Plano from a single parent family with four children. His father was an alcoholic and drug addict; his legal woes impressed Kyle as things devoutly to be avoided. Troubles at home meant that he lost his position as the School Mascot. However, he now dreams of a degree in Broadcasting from North Texas State University. Hendrick has "truly blessed" him, and, when he graduates, he'll be the first in his family to do so. He too thanked us.

Marcy introduced **Marty Taylor**, a HSF mentor and former PISD teacher and counselor.



Marty thanked Rotary by extension for sending a daughter on a GSE. She told us of the trials (literally) and tribulations (figuratively) of one of her mentees, **Julia Moore**. Julia missed three days of school due to a lockup in Juvenile Detention. A domestic disturbance at home had been attributed (falsely, so she claimed) to her, and when she was released, she refused to go home. Marty consulted with the PPD liaison officer, who, on seeing the address of Julia's home, recognized it as one of several disturbances he had been privileged to address. So she was referred to Juvenile Advocacy that situated Julia with her aunt in South Dallas. She commuted to PESH via DART but could not run to her first morning class, so she

was transferred to her grandma's home in Detroit where she graduated high school.

Marty contacted Dr. Hendrick who simply asked, "Is she a good one?" and, on getting affirmation, added her to the HSF list. Julia worked full-time and attended college full-time, amazing Marty with her perseverance. But Marty has since seen that in all of her charges, and she invites us to witness it for ourselves. She counsels that there is a *Handbook for Academic Coaches* (which are the re-name of program's mentors). They need college grads.

She finished with a quote from **Paul Shane Spear**: "As one person, I cannot change the World, but I can change the World of one person." There are 16 new Hendrick Scholars, so the need for Academic Coaches has never been higher.

Earnest Burke swore blind that his photo did not grace the highly-coveted perpetual calendar he gifted both students. Some wag noted, "That's why it's highly-coveted!"

Earnest led us in the Four-Way Test, and handed the gavel to both students who struck us gone at 1:04.



✍

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