

# A Swarm of Governors

**W**E were cheek by jowl by jowl by jowl with Past District Governors here to honor Past President **Bill Boyd** and his wife **Lorna**. They had stopped



by the Flagship of District 5810 to deliver a *Rotary Foundation* Pep Talk, and the District Leadership was drawn as a bear to honey. Indeed half the hour was devoted to recognition of the *illuminati* present. But two of the Past District Governors were given short shrift because they're neither visiting nor guests; I speak, of course, of PDGs **Hoxie** and **Showalter**. However, they were prepared to be overshadowed and had brought **Helen** and **Donna** for emotional support.



Prince John thrice pummeled the bell at 12:14 to summon our attention and then relayed the sad news that **Boyd Craig**, a Rotarian of 40 years and a PRC Board Member, had just passed away. We would be notified by email as to the funeral arrangements. The Reverend Bryan Stamper

commemorated him as a part of the Invocation, and **Ean's** email regarding Boyd is given at the conclusion of this Bulletin. *Scary Bob* explained

that his volume as he led us in the Pledge is a gift from his Father. And Prince John thanked **Kirk Bell** and **J.D.** for greeting.



## SERGEANT JENKINS

said were awash in "Poohbahs and Grand Poohbahs" this day.

We had PDGs **Ryan, Snider, Holland**, etc., culminating in the current Governor,

**Linda Elliott**. When Skip asked if he'd missed anyone, **LB**

**THE RADIANT** stood up, prompting Skip to acknowledge that "the Bad **LB** is here."

Several members noted that PDG **Richard Gilman** was present, but Skip was unimpressed. If

he thought he could just waltz in here without signing in, as if the procedures didn't matter, Skip had no sympathy. He did, however, note that **Jan Sullivan** was sitting at **LB's** table as "the better option."



Perfect Attendance pins went to **Lee Dunlap** (4), **Johnny Lewis** (23), and **Brad Keith** (39).

**Chris Henry** was so happy he got to tout his Golf Tournament today that he danced a jig. The tournament October 24<sup>th</sup> benefits ALS research, honoring a friend who had died of *Lou Gehrig Disease*. See Chris for details.



**Earnest Burke** thanked the membership again for their efforts for our own Golf Tournament. He told us that we raised \$65K for the Hendrick Scholarship



Foundation. We were terribly quiet in front of the assembled 5810 firepower about the disappointing comparison with last year's tournament. Even *Scary Bob* held his tongue! And he had been pushing for over twice that return.



As introducers go, DG Linda Elliott is surely the most prestigious we've had. It was her duty to present the accomplishments of Past RI President Bill Boyd. She quoted from the event booklet for District 5790's (Fort Worth) "*An Evening of*

*Thanks*," for which President Bill was also speaker. It reads, in part,

*"A Rotarian since 1971, Bill is a member of the Rotary Club of Pakuranga. He has served Rotary International as District Governor, training leader, moderator of the International Assembly, committee member and chair, including deputy chair of the New Zealand National PolioPlus committee, assistant deputy coordinator of PolioPlus partners, task force assistant general coordinator, regional Rotary Foundation*

*coordinator, Director and treasurer of the RI Board. He is a recipient of The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service and its Distinguished Service Award. He has also received a Meritorious Service Award from Rotary Down Under. Past Rotary International President Bill Boyd is currently a ... Trustee of The Rotary Foundation serving until 2012.*

*Bill and his wife Lorna live in Howick, Auckland, New Zealand. They have two sons, two daughters and 12 grandchildren."*

President Bill sat on a stool precariously close to the edge of the podium and told us how happy he was to be here today and to meet old and make new friends. He mentioned **Jim Griffin** whom he had met with wife **Donna** around 1992. Then, acknowledging the Great Recession (thank you, **Phil Gramm**), he said he'd keep his remarks short so that we could "*all get back to your businesses.*" (It used to be said that *when the United States sneezes, the rest of the world catches cold*; so New Zealand hasn't been spared. That's the downside of a global economy.)



He spoke of a New Zealand philanthropist Rotarian who has spent his own funds building nine schools along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. Bill described him as self-effacing, needing no hurrahs to spur him on. (While the Taliban claims it doesn't target NGOs, if those schools are open to girls, Bill's friend may want to travel with bodyguards.)

Bill quoted from a book by **John Wood**, a Microsoft employee in China. John vacationed in Nepal, witnessed the need for NGO action there, quit his job and fiancée, and established the nonprofit, *Books to Read*. (It's a good thing John didn't vacation in Tibet. The Chinese Government looks askance at NGOs in general, like Rotary, let alone those that work in sensitive areas like Tibet. You know,





of course, that the **two** Rotaries in China proper are closed to the Chinese themselves. Rotary's free to operate only in the "Special Administrative Districts" of Hong Kong and Macau, at least until their special status runs out.)

John's book quoted exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, the **Dalai Lama**. "*When we give something away, we actually get something in return: Happiness.*" It goes on to the effect that acquisition doesn't produce true happiness; it is only the knowledge that we have benefitted the less fortunate and made the world a better place that does so. This is hardly news to Rotarians. Rotarians benefit even those they have never seen! This unselfishness is what, to Bill's mind, *keeps us Rotarians*.

Bill is the current Chair of the *Rotary International Foundation*, and his tour of the country is to promote the Foundation, but he's not seeking our donations simply because "*it's a good cause.*"

He spoke of a visit to a Rotary Club in the Philippines which had benefitted from Rotary Foundation grants. The Rotarians there were struggling with the cost of Rotary dues, yet they were working tirelessly to fund local schools and clinics. A teacher took Bill aside during the tour and told him "*they could do with some additional computers.*" Across the road, the Health Clinic bore a huge Rotary Wheel. The doctors and nurses volunteered there three times a week. At an elementary school, a Rotary grant had drilled deep wells to give them clean water when their own wells had gone brackish. The students lined their route, spelling out "*Thank you, Rotary*" over and over. In the surrounding countryside, mini-dams had been developed across shallow streams enabling the local farmers to harvest two rather than one rice crop. They were owned by a Rotary Community Corporation rather than the government, so when they

silted up, locals cleared them rather than waiting for assistance.



These were all good projects sponsored by the local Rotarians, solving real problems, answering valid needs. Bill commended them for responding thoughtfully rather than emotionally, directing their attention to causes rather than symptoms.

They had done what he recommends we all do, a smart cost-benefit analysis that includes not only initial requirements but also the stewardship of maintenance. It is sustainability that will be "*building for tomorrow.*"

On that same visit, he saw an ultraviolet water filtration plant and a nearby seed farm, further examples of the work of the 20-member club! The Foundation had been a "*channel for RI assistance.*"

As far as Bill is concerned, "*What you support makes you the person that you are.*"

The first of the Q&A came from DG Linda who asked about the progress toward the \$200 million matching grant (from **Bill Gates**). Bill *Boyd* told her that the Foundation has matched \$145 million thus far, but he has no doubts that RI will meet the challenge. He said, "*The quicker we get there, the quicker we can return*" to projects in addition to PolioPlus. Polio cases have fallen in Nigeria from 760 last year to only 107 thus far in 2010. The nation had been an exporter of Polio. India's rates have fallen 90% last year; Type 1 Polio was eradicated, and Type 3 is expected to follow.



Pakistan and Afghanistan aren't the easiest places in the world to work, but at least the population isn't mobile so cases don't spread. However WHO (World Health Organization) doctors have been killed by IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices). Tajikistan experienced an outbreak of some 400

cases from an Indian source, but they are now contained.

Ean Sullivan noted that in a recent *60 Minutes* program about **Melinda Gates**, Rotary was given short shrift, and he wondered how we best improve our message. Bill responded that the program had Melinda as its focus rather than Rotary. The good news, however, is that Gates Foundation has let it be known that its contributions to Rotary will not end with Polio. Bill Gates wrote that *"You cannot work with Rotary without coming to revere Rotary."* Furthermore, Bill Boyd noted, *"Rotary is Good News, and as we all know: If it bleeds, it leads."* So we're condemned to weaker coverage.

We're well recognized at international levels. **Kofi Annan** (UN) has spoken well of Rotary as has **Margaret Chan** (WHO). We get good press via UNICEF. And we've received over \$3 million from non-Rotarians in India, one donor vowing to add \$1 million each year until the threat of Polio is ended.



Prince John donated \$2,000 from the Club to the Rotary International Foundation, handing Bill a negotiable version of the Giant Check.

Prince John noted that he would fine **Marty Murff** \$1 for her phone going off during Bill's address, and he would add another \$4 for the egregious ringtone.

Kirk Bell challenged Prince John about wearing his Rotary pin during a recent TV interview. Since the esteemed President claimed he had, Kirk volunteered \$5 contrition money to the cause.

Prince John announced that next week's speaker would be DG Linda, and she will be meeting with the Board at 10:30. Therefore the Board will meet to conduct its monthly business at 10 rather than 7:30 next Thursday.

**LE THE RADIANT** (you have to tell me when you return to *the Wicked, LE*) insisted that Prince John explain for 5810 illuminati the presence of the Jackelope. John told them it's a tribute *"to my wry sense of humor and bad sense of timing."* He said that the boa just didn't fit. (At Jan Sullivan's birthday last Saturday, John said he didn't want to see the boa draped around the Jackelope. The sentiment of the assembly was, *"You shouldn't give us ideas like that, John."*)



After leading us in the Four-Way Test, he thrice belled us out at 1:05. (Ben Criste was today's substitute photographer.)





**Boyd Devard Craig**, of Plano, Texas, passed away on October 5, 2010. Boyd was born August 8, 1940, in Little Axe, Oklahoma, to Silvie A. and Grace (Moody) Craig. On June 1, 1962 he married Sharon Coffey Craig in Norman, Oklahoma. He received his education in Norman, and at the University of Oklahoma. Boyd was a member of the Chamber of Commerce, as well as a board member of the Plano Rotary Club with perfect attendance for 40 years. He was also President of the Dallas Business Association. Boyd was instrumental in bringing soccer to the city of Plano. He is survived by his wife, Sharon Coffey Craig of Plano, Texas; children, David Craig of The Woodlands, Texas, Melody Craig of Rowlett, Texas, John Craig and wife Ramona of Sherman, Texas; brother, Charles Craig of Cleveland County, Oklahoma; sister, Elaine Chapman of Norman, Oklahoma; grandchildren, Anastasia and Abigail Craig of The Woodlands, Texas, Elizabeth, Valerie, Jonathan, and Justin Craig of Sherman, Texas; great-grandson, Johnny Paul Craig; a host of other loving family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, and brother, Neil Craig. Memorials may be made to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, North Texas / Oklahoma Chapter, 8111 LBJ Freeway, Suite 425, Dallas, TX 75251, 972-996-5900 or [www.leukemia-lymphoma.org](http://www.leukemia-lymphoma.org).

## **PLANO ROTARY CLUB**

### **Fantasy Football Standings**

#### **NFC Division**

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Mark Waterbury ..... | 3-2 |
| Brad Shanklin .....  | 3-2 |
| Octavio Ortiz.....   | 3-2 |
| David Allison .....  | 2-3 |
| Nathan Barbera ..... | 2-3 |
| Gerald Brence .....  | 2-3 |

#### **AFC Division**

|                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| Martin Jackson ..... | 4-1 |
| Ean Sullivan.....    | 3-2 |
| John Ernst .....     | 3-2 |
| Kyle Walters .....   | 2-3 |
| Mark Johnson.....    | 2-3 |
| Ben Criste .....     | 1-4 |

