

THE CHIEF SCHLEPPER'S WIFE

D **AVID Crist** accepts the assignation of *Chief Schlepper* with a kind of resigned dignity. He mocks the role of a DG



Spouse by embracing the sobriquet that **Linda Elliott** hands him. In fact, he gets a kick out of artificial ennoblement that it gives him with Gentiles who know not what it means.

Prince John thrice tolled the Rotary Bell rather late at 12:20 to summon us to a simulacrum of attention. He called upon **LB the Good** to give the Invocation and **Keith Sockwell** to lead us in a comma-free Pledge. (*Thanks, Bob!*) He thanked **Ben Criste** for marathon greetings (you have to twist arms more effectively, Ben), and **Sainted Editor** thanks him for scurrying around taking photos of us all. **Ean Sullivan** had out-sourced his duties, but, fortunately, he had not off-shored them. (*Photographe Extraordinaire Randy Wright* returns to the task – and the meetings – next week.)



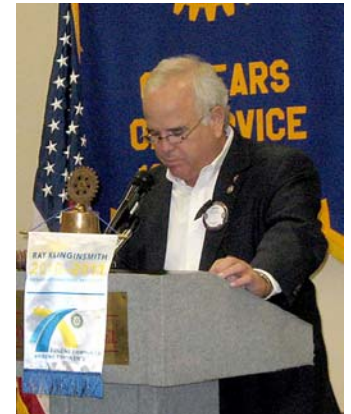
Carrolyn. Skip marveled at the fact that Hell had not yet frozen over with the Ranger's win.



Perfect Attendance pins went to **Brad Shanklin** (8), **Patti Arrived Late Schwartz** (12), and **Doyle Dean** (24 years of juggling Rotary against School Administration but now blissfully retired).

Ben Criste (my God, he's everywhere!) announced a **NEW MEMBERS' ORIENTATION** at 6:30 pm on Thursday, October 28th, at **Tino's** in the Mall.

Prince John related how DG Linda Elliott, CS David Crist, and (when he found the meeting) ADG José Garduno had met with the Rotary Board just before the Club's meeting, and DG Linda had shared her goals for the coming year. He welcomed her to speak to the Club.



DG Linda originated in Brownsville, Texas' southernmost city (South Point is its southernmost community). She was condemned to four different high schools before graduating. She took Bachelor degrees in Business and Public Administration at *UT Austin*. Linda has been a Grande Prairie Rotarian for 21 years, and she's a member of the *Paul Harris Bequest Society*. Both she and David are recipients of the *Service Above Self Award*, one of only five couples so honored in Texas. Not surprisingly, she has been named 5810's *District Rotarian of the Year*.

Linda hawked *Proud to be a Rotarian* bumper stickers for \$1 (somewhat below cost) to improve public recognition.



SERGEANT SKIPPY recognized Assistant DG and member of Plano's new Rotary (Latin American Club), **José Garduno**. Among the guest today were Past President **Wally Bailey** and **Jemmy** (?) **Moebius**, the cute-as-a-button daughter of



She explained that David wasn't just any run-of-the-mill schlepper but rather the Chief Schlepper; that made all the difference. He would be the projectionist for her rapid-fire *PowerPoint™* presentation. Occasionally, he would race ahead of her, but, with years of practice, she could bring him to heel.



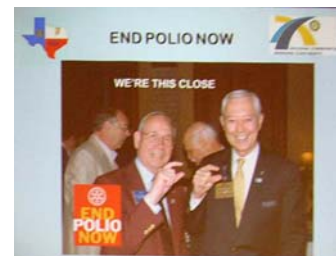
Her first duty was to present Prince John (by name, no less) with his **GRADUATION CERTIFICATE** from *President-Elect Training Seminar* and to declare him “*qualified to lead you.*” Someone mused “*Just in time*” out loud. Others were more skeptical.

Then she announced her purpose: she was travelling the circuit of 5810 clubs to let each know what all have accomplished and to encourage club cooperation to accomplish more under the RI President **Ray Klingensmith's** Administration motto of “*Building Communities. Bridging Continents.*” Yes, that is what the theme logo on the front page of the Reader is supposed to say, and it does...in *Romanian!* Randy downloaded the



logos months ago and sent the set to *Alphagraphics*, but they chose one at random. I've included the English logo with the photos sent this week; we'll see whether or not it makes it to the masthead. ☺ I kind of like the Romanian version; it emphasizes Rotary's international flavor.

Her first emphasis, however, was the giant Rotary project, Polio+, which has reduced worldwide incidents of the disease to fewer than 1,000. With only four PAIN countries to go (Pakistan, Afghanistan, India, and Nigeria), “*we're this close*” to eradicating it. (This month's *Rotarian* has a photo spread on the efforts.)



Her first plea was for singers (made to a non-singing Rotary club!) to repopulate the aging 5810 *Rotary Chorus*. Those interested may download the Chorus' brochure from

<http://old.rotary5810.org/PDF0708/ChorusBrochure.pdf>

It tells you, among other things, that the group practices every Tuesday evening from 7 to 8:30 in the Music Suite of the *First Presbyterian Church of Dallas*.

Her next slide depicted the extent of 5810 from Grayson on the north to Ellis on the south. She spoke of the response of 5810 to the Rotary Foundation with 47 major donors and 53 Bequest Society members. With regard to the latter, her comment was they “*won't miss it.*” To encourage participation with the Foundation, she announced a program to award 500 Paul Harris Points (equivalent to half a fellowship) to the first five of our members who sign up for automatic withdrawals of \$25 monthly.

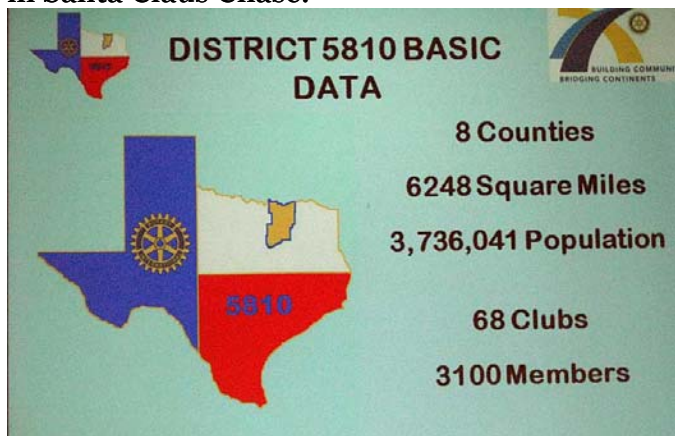
There followed a flurry of parades mounted by 5810 clubs, including the Allen Christmas (how do they get away with “Christmas” when we have to call ours a “Holiday Program?”), Duncanville Float, and the Park Cities Parades. In the midst of those, she announced the newest 5810 clubs, *Melissa* and the *North Texas Pioneers*, which meets Thursday at 6:30 at *Bavarian Grill!* <Burp>



Linda spoke of clubs that offer home repairs to those in need. Midlothian, Dallas Evening, and Waxahachie were mentioned. She related an anecdote of Rotarians who repainted the home of an Afghanistan Vet who had to sell his home before returning to Fort Hood. His home sold within the week. Dallas East has built wheelchair ramps.

Under the rubric of YOUTH, she mentioned that Rotary has added a fifth area of service: *New Generations* that include Interact, Rotoract, and RYLA. RYLA was touted as celebrating its 20th year.

Commerce Rotary supports Scholars' Lunch at the High School. There is a *Pumpkin Run* associated with the Youth Exchange. Dallas Evening is mounting a *Ballet Folklorico*, and Garland entertains 80 kids at Christmas (sorry, *Winter Holidays*). McKinney produces a Believe in Santa Claus Chase.



Forney invites its Interact Club to its own meetings. Grand Prairie has offered \$1.5 M worth of dental care to small patients. Plano (surprise surprise) supports *Memorial Elementary*. Richardson Central offers dictionaries. The new NT Pioneers supports *Tools for School*.

Supporting “people who aren’t so young,” 40 seniors from St. Joseph’s have been treated to the *Dallas Arboretum*. A senior center has arisen in Waxahachie due to Rotary’s efforts.

And one can now purchase vanity plates from the State of Texas reading *Service Above Self* for \$30 with \$20 of it going to TB treatment.

Project piled upon project: books to Africa, clean water, *Shoes for Souls*, uptown greenhouse, spectacle collection, *PolkaFest*, etc., etc. But DG Linda’s pet project is the clinic in Rio Bravo, across the Rio Grande from



McAllen, TX. 5810, in cooperation with the local District 5930, has undertaken repairs and reconstruction of the Clinic.

She reported that Chief Vampire **GEORGE ELKING** has now retired from shepherding 5810’s **BLOOD DRIVE**. Our email accounts may now return to the black. And she was proud to note that a recent RILI Leadership Institute had attracted seven men but eleven women!

While this year’s 5810 Annual Conference will be on board a cruise to Alaska (can you say “junket?”), next year, the District’s 50th Anniversary, will be celebrated at **Mardi Gras** in New Orleans. Our Mardi Grabbitt party animal is decked out and ready.



Concerned that her projectionist’s “finger gets tired,” Linda relinquished the podium to David Crist. He spoke of Rotary as “bigger, better, bolder.” He told us of a paint project at the Rio Bravo Clinic where none of the local Rotarians were women, but member’s wives did the painting while their Rotarian husbands drank the beers. But he complained that Linda had “said that as if it were a bad thing.”

David went on to explain that TB is a serious problem in Rio Bravo, but when victims can't work, they don't eat. So Rotary arranges for the Clinic to receive food support. Only \$30 feeds a family for a month. He was just getting warmed up when Linda declared, "You're through."



Prince John presented her with the Giant Check for \$500 to be applied to the Rio Bravo Clinic. She said that with the drug violence (the border is effectively closed), it is cheaper and safer to pay to have the citizens of Rio Bravo treated by Mexican staff.

John then led us in the Four-Way Test and struck us out (it took three strikes) at 1:02.



The black ribbon on our Club Banner was in memory of **Boyd Craig**. It will appear as we lose others of our number, and, given that our average age was reported to be in the mid-60s, we can anticipate its reappearance.

PLANO ROTARY CLUB FANTASY FOOTBALL STANDINGS

NFC DIVISION

Brad Shanklin.....	4-2
Mark Waterbury.....	3-3
Octavio Ortiz	3-3
Nathan Barbera.....	3-3
David Allison.....	2-4
Gerald Brence.....	2-4

AFC DIVISION

Martin Jackson.....	5-1
Ean Sullivan	4-2
John Ernst.....	3-3
Mark Johnson	3-3
Kyle Walters	2-4
Ben Criste	2-4