

Fall

Weekly

Reader

Volume 8, Issue 14, October 7, 2010

The Plano Rotary Club

www.PlanoRotary.com



UPCOMING MEETINGS

- 10/7 Bill Boyd - Past Rotary International President "Rotary International"
- 10/14 DG Linda Elliot "Official Governor's Visit"
- 10/21 Plano High School Football Coaches "The season so far"

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 10/5 RICK MAUCIERI
- 10/20 WALT MEYER
- 10/20 BOB BOTTS
- 10/26 JESSICA JACKSON
- 10/27 MARC LEWIS
- 10/31 CASEY STEWART



EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

BACK TO THE STONE AGE

ACCORDING to co-conspirator **Jan Sullivan**, it took **Prince John** several minutes to come to the conclusion that



the automobile FOR SALE in the *Pitchfork's* Showroom/Rotary Meeting Hall was his own! Jan had concocted some cock and bull story about needing to borrow John's car because hers was disabled and **Ean** was unavailable. Then she



drove it to the *Pitchfork*, drained it of gasoline (at the management's insistence), and rolled it into the room onto a strategically placed drop cloth. John warmed to the gag (at least until he had to drive away on an empty gas tank), and chaired the meeting from the driver's seat! (He must be starved for attention.)



He honked us thrice to order at 12:15,

announcing his intention to preside from the comfort of his front seat using the thoughtfully provided **SONIC** Drive-In tray as lectern. He shamed Jan into giving the Invocation and invited **Marty Murff** to lead us in the Pledge. He thanked **John Shaw** for greeting, and called **SERGEANT JENKINS** to the '07 Nissan Altima to acknowledge Visiting Rotarians and



Guests, but whereas Jan had slipped into the passenger seat to pray, Skip refused to participate in the madness, and orated from outside the car.

Skip was so unnerved by the circumstances, that he didn't even razz visiting Rotarian and Collin County Tax Assessor/Collector, **Ken Maun**! However the bizarreness didn't faze **LB THE RADIANT** who announced that Waxahachie Rotarian **Alex Smith** was sitting at **THE TABLE**, by which, of course, he meant his own. **Tino** introduced his guest, Past President **Don**



Lummis. And Jan got back at Ean for decades of fractured introductions by announcing that he had shot himself with a nail gun the day before.

Then **Prince John** handed out Perfect Attendance pins to all qualified recipients who would deign to accept them from the window of the Altima. These included **Jim Anderson** (5), **Lenny Schwartz** (10), **Earl Simpkins** (15), **Ray Huffines** (26), and **Howard Shapiro** (32 years of leaving early). But while Ean faithfully recorded each honoree with his *Point'n'Shoot*, he had the settings wrong, and each shot came

continued on page 2

out smeared beyond recognition. Thus there is no photo record of ceremony; you'll just have to take **Sainted Editor's** word for it.

Alice Hobbs thanked all those who participated in the **PLANO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA'S** first concert at the *Eisenmann*. She volunteered the \$5 fine for pitching the next concert, *Brass at the Heard*, which takes place at **Prince John's** old stomping grounds, the *Heard Museum* at 5:30 on October 17th.



Earnest Burke announced that **Jeff Butcher** has agreed to mentor **Leo Valdez**, the nervous teen who vouchsafed his unenviable life history during our last *Hendrick Scholarship Foundation* gig. Jeff got an unexpected reward of *Texas Ranger* tickets!

Prince John called upon "the vociferous **Robert Epstein**" (*Scary*

Bob, to you) to introduce the day's speaker. Bob told us that West Point graduate, **COL. JOHN ANTAL**, was an Airborne Ranger and Tank Commander who has served with combat units in Germany, Korea, Kuwait, and here in Texas at *Fort Hood* where he was the Operations Officer for the 3rd Armored Corps. He has guarded the bullion at Fort Knox and served as Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Having retired from the military in '03, Col. Antal now authors books, produces films, and serves at the VP for Knowledge Operations for Plano's gearbox software, advising them on tactics and history for the **BROTHERS IN ARMS** videogame.



While he had promised to be brief, Col. Antal took the first 10 minutes of his talk recapitulating his introduction under the title of "Who is John Antal?," and "Why would you want to listen to him?" He said that he spent time in Kuwait training their military general staff. He has commanded a tank battalion in Korea (though not for the Korean War for which, unlike the majority of us, he was not yet born).

He told us that his hero is **George Washington**, and his heroine is his wife. He has published a dozen books, lectured, and led battlefield tours. His values, he says, are those of the U.S. Army: *loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage*.

Having reintroduced himself, he turned to his topic, the perpetual occupation, nation building, and, perhaps, colonization of Afghanistan, because all of that worked out so well historically for the Macedonians, British, and Soviets. (Why should it be any different for us?) He's been studying Afghanistan since 9/11 and has come to the conclusion that no one understands it like the Afghans. He found his interest in it via the Wounded



Warriors, and there are lots. However, Col. Antal points out that we've only lost 1,300 lives compared to the 2,500 lost on 6 June 1944 on the Normandy coast.



He has been to Kandahar (the 2nd largest city after the Capital at Kabul), and it was named after the first major invader, **Alexander the Great** of Macedon in 330 BCE. The supreme egoist named dozens of cities after himself (like Egypt's Alexandria) before expiring on the march 7 years later. Indeed, he named the city *Alexandria* which became corrupted to *Kandahar* in the local dialect. And his means of capturing the city were slaughter and enslavement, techniques unchanged in his trek across the Ancient World.

Col. Antal described the next invaders as the British, but he left out the major players in Afghan history, the Arabs. Islam captured Kandahar in the 7th Century and never left. Due to its strategic location on trade routes to India, the British coveted the town and lost their entire expedition (save a single man) in 1842. They invaded again in 1878-80, succeeding in colonization. But in 1919, Afghanistan recovered its independence.

It has been in civil war ever since 1970. When pro-Soviet factions began losing, the USSR intervened with their eventual "Vietnam" (helped on a bit by Rep. **Charlie Wilson's** [TX] *Stinger* missiles). (Indeed, at that time, the CIA supported the *Mujihadeen* among whose number was included one disaffected Saudi named **Osama bin Laden**.) Only 8 years after the Russians retreated, the Taliban was



in command, dispensing its own brand of Shari'a Law, forbidding school for girls, among other enlightenments. They held sway from 1996 through 2001 when US forces routed them for their support of 9/11 via *Al-Qaeda*.

As of August 2003, NATO was in command of Afghanistan. In October of the next year, a constitutional convention chose (a former Mujihadeen fundraiser), **Hamid Karzai**, to lead the then occupied nation.

By 2008, the Taliban were back with a vengeance. Their encroachment on a weakened government was countered in December of 2009 by the 30,000 troop surge by US forces. The UN hadn't been up to the task with its peacekeeping from the safety of its bases while the Taliban was beheading government collaborators across the majority of the land.

Gen. Stanley McChrystal developed a *Hearts and Minds* plan to use the populace against the Taliban. This involved surgical strikes (to minimize collateral damage) against an enemy hiding "amongst the people," sometimes using women and children as human shields. Unfortunately, some unguarded remarks in a *Rolling Stone* interview resulted in his dismissal.



The US is pursuing a strategy of working with tribal elders one-on-one to gain trust. But Col. Antal maintains that trust will dissolve when the US pulls out, and the Taliban and its beheadings return. Another part of the strategy involves sophisticated weaponry (*Predator* drones and precision missiles) to "disrupt" (kill) Taliban leadership. But that leadership has fled to safe havens

in neighboring Pakistan, so Afghanistan remains at risk unless Pakistan chooses to assist.

But Pakistan is a basket state. Monsoon flooding has 1/3 of the country underwater. The population has lost whatever little faith it had in an elected government. Al-Qaeda has sworn to overthrow. Should they succeed, Al-Qaeda becomes a nuclear state (with access to the scientists and technicians necessary to adapt nukes to terrorist delivery systems). But, with Pakistan's permission, the US has targeted enemy strongholds with missiles every day this September. We are relying upon spies and informants in the Waziristan Province to keep enemy leadership in its bunkers, so Col. Antal claims.

Fortunately, in **Gen. David Petraeus**, we have a follower of the McChrystal Plan. He accepted a demotion to serve as the top commander in Afghanistan, and his motto is *"We're in this to win."*



Washington DC disagrees, in Col. Antal's opinion. The drawdown, to be begun by July 2011, is politically motivated to take Afghanistan off US hands *"before the elections."*

If we follow Petraeus, we continue the surge, degrade the Taliban, enhance the Afghan Government, make military deals with the Pakistanis, and stay a minimum of a decade until *"the Taliban sues for peace or dissolves."* We win. (Afghan history suggests otherwise.)

To lose, all we have to do is to pull out, leave the Afghan Government in the lurch, resulting in a Taliban victory, the concomitant bloodbath, a destabilized Pakistan, terrorists with nukes, and our return to fight another day. (But we won't be facing mere IEDs then.)

He concluded with the second verse of the National Anthem, which reads
On the shore dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the

towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream:
'Tis the star-spangled banner: O, long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Lenny Schwartz asked about Russia's failure to conquer Afghanistan. Col. Antal said that we're trying to free the government of the Taliban, not to conquer. He said that the model is one of South Korea, where Democracy has taken hold (not to mention Capitalism), and it now serves as a buffer state against the communist North.

He was asked why we fail to *"take out bin Laden?"* He replied that Afghanistan is tribal. And bin Laden outspends the US in buying allegiances. Tino wanted to know how he accomplishes that, and Col. Antal responded *"Saudi Arabia."*

David Ellis asked what was stopping us in Afghanistan. Col. Antal said that neither China nor Russia want us to succeed there. And Pakistan holds the key to the power structure.



Herb Hoxie asked, *"Where's Osama?"* Col. Antal surmised that he's in Waziristan, and finding him will take Special Forces, like the Roman Special Forces that assassinated Hannibal.

In answer to a question about the role of the State Department, he replied, *"They're not there."*

Prince John said that the Club would buy one of his books and donate it to Collin College if he would but autograph it. Then he led us in the Four-Way Test and thrice honked us out at 1:01.

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:

Proposed By:

Classification:

Plano Rotary Club Board of Directors 2010-2011

President

John Ernst

President Elect

Brad Shanklin

Vice President

Lynn Schwartz

Secretary

Karla Oliver

Treasurer

Kirk Bell

Past President

Susan Shuler

Sergeant at Arms

Skip Jenkins

Membership Chair

Ben Criste

Membership Vice Chair

Casey Stewart

Service Chair

L B Showalter

Service Vice Chair

Alan Feigenbaum

Public Relations Chair

Nathan Barbera

Public Relations Vice Chair

Kenny Wilson

Club Admin. Chair

Octavio Ortiz

Club Admin Vice Chair

Ean Sullivan

Foundation Vice Chair

Earnest Burke

Business Secretary

Jessica Jackson

At Large

Robert Epstein

Chris Parr

Kyle Walters

Camille Ussery

Earl Simpkins

Hugo Esparza

Bulletin Editor

Chris Parr

Bulletin Photographer

Randy Wright

Bulletin Designer

Kim Oliva

Alphagraphics

Printing by Alphagraphics

Park & Coit

The Plano Rotary Club

PO Box 864316

Plano, Texas 75086

972.596.2585

*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?

Support Our Advertisers

THE AUTO SHOP
Since 1981

Professional Automotive Repairs including:
Air Conditioning • Inspections • Clutches • Transmissions • Differentials
Engine repairs • Factory Scheduled Maintenance • Tune-Ups • Electrical • Brakes

Jerry P. Kezhaya
President

www.TheAutoShop.com

2560 East Plano Parkway
Plano, Texas 75074

972-578-0588 - T
972-881-0998 - F

Rick Maucieri
President

GRANT LEIGHTON
Professional Landscapers

Grant Leighton Associates
PO Box 865066
Plano, Texas 75086
972.422.0169 Voice
972.881.9373 Fax
rickm@glandscape.com

BOYD CRAIG HVAC
ELECTRICAL • PLUMBING

Boyd D. Craig

872-424-6701
boyd@boydcraigHVAC.com
www.boydcraigHVAC.com
TACLO01537C • MEL24195
ASPR, Inc.

PROSPERITY BANK

HUBERT G AARON
President
Preston Road Banking Center

18800 Preston Road
Dallas, Texas 75252
www.prosperitybanktx.com
NASDAQ Stock Symbol: PRSP

Phone (972) 312-9107
Cell (214) 394-9599
Fax (972) 312-9207
hubert.aaron@prosperitybanktx.com

ELLIOTT'S HARDWARE
Making hardware easy.

Dallas 4901 Maple Ave.
Dallas, TX 75235
214-634-9900

Plano 2049 Coit Rd.
Plano, TX 75075
972-312-0700

Mesquite 116 E. Kearney St.
Mesquite, TX 75149
214-324-5087

www.elliottshardware.com

Exhaust Authority™ Power | Sound | Miles

David Allison

1208 K Avenue | Plano, TX 75074
972-423-2781
www.exhaustauthority.com

HUFFINES HAS IT!
Since 1924 www.huffines.net

RAY HUFFINES **HUFFINES** **HUFFINES**
Chevrolet Hyundai Chrysler • Jeep Dodge

1001 Coit Rd @ Plano Pkwy. 900 Coit Rd @ Plano Pkwy. 4500 W. Plano Pkwy @ Chis. Pkwy.
Plano, Texas Plano, Texas Plano, Texas

(972) 867-4000 (972) 867-5000 (972) 867-6000

All Service, Body and Parts Departments Open All Day Saturday.

BE READY FOR TODAY
PREPARE FOR TOMORROW

From investing for today to retirement planning for tomorrow, you want to make the most of your earnings. Please contact me today for a complimentary consultation.

Kirk Bell
Financial Advisor, RJFS

RAYMOND JAMES FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.
Member SIPC

5048 Tennyson Pkwy., Suite 120
Plano, TX 75024
972-403-1025
kirk.bell@raymondjames.com
www.bellvalente.com

Rose food service

Stephen E. Vitasek
Executive Chef/Owner

Office 469-443-0406
Fax 469-443-0489
Cell 214-215-8589

PO Box 856877 Plano, TX
svitasek@txrr.com
www.rosefoodservice.com

Catering & Cafeteria Management for Individual, Corporate, & Educational

Evelyn's
Professional Janitorial Service, Inc.

EVELYN MOLINA
Direct Line 469-446-1041

840 Central Parkway East
Suite 130
Plano, Texas 75074

972-516-9550 • Fax 972-516-9868
evelyn@alljanitorial.net
www.alljanitorial.net

Insured & Bonded • FREE ESTIMATES
Complete Office Maintenance, Construction, Industrial & Residential Cleaning

alphagraphics®
DESIGN • COPY • PRINT • COMMUNICATE

Kenny Wilson
Owner

2001 Coit Road, Ste. 170
Plano, Texas 75075
Phone 972.867.9216
Fax 972.519.9181

Cell 972.639.8615
kwilson@alphagraphics.com
www.plano408.alphagraphics.com

AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK OF TEXAS
www.anbtx.com

Casey W. Stewart
Banking Center President

972-309-0001 ext. 5937
214-863-5937 direct line
214-863-6160 fax
caseystewart@anbtx.com

Plano Parkway Banking Center
1101 East Plano Parkway
1st Floor Bank Lobby #E
Plano, Texas 75074

MORGAN LEGACY GROUP
Because Life Has Purpose

President | CHUCK MORGAN

15660 N. Dallas Pkwy., Suite 700
Dallas, Texas 75248
P. 972.267.8181
F. 972.267.8180
E. chuck.morgan@morganlegacygroup.com
W. www.MorganLegacyGroup.com

Jim Anderson
Residential Sales Specialist

Phone: (214) 647-1111
eMail: jvarealty@txrr.com
Fax: (866) 821-8379

KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

18363 Preston Road, Suite 150
Dallas, Texas 75252
www.jvarealty.com

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

J. Marc Lewis & Associates
CORPORATE AND PERSONAL TAXATION

J. Marc Lewis JD, LL.M., EA
Enrolled to practice before the IRS

Lakeside Commons
5045 Lonmar Drive
Suite 280
Plano, TX 75093

marclinc@airmail.net
Tel. (972) 618-8224
Fax (972) 618-2021

ARTA Travel
5700 West Plano Parkway
Suite 1400
Plano, Texas 75093
Telephone 972.422.4000
Fax 972.422.2331
www.artatravel.com

Larry Flannery, CTC
Vice President
larry@artatravel.com

ARTA travel motivation tours

JOHN SHAO
PORTFOLIO MANAGEMENT INC.

John Shao, PhD, CFA
President

5521 Roland Drive
Plano, TX 75093

(972) 608-3374
1800 546-3692 FAX
(405) 413-6889 MOBILE

www.john-shao.com john@john-shao.com