



WINTER  
Weekly

# Reader

Volume 22, Issue 04, January 27th, 2022

The Plano Rotary Club  
www.PlanoRotary.com

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Jan 27th  
**Dr Mark Gamber**  
Collin County ME  
State of the County –  
Medically Speaking

Feb 3rd  
TBD

Feb 10th  
TBD



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Pam Little	Jan 04
Mike McCormack	Jan 15
Jerry Aris	Jan 17
Randy Brodhead	Jan 20
Paul Hernandez	Jan 25
Carter House	Jan 31



# DADDY AOUADAD

**Z**OOM went smoother this time around. **Karen** had located “*The Owl*,” nickname for the roving camera which searches for the noisiest speaker, much nearer the front of the



room, highlighting those in charge. And, in the main, speakers spoke up, as is required if the seven of us online were to understand them.

An Aoudad is a Moroccan Mountain Sheep, altogether appropriate for today’s speaker highlighting his hikes up the highest peaks in the lower 48. The nearest place to find Aoudad unstuffed is on the cliffs of *Fossil Rim Wildlife Park* west of Glen Rose. **Rick Horne’s** actual mountaineering nickname is “*Daddy Rabbit*.” More anon.



He Who Shall Be Named, **Joe Camarena**, called the gathering to order

at 12:11, summoning **Johnny Lewis** to give the Invocation and *SOMEONE* to lead us in the Pledge. **Sainted Editor** could not hear everything which transpired during the meeting so omissions like that must be forgiven.

Joe read the names of Club Officers to take up their duties this July.

**John Caldwell** (today’s photographer with **Peggy Fenwick** ZOOMing in) noted 45 contestants for the Four-Way Test Speech to be “*cutoff*” at 60. With only 20 judges, John is begging for more. The obligation will be for two hours of review of 7 speakers between February 14<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Channeling **Sheriff Brody**, John said, “*You’re gonna need a bigger boat!*” John will supply each judge with a spreadsheet with spaces for grades and (kind) commentary. He asked for a show of hands for volunteers while Joe told a story of his raising his hand at what turned out to be an auction!



Joe also praised an absent **Sara Akers** for chairing our recent *Angel Tree* stint at Samaritan Inn.

John mentioned meeting every two weeks with (a ZOOMed) **Porcha Maten** and her Interact Club. He also noted that the 5810 matching grant for ShelterBox had still not arrived. That’s certainly one way to save money, but not the preferred.



**Janelle Twyford-Silvis** passed around the cover for our Rotary BBQ Cookbook. It'll be on sale at Plano's Texas Funfest on March 26<sup>th</sup>, covid willing. Janelle needs 18 volunteers; Porcha asked whether students could be among them and Janelle said, "I'm counting on it!" The event will have "sponsorship opportunities," and we're going to char some 20 briskets in the competition. (Sainted Editor can't wait for some mesquite-flavored gristle!) Not content with book sales, there'll also be a raffle!



Joe mentioned January to be National Slavery and Human Trafficking Month. We obviously aren't trying hard enough; we're only second to Houston's first in human trafficking. Joe asked who wanted to chair our response. He said it's a topic (including kidnapping) that no one wants to discuss.

**Kenny Wilson**, owner of **AlphaGraphics** which publishes our *Weekly Reader*, has passed away; he had a succession plan in place, so our bulletins (and Sainted Editor's Christmas cards) aren't in jeopardy. His funeral service is scheduled for the following Saturday at 5 pm in Richardson's Creative Church.

Janelle introduced our speaker, a man who needed no introduction, Past President Rick Horne. Born in Virginia Beach, he was always "outdoorsy." He's going to tell us "Daddy Rabbit Takes a Stroll." He's been strolling and kayaking the Great Outdoors for at least 45 years, including Mt. Rainier (WA) on 911.



Rick acknowledged that Janelle has the "toughest job in Rotary," Program Chair. When her picks back out on her, she casts about for local replacements, and ended up this week by twisting Rick's arm to regale us. He demonstrates the technique above.

He was a Navy brat, moving around as is the military's wont. In Norfolk, VA, he took up surfing; he surfed "badly." In 8<sup>th</sup> grade he found himself in Nicholasville, KY, climbing a 200' wall of limestone unbelayed. Clearly he's immortal. He loves even higher climbs when you see "eagles flying below you." He says there's "no better exercise than walking," and it offers the opportunity to "see G\*d in the outdoors." And find the mountain goats (not Aoudads) up Mt. Bierstadt



in CO, named after **Albert Bierstadt**, the German-born American painter of the Great American West. (That's his Yosemite above.)

On his wanderings he encountered a gay hiker, Rence, who was hiking in patent leather high heel boots. Rence has since earned endorsements from Outdoor Magazine for bringing the LGBTQ community into the out of doors.

Rick's first "technical climb" was a Class 4 hike in the Tetons. The classes are:

1. Easy hiking
2. Off trail hiking
3. Scrambling or un-rope climbing
4. Roped climbing
5. Technical climb

Rick camped out on the saddle and was belayed up to the summit to the disappointment of discovery that he was not the first to be there. A US Geodetic Survey brass marker preceded him.

The "coolest part" was the descent: 120 feet of rappelling! It was a great learning experience, especially the part about the gear: his 8 lbs of shoes and 45 lbs of backpack taught him a lot.



He has since slimmed down his burdens, especially hiking the 10 tallest peaks in Colorado. The 14½ mile roundtrip up the 14,255' Longs Peak started at 4 am and lasted through 7:30. He has climbed 10 of the 11 highest peaks in CO; indeed, he has climbed 32 of the 54 peaks in the State. He's now using 2½ lb boots and a lighter pack that still includes the essentials: poncho, 1<sup>st</sup> aid kit, and water.

Rick tried to show us a video of a “near vertical” 800' scramble, but technology defeated him. (And he didn't give tech guru, **Bob Kehr**, time to rise to the occasion.)

He now leads groups hiking and has learned something from that too: he'll take children or dogs but not both! He returns to CO time and again, once planting a Rotary flag atop Mt. Columbia. He has hiked with his son as a fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House. He's summated Mt. Evans, meeting tourist who had driven there up the Mt. Evans Scenic Road. And he's hiked Mt. Conness off Tioga Pass in Yosemite. *Sainted*

Editor made that scramble as a callow youth and can attest to its breathlessness!

This last year he was in the Shenandoah, maintaining the trail along the 110 mile hike. It passes through Civil War historical areas.

His trail name is “Daddy Rabbit,” having something to do with “staggering.” Others have trail names associated with their professions: a vet, “Doolittle,” was married to professional “Diplomat.” He touted the National Park Service rental cabins to escape the rain. Shenandoah is part of the Appalachian Trail. The Civilian Conservation Corps built the cabins in the '30s, so they're nearing the century mark.

His smallest pack is 18 lbs, holding the requisite 3 lbs of electronics to GPS your exact location. On the trail, he took 28 lbs of food & water. But you can be resupplied on the trail; there're even cheeseburgers and milkshakes! But you don't have to travel to hike: city parks offer a way to escape from stir and get out even under covid.

Joe asked about smartphone apps and was told that the *All Trails* software is useful. And ponchos are definitely de rigeur in the Presidential Range where it rains at 2 pm every day. He also touted a Japanese soldier hat, a gimme cap with a neck shield. And let's not forget the wildlife: rabbits and marmots and goats, oh my! And wear no cotton for it soaks up the rain and chills you to the bone.

**Carolyn Moebius** asked after Happy Hour when hiking. Rick said it's more like Pot Hour.

Joe thanked Rick, called the Board to stay after the dismissal for a Board Meeting, led us in the Five-Way Test, and closed the group at 1:09.



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