

Meeting Notes 04-10-2007

President Darhyl called us to order this morning at 7:25 and Glen McKenzie led us in the Pledge to the Flag, Marion Scott led the 4-Way Test and Charles King led the Rotary Invocation.

Bob Leith introduced Bob Nelson from the Thursday Noon Club – C'mon in, Bob, the water's fine at the Tuesday morning Club. (Bob has also volunteered to work at the Jaz & Arts Fest Booth) Marvin Pollard introduced Scott Spaulding, Denton High School Interact Advisor, who played a major part in the Denton High School Blood Drive, and Jennifer Wittmis, President of the Argyle Interact Club. Jennifer gave us a plug for the Argyle Interact "Walk for Teens" which will take place on May 11 from Noon to 6:00pm and she asked for sponsorships for the Walk. Let's help to make that project a major success.

Bob announced Jo Wilson's birthday as our only April birthday member and, although Jo would not release the details of chronology, we sang her birthday wishes. Bob had no such reluctance in telling us that during April he and his bride will celebrate 61 years of married life.

Bob read us the Thought for the Day – "How to Be Happy – Do Something for Somebody Quick".

Jo Wilson drew the lucky number from the jar and it belonged to Ray Croff, who drew the 7 of Diamonds. Will the new pot grow to the dimensions of the one Tom Downey won recently that amounted to \$347.75? Congratulations, Rotarians, for your generosity in donations to our weekly pot, half of which goes to the Rotary Foundation.

Announcements and Business

May 11th –Friday Argyle High School Rotary Interact Club Team walk for teens to benefit teens living with cancer. 12:30-5pm Argyle High School track. Mini Carnival, music concession stands, prizes. Come join this worthy cause.

Announcements today included the reminder of the District Conference and our need for volunteers to staff the Hospitality Suite.

John Alexander was asking for volunteer to staff the soft drink stand for Arts and Jazz Fest for April 27-29. The GSE Team, now to include 4 members from Peru, will arrive on April 29 and be in the area through May 2nd. We will host the Team for breakfast on May 1st. Board Meeting was announced for this coming Thursday at 6-7pm at the Central Fire Station. Flag Repair Day will be May 5th at Jo Wilson's Trophy House and volunteers will be welcomed to put the flags in condition for the upcoming season.

Darhyl revealed that an article in the Dallas Morning News on Sunday featured our own Tyler Wood on home renovations. Congratulations to Tyler. Russ Madden gave a very abbreviated report on the Rotary Foundation. Thanks, Russ.

Program

Janet Mulroy brought us a great program today. Chalese Connors has been the Athletic Director at TWU for six years and gave us an update on TWU Athletics. Before she became Athletic Director, Chalese was in the Public Relations Department for the University. Chalese has a great husband and 4-year old, McKenna (who busses the writer of these notes after church services every Sunday). Chalese reported that the Champion TWU Pioneers will be defending their Gymnastics Title at the USA Gymnastics Championships in Seattle, Wash., on April 19-20. On August 24 the new Soccer Field will be dedicated as part of the athletic complex. TWU prides itself on the fact that the cumulative GPS for the past 49 semesters has never been below 3.0 for the gymnastic team. The team has also been involved in community projects, having helped to build a Habitat for Humanity Home 2 years

ago and being involved in the Hearts for Homes project in Denton, the Apple Project and with the Red Cross.

The basketball team is also involved in community projects, among them the Kids Crafts at the Arts and Jazz Fest. One of the basketball players will be named Outstanding TWU Senior this year.

Because TWU does not have a male athletic department, the University does not have access to Title 9 Government funds. Scholarships for athletes amount to \$12,626 per year (\$5846 for double room, \$5832, the estimated cost of 15 credit hours for a Kinesiology major, and \$948 for books and course-related supplies) so the school has set out to build an Athletic Endowment with a goal of \$518,000. With an enrollment of 12,000 students the University has done a remarkable job of providing an athletic program that competes in soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball and gymnastics. Congratulations to Chalese Connors and her team.

Darhyl announced that we will donate a book in Chalese's honor to Cumberland Presbyterian Home.

Respectfully submitted: Charles King

Important Dates:

- April 20, 21 22 District Conference.
- April 27-29, 2007 Jazz and Arts Fest.
- April 29-May-2 GSE From Peru
- May 1st GSE TEAM Peru Breakfast
- May 5th Flag Work Day, Jo Wilson's
- May 11th –Friday Argyle High School Rotary Interact Club Team walk for teens to benefit teens living with cancer. 12:30-5pm Argyle High School track. Mini Carnival, music concession stands, prizes. Come join this worthy cause**
- June 17-20 RI Convention Salt Lake City
- June 19th Club Banquet

June 22, RYLA Banquet

Speaker Responsibility List:

- April 17 - Parks & Recreation Department
- April 24 - Tim Ferris - PETS training
- May 1 - GSE Team
- May 8 - Selwyn School Choir (Marvin Pollard)
- May 15 – Classification Talks Sarah Stone, Don Michel
- May 22 – Denton's Water Supply Jim Coulter, Director of Wather Utilities
- May 29 – Classification Talks Tyler Wood, Warren Miller
- June 5 - Art Gionet on Quebec
- June 12 – Ross Chadwick, Denton Fire Chief.
- June 19 – Rotary Banquet
- June 26 – Scott Walker

Rotarians help hospital navigate to distant shores

A new, state-of-the-art hospital that provides free medical care to thousands of the world's poorest patients will soon arrive in the West African nation of Liberia – by sea.

Expected to anchor off the coast of Monrovia, Liberia, this summer, the *Africa Mercy* will be one of the world's largest floating hospital ships. The ship will complete its maiden voyage from Newcastle, England, to Monrovia harbor thanks in large part to the support of Rotarians worldwide.

For two years, Rotarians in Great Britain and Ireland have helped fund the US\$62.5 million transformation of a former 16.5-ton, Danish ferry named *Droning Ingrid* into a floating hospital with six operating rooms, a dental clinic, an 80-bed patients' ward, and nearly 500 cabins to house medical and other volunteers.

The British and Irish Rotarians donated nearly £700,000 (almost US\$1.4 million) toward an on-board eye surgery center where doctors will work on patients with cataracts and glaucoma, enabling some patients to see for the first time in their lives. They also sponsored an international lounge, where volunteers from nearly 40 nations can interact.

U.S. Rotarians from Jacksonville, Florida, raised \$285,000 for the *Africa Mercy*, the highest contribution from a single Rotary club. Buoyed by a US\$150,000 Matching Grant from The Rotary Foundation, the Rotary Club of Jacksonville's gift to the new ship totaled nearly half a million dollars.

Mercy Ships founder Don Stephens say the contributions will help equip the *Africa Mercy's* hospital space, spanning the entire 500-foot-long ship with computers, security cameras, and on-board Land Rovers. "It came at just the right time," says Stephens about Rotary's gift. "We had the ship ready to go and completed, but we needed the crucial equipment to run a hospital on board. We had hoped for something like this for a long time."