

A Trip on the Panama Canal – Jack Connolly



Take a trip to the Panama Canal through the camera lens and imagination of Jack Connolly. Some of the pictures and descriptions are indeed accurate, some are completely fabricated, and it's up to you to separate fact from fiction. Questions during the presentation are encouraged; truthful answers however, are optional.

Jack Connolly is a 28-year veteran of the Grand Junction Rotary Club, a Past President and a multiple Paul Harris Fellow. He has been known to tell a story or two... can you believe it? Let's have some fun!

Last Meeting of the Anointed in 2009

By Reed Mitchell

Just a few of the anointed showed up at Dos Rios for the last meeting of the year with **His Coolness** opening the meeting by hammering on the wooden podium; someone forgot his bell, poor guy. His hammering quieted the throng and the proceedings began. Frankie, the schveldt' Wagner offered a prayer after testing all the member's sexuality by having us all hold hands.... Creepy... This reporter was nervous holding hands with the Stud Muffin who somehow managed to behave himself. He did smile suggestively but we quickly averted our eyes. **Dave, the King, Durham** tried once again to force us to sing the twelve days of Christmas but our bestest piano gal Jeanie could only remember the **"Partridge in a Pear tree"** part. She comes through when we really need her "Bless her Heart" The crestfallen King finished up with a rousing rendition of Auld Lang Sine, quite touching for the occasion... really.

Happy Bucks:

- Cliff Anson offered a buck to celebrate the return of our old pal Dennis, **Stud Muffin Baker**.
- The aforementioned Stud Muffin then had \$2 bucks to celebrate his progress recruiting new members for his adopted Club (only 4 newbies to go and they can get a Rotary charter!) The Muffin also reported **black ink** from the **Masquerade Ball**. **Hurray!**
- Gwen (Cutie Pie) DeCino offered \$5 Bucks for a great Christmas party, this reporter agrees.
- Dale (beady eyed) Beede had \$20 Bucks to celebrate David Brown's new adopted baby (sweet)

Announcements:

- Gary Nagy announced another Rotary Blood Drive on January 27th Bring your arms Gang
- Kin Giannone announced Barbie Miller having 2 kids and a Grand Daughter graduating Mesa State with a kid of her own. Did I get all that right??? Hope so I kinda messed up with the dog club thing.
- Max Krey celebrated Bud Gimple's 50th anniversary of his first United Airlines flight. Max says the only member with more time in the air is Herb Bacon. Congrats to Bud---and Herb. Did United Airlines really use the Wright Flyer? Ask Bud; he'll know, he was there!

Birthday Celebrations:

Our gal Jeanie Thomas did a December Birthday ditty for all the anointed born this month and it sounded very much like a Christmas Carol: **"We wish you a Happy Birthday; but nobody cares!"** Our resident nightingale sang it and we all joined in, more fun Rotary stuff.

Gifts:

Bob (the Bobster) Johnson gave our fearless leader a card from Disneyland personally signed by Pluto!
Joe was vachlempf' you know **"all chocked up"** at last; an autographed card from his personal hero!!

Warner's Corner



A January tradition calls for the president to offer a brief "State of the Club" report at the first meeting in the new year. Since this session also marks the halfway point on the Rotary calendar, it provides a snapshot to measure progress achieved over the previous six months.

Overall, I'm happy to report, the state of our club is good. Thoughtful stewardship by your board of directors has maintained the club's solid financial footing in the current economic downturn. Decisions on expenditures have been prudent with a watchful eye to avoid undue stress on the budget.

Our Membership Committee has worked diligently to increase our numbers. The lofty goal of adding a net of 10 new members, while challenging, is still within reach. The club continues its support of the quarterly New Member Orientation Breakfast.

In addition to celebrating our 90th anniversary in September, we continued to meet the needs of the local community by enthusiastically supporting such annual efforts as: the back-to-school supplies program, the dictionary project, the Masquerade Ball, youth exchange programs, Rotaract & Interact, the Rotary Foundation and Polio Plus, as well as recently raising \$35,000 in the bell-ringing campaign - the most ever!

We continue to make progress on encouraging members, especially our new folks, to become active in one or more club activities and identify - and encourage - future leaders. Also, the board has reviewed our policies on meeting decorum, speaker guidelines and is currently looking at revamping our secretary/treasurer position.

Legends of Rotary Calendars:

See Reed it's not too late, we still got some!

The Program:

Our Gang under the able direction of Diane Schwenke had a contest to come up with the best New Year's Resolutions. She offered millions in prize money to the contest's winner! Some favorites:

- To put snowplows on all the city busses... **Laurie Kadrach's favorite!**
- Put roadside Rotary signs on the freeway. Not bad, do we have a sign guy in the Club?
- More Politicians and Lawyers in the Club, Dennis Baker's favorite--Yuck!
- A Bronze statue of Joe Cool in his bathtub on Main Street (My idea!)
- 100% the Club in Paul Harris Fellows and **Fellow "ettes"** Kathy O'Shea's idea
- For Two Rivers staff to have all microphones actually work each week (**big applause!**)

Fun Facts

By Jan Pomrenke

Due to the fact there was nothing too inspiring except Jeannie Thomas at last week's meeting I decided to share a few "Bloopers" to bring some smiles into your new year from my Church Ladies bulletin: 1. *Don't forget next week's rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.* 2. *The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus"* 3. *Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.* 4. *A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall ...Music will follow.* 5. *At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.* 6. *The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.* 7. *Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 p.m...Prayer and medication to follow.* 8. *The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.* And my last one for now, 9. *The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday. Thank you.*

Upcoming Dates

Meeting Programs
Barb Bowman and Gwen DeCino
Program Committee Co-Chairpersons

- January 13 **Update on the City of Grand
Junction – *Laurie Kadrich***
- January 20 **Super Secret Program**
- January 27 **Rotary Service Tailgate Party**

Upcoming Meetings

- January 13 **Rotary Exchange Committee**
11:15 a.m. Two Rivers Cnv. Ctr

January 6, 2010