



Spring  
Weekly

# Reader

Volume 148 Issue 211, April 14th, 2016

The Plano Rotary Club  
[www.PlanoRotary.com](http://www.PlanoRotary.com)

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Apr 14**  
**Holly Reed**  
"High Speed Rail  
In Texas"

**Apr 21**  
**John Caldwell**  
"Four Way Speech  
Contest"

**Apr 28**  
**Darren Martin**  
"Tentative  
"Maximizing Company  
Engagement"

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Rutledge Haggard	Apr 5
Lawrence Flannery	Apr 9
Andy Sayers	Apr 11
Alex Johnson	Apr 22
Ricardo Kasmiskie	Apr 27
Jerry Kezhaya	Apr 28



## Blair's Student's

April 7 being the first Thursday of the month, we were once again bumped from the meeting room back into the eastern half of the central dining room, from where we were forced to watch the beautiful April day with delighted golfers frolicking about the driving range. **John Caldwell** negotiated on our behalf to mute the background music, which he achieved on the third effort. We were advised that the threatened Collin County CAD address by Bo Daffin was not to be. Accordingly **Kelly Palmer** stalled and allowed us to enjoy lunch until 12:22 when he rang the bell and kicked the meeting into session.

**Johnny Lewis** was called upon to lead the prayer since Blair Ritchey was to be pressed into service as the alternate program. Then a nattily attired Plano City Councilman

**Rick Grady** led the club in the pledge of allegiance to the flag, employing a different cadence that left some pledgers stumbling. Rick's introduction was garbled and mumbled, and his name on the agenda was indecipherable, but he made a sartorial statement for himself with his suit on a day when the membership had decided to hold casual Thursday. Perhaps a thank you to Howard Matson for acting as Greeter was lost in the windy and vague acoustics of the hall.

President Paperweight turned to microphone over to sometimes Sergeant at Arms **Nathan Barbera** who again welcomed the membership to the April 7 edition of THE Plano Rotary Club. Nathan introduced two visiting Rotarians, the first of whom was former Plano member and now Park Cities member **Shawn Foster**, followed by frequent Plano Metro visitor **Shaheem Salam**. Kelly introduced his guest, the chairman of the board of the International Student Foundation and former Plano Rotarian **Ben Carroll**. Former member **David Allison** was visiting, although no one had attempted to claim him despite his former yeoman service as Soapbox Derby Marshall and his ownership of Allison's Auto Repairs, Triple A Mufflers, The Exhaust Authority, etc.

Nathan then called upon **Charles Milby** for the delayed presentation (with appropriate ceremony) of the attractively bronzed **Bronze Toilet** commemorating his last place finish in last autumn's Fantasy Football League.



Nathan then recalled that last year he bragged about a member's son playing for Plano West on the State Championship Basketball team, and went on to say the same son of an unnamed member (**Dennis Hogg** took an embarrassed bow) played in the Sweet Sixteen round for Texas A&M in March.



Resuming his long interrupted custom of interviews, Nathan picked on new member **Rick Grady**, who readily admitted having been born in Madison, Wisconsin. His dad sold insurance and was president of the Rotary Club. Responding with hems and haws to the question about being a well-behaved child, Rick said he would have to consult his archives. His nickname was Ricky, which prompted Nathan to ask if he could sing like Ricky Nelson, leading to a disclosure of having been a rock and roll Top 40 disc jockey on the radio. Rick admitted to being a good student. Asked about his athletic activities, he claimed volleyball and downhill ski racer, including mem-

continued on page 2

bership of the U. S. Ski Team. Rick attended the University of Wisconsin. He served in the U. S. Army in Vietnam, working in a helicopter company. After the army, he was occupied in broadcasting for 10 years before hooking up with E.D.S. and coming to Texas. Now he is serving on the Plano City Council. He decided in November to take a one-year sabbatical from work and concentrate on the City Council. His alternate dream occupation would be flying airplanes. His favorite movie is Gone With The Wind. Favorite band is the Beatles. Aaron Rodgers is his favorite athlete. His first car was a 1965 Ford Mustang. As to restaurants, "I cook". Favors domestic over import. Acknowledges daughter is a super mom. Rick joined the Plano Rotary Club for the Camaraderie and to learn what is going on in the city. President Paperweight reminded us of the mega meeting next week on the 14th, featuring Holly Reed speaking on "High Speed Rail in Texas" and involving all of the Rotary Clubs of Plano plus the chamber of commerce. Even allowing for redundancy of memberships and absentees, over 100 attendees are likely and parking could be an issue. Therefore his word to the wise was to come early.



Following this delightful foolishness, Kelly turned promptly to our serious program. Dr. **Blair Ritchey**, a relatively new member, is a retired teacher and minister. He is executive director of the **International Student Foundation**.

Blair related a story about finding a 1962 Little League uniform, which he showed us, while going thru possessions of his recently deceased mother. The small Rotary Club in his West Pennsylvania community provided uniforms, gloves, bats, etc. Blair was a small boy (last drafted), and none of the uniforms were small enough, so his father made him one with the number zero. The experience started a love of baseball extending to Blair's son and grandson. Blair had a great dad, but not everyone does. Absent dad's are a problem for 33% of children today. Children who grow up and age out of foster care homes suffer many problems. They come from parentless homes, and at 18 their foster home suddenly ceases. 25,000 foster care children age out each year. One in five becomes homeless. Half are unemployed. Less than 3% graduate college. 71% of girls become pregnant by age 21. 25% suffer anxiety and depression. Incarceration rates are high. ISF bridges the gap to help youth aging out of foster care attend college and succeed in college. Scholarships are provided to ease the financial burden of attending college. Mentors help them to navigate life. (This sounds similar to the Hendrick Academy organization.) Leadership Training helps them to realize their potential.



Turning to membership (a currently critical subject with the roll dropping under 100), **John Caldwell** and **Howard Matson** took over. Imitating a contest seen in Las Vegas, we have instituted a quarterly drawing of names of Rotarians who brought guests in the previous quarter and awarding \$45 plus logo hat and logo shirt. Calling a vacationing **Randy Wright** in Colorado, the former membership chairman, using a can and wire, and showing Randy answering on the screen, Randy put down his Colorado brownie to reply. Feeling a sudden break in the space/time continuum, Randy suddenly burst through the door to participate in the first Guest Lottery drawing. Jerry Aris was the lucky winner of the contest. In addition to all of these awards, proposers of members will also enjoy a free month's advertising in the Weekly Reader.



Blair came to ISF 2 years ago. He volunteered to mentor a black student with no father and a dysfunctional mother. The student had a HS degree and pursued a degree from Brookhaven Community College. He had been befriended by some police officers, and that inspired him to become a cop. He spoke American English and "hood". He recently finished 5 months at Dallas Police Academy. Blair felt privileged to be his mentor. Private philanthropy, done right, produces a better result than government aid, breeding character rather than dependence.

ISF is a 501(c)(3) organization, and all donations provided to



ISF are tax deductible. Blair invited any Rotarians who had an interest in supporting ISF to meet with him. President Paperweight made appropriate supportive comments. He reported on Rotarians attending Tino's tree planting ceremony at the community college founder's day. Then he led the club in the Four Way Test, and we drifted away into the beautiful spring day.



## Plano Rotary Club Board of Directors 2015-2016

### President

Kelly Palmer

### President Elect

David McWhorter

### Secretary

Larry Bisno

### Treasurer

Rick Horne

### Past President

Earnest Burke

### Sergeant at Arms

Nathan Barbera

### Membership Chair

Randy Wright

### Membership Vice Chair

Debbie Watson

### Service Chair

Rick Maurcieri

### Service Vice Chair

David Bowman

### Public Relationship Chair

Mary Jo Dean

### Public Relationship Vice Chair

Camille Ussery

### Club Admin Chair

Olin Jaye

### Club Admin Vice Chair

Phil Dyer

### Foundation Chair

Jamie Schell

### Foundation Vice Chair

Jamee Jolly

### New Generation Chair

Alex Johnson

### At Large

Kyle Walters

### Business Secretary

Karen R. Sheldon

### Bulletin Editor

Chris Parr

### Bulletin Photographer

Robert Epstein

### Bulletin Designer

Emily Hillman

Alphagraphics

### Printing by Alphagraphics

Preston & Spring Creek

The Plano Rotary Club

PO BOX 864316

Plano, TX 75086

### Guest

David Allison  
Ben Carroll  
Dr Laura

### Guest of

Kelly Palmer  
Jerry Kezhaya

### Visiting Rotarian

Shawn Foster  
Shaheem Salam

### Home Club

Park Cities  
Plano Metro



**Proposed Member:** Tamara Dreger

**Proposer:** Nancy Humphrey

**Classification:** Non Profit

# Support Our Advertisers

 <p><b>ACE FENCE-DFW</b> Pam Little</p> <p>"a fence to you, a reputation to us."</p> <p>pam@acefences.com 1400 Capital Ave. Plano, TX 75074</p> <p>(972) 578-5775 Fax (972) 578-1005</p>	 <p>David Allison</p> <p>1214 Avenue K Plano, TX 75074</p> <p>972-423-0434 www.allisons.com</p>	 <p>increase your reach</p> <p><b>KENNY WILSON</b> OWNER</p> <p>Plano Richardson Phone: 972.867.9216 Phone: 972.234.3033 us408@alphagraphics.com us103@alphagraphics.com Fax: 972.231.6968</p>
 <p><b>AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK OF TEXAS</b> Your Bank. For Life.</p> <p>Casey W. Stewart Market President</p> <p>972.309.0001 ext. 5937 214.863.5937 direct 214.863.6160 fax caseystewart@anbtz.com</p> <p>Plano Banking Center 1101 E. Plano Parkway, Suite E Plano, TX 75074 Allen Banking Center 720 S. Greenville Allen, TX 75002 www.anbtz.com</p>	 <p>Since 1981</p> <p><b>THE AUTO SHOP</b></p> <p>Professional Automotive Repairs including: Air Conditioning • Inspections • Clutches • Transmissions • Differentials Engine repairs • Factory Scheduled Maintenance • Tune-Ups • Electrical • Brakes</p> <p> Jerry P. Kezhaya President</p> <p>www.TheAutoShop.com</p> <p>2560 East Plano Parkway Plano, Texas 75074</p> <p> 972-578-0588 - T 972-881-0998 - F</p>	 <p>www.huffines.net</p> <p><b>HUFFINES</b> CHEVROLET 1001 Coit Rd @ Plano Pkwy Plano (972) 867-4000</p> <p><b>HUFFINES</b> HYUNDAI 909 Coit Rd @ Plano Pkwy Plano (972) 867-5000</p> <p><b>HUFFINES</b> CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM 4500 W. Plano Pkwy @ Ohio Plano (972) 867-6000</p> <p>All Service, Body and Parts Departments Open All Day Saturday</p>
<p><b>J. Marc Lewis &amp; Associates</b> CORPORATE AND PERSONAL TAXATION</p> <p>J. Marc Lewis JD, LL.M., EA Enrolled to practice before the IRS</p> <p>LakeSide Commons 5045 Lommar Drive Suite 280 Plano, TX 75093</p> <p>marcline@airmail.net Tel. (972) 618-8224 Fax (972) 618-2021</p>		<p><b>RICARDO KASMISKIE</b> Realtor®</p> <p>Office: (972) 732-6000 Fax: (972) 732-6003 eFax: (972) 468-7547 Mobile: (972) 743-5324 ricardokasmiskie@kw.com www.theonesotrue.com</p> <p> 18363 Preston Road, Suite 150 Dallas, TX 75252</p> <p><small>Each Office Independently Owned and Operated</small></p>