



Spring
Weekly

Reader

Volume 111, Issue 171, April 30, 2015

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 30

"Dr. Neal Smastrek -
President, University
of North Texas

May 7

Lynn Ojeda, Principal
PISD Academy HS
"Plano ISD's Newest
School of Choice"

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Rutledge Haggard	Apr 05
Lawrence Flannery	Apr 09
Andy Sayers	Apr 11
Kirk Bell	Apr 12
Alice Hobbs	Apr 13
Bob Pikna	Apr 16
Alex Johnson	Apr 22
Kenneth Roberts	Apr 22
Ricardo Kasmiskie	Apr 27
Jerr Kezhaya	Apr 28



Plano Children in Good Hands

Few things make me happier than watching an emergency break get thrown at a Rotary meeting. For you Ticket listeners you know exactly what I mean. For those of you who are not familiar with the term, an emergency break is when a meeting comes to sudden, unexpected stop. Kelly Palmer was standing in for Earnesto Burkerino and was graced with the ghost of Ean Sullivan, who was also absent, as the technology was so technical, it caused a most untimely halt



to the proceedings, and was never fixed. Fortunately, the program did not need the video to enhance its importance.

As mentioned above, the meeting was clanged to order by stand in, President-Elect, Kelly Palmer. Herb Hoxie recited a very inspirational invocation, and Larry Flannery recited the Pledge...correctly placing the commas where they belong...with a flourish. Kelly thanked Alex Johnson for being the Greeter. Teacher of the Year, Karen Stanton, was Alex' sidekick at the door, shaking hands. Kelly then thanked your friendly substitute editor...me...for writing the bulletin, in hopes of not getting hammered for his missteps (it takes more than thanks to buy me Kelly, it takes praise and adulation!!!).



Nathan was given the opportunity to be the Sergeant at Arms and he quickly took advantage pointing out the fine meal presented to honor our guests, Teachers of the Year Karen Stanton, and Whitney Pitzer, hamburgers. He, also, noted that the Plano Star Courier again pointed out the athletic prowess of one of our member's offspring. This time, it was Mark Waterbury's son who hit a grand slam to lead the Plano Wildcats to victory. Mark mentioned his own athletic skill pales compared to his son's. Then we got to know Pam Little in the way only Nathan can bring to the table. We learned she is slated to be our club's President in 2017, now Treasurer. She is a Texas girl and went to that bastion of women students...Texas A & M. Her nickname is



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Mitchie. She had a stellar business career followed by her retirement. Her favorite athlete is Bucky Richardson...really Pam? Skip Jenkins was her sponsor, and she hopes to provide even more sweat equity service projects as Rotary president.

Kirk Bell reminded us of our sponsorship opportunities for The Student Citizen of the Year banquet. So far we have \$10000 in sponsorship pledges. A good start, but plenty of time to see that number swell.

Plano Rotary apparel is available through Alan Feigenbaum, who has lighter summer weight apparel to make you happy during the summer.

LB Showalter stood in for Randy Wright to point out that we are having a vote on our club's By Laws and Constitution to bring them in compliance with Rotary International at our May 7th meeting. Go to planorotary.com to see the proposed changes.

And the last announcement was by Rick Maucieri who brought up his membership drive initiative. He was going through the form and telling us how to fill it out, when the collective yawn woke him up to point out the form was about the candidate for membership, not the member. The lovely and charming Patti Schwartz (brownie points are not below me), mentioned that it helps the committee to state the reasons why the candidate is qualified and will make a good Rotarian.



At this point, the meeting dissolved into a NOISE DISASTER. The audio portion of the video to be shown, was working without the video, and the brain trust could not figure out how to turn it off. So when Nancy Humphrey was introduced to introduce the program, the emergency break was yanked. Finally, the solution was reached to turn off the &\$\$#@ing thing, and the program got back on track. (videos are available on You Tube about both of the teachers) Nancy welcomed PISD elementary teacher of the year, Whitney Pitzer, and secondary teacher of the year, Karen Stanton. After listening to their introductions and subsequent comments, I feel better about the future of Plano kids and their future contributions to society. Karen works to develop her students by using both relationship and skill building, qualities of great teachers. She teaches 9th grade English and Creative Writing (not the perfect subject for this sloppy writer to pen prose about) at Clark HS, and has been a PISD teacher for 14 of her 23 years in



teaching. She points out the trend of our culture towards making self esteem in our children more important than self efficacy and real achievement. She points her students to use their communication skills and thought processes so they will become capable leaders of the future.

Whitney is a kindergarten teacher at Stinson Elementary. She is a product of Plano schools and is in her 9th year teaching in PISD. Her goal is to get her students excited about learning and she gets to do this by putting smiley faces on her kids, not grades on a report card. She also looks to the future when teaching, and hopes to see her students grow to become the future leaders in both the civic and business world.

Our temporary leader, Kelly, presented these wonderful teachers a token of our appreciation for a job well done. They were kind enough to take questions from our rabble. First Yoram (is he running for school board?)Solomon made a comment about Karen's husband who happens to teach at Jasper. He did not



embarrass us. Then Larry Flannery asked about the selection process to become Teacher of the Year. He did not embarrass us either. The selection starts with 72 candidates, one from each school, and is narrowed down to the finalists chosen. Patti Schwartz, did not embarrass us, and thanked the ladies for following their vocation, and not just a job. And Kelly asked what kind of awards they had received

as being teachers of the year (drive a Lexus, paycheck bonus, pet photos, photos, tickets to sporting events, restaurant meals, etc). A reasonable question that did not embarrass us. So, miraculously, the question and answer session went much better than the meeting! We were then led in the 4 Way Test, and class was adjourned.

PS: this is my last bulletin I will ever write so y'all can start the celebration!



Student Citizen of the Year Banquet Hosted by: The Plano Rotary Club

Recognizing outstanding students from:

Barron, Forman, Meadows, Memorial, Mendenhall & Sigler Elementary Schools

Wednesday, May 27th

5:30 to 7:30 PM

The Southfork Hotel
Central Expressway &
15th Street, Plano, TX
Business Casual

Guests & Visiting Rotarians

Guest

Sherry Stone
Art Stone
April pigner

Guest of

Alice Hobbs
Alice Hobbs
Reedy Spigner

Visiting Rotarian

Ben Langlotz
Shaheen Alam
Matt Lagos

Home Club

Dallas
Plano Metro
Plano Sunrise

Proposed Member : Blair Ritchey

Proposed by : Kelly Palmer

Classification : Director/Small Business Owner



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