



Volume 6, Issue 126, April 22, 2010

The Plano Rotary Club www.PlanoRotary.com

Unbridled Rassion

UPCOMING MEETINGS

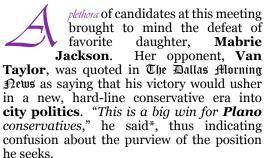
4/22	Denise Hickey "Earth & Water Day"
4/29	Chris Parr "Antarctica"
5/6	City of Plano "Employee of the Year"
5/13	PISD Foundation
5/20	Tom Harmon "Rotary Wheelchair Program"

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/3	LOWELL CULVER
4/5Rl	JTLEDGE HAGGARD
4/9	LARRY FLANNERY
4/11	ANDY SAYERS
4/12	KIRK BELL
4/13	ALICE HOBBS
4/22	KEN ROBERTS
4/26	JOHN SHAO
4/27	RICK KASMISKIE
4/28	JERRY KEZHAY







* http://www.dallasnews.com/ sharedcontent/dws/news/politics/local/ stories/041310dnpoldistrict66.244b5 5a14.html

oucen butterfly cracked the whip at 12:13, mindful of the propensity for political candidates to fill more than all the time available with drivel. She called upon **Ean Sullivan** for the Invocation and **Chuck**



Morgan for the Pledge. ("*Thank you*, *Bd*.") Then, neglecting the Greeter, she called **SERGEANT SKIPPY** to the podium.

Reacting to the smattering of applauds, he snarled, *"Is <u>that</u> the best you can do?"* He noted that today's program had drawn no Visiting Rotarians, thus betraying our good taste. He personally introduced the AWOL **Lenny Schwartz**'s guest, **Scarlett Dale**, who responded to his inquiry about her connection to Rotary with the fact that she was once a Key Club member. Skip mused that that was close but no cigar. He said that in his capacity as PISD Board Chairman, he met with today's candidates at **BOOT CAMP**

designed to get them up to speed on all things PISD.

Randy Wright passed his camera to Ean to record his receipt of ROTARIAN OF THE MONTH for March for his work with creating soccer practice for students at *Memorial Elementary*.

It was announced that the Soap Box Derby Committee would meet following lunch.

Susan, WISD Board Chairman, wisely took over introduction of the PISD Board candidates from Skip, so he needn't betray favoritism. She explained the rules.



- 1. Two-minute opening remarks.
- 2. Reversal of answer order on every question.
- 3. 30-second answers to the same questions for every candidate.
- 4. One-minute closing remarks.

And Timekeeper **KIFIK BELL** would hold up increasingly angry signs as each speaker's time expired.

Next Susan introduced all of the Board candidates except the perennial **Robert Canwright**, who had not shown up, and she gave the floor to the hopefuls for their opening remarks.

www.bartridley.com



BART RIDLEY, a partner in Dallas' *Touchstone Bernays* Law Firm, was a member of Class 18 in *Leadership Plano*. His wife, **Jennifer**, has taught at *Daffron Elementary*. He said that he believes in public education

(one would hope) in Plano's schools, and that he was "called to service to make a positive difference in the lives of the children, parents, and teachers." He wants to "close the achievement gap," preparing all the children for college or advanced careers. He hoped we'd vote for him for Place 1 on May 8th.



www.TammyRichards.org **Tammy Richards**, *SMU*'s Associate Engineering Dean and former Marketing VP for *TI's Educational Technology Division*, is also a candidate for Place 1. She is a 22-year resident of Plano and has a son, **Mark**, and a daughter, **Julia**, in PISD schools. Her terminal degree is an MBA from *Harvard Business School*. She wants to "*celebrate what works*" in PISD and to make certain that Plano students are ready to compete in a nationwide marketplace.



www.RajMenonForPlanoISD.com

Dr. Raj Menon earned his PhD in Chemical Engineering at *UT Austin*, and he is President of *Flat World Design*, a promotional, marketing company. (Both **Rutledge Haggard** and **Myrtle Hightower** endorse him.) He is a proponent of "*an excellent education for ALL children.*" He and his wife, **Deepa**, have a son

in *Daffron Elementary* upon whose PTA Dr. Menon serves. He claims to have visited "every department head" within PISD. And his agenda includes

1. Embracing 21st Century technology.

2. Diversity of instruction for diverse needs, and

3. Fiscal responsibility.

Dr. Menon is a candidate for Place 2.



www.facebook.com/pages/Plano-TX/Paul-Kaminsky-PISD-School-Board-2010/268847929028

His opponents include an ex-US Army Chief Warrant Officer <isolated applause> and current PISD substitute teacher, **Paul Kaminsky**. He characterized himself as a 10year parent volunteer and "*Class Mom*." He

"great college prep" education for those that are. He has no web site but rather a Facebook page.



www.carrolynmoebius.com

Also running for Place 2 is **Carrolyn Moebius** (no relation to the endless, one-sided loop), is Administrator for *Murphy Road Animal Hospital* owned by her and her husband, **Dr. James Moebius**, DVM. They have three children in PISD schools. She is currently Treasurer for the *Hunt Elementary* PTA for which she has served as President. She comes

by treasuries naturally as an auditor for school districts, cities, and financial institutions. She is a member of the School Based Improvement Committees (SBIC) of both *Hunt* and *Murphy Middle School*. She wants to be "*a strong advocate for the families of PISD.*" (**Pat Evans** endorses her.)



www.bretcullers.com

A candidate for Place 3, **Bret Cullers** is a consultant with *IBM Global Business Services*. He too has three children in PISD, and one of them is "*getting ready for the prom.*" He is "thrilled" with the teaching in Plano, especially for the attention given to his ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) son, **Brock**. Bret is on the fundraising committee for PISD's Ski Plano event.



www.nancyhumphrey.org

Nancy Humphrey is the other candidate for Place 3. She is the PTA President for *Murphy Middle School* (PISD). She is proud to be a 5th generation Texan and a 17-year resident of Plano. She received her MS in Accounting at *UNT*. She uses those skills while volunteering at many institutions including the *Heritage Farmstead*. Her hopes are to "*increase parent* and to build "*better communication with*

involvement" parents."



Opening statements out of the way with only minor quibbles from the Timekeeper, Susan moved on to the first question. Since Board membership involves "*considerable time for no pay*," how did the candidates expect to serve?

Nancy Humphrey said that she had no outside employment, so she could devote full-time to PISD.

Bret Cullers spoke of "*small increments*" of change akin to adding a few "*bricks to buildings*" rather than reconstruction.

Carrolyn Moebius said that she was "*passionate about the issues*" and was persuaded that her candidacy was "*where I'm meant to be.*" (Just a little Messianic?)



Paul Kaminsky said that, as he was retired, he has "24/7" to devote to being a Trustee. He said he was

"tired of reading about kids and crime" and wants them to do something *"other than hang out."* (Apparently, he's the Law and Order candidate.)

Dr. Raj Menon conceded that being a Trustee is "*important* work," and he bears a "*unique perspective*."

Tammy Richards said simply, "I'm doing it for my kids."

Bart Ridley conceded that he'll not quit his law firm, but he insisted that all his *"volunteer time"* has been spent in the aid of education.

Susan's second question involved the cumulative 42 years of experience now retiring from the Board of Trustees. *"What did you learn at* **BOOT CAMP** *that you didn't know before?"* In addition, she wanted to know how many Trustee Board meetings each candidate has attended.

Bart Ridley said that he came away impressed with the "*dedication of the administration*," and he couldn't remember how many times he's attended meetings but it was "*lots*." (Bushel basketsful, no doubt.)

Tammy Richards discovered that PISD has fiscal challenges and that only a *"tiny sliver"* is due to administrative expenses. She's attended *"a number of meetings."* (2 is a number.) Dr. Raj Menon conceded that he *"didn't learn much,"*

Dr. Raj Menon conceded that he "*didn't learn much*," because he's been studying PISD over many years. He claimed to have attended "*six or seven*" this year and watched the rest on TV.

Paul Kaminsky said that he missed one **BOOT CAMP** session due to knee surgery. However, he learned that Austin ties the hands of Trustees. He attended a couple of meetings dealing with redistricting.

Carrolyn Moebius learned about PISD's vision of the future when education is individualized. She's attended "*3 or 4*" meetings and watched the rest on her computer.

Bret Cullers was impressed with the national renown of PISD, and he's convinced that we enjoy *"the best education"* as a result of *"the best Administration."* He's attended every meeting since last fall.

Nancy Humphrey was fascinated with the visioning. She's attended 6 meetings this year.

Susan's penultimate question was "What are the issues that

need to be addressed?"

Nancy Humphrey noted changing demographics, resultant overcrowding, and the "diversification of education."

Bret Cullers mentioned budgets and the achievement gaps that need to be closed via mentoring.

said Carrolyn Moebius that communication with parents needs to improve.

Paul Kaminsky said budget and tax realities would only get worse with a "National Sales Tax." (He knows something we don't?)

Dr. Raj Menon cited learning paradigms (a la multitasking teenagers), technology, and the diversity of students.

Tammy Richards said PISD needs "an advocate in Austin."

Bart Ridley pointed to the need for more programs like AVID that assist 'the academic middle.'

Susan's final question was about the candidates' personal strengths.

Bart Ridley said that the Trustees are losing a lawyer. He fills that slot.

Tammy Richards cited her passion.

Dr. Raj Menon is an "outside the box thinker." And he "survives on four hours of sleep." (But probably doesn't prosper on it.)

Paul Kaminsky's instincts "as a professional soldier" will translate to (the killing fields of) the Board of Trustees.

Carrolyn Moebius stood by her audit experience.

Bret Cullers emphasized his business background and volunteerism.

Nancy Humphrey thought her nine years on PTAs would stand her in good stead.

There followed 60-second closing remarks.

Nancy Humphrey reiterated that she's "been in the trenches," (professional soldier?) having served in every possible PTA position.

Bret Cullers said he had a flexible schedule with IBM. He said he's looking forward to "working with Florence

> Know someone who would make a great Rotarian?

Invite them to be your guest at Rotary!

The 4 Way Test:

Of the things we think, say, and do: 1. Is it the truth?

- 2. Is it fair to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build goodwill & better
- friendships?
- Will it be beneficial to all concerned? 4.

Shapiro" to "get the State off our backs. Some don't need 4x4 in Plano."

Carrolyn Moebius said that her election was a "logical step."

Paul Kaminsky conceded that Plano couldn't go wrong no matter for whom it votes. But we should vote for him because his Cougarette daughter is bound to become an Aggie. (One wonders if he's aware of the current usage of the term "cougar?")

Dr. Raj Menon, originally from India, warns that Plano kids will be competing with children from India and China.

Tammy Richards took credit for the resurrection of Huffman Elementary whose scholastic ranking was slipping, and it was losing students until she took charge. Now *Huffman* is "capacity limited."

Bart Ridley was certain that Coach **Brence** was wondering, "What does that guy think he's about?" In answer, he's about "the best for all students in the district."

As Susan took charge of the meeting, Kirk held up his "STOP" signs, to which she replied, "<u>I'm</u> gonna take all the time I want!" Then she cautioned us that the election is May 8 but early voting extends from April 26 through May 4. She asked members to raise their hands if they lived in PISD; most did, a point not lost on the candidates. Then she made the mistake of asking for a show of hands for those living outside PISD's domain, saying, "Some of us don't," to which a wag responded, "and some of us are glad."

After applause for the candidates, Susan led us in the Four-Way Test and relinquished the whip at 1:05.

17 years	ago	today	, Orville		
Fudpucker	cited	Secre	tary Johnny		
Lewis for	"bum	bling	ineptitude		
and fumbli	ng fre	eping"	' for having		
misplaced	stu	dent	attendance		
slips. But he praised Maribelle					
Davis for	nati	onal	recognition		
during th	le ter	nure	of "Shifty		
Manager" Ken Lambert.					

<u>Member</u> NEWS

AWARDS:

Chris Parr

Reth Duncan Wehh Rotary Make Up Website: www.rotaryeclubone.org

Herb Ziev

Citizen of the Year:

Proposed by: Ean Sullivan

Athena Award Alice Hohhs 2008-09 Fred Moses Award **Richard Butterfly Business Executive** of the Year

Harold Sullivan Award

Jeff Rutcher Proposed by: Kirk Bell Classification: Information Technology

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Garv Base

Kersey Cane Holder: **Farl Simnkins**

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