

Spring
Weekly

Reader

Volume 110 , Issue 170, April 23, 2015

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 23

"PISD Teacher of the Year"

April 30

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

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



Ethics Rotary Style

Hello Boys and Girls! I swore I would never write another bulletin, but our esteemed President asked me to sub for the vacationing editor, so here it goes. Fasten your seat belts, and leave the dictionary on the shelf because this writer's IQ is a far different one than the normal editor's.

The meeting started a bit early to accommodate the 4 Way Speech Test program, and we were prayed on by Earnesto Burkeman (aka Mr. Marvelous), and led



in the Pledge by Alex Johnson...remember that name because you will see it a lot in this bulletin. Earnest thanked Karen Sheldon for her fine job as Greeter. Nathan welcomed our guests and visiting Rotarians. It was truly a pleasure seeing Gary Basham who, almost, single handedly, willed the club to becoming a 100% Paul Harris Club...a legacy we will always carry (look at the banner if you have any doubts). Nathan then handed out trophies to the Fantasy Football winners, only 4 months after the season ended. Taking third place and standing in for his son...the real winner...was Kyle Walters. Second place went to Mark Johnson who somehow found time for this endeavor. And taking first place, was the corporate



partnership Gary Basham and Son!

At this point, it was time to start the 4 Way Test speeches. So Earnest brought up Alex Johnson of Pledge fame, to introduce the program and be our emcee. 26 students participated in the preliminary rounds...quite an achievement. Participants ranged from freshman to seniors, representing both the high schools and senior high schools in Plano, with 4 students presenting to the club.

Our first participant was Collin Marshall, a student at Vines. He spoke about Little Red Riding Hood, and linked that to elder abuse very cleverly. His personal story involved his Grandmother being fleeced



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by his Aunt and Uncle, a common occurrence as most of the elderly that are abused are victims of family members. Collin is in the band at Vines and wants to be an engineer and likes to write. He hopes to take my place next week, or is it that I hope he takes my place next week. I think the latter more than the former.

His speech was followed by Interlude 1, as the votes were tabulated. Rick Maucieri advised us that 3 meals per guest would be paid by the club to help support membership development.

The second speech was by Kelly Graham, whose mother was here along with her grandparents who were visiting from Canada. Kelly is also a student at Vines. She opened with a cute joke about womens' rights, and followed that with a tie in to the current state of our nation's lack of empathy among the populace and how it is reflected in a lack of charitable giving, and cell phone games designed to wipe out humanity. Her personal story dealt with her realization that wiping out humanity in a cell phone game, and thus winning, was contrary to what we should be doing and that is to be more empathetic to each other. She mentioned that Humanity's humanity needs to be saved. Kelly is a member of the band as well as Collin, and she wants to become a lawyer, then politician, and



eventually President. To do this, UTD or Cal Berkeley are on her radar. (Kelly, if you are reading this newsletter, we have plenty of attorneys...maybe become a business owner so you will actually know how to run something instead of just theorizing about it...just sayin!)

Interlude 2 had Earnesto implore us to vote in the upcoming election.

Anthony Nguyen was our third speech performer. He left a significant speech contest to come present to us spares...a nice gesture. Anthony attends Plano West and was the only senior to make it to the finals of our contest. He presented us with a history lesson and how our history links the USA to the world through democracy. His personal story involved his grandfather and Viet Nam, and how his family immigrated to the USA in the 1980's after his grandfather was released from prison after serving time based on his political convictions. Anthony then had to leave and return to the debate tournament he was involved in.



Later, as his speech teacher, Rhonda Smith, was telling us about Anthony, we learned he plans on attending A&M to study computer engineering. A&M will be lucky to have him.

Earnie then reminded us that the next meeting was the PISD Teacher of the Year program during Interlude 3. Our 4th and final speech performer was Kapoor. Aarti also attends Plano West, and plans to be a pediatric oncologist. UTD and being close to home are her collegiate goals. She tied her personal story of epic science fair failure, to being independent and learning to accept help. Control good, too much control bad.

Rutledge Haggard entreated us during Interlude 4, to attend Taste of Excellence, April 20...too late if you are just now hearing about it.

Alex Johnson, as if we had not seen him enough already, got up and thanked a multitude of helpers. He had 10 club members, and 18 judges from Toastmasters and Collin College. And more importantly, he has a replacement who wants to continue building the 4



towards the scholarships of the 4 finalists. Finishing fourth through first in order were Collin, Aarti, Kelly, and champion Anthony. Alex couldn't help himself and returned to the podium. The timers had already put away their watches, or he would have been yanked off the stage as he ran 1 minute over the allotted time. EB led us in the now familiar 4 way test and we exited in a timely manner.



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

Way Speech program, John Caldwell, who will be leading it next year. Good job, Alex, in really take this to the next level and making this contest something special!

Then it was time for Earnest Burkiemier to announce the winners which he did his best to screw up by announcing the winner first. Thank goodness your humble bulletin editor saved the day! The club donated monies to the debate programs of the various schools that participated, and contributed

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Guests & Visiting Rotarians

Guest

None

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None

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Proposed Member : Blair Ritchey

Proposed by : Kelly Palmer

Classification : Director/Small Business Owner

Proposed Member : Wanda Russell

Proposed by : Earnest Burke

Classification : Real Estate

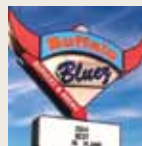
Next Social:

Tuesday, April 28th @ 5PM

Buffalo Bluez

4200 Legacy Drive Plano TX 75024

Socials are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 5PM and will count as a Rotary make-up.



Please Contact Bob Pikna if you have suggestions for events.
Email: bpikna@bizsvcs.com or Phone: 214-417-1487

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