



SUMMER  
Weekly

# Reader

Volume 165, Issue 231, August 18th, 2016

The Plano Rotary Club  
www.PlanoRotary.com

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Aug 18**  
**Susan Schuler**  
*Miss Texas*

**Aug 25**  
**Howard Berg**  
*How to Double Your Productivity*

**Sep 1**  
**Jim Gatewood**  
*Lone Wolf Gonzallus and the  
Assassination of Poncho Villa*



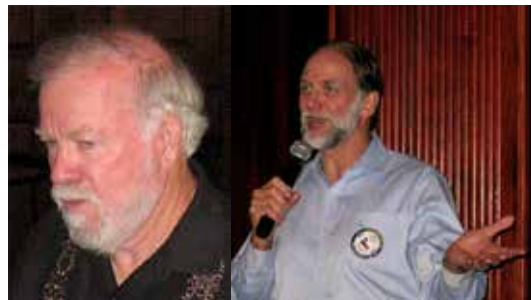
## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Camille Ussery	Aug 10
Kevin Hanigan	Aug 14
Mike Jobe	Aug 15
Reedy Spingner	Aug 20
Sarah Watkins	Aug 20
Michael Robnett	Aug 24



## Element 119

**np<sup>119</sup>** is the logo for **nonPareil**, the nonprofit organization that tutors autistic adults and children who've aged out of special ed classes, giving them marketable skills. Actually, it should read **119np**, but there already is a 119<sup>th</sup> element, the seventh alkali metal (after <sup>87</sup>Fr, named for France). <sup>119</sup>Uue hasn't a common name yet, so **IUPAC** uses the Greek, **UnUnEnnium**, which simple means "119." It would be the most reactive alkali metal if you could capture more than a single atom of it, but you can't; it's highly radioactive, decaying in a few microseconds. A chemist, understandably, finds this fascinating. ☺



**King David** held sway at 12:15, blessing **Johnny Lewis** for the Invocation and **Ray Huffines** for the Pledge. Before calling upon **SERGEANT KRAMER**, David ceded the floor to **John Caldwell**, who read us excerpts from the **Gateway Planning Session** that resulted in our draft Mission and Vision Statements. Although the notes were on our tables, John wanted to emphasize points thereon, stalking the room "out of habit;" as a substitute math teacher, he stalks the room seeing who's paying attention. Having apprised us of the committee's work, he invited us to contact the Elders, **LB**



the Only, **Jim Cooper**, **Sara Akers**, **Ean Sullivan**, **Lynette Pieper**, or himself for suggestions and feedback, after which "*the Gang of Six*" will return with a proposal.

Jason thanked "*all two of you*" who checked in with **facebook** last meeting. (To be fair, it would have been three, but **Yoram** was gone.) David interrupted with the distressing news that the Fine Bucket was AWOL. So a wine chiller was substituted. Jason charged him a \$5 fine for interrupting then went on to welcome to "*The Plano Rotary*" local politicians and fellow *Gleneagles* denizens (Metro Rotarians) Mayor **Harry LaRosiere** and County Judge candidate **Andrea Thompson**.



**Alan SPIRITWARE Feigenbaum** introduced a trio of guests (showoff!) **Kathleen Turner**, **Susan Hart**, and **Steve Skeels**. **Sara Akers** was thus shamed to present only two guests, **Kay Shaffer** and her Dad, **James Egelston**, who had bankrolled the *Plano Children's Theater*! **Maria Mott** welcomed **Geeta Giani**, and **Mark Geller** bade us greet his intern, **Lauren Brubaker**.

**Dennis Högg** took the intermittent mic in hand to fulfill his sentence as Jason's **INTERESTING SPEAKER OF THE DAY**. First, he is "*no relation to Boss Hogg*." His surname caused him infinite grief in elementary school. An only child, he hated leaving his father and friends when, in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, his parents divorced. But he conceded that the West Coast gave him "*a fresh start*." He started basketball in Wash. State, playing



continued on page 2

UCLA where he “*let Kareem Abdul-Jabbar block my shot so he could tell his grandchildren about it.*” He bounced back and forth between the States and Europe, applying to the Police Academy in Oakland, CA. But an unplanned pregnancy for his wife produced a **D.J.** “*who came out bouncing*” a basketball. The family now moved to Dallas to play for the *Texas Titans*. After a *PSHS* Championship, D.J. went on to *A&M* and is now “*the #17 on the NBA draft pick for 2017.*”

Finally, he said he’s “*running for your GoTo Real Estate Agent*”, and you can find his ad on the back page. Oh, wait; no, it’s not there. Well, he’s not alone; there’s a lot of “not there” going on two pages hence. But Jason’s \$2 fine wasn’t for a *Weekly Reader* no show; it was for the huckstering from the podium.



Jason drew another black jelly bean, and it went to **Mary Jo Dean**. She can tell us about musical hospitals next week.



David announced Rotary Service Awards going to Lynette (2), **Janis Allman** (3), Jason (3), **Camille Ussery** (8), **Mr. Wonderful Burke** (9), **Nathan Barbera** (10, who wondered “*where’s my plaque;*” his dentist answered, “*on your teeth*”), **Bob Bauer** (18), and **Mr. Clean Glasscock** (26).

**MR. SPIRITWARE** introduced the day’s speaker.

**Gary W. Moore** is Co-Founder and President of **nonPareil** Institute. He has a Bachelor of Science degree (with Honors) from the *University of North Texas* in Computer Science. After a successful tenure at *Texas Instruments* as a programmer and technical trainer, Gary began a career as an IT consultant and educator, and has taught over 2,000 IT professionals. He then transitioned into professional services, focusing primarily on staffing IT professionals at many of the Fortune 500 companies. He has held positions in recruiting, marketing, sales and executive-level management. He has a twenty-year-old son, **Andrew**, who has autism. At **nonPareil**, Gary focuses on public relations, community engagement, education, fundraising, and admissions as well as general operations of the day-to-day business of their growing nonprofit, with operations in both Plano and Houston. Gary has overseen student growth from 8 to a current 200 students and brings a strong passion for providing long-term solutions for adults with autism.

Alan mentioned **\$10K** raised by *Plano Rotary Club* to support **nonPareil**, but Gary amended that to **\$20K** over two years.

He said that he was a proud father of a child on the autistic spectrum, and he asked how many in the room knew an autistic individual, concluding “*a lot of people.*” It’s not surprising that it’s the “*fastest growing condition.*”

**nonPareil** helps educate autistic individuals in ways that they can fathom. The name means “*no parallel*,” appropriate for these “*Special Kids.*” 90% can either not get nor keep jobs and end up in minimum wage positions in grocery stores. There are 10 million individuals worldwide on the autistic spectrum. (Well, logically, 7½ billion, if the spectrum runs from zero.) And most are doing non-productive things like playing video games in their rooms. (Sainted Editor’s not about to give up his beloved **Skyrim**.) But **nonPareil** is bringing them out of the bedroom and into the workplace, “*doing revolutionary stuff.*”



They opened in Plano in November of 2010 and expanded to Houston last fall. But more satisfying are the 55 cities that have requested **nonPareil** sites. It has the potential to expand globally (as diagnoses accelerate). So if it were an IPO, you’d jump on it.

The problem is the autistic “*don’t look different; they talk like you or me. Their deficits aren’t apparent*” at first glance, so job markets don’t understand them. But they’re not good with people; instead they relate to technology, so **nonPareil** plays to their strength and “*teaches programming.*” Indeed, they’ve published sci-fi novels and children’s fantasy books. He circulated some. So **non-Pareil’s** job is to “*find out what they’re really good at,*” and parley that into careers.

Gary’s met over 3,000 families, and many of them have “*high-functioning*” kids, but still 93% couldn’t get a college degree. But they’re crackers at apps; Gary showed us **Fast & Furriest**, an animal game app referencing the *Fast & Furious* franchise. The design, animation, and sound were all done by **nonPareil** students.

A filmmaker planning a documentary on autism interviewed **nonPareil** and decided to devote the entire project to it. He played us the film’s trailer. It had comments like:

“*I know I’m a little bit slow on things.*”

“*How he thinks is not how the world is.*”

“*The times I’m [most] proud of you are not when you’re creating amazing tech, but when you are taking care of one another.*”

Gary pointed out that the \$2.3 billion in annual sales for the mindless **Candy Crush** were enough to convince buyers to shell out \$6 billion for the company! If **nonPareil** can create an app that addictive, and find that generous a buyer for it, then their project feeds itself.

Q&A started with an inquiry into autism’s cause. Gary said it’s probably not just one factor. Guesses include diet, vaccines, and genetics, what-have-you.

Someone asked if the students come with tech training. While most like computers, they haven’t any programming skills in the main.



**Charles Milby** asked whether they can live on their own. Gary told him, no, but **nonPareil** is seeking long-term solutions finding housing.

John Caldwell asked how **nonPareil** was funded. He learned that tuition for students is \$10K per year! (Surely that’s rich for a nonprofit. Charge the beneficiary sounds wrong.) But Gary insists that only sustains the operation. “*If we create an Angry Birds, we won’t need tuition.*” He said that **nonPareil** is



seeking companies to partner with them. David suggested creating an app that prevents Friends from inviting you to play **Candy Crush!!**



**Kelly Palmer** countered with a suggestion of **PokeRotarians!**

Ignoring that, David reminded us all of the visit by **Miss Texas** next week with the **Iron Butterfly** in tow, no doubt.

He then led us in the Four-Way Test and abdicated at 12:59.



Then there's the attempt by **Randy Wright** to rub our noses in his fine Colorado weather. Note the 40°F on the thermometer at his country house by the creek in Colorado.



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Thank you Kenny Wilson

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*Guests & Visiting Rotarians*

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Susan Hart  
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Dr James Egelston  
Kay Shaffer  
Lauren Brubaker

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