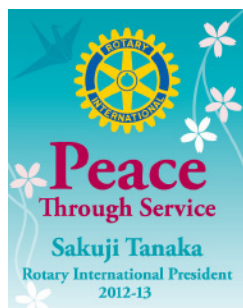


Summer
Weekly

Reader

Volume 9, Issue 51, August 16, 2012

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com



UPCOMING MEETINGS

August 16 - Traditional Chinese Culture and the Mission of Shen Yun: Shirley Hsia

August 23 - Plano High School Football Coaches: Mike Hughes, Jaydon McCollough, Johnny Ringo

August 30 - Collaboration v. Collision: Closing the Generation Gap:

Sherri Elliot-Yearly, President, Generational Guru

September 6 - Hendrick Scholarship Foundation: Marcy Wilson & Student speakers

September 13 - How to Protect Yourself from Identity Theft: Officer Christopher Biane, Plano Police Department

September 20 - No Lunch - Fundraiser @ Haggard's Barn Dinner, Entertainment, and Live Auction 6:30 pm

September 21 - Golf Tournament @ Prestonwood Country Club, The Hills Course

September 27 - Business Lessons Learned from the Fast Lane - Scott Black, President, TimePiece Public Relations

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Camille Ussery	Aug 10
Susan Shuler	Aug 12
Fortino Trujillo	Aug 12
Kevin Hanigan	Aug 14
Sarah Watkins	Aug 20
Michael Robnett	Aug 24
Michael Baldwin	Aug 28



THOSE who marvel at the photos today have **Tim McCord** to thank. What they lack in quantity, they more than make up for in quality! The man describes himself as semi-pro, but **Sainted Editor** thinks you'll agree that he can safely drop the "semi-."

LENNY THE LAMPLIGHTER called the motley crew to order at 12:17, commenting that he was sorry to have missed last week's program. Someone cognizant of **Randy's Rule** asked, "Were you not here?"

LENNY cajoled **LB the Good** to pray and **Nancy Humphrey** to pledge, noting, "**Bob is back from vacation.**" He credited a plethora of greeters: **Alice Hobbs**, **Jeff Frauenheim**, and **Nancy Humphrey**, before calling upon substitute **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS CAPTAIN KIRK** to the podium. While **KIRK** was en route, **LENNY** noted a birthday check from **Susan Shuler** that proved her to be "a little over 22."

KIRK welcomed **Susan Etheridge** (Metro) and the perennial **Mark Thomason** (Park Cities). **Reedy Spigner** introduced his guest, **William Harris**, and **Jerry Aris** bade us welcome **Allen Faradineh**.

LENNY congratulated the birthday boys and girls, **Camille Ussery**, **Susan Shuler**, **Tino Trujillo**, and **Kevin Hannigan**, only one of whom had supplied a birthday check (not naming names, mind you).

He awarded (Perfect+) Attendance pins to **Rick Horne** (1), **Michael Baldwin** (2), and deferred this award for his blushing bride for sometime after she chooses to show up.

* Incipient corporate members dictate against that.



In keeping with his plan to reward back page advertisers, **LENNY** reluctantly summoned **Rick Maucieri** to a Classification Talk. Rick said he'd begin at the beginning with his "prenatal years" and work forward. **LENNY** assured him otherwise.

So going back to Grandpa **Giuseppe** in 1902, Rick quickly covered both World Wars and spoke of how his landscaping business came to be called **Grant Leighton Associates**. By way of explanation, he asked **Alex** how to pronounce his name, but **John Ernst** proffered, "Guido!" So he left "Mah-see-airy" off the name "for simplicity." He started the business in 1984, winning the contract for the newly opened **Collin Creek Mall** (take that, **Octavio**). Indeed his wife-to-be had a shop at the mall that Rick serviced so well that they are now married with three kids, "having a great time!"

Nancy Humphrey, fresh from her triumphal tour of pledging, exhorted us to secure golfers



and sponsors for the **Hendrick Scholarship Golf Gala** and **Tournament** September 20th and 21st. She also

asked us to R.S.V.P. for the gala dinner and warned us that the golfing fee rises on August 31st. She suggested we see **Alan Feigenbaum** to volunteer for the two-hour shifts at the event. Nancy had posters for our business we could get from her.

Gary Basham wanted to belabor the 80th birthday of **Tino Trujillo** on August 12th. Tino swore he was only 79. It would be celebrated on the following (past, as you read this) Saturday from 5 to 7 (presumably at Tino's). Someone inquired whether or not it was a surprise party.

As **Patti** had deigned to appear, **LENNY** presented her with her 14-year (Perfect+) Attendance pin in a manner reserved only for her, his "favorite Rotarian."



Maribelle Davis, Carole Greisdorf, Marty McGee, Jo Via, and Alice Hobbs. Plano Rotary seems to have been blessed with powerful women despite the Men's Club holdouts.



David McWhorter again introduced the day's speaker, **Kathy Blank**, in **Chuck Morgan's** absence. Kathy is Development Director (read "barker") for **CASA** (Court-Appointed Special Advocates) of **Collin County**. Her introduction read as follows:

In the wake of the Penn State Child Abuse scandal, the public is beginning to realize our collective responsibility to protect our children and speak up against child abuse. However, most everyday citizens don't know what each of us can do to protect our children. At **CASA of Collin County**, hundreds of well-trained community volunteers have been providing a powerful voice for over 7,000 children from Collin County in foster care over the past 21 years. **CASA** volunteers know that one voice truly makes a difference. Join us and you can make a difference too! (Someone has written her own intro?)

Kathy Blank has been Development Director at **CASA of Collin County** since 2009, and she has worked in agencies protecting vulnerable children for the past nine years. However, she has been an advocate for children throughout her entire career, working as a Pediatric Occupational Therapist before transitioning into the nonprofit community after moving to North Texas in 1996.

Kathy's focus at **CASA** is to build long-lasting relationships in the community that help others share resources and partnerships to support vulnerable children. Besides her work at **CASA of Collin County**, Kathy has served on the board of **Leadership Plano**, **Plano Chamber of Commerce**, **Plano Chamber Women's Division** and is active at **Custer Road United Methodist Church**. Kathy's family includes two adult sons, two teenage daughters, and two adorable grandsons!

Commenting that David had been "too generous" with "his" introduction, she chastened **Kelly Palmer** to "behave today." She also mentioned that **CASA's** Executive Director, Susan Etheridge, had spoken to Rotary about a year ago.



Prior to her talk, she had done her research on **Plano Rotary**, marveling at its 67 years of "helping the community," and in particular its children. She mentioned our **Hallowe'en Carnival**, the many contributions to the **Plano Children's Medical Clinic**, the youth scholarships we've mounted, and our recent capture of the Executive Director of the **Children's Advocacy Center**, **Lynn McLean**.



Then we got the pitch: Texas leads the nation in deaths due to child abuse. (We're also first in deaths due to incarceration.) She said that the frequency of child abuse is three per hour in this State. Collin County is in "Region 3" as these statistics go, and that region has the distinction of having the highest child abuse in Texas. (If child abuse were an Olympic event, we'd have won Gold.) Some 7,000 children have been removed from Collin County homes. The **Advocacy Center** investigates the circumstances and testifies at the resultant criminal trials, but **CASA** then not only gives voice to the voiceless but also stays with the child through (sometimes) years to find it a safe home. Indeed, although the child may "encounter many different changes" involving foster care, schools, etc., the **CASA** advocate stays with them, a constant throughout the process.

By way of example, Kathy showed us a video of two children, **Ryan** and **Jonathan**, who suffered as a teen and toddler, respectively. Jonathan was hospitalized and left disabled. He was placed with his special needs sister in a home, but proved to be too active for the foster parents. So he was placed with his aunt and three other families within two years. **Deborah**, his advocate, finally found him the foster home he needed.

We learned that during the last decade, the child population increased 85%, but child abuse increased almost 200%. Kathy knew she was "preaching to the choir" here, but she suggested ways for us to help.

1. "Like" **CASA** on Facebook

2. Shop at *Willowbend* on the tax-free weekend and send the receipts to CASA which will win \$2,500 if they garner the most
3. Volunteer to become an advocate.

Advocates commit to a year of service amounting to about 15 hours per month. During that year, there may be 4-5 court appearances. 45% of advocates work, and they are predominantly women, so CASA needs male volunteers including African Americans and bilingual ones. They receive training some four times per year.



CASA has partnered with *Willowbend* and *Texas Health*, but it could use more. So Kathy wants us to "talk up ways to get involved." She reminded us that, although Rotary is our best organization, we can also get involved with others. She

mentioned CASA's own golf tournament and said that 25% of funds come from that plus its Annual Gala.

Since the audience had no questions, she tossed out that 30% of cases come from Plano. (Since we have 34% of the population of the county, that's not surprising.) Then she thanked us for the invitation to speak and told us, "We make a difference for children in the foster care system."

LENNY presented her with her dog tags from **ONCE IN A LIFETIME** and mentioned that there was space for two more advertisers on the back page. (He miscounted; we have room for seven more advertisers!) **Ken Roberts** moved for adjournment, so Lenny led us in the Four-Way Test and abolished the assembly at 12:55.



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The Plano Rotary Club

PO BOX 864316

Plano, TX 75086

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?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Guests & Visiting Rotarians

Guest

Kyle Johnson
Jeff Leach

Guest Of

Mark Johnson
Olin Jaye

Visiting Rotarian

Bill Langley

Home Club

Plano Metro

Member NEWS

New Member Proposal:

John Yeung
Classification: Restaurant
Management
Proposed by: Jo Via

New Member Proposal:

Timothy B. McCord
Classification: Signs Printing
Proposed by: Randy Wright

New Member Proposal:

Kevin Hanigan
Classification: Banking
Proposed by: Keith Sockwell

AWARDS:

Harold Sullivan Award:
Randy Wright

Athena Award:

Rebecca Caso

Fred Moses Award:

Richard Butterly

Business Executive of the Year:

Gary Base

Kersey Can Holder:

Vance Bryson

Citizen of the Year:

Beth and Duncan Webb