

Summer
Weekly

Reader

Volume 34, Issue 98 August 22, 2013

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

cliché chic

UPCOMING MEETINGS

August 22

Plano HS Football Coaches:
Mike Hughes, Jaydon
McCullough, Randy Jackson.

August 29

Brian Cuban
"Step by Step: Turning your
Lowest Moments into your
Greatest Successes."

September 5

Stephen Fagin
"Assassination &
Commemoration: JFK, Dallas
& The Sixth floor Museum
at Dealy Plaza"

September 12

Ean Sullivan
"District Governor"

September 19

Lynn McClean, CEO
Children's Advocacy Center
of Collin County"

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

Turnabout is fair play, right, **Karla**, especially when it's ironic?! **Scary Bob** accidentally photographed

himself. That's an occupational hazard in a Hall of Mirrors such as that in which we dined this day. So the paparazzo has paparazzed himself.

PRESIDENT KIRK

belled us to order at 12:17, calling upon **the Good** to give the Invocation and **Michael**



Baldwin to lead us in the Pledge. ("Thanks, **Bob!**")

KIRK thanked new member **Gene Champagne** for greeting and summoned "permanent back-up **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**"

Rick Maucieri to welcome Visiting Rotarians and Guests.

From *Plano Metro* came **Bert Kraft** while from *Park Cities* we had **Mark Thomason** and **Rick Amsberry**.



CAPTAIN KIRK welcomed **Gene Champagne**, **Cathy Tyler**, and **Bev Kilmer**. **Alan Feigenbaum** introduced *Hendrick Scholarship* Chairman and permanent bundle of energy, **Robert E. Lee**. **Rick Kasmiskie** bade us welcome **Mark Smeltiu**, and **Sara Akers** fed "my Daddy," **Dr. Russ Egelston**.



Then, with the excuse that he was only following **Nathan's** tradition, Rick corralled **Michael Baldwin** for *INSIDE THE ROTARIAN STUDIO*. Michael was born in Sherman and grew up in Temple. His first job was as a paper boy which "didn't pay enough." His high school was *Temple*. Asked if he was



part of a group, "Stoners or smokers?" he responded that he was "not involved with a lot of stuff." College: *Southern Nazarene University*, Bethany, OK. He's married with a son and daughter, the latter a senior in high school. He met his wife when she was his teacher at the (old) *Prestonwood Sunday School*. He prefers the beach to the mountains; *Beetles* to the *Rolling Stones*; and tonsils over appendix though both are gone. He likes *Chevys* over *Fords*, and his role model was the Youth Director at his church. (Why?



EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

continued on page 2

Did he marry a Sunday School teacher too?) He joined Rotary at 21, being the youngest member in the club. His favorite Rotary moment: right now. “So this is the highlight, huh?”



Rotary anniversaries were celebrated for **Rick Horne** (2), **Gerald Brence**, and **Camille Ussery** (5).

Mentioning that the Golf Committee meets directly after lunch, **KIRK** called Alan Feigenbaum to stump for sponsors and introduce Robert Lee on behalf of the *Hendrick Scholarship Foundation*.

Robert first thanked **Wayne Hendrick** for his appearance (which was dapper). Robert called him “a gentleman among gentlemen,” and a man with a “passion for kids” (not the lock-him-up kind).



Wayne created the Foundation 21 years ago; until two years ago, the Golf Tournament provided 70% of its funding. At present, the Foundation supports 52 students on full four-year scholarships. <applause> “You’re not applauding me; you’re applauding you.”



The students are working kids, sometimes the sole support for their families, but they have the potential for college. And Rotary’s support “has made a difference.” Plano Rotary remains their biggest sponsor.

96% of clients are the first in their family to attend college. While of the population of college students past the 2nd year, only 48% graduate, the Hendrick Scholars have a graduation record of 94%. And that’s, in part, due to the attention of the many Board members in the room.

Of the 4,200 applicants annually, the list is narrowed to 60, who are asked to submit résumés. These are winnowed down to 10 by means of one-on-one interviews. And the stories the interviewers hear are very sad.

But we were not to be deluged with those stories today. That’s for another program, no doubt. Robert offered but a single wrenching tale of Karen, a scholar dropped for failure of grades. Her mother is mentally ill, and there is no father, so Karen cares for her SIX siblings and works three jobs to support hospital bills following an accident. To prove her devotion to the program, she scraped enough together on her own to reenroll, producing satisfactory grades, and reapplied to *Hendrick*. The program agreed to a probationary period during which it would fund ½ of her studies and she the remaining.

Robert concluded by thanking *Plano Rotary* for helping and “being such a good friend.”



KIRK noted **Sarah Watkins’** birthday, mentioned needing two more volunteers for *Heroes on the Water*, told us that next (this) week is **SPRIT DAY**, so we must dress in our team colors. **HE** suggested we sponsor a table for the 9-11 event held jointly by all Plano Rotary Clubs. And **HE** traded **Red** for **Blue** Badges with **John Caldwell**, who



had now earned it. The illusive **Chris Henry** was inexplicably present to receive his Paul Harris+2 badge.

Scary Bob was dancing around, angling for shots, prompting **KIRK** to remark, “**Bol’s** like **Muhammad Ali** standing over **Sonny Liston** saying, ‘No, wait, wait!’”

The program today was not Hendrick but rather RYLA. Rick Horne, our RYLA liaison, explained that RYLA is a week-long leadership camp with 180 kids from 5810 at *Camp Hoblitzelle*. Oddly, leadership isn’t taught in school (would you want all chiefs and no Indians?) as it requires a hands-on effort. Our candidates come from *Plano Senior High*, and Principal Sarah Watkins invites us all to the interviews in which we choose our four from among the elite of the student body. Rick is confident that we can “leave the country in their hands.” We can’t send more than four because that would exceed the capacity of the camp. (Has no one considered a larger venue?)

Three of our four participants were here today to extol the virtues of the program. The fourth will pay his dues later.

Avery Atterstrom, Rick described as, “a bundle of energy who has applied to 12 colleges” with interests in Civil Engineering. (I suppose Uncivil Engineering is left to the military.) She was PSH’s **STUDENT OF THE YEAR**, maintains a respectable 3.85 GPA, and plays piano.

Avery thanked us profusely for our sponsorship, and admitted that “It changed my life” is a cliché but insisted that it’s true. “Being at RYLA is different from being in school; everyone at RYLA is a leader!” So you learn that you must co-operate to come to a consensus. She came away from the event with 25 new brothers and sisters, she said.



Vig Balakrisnan Rick wants to use as an inexpensive CPA. He is a school club treasurer and is into dance, which flabbergasted Rick.



Vic thanked us “for everything,” and confirmed that RYLA “does change your life.” It not only taught him useful things but “also inspired me” to take ideas back to PSH. As an only child, he especially appreciated acquiring new brothers and sisters, and he even stunned his mother when announcing his attendance at an impromptu reunion as “hanging out with my brothers.” As a small child, he came from India to Plano where, as a foreigner, he felt out of place, but at RYLA, he fit right in.

Leslie Parker was late to our meeting, as she showed up first at *South Fork Ranch*. She is a camp counselor, although, as a participant, not yet a RYLA camp counselor.

Leslie too affirmed RYLA as “life-changing.” She road home from RYLA with Avery, and they both found it hard to leave. Paraphrasing Dorothy’s sentiments, she said, “There’s no place like RYLA!” RYLarians are “unlike any other people.” They’ve so much energy and are so supportive, and the high fives are so addictive that she was trying to high five everyone when she returned. She said that to learn how to be a leader, you have to learn “how to be a follower.” With the round-robin debates you learn it’s better for you and the group if you learn how to fail. The debates started as shouting contests and ended when someone screamed, “Hey!! I’ve done this before. Listen to me!” She too thanked us for the opportunity and predicted that RYLA was useful in “determining what we’ll be when we grow up.”



Rick had his own prediction: RYLarians would become active in INTERACT and eventually ROTARACT.

KIRK said that RYLA started in Australia and “has grown enormously. 160 leaders are hard to manage, and hard to select, right, Randy?” Randy denied that saying that you only choose the kids “who work as brain surgeons on Saturdays.” **KIRK** countered that it sounded as if Randy was “one of their first patients.” **HE** explained that many of our participants return as RYLA counselors. Then **HE** gave the speakers “paperweights,” and complimented Rick Horne as one of the many people working invisibly for the community.

LB THE RADIANT announced his wedding anniversary for next (last) Wednesday. **Lori Roberts** announced a RILI Reunion for next (last) Saturday, and **KIRK** led us in the Four-Way Test, releasing us at 12:58.

Scary Bob claims that he’s received numerous compliments on his creative photography; so we’ll wait to hear the reaction of the victims below:



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Guests & Visiting Rotarians

Guest

Eugene Champagne
Robert Lee
Mark Smeltiu
Cathy Tyler
Dr. Russ Egelston
Bev Kilmer

Guest Of

Kirk Bell
Alen Feigenbaum
Rick Kasmiskie
Kirk Bell
Sara Akers
Kirk Bell

AWARDS:

2012 Best Community Partner

Children’s Theatre
(Sara Egelston Akers)

Athena Award:

Camille Ussery

Visiting Rotarian Home Club

Bert Kraft
Mark Thomason
Rick Amsberry

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Park Cities
Park Cities

Proposed Member

Proposed member: Janis Allman
Classification: Apartment owner/operator
Proposed by: Randy Wright

Proposed Member

Proposed member: Yoram Solomon
Classification: Technology
Proposed by: Ean Sullivan

Proposed Member

Proposed member: Jason Kramer
Classification: Chiropractor
Proposed by: Alice Hobbs

Proposed Member

Proposed member: Satinder Baweja
Classification: Engineering
Proposed by: Randy Wright



After Labor Day we will be providing mentors to meet with students weekly for lunch. Please let Earnest Burke know if you would like to be a mentor at Memorial. That little extra time spent listening and guiding those children can make a big difference in their lives.

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