

## Entrepreneurial Academe

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Feb 15**  
**RYLA - Mira Banerji,**  
**Sipho Dongozi, Evan Headroe,**  
**Rhed Santiago**  
*Teen Leadership Development*

**Feb 22**  
**Dr Mark Gamber & Jared Baker**  
*Active Shooter/Disaster*  
*Emergency Medical Treatment*

**Mar 1**  
**NO NOON MEETING**  
*3/3 Social Details to be*  
*announced soon!*

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Hayden Padgett	Feb 01
Jason Kramer	Feb 07
Roy Reeves	Feb 09
Karla Oliver	Feb 13
Sam Greif	Feb 14
Mike Booher	Feb 20
Rick Grady	Feb 27
Carrolyn Moebius	Feb 27
Kyle Walters	Feb 27

**W**ITH his trusty iPhone<sup>®</sup>, **John Caldwell** captured today's photographs, including a selfie, receiving a 5-year Rotary Service Pin.

Back from the **LAND OF THE WINTER OLYMPICS**, Prince **Horné** opened the festivities at 12:11, summoning **Blair Ritchey** for the Invocation followed by **Kelly Palmer** with the Pledge. Rick fêted himself for Greeting and called **SERGEANT KRAMER**.

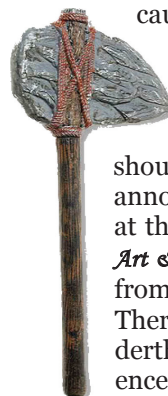
**JASON** encouraged Blair to introduce **LifeCare** CEO **Randy Langford**, **Mike Robnett** to stump for **Ray Huffines'** brother, **Phillip** (who introduced his Senatorial campaign assistant, **David Seden**), **Roy Reeves** to welcome back aviation mechanic **Bob Von der Saar**, and **Sara Akers** to introduce (her *Plano Children's Theater* Board member) **Jenny Duva**.



**SGT. KRAMER** introduced **Terry Weiner** (*Metro*) and **Bill** (*Dallas*) and **Lisa Dendy**. Also present this day was **John Glancy** (*Park Cities*).



**JASON'S** victim today was **Janis Allman** who told us that her hobby is archeology. As a six-year-old, she found an Indian arrowhead, and that set her off on a lifetime of, as Prince **Horné** put it, "*Indiana Jans*." She



cautioned us to record the location of any items of archeological interest we may find upon our wanderings; that will assist the professionals, should they be notified. She also announced a Symposium appearing at the *Nasher Sculpture Gallery* on *Art & Archeology* involving stone axes from Neanderthal sites in Europe. There must have been some Neanderthal fans populating the audience since her presentation drew

applause.

Service pins went to **John Caldwell** (5) and **Jim Monroe** (22). Rick also read us the Birthday List (left below) and wished **Hayden Padgett** a Happy 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Dave McWhorter** was called to the front, bitching as he went about having obviously "*irritated someone*" and, as a consequence, having been "*seated at the kiddie table*." But he wasn't there to moan but to introduce PDF Bill Dendy there to present the Club with an award.

Bill admired the camaraderie evidenced by the group. He giggered us about our two week hiatus by telling us how much we must appreciate "*getting to know one another again*." Nevertheless, he praised our "*great work*" by presenting us with the Four-Way Test Speech Contest Award...yet again. And, yet again, we accepted it as our due without acknowledging the role played by the contestants.



Bill went on to say that supporting "*ethics ... in young people is good*." The crowd cheered him and Dave on as they struggled to erect the "*biggest banner we award*."





But Bill wasn't done with us. He had yet to award the newest effusive praise item with which 5810 pats itself on the back: **THE STAR IN THE CLUB AWARD**. It is nominated by the Past President, and, in a precedence-setting move, Dave fêted his successor, Prince Horné! (It will now become impossible for Past Presidents to



nominate anyone other than current Presidents.) Dave was compelled as a result of the "great job with Club activities" done by Rick. "I'm happy you're the inaugural recipient!"

Bill waxed lyrical about 5810 being the #1 Rotary district in growth of membership. He mused that the Texas population boom might have something to do with that. He also crowed about 5810 being #1 in public relations and in Foundation donations! The latter was boasted by a \$1M endowment from a member's will, so he urged us all to see to Rotary within our own wills.

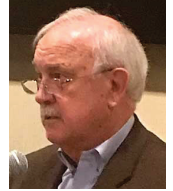
Rick Horne admitted to surprise at his **STAR AWARD** but surmised it was because "the Club didn't vote" on it.

**Alex Johnson** wanted credit given to the man handling the 4-Way Test Contest, John Caldwell. He is due not only credit but cooperation.

Prince Horné had a spate of **announcements** to get through. He urged us to patronize the *Allen Americans* hockey team saying, "This from someone who can't skate." He honored everyone who worked at the *Samaritan Inn* event, and he implored us to attend the 4-Way Speech Contest to be held on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, at Sara's theater in *Willowbend*. That event needs "good speaker, good judges, and good helpers." He announced a "Spring Fling" with Interactors attending a Model UN Conference on 6/2 in Chicago. Turning to Plano Clubs, Rick noted *Metro's Mardi Gras Casino Night* and *Pioneers' Sip & Sample* event at Oakpoint Nature Reserve. The "end of May" (it's not clear which end; it has two), we'll have another food drive for some food bank beyond *Minnie's*. We'll do that in the name of **Rep. Sam Johnson** when he's on the program. And, finally, please pay your dues invoice. With

**Olin Jaye** commented upon Janis' interest in Texas relics, presuming that she didn't mean him. Then he got down to the business of introducing the speaker.

**Steve Guengerich** is the Executive Director for the Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the *University of Texas at Dallas*, where he leads an organization focused on launching innovative, new ventures, both as startups and within existing businesses. His topic today (The Spark: How Entrepreneurship Set *UT Dallas* on Fire) updates the story of *UTD* on the eve of its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.



Mr. Guengerich (MBA TAMU) praised the Club for all it's doing. He asked for a show of hands of *UTD* alumni, and, given the age of the University compared to the average age of members of the *Geriatric Club of Plano*, he received few votes. A few more raised their hands in response to a query about children (or grandchildren) attending. **Ric Kasmiskie** volunteered one getting a degree in *Art & Technology*.

Ignoring *Telecomm Valley*, Steve said that as impressive as Austin's computing facilities are, "it's not the **Silicon Valley** of Texas." The major economic hubs of Texas are linked in cooperation "to supersede *Silicon Valley*." Texas has an enormous economy, dwarfing that of most countries. (It has the 10<sup>th</sup> largest economy, ahead of South Korea, in fact.) "And Dallas is the center of all that activity." And key to the City's economic development is a university "founded by entrepreneurs: (Cecil) Green, (Eugene) McDermott, and (Eric) Johnson." *UTD* is "#1 among Young Universities in the nation."



**UTD** Steve landed here after 12 years in Houston (condolences) and 23 years in Austin where he was "looking to spending all my time with youngsters." (Nothing creepy about that!) So he moved the "center of hot activity," *UTD*, with its 23K students and 30 buildings erected in the last decade alone. He encouraged us all to come get lost on campus.

He is involved with **Blackstone Launch Pad** which supports *UTD* faculty and students with entrepreneurial training, helping "arm them with contacts and money" (venture capital). It is "turning out the largest classes of entrepreneurs..." (missing comparative) And "more than 50% of the economic activity is startups." **Blackstone** has the blessing of Texas Manifesto, Capital Factory, Venture Capital and Startup World. These are "angel networks around the State bringing startups together with investors." (...sort of super business incubators of the sort that *UTD* fostered 30 years ago)





John Caldwell wanted to know what's starting up. Steve told him there is a Dallas Accelerator exclusively for retail, and one in Austin is devoted to sports, technology, fashion and foods. So they're "not just a bunch of techies."

Olin Jaye wanted some comment on Richardson as a proposed site for Amazon HQ2, seeing as how UTD has a lot of land. He learned that President Benson is using University assets to bid for HQ2. Dallas and Texas in general is very attractive to major corporations. "It's a huge advantage."

Hayden Padgett asked what Austin tech is moving to Dallas. Houston, Dallas, and Austin have invested ~\$6M each in an I-35 corridor high-end bus service. "Dallas is getting its mojo back."

Ric Kasmiskie asked about other major cities in Texas like El Paso. Steve said that they're "not nearly at the same stage." Since "El Paso has eager workers," Austin's Capital Factory is "planting a flag" there.

Hayden wanted to know the impact of high speed rail (up the I-35). "Whenever it gets going, the more the better."

Prince Horné offered Mr. Guengerich our multiport charger. Steve said that, as a tech guy, "I can use it." Rick went on to tell an apocryphal story about an environmental chemist (mentioning no names) doing a well survey at a farmhouse where the owner said the well was dug back in '34. He noticed a three-legged pig, and the farmer said, "You mean Harvey? He's one smart pig!" The hogs are slopped in the morning, but one day the farmer fell and was trapped beneath his tractor and couldn't slop them. Harvey wasn't fed and sought out the farmer, rutting him to safety. (Little Timmy has fallen down the well,

Lassie!) The chemist asked how that story related to Harvey missing leg. "Well, a pig that smart...you don't eat him all at one time."

Thus was Rick inducted into the fabled **LARRY FLANNERY HALL OF FAME.**

Brushing himself off, Prince Horné led us in the Four-Way Test and released us for good behavior at 12:57.



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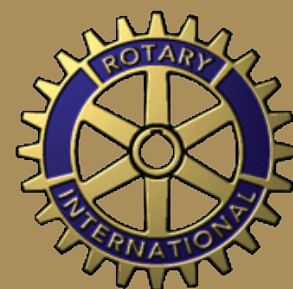
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## Guests

### Guest

Randy Langford

Phillip Huffines

David Sedeno

Bob Vondersaar

Jenny Duva

### Guest of

Blair Ritchey

Mike Robnett

Mike Robnett

David McWhorter

Sara Akers

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