



## Summer Weekly

# Reader

Volume 121, Issue 181 July 16, 2015

The Plano Rotary Club  
www.PlanoRotary.com

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

#### July 16

"Honoring Three Men &  
Their Service to Rotary"  
David Hammel  
LB Broach  
Tino Trujillo

#### July 23

Tracey Wallace -  
"Successful Senior  
Living"

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

Phil Dyer	July 06
John Ernst	July 07
Sara Akers	July 10
Howard Shapiro	July 12
Earnest Burke	July 14
Dave Bowman	July 15
Larry Bisno	July 16
Matt Jackson	July 22
Jim Monroe	July 22
Maria Mott	July 23
L.B. Broach	July 30



## Happy Birthday, USA, and the Gangs All Here

Rotarians approaching the July 2 joint meeting were confronted with five desks to choose from, a five person brass section from the Plano symphony tuning up their instruments, and a cheery greeting from **John Caldwell**,



who immediately after shaking hands realized that he might be inappropriate to be greeter due to his poison ivy.

The club met jointly with Plano West Rotary, Plano Metro Rotary, Plano Sunrise Rotary, and the North Texas Pioneers. Members from the five clubs were wandering around the room greeting the Rotarians from the other clubs. The brass section added to the cacophony with renditions of America, the Beautiful, Caissons Go Rolling Along, the Marine Hymn, and for some reason, The Saints Go Marching In.

**Sainted**

**Editor**

**Chris**

**Parr** took a seat happily in the middle of the assembly, relaxing confidently in turning the Reader over to the second string editor while visions of Mongolia in July danced in his head.

At 12:05, newly installed president **Kelly Palmer** gaveled us to order with a weak "good after-



noon" that surprisingly served to quiet the crowd. He announced the opening of the first ever meeting of five Plano Rotary Clubs.

**Kirk Bell**, happily past past-President, was called upon for prayer, and he thanked God for 230+ years of freedom.

The large crowd thundered through the Pledge of Allegiance led by **Bob Pikna**. **Ean Sullivan**



was called upon as club song-leader to direct our traditionally non-singing club through the Star Spangled Banner accompanied by the Plano Symphony Orchestra's Brass Quintet. Kelly Palmer then introduced the head table, consisting of Plano's long-time Congressional Representative Sam Johnson and the new presidents of the four other Plano Rotary Clubs.

Kelly thanked **Allen Feigenbaum** and **John Caldwell** for serving as greeters. They Kelly yielded the microphone to sergeant at arms **Nathan Barbera**. Barbera welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Kelly Palmer regime, and he acknowledged an enormous number of dignitaries and guests. Kelly Palmer eventually regained the microphone and welcomed us to the first meeting of the new Rotary year. He allowed each of the club presidents to talk about their clubs fundraising projects, after naturally first pointing out his own club's projects. He spoke proudly of our clubs 70 years of history with over 100 members. Our club is oriented toward education and Plano schools with mentoring and annual donations to the Hendrick Scholarship Foundation. Fund raising for that project is the annual golf tournament, currently managed by Nancy



Humphrey. He discussed our Four-Way Test Speech Contest. He revealed plans to raise \$25,000 over two years to support the City of Plano plans to rebuild Jack Harvard Park.

Plano Sunrise Club president Howard Leidy started his comments with two jokes, referring to their five-way test which culminates with "Is it humorous." "What do you call a midget fortune teller who has just escaped from prison?--A small medium at large." The Sunrise club members must be truly dedicated because they meet at Tino's Too on Friday mornings at 7:00 a.m. It is a "hands on" club according to Howard. The club just completed a District Grant for Journey of Hope, and they issued a check to the Children's Medical Center. They do a Flag project with over 400 flags, and the number is expected to triple this year.

Plano Metro Club president Chuck Bolden took the mike. They meet at Gleneagles Country Club on Wednesday noon. They also have a Flag project with over 400 flags. They support the Samaritan Inn. They raise funds for scholarships with a Casino Night party on February 27. They support a Four-Way Test Speech Contest.

North Texas Pioneers president Austin Rogers opened with the statement that "we are a young club" causing instant pandemonium with numerous comments from the more senior Rotarians present. Attempting to move past his unfortunate beginning, Austin explained that they meet at the Greek Isles Restaurant on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m., and they can offer visiting Rotarians "adult beverages" with their meals. The North Texas Pioneers was started by RYLarians, so naturally they are young. They conduct a fundraising contest modeled on The Amazing Race.

Plano West Rotary Club president Daniel Long made the claim of being the number 2 club in Plano, and therefore like AVIS they try harder. The Plano West club is in its thirty-fifth year. Meetings are on Tuesday noon at The Greek Isles Restaurant. The club is a sweat equity club engaging in too many projects to name. The club mentors a Plano school. Four scholarships are awarded annually including one for the John

Payton fund, working with juveniles.

Kelly resumed possession of the microphone and took a final shot at Austin

Rogers, telling him that youth would not last and "you will get old." Then he ceded the podium to the Honorable County Judge Keith Self, the officer presiding over the Collin County Commissioners Court,

a graduate of West Point, and a Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel, for the introduction of Sam Johnson.

Keith brought us greetings from the McKinney Rotary Club and complained that the head table was heavily weighted toward the air force. He acknowledged that many of us have known and supported Sam Johnson for decades, but he felt that we should look back again at his history. The soldiers of the revolution suffered terrible deprivation at Valley Forge, but they emerged stronger after their terrible trial, and we owe them a debt that can never be repaid. Similarly, Sam suffered terrible deprivation for 7 and a half years as a prisoner of war in the Hanoi Hilton. Sam's more than 6 foot frame was reduced to 130 pounds on the diet of water and vegetables. He spent



74 days in leg irons. His right hand was so damaged by torture that he became left handed. His wife did not know whether he was alive for over two years. We also owe Sam a debt that can never be repaid.

Sam thanked the five Rotary clubs for allowing him to share the celebration of the fourth of July with them. He introduced two ladies of his office staff and shared an anecdote about being locked out of his office the day before due to a rumor of a gun packing woman on the loose. Sam thanked Plano for its support of his wife at home while he was held in a 3' x 8' cell wondering if this was the day the North Vietnamese would keep their promise to kill him. He thanked Plano for welcoming him back. Sam was a member of Plano West Rotary in 1980 before serving in the state legislature and in Congress. He remains an honorary member. He praised the Rotary clubs





and the work they do. He was pleased to celebrate July 4 with Plano's five Rotary clubs. It is a blessing to celebrate the nation's birthday and our love of country that never diminishes for Sam after his POW experience. Sam looks forward to celebrating independence day each year. Sam asked for nominations of Collin County veterans deserving of recognition. He gave thanks to the service of all veterans.

Following Sam Johnson's remarks, PDG Bud McBrayer concisely explained our plans for the July 4th parade on Saturday, starting at the PISD Administration Building at 15th & Independence, and proceeding up Independence to Parkhaven. The twelfth annual Battle of the Badges is July 5 through July 12. The fire chief and the police chief each had some partisan remarks in support of the blood drive. The brass quintet from the Plano Symphony was applauded.

Kelly reminded the club of the memorial for Tino Trujillo on July 9 at noon, and our meeting will be skipped in favor of Tino's memorial. Everyone was thanked for their attendance, and we adjourned with the four way test. Obituaries appeared for Rotarians Dave Hammel and L. B. Broach. Dave was a member since 1988. L. B. was a Rotarian since 1956 and a member of our club since 1993.

#### Guest

Gerald Vokolek  
Mary Palmer  
Candace Fountoulakis  
Spencer Humphrey  
Patty Henry  
Meredith Walker  
Jim Aidendifer  
Charlie Block  
Anthony Miller

#### Guest of

Olin Jaye  
Kelly Palmer  
Janis Allman  
Nancy Humphrey  
Chris Henry  
Bob Pikna  
Kirk Bell  
Mark Geller  
Jason Rice

#### Visiting Rotarian

Howard Templin  
Bob Timberlake

#### Home Club

Dallas  
Park Cities



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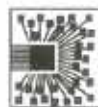


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