



## SUMMER Weekly

Volume 200, Issue 265, June 1st, 2017

# Reader

The Plano Rotary Club  
[www.PlanoRotary.com](http://www.PlanoRotary.com)

## ...Thank a Teacher 🍏

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Jun 1

Janet Montelvo for  
Mary Pat Higgins

Holocaust and  
Advancing Human Rights

Jun 8

Dr Sai Chavala

Fighting Blindness –  
Exciting Advances

Jun 15

Rick Horne & David McWhorter

Blues, Brews & Que  
Preview & Finalization



### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Jeff Frauenheim	June 01
Charles Milby	June 07
Blair Ritchey	June 08
Mark Waterbury	June 08
Mark Geller	June 09
Bradley Keith	June 12
Bob Bauer	June 19



**R**ICK GRADY drew the black jelly bean of **3 MINUTES OF FAME** this day. **SPIRITWARE** teased him, asking if he was “going to come out?” Saint-ed Editor piled on, “You mean you’re going to admit you’re a closet *Democrat*?” Rick concluded that, were he to do that, he’d never be re-elected.

**King David** struck the Royal Staff at 12:14 to open the session. He blessed **Blair Ritchey** for the Invocation and **Rex Lowe** for the Pledge. Calling up **SERGEANT KRAMER**, **David** noted the absence of our banners (see the top of pg. 2), explaining that they were on *Collin College’s* podium for the **STUDENT CITIZEN OF THE YEAR** ceremonies last and this evening.

**JASON** welcomed a Rotarian visiting from *Plano Metro*, **Terry Weiner**. Terry introduced a guest, **Anthony Ricciardelli**, noting he’d like your vote in the current

duced *PISD* denizens, **Brian Binggeli** (Superintendent), **Cody McGregor** (5<sup>th</sup> grade reading specialist at *Schell Elementary*), and **Kevin Moore** (a humanities teacher at *Shepton High*).

Rick Grady thanked the teachers for making *PISD* such an attractive service.

He told us that he was merely 8 years old when *NASA* was established (in 1958, making him 67), and he became fascinated with space technology. His obsession was to fly, so his obliging parents pulled strings, getting him into the *Civil Air Patrol* (meet *Scary Bob*, Rick) and into a cockpit before he was old enough to drive. From there he joined the *AFROTC*, aiming to fly supersonic jets, but his Uncle Sam ordered him into the *U.S. Army* instead. The “moral” of his tale was that we should remember veterans, this Memorial Day especially, out of respect “for the 1.4 million people who have lost their lives for our freedom.” He said he carries the names of 42 of his fellow vets, fallen in Vietnam, at all times.



runoffs. **Sara Akers** introduced Business Manager **Daniel Spradley**. **Mike Booher** bade us welcome **Kelly Lieu**, an Infrastructure Specialist; when that confused some, it was explained that she handles relocation services. And **Nancy Humphrey** intro-



**JASON** and **David** drew **Paul Hernandez’s** name as next week’s victim. He trudged forward only to be told that it wasn’t *extemporare* we had in mind; he’d have the week to mull it over. But **Jamie Schell** recalled him, “You have to come up after all,” to honor him for his first *Paul Harris Fellowship*. Paul said he was impressed with

continued on page 2



Polio + and our water purification projects. Jamie urged us to continue our contributions.



David called Nancy and Supt. Binggeli to the front and presented the latter with our 4<sup>th</sup> \$20,000<sup>00</sup> installment to the PISD Education Foundation on behalf of our Foundation's Chair, **Kelly Palmer**, AWOL today. He had to caution Brian not to try to negotiate the check because (our Treasurer, **Jim Cooper**, being absent as well) it was missing a signature! Brian suppressed his disappointment long enough to say, *"My role today is to say thank you on behalf of the Foundation, the Board, the schools, and our 55,000 children."*

Sara Akers circulated a clipboard for **Blues, Brews & 'Ques** volunteer sign-ups. Sign before the plum shifts are all gone! **Scary Bob** Epstein invited us to a complimentary breakfast and book discussion at Canyon Creek Country Club at 7:15 the morning of June 5<sup>th</sup>. This benefits veterans. RSVP Macabee1948@AOL.com

**CAPTAIN KIRK** was thanked for his efforts with **STUDENT CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**. Last night 28 trophies went to children in 7 schools; tonight 20 are awarded for 5 schools. (Those kids appear in the photo above.)

Nancy Humphrey, former President of the PISD Board of Trustees, introduced the winners of **TEACHER OF THE YEAR**. She said PISD received peer-reviewed candidates from all schools and had the unenviable job of choosing from within a pool of well-qualified teachers. Nancy preached to the choir, telling us that the teachers are PISD's "biggest asset," and *"they make our children successful."* Then she turned to the winners themselves.

Cody McGregor, the 2017 **Plano ISD ELEMENTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**, has been teaching for 7 years, all of them at Schell Elementary. She is a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, who, according to the Schell Principal, **Jeanne Basil**, *"Cody is a leader on her campus and 'rocks' everything she does."* Cody graduated *cum laude* from Texas Tech with a Bachelor of Science degree in multidisciplinary studies. In her own words, she describes her philosophy of teaching as:

*"Teaching is not my job; it's my calling. Every day, I wake up blessed to serve in a school and a district that uphold my same values. With the support of my administration and colleagues, I make daily decisions by asking, 'What's best for these children?' I view my role as a teacher as both a responsibility and a privilege."*



Cody is a teacher who truly makes a difference, and Plano ISD is proud to honor her as **ELEMENTARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**.

Cody told us that she grew up in the PISD system to which she has now returned as a teacher. She thanked Rotary *"for what you do."*

She said that she's not great *"about taking compliments,"* and so it was embarrassing for her to read the report cards she solicits from her students. She's just happy about the *"great progress in the kids,"* but she winces a little when reading, *"You should joke a little more, but you're still in my top five!"* Another response, from a child with a *"hard home life,"* chastened her to *"read more to us."* She concluded her brief remarks with further thanks for Rotary's help.



Nancy continued, I'm pleased to introduce Kevin Moore, humanities teacher from Shepton High School and Plano ISD 2017 **SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**. Kevin has fourteen years of teaching experience, all of it at Shepton High.

Kevin earned a Master's degree in Curriculum & Instruction, specializing in Gifted and Talented Education from the University of North Texas and a Bachelor of Arts cum laude from Southwestern University. Kevin says that:

*"I think it's important for my students to know that I am human. Every single year, I commit to taking this journey with them. Together we will celebrate successes, grow from mistakes, and learn about ourselves and others. I hope my students know, as I have learned from my humble beginnings as an 'apartment kid,' that it's not where you start that matters; it's where you go from there."*

According to **Jeffrey Banner**, Shepton Assistant Principal, *"Regardless of who he is teaching, Mr. Moore has a heart for kids and believes that all students can succeed."*

We are honored to have Kevin representing Plano ISD as **SECONDARY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**.

Kevin began by thanking Rotary *"for the invitation and for all you do for our kids."* He said that the *PISD* Education Foundation *"gives so much to our kids."*

He grew up in Plano, moved away then back to Plano then on to Chicago until homesickness had a firm hold on him, and he was *"ready to come back to Shepton."* He was certified at *UT Austin*, and he marvels at the remarkable friendships he has made, kept alive at a distance via social media.

This time of year, everyone's *"in a sprint to get to the end of the year, especially at Shepton"* where a renovation is in progress. He loves teaching where *"the students support each other"* in study groups and in other ways.

In the Q&A that followed, Anthony Ricciardelli asked about who inspired them to become teachers. Cody responded that her 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher, **Sherry**, *"was my biggest inspiration."* As a consequence, perhaps, she became the Teacher's Pet, *"helping her with her job."* They are still in contact; Cody has *"reached out to her to tell her of her inspiration."*

Kevin spoke of **Debbie Holland**, who was his greatest inspiration. She encouraged him to pursue teaching in spite of his objection that *"teachers don't make any money!"* He remembers leading a raid on her home to awaken her at 1 am *"for her birthday,"* having learned that her real birthday fell on Christmas, so she never got to really celebrate it. It was Debbie who *"got me connected"* with his peer group. *"Relationships are important."*

**Ric Kasmiskie** asked what resources they want more of and what less of.



Cody needed no prodding on that score. *"More time,"* she said. She could use two more weeks at semester's end, attempting *"to get everything done."* Then too, she's *"not ready to say goodbye!"* She wants more time to *"plan amazing things"* for her students.

Kevin accused her of stealing his thunder, so he dittoed that and added that he could do with less of *"decisions made (at State level) by people who have never been in teaching."* He said that is *"unacceptable except in Texas."*



**Alex Johnson** wanted to know what makes *PISD* a great place to work and learn.

Cody cited the great teacher training and the push by *PISD* to always be moving forward. She marvels, e.g., at the *Chromebooks* acquired for the students. *"No other ISD can match."*

Kevin spoke of his *"remarkable campus"* where diversity adds to the academic success. Students have the opportunity to *"learn from different points of view."*

**King David** anointed them both with **\$500** checks bearing two signatures! Then he bestowed our invaluable desk organizers upon them, causing Cody to remark, *"It has a clock!"*

**David** asked Alex Johnson to stand and fêted him for the upcoming week's installation of our first Interact Club at *Jasper High School*. Then he led us in the Four-Way Test (in the absence of the banner on which it resides) and dismissed the assembled nobles at 12:55.



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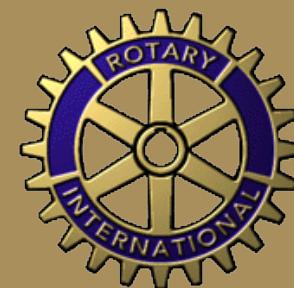
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Thank you Kenny Wilson

### The Plano Rotary Club

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## Guests & Visiting Rotarians

### Guest

Daniel Spradley

Dr. Binggeli

Anthony Ricciardelli

Kelly Lieu

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Terry Weiner

### Guest of

Sara Akers

Nancy Humphrey

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## Proposed Members

### New Member:

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