



## SUMMER Weekly

# Reader

Volume 204, Issue 269, June 29th, 2017

The Plano Rotary Club  
www.PlanoRotary.com

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

**Jun 29**

**David McWhorter**  
President's Final Meeting/  
Incoming New Officers

**Jul 6**

**NO NOON MEETING**  
Due to Holiday Week

**Jul 13**

**Bob Wehrmann**  
DFW - USO



### 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



## HOMELESS HOUSE

**C**REDIT where credit is due. Last bulletin's photos were due to **John Caldwell** while this one's are the product of **Blair Ritchey**. **Mike Booher** took a crack at it recently too. *Scary Bob* should be back this week.

**King David** opened his last full meeting at 12:11, calling upon **Blair Ritchey** for the Invocation and **Kyle Walters** to lead us in the Pledge. We had no Greeter but **SERGEANT KRAMER** was on hand to thank the handful of us who remembered to CHECK IN on **facebook**.



**Ric Kasmiskie** being AWOL, his guest, **Clark Seymour**, introduced himself (woefully briefly). **Sara Akers** had two guests: **Peggy Jackson** and "a real **DISNEY Princess**," **Abby Phelps**. **Howard Matson** welcomed about-to-be-new-member, **Hayden Padgett**.



Visiting Rotarians included both **Roman Gabriel** (*Corpus Christi*, **Robert Reed's** old stomping grounds) and **Jarinder Jil Kaur** (*Chandigarh Midtown*, 250 miles from Delhi, India) visiting her son in school here. Her club boasts 120 members (as ours used to), and she traded banners with **King David**.



He asked for **BBQ** volunteers to stand then feted them for their service by "personally extend[ing] my thanks for enduring the heat and long hours." He thanked Roman and Hayden for helping before they joined the Club! We were promised a full report by **Rick Horne** when all the bills are in.

Although **Jerry Kezhaya** was AWOL, he reported through David that our next Social Hour will be Tuesday, 6/27 from 5:30 to 7 pm at **BUFFALO BLUEZ** on Legacy, just east of Preston Meadow Drive.

Due to the proximity of Independence Day, there'll be **NO MEETING ON 7/6**. However, **King David** commanded all to attend the meeting of 6/29 when the baton will be passed to Rick **BBQ** Horne. Similarly, the 5810 baton gets passed 6/29 in a \$60 Induction Ceremony when Rick will attend.

We are to roll up our sleeves for **Chief Greif** to help him win the **BATTLE OF THE BADGES** which runs from 4-9 July at various locations in the City.

**Alan SPIRITWARE Feigenbaum** then held forth on the merits of the day's speaker:

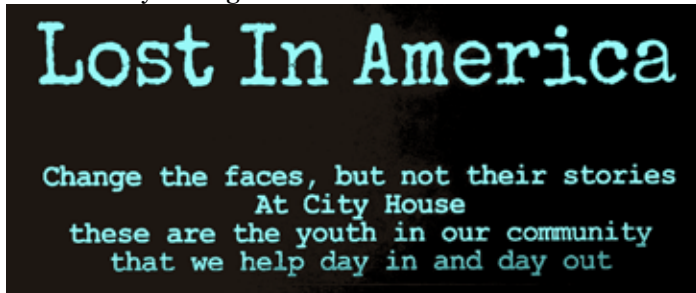
In 1988 **Karen Voelker** served as a representative of the Junior League of Collin County on a task force organized by PISD educators **Nancy Boyd** and **Kay Goodman** in their efforts to create a shelter for at-risk teens. That task force became the Founding Board of Directors of *City House*. Karen stayed on the Board for six years. While spending her career in community relations positions with *Central Market Plano* and *The Dallas Morning News*

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Karen remained involved with *City House* as a part-time volunteer and life-long donor. In 2008 she joined the staff as Community Relations Manager. She has a unique perspective on *City House* since she has participated as a Board Member, as a volunteer, as a donor and as a member of the staff. Nancy Boyd and Kay Goodman remain among her most valued friends and mentors.

Karen has two daughters and four granddaughters (with another on the way!). They all live in Northern California, so these days she is a frequent flyer Grandma.

Priming the pump, Karen first thanked us for our past support of *City House*. We've assisted in its evolution from a 6-bed shelter for teens in 1988 to a 46-bed shelter for children infancy through 22.



She began by showing us clips from the above film which is available in its entirety (1:15:44) on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/zv7fnFNyL-D>

**Jim Wright** appeared to be one of the interviewees, and the clips included a poignant portrait of a homeless teen who said, *"I almost died. But I found that if you live, and choose to live, you can do anything you want."*

The film told us that over the course of *City House's* existence, homelessness in Collin County has increased 116%. It thanked us for our support and introduced **Lisa Rogers**, the Director of Volunteer Services.



Karen said that *City House* was the only charity in Collin County *"doing what we do."* It has grown now to two buildings, one housing ages 0-17 and another for young adults. For school children, they've named the building **My Friend's House**, so they needn't declare themselves to be living in a homeless shelter. Some of their charges come to them through the court system and Child Protective Services. And *City House's* goal is not just to meet their physical needs but their emotional needs as well. It handles food, lodging, transportation, medicine, and dental care, everything you'd expect from (foster) parents.

Among the *"first class"* of *City House's* charges were children from 5 months to 16 years, the latter child caring for his younger siblings. And their rooms have no closets, intentionally, as closets are associated in their minds with



hiding from abusive parents. *City House* wants them to know that there is *"no reason to run and hide"* anymore. And their bathrooms *"are bright and cheerful."*

Since they often arrive with just the clothes on their backs, *City House* maintains a donations closet that provides each of their charges with 7 days worth of clothes. She related an anecdote of a little girl running from the closet to tell her sister about the *Dora the Explorer* shirts.

In their East Plano Resource Center they offer academic assistance and separate homes for males and females. *City House* finds that they must tutor some in social and communication skills, so they offer life lessons in cooking, banking, and obtaining a GED.

Roman Gabriel asked about the YouTube offering cited in the column to the left.

For students about to "age out of the system," *City House* offers a two-year transitional program and *"rapid re-housing"* for 18-year-olds.

Karen pointed out the brochures on our tables and referred to their website at [www.cityhouse.org](http://www.cityhouse.org)

She mentioned an *Eisemann Center* event on 8 July featuring a Beatles tribute band and the annual gala which this year offers Rat Pack impersonators on 9 September at the *Embassy Suites Frisco*. (The **Marilyn Monroe** impersonator is married to the ersatz **Dean Martin**.)



She said that summer is the most challenging time for *City House*, since the number of volunteers, food, and activit-



There'll be complimentary water for volunteers, but they're responsible for buying their own BBQ and (off-duty) beer.

*Plano East* is donating the mobile Green Room for artists, who will be selling their CDs and DVDs.

Rick thanked the sponsors: *Plano East*, **Casey Stewart**, Jason Kramer, **Kenny Wilson**, **Maria Mott**, among others. He also thanked the yeomen volunteers: Jo Via, **Johnny Lewis**, Dave McWhorter, Kelly Palmer, Sara Akers, and **Jim Cooper**.

The first act, **Eric Barton**, begins at 2:30. **Alan Feigenbaum** has the volunteers' tee shirts. Oh, and please wear sun glasses; you'll blend right in with performers hiding their dilated eyes.

As to the patrons, they mayn't bring coolers or food/drink but chairs and blankets are *de rigueur*. Also sun hats and sunscreen for everyone. So far, 75 tickets have been sold, not counting Rotary member sales. And, if you bought your tickets on-line, you'll get VIP parking; otherwise, you'll park in the Collin College lots across the street (paying in cash).

There'll be two ticket booths where patrons get wristbands colored by their age. Olin asked for a teenaged one.

Since Rick's explanation of the park's location and geography left some confused, Jo Via, Ms. Balloon Festival, took the mic and explained how to get there and what to look for. She lives and breathes Oak Point Park.

Kelly wanted to know the distance between the beer vendors and the potties. It's easy to guess why he's going.

Sara asked what Rick's most pressing need for volunteers is. That was easy: tear down. Currently, only Robert Reed is staying after 11 pm to help dismantle our presence. Vendors will pick up their rental items on Monday. Oak Point is OK with remnants on Sunday.

Also we're in need of three big coolers and several 100' extension cords. Volunteers handling the items, either in set up or tear down, need gloves to counter the splinters. They'll not have to bring chairs for volunteering, only for watching the show when their stint is over.

Several TV stations will be present to record the festival in the hour before sundown.

Film at 11. *"It'll be a little hot, but we'll all have fun!"* As for consumption, *"When you're off-duty, do what your liver tells you to do."*

Jo Via introduced a late visitor, her grandson and Paul Harris Fellow, **Cooper Jackson**. Some of us remember him showing up in his first year.



**King David** led us in the Four-Way Test and closed the meeting right on the money, 1:00.



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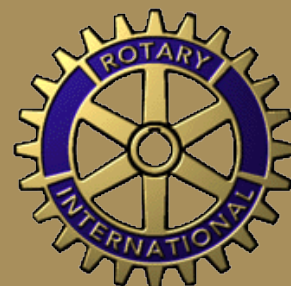
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## Guests & Visiting Rotarians

### Guest

Clark Seymour

Abby Phelps

Hayden Padgett

Peggy Jackson

### Visiting Rotarian

Roman Gabriel

Jarinder Jit Kaur

### Guest of

Rick Kasmiskie

Sara Akers

Howard Matson

Sara Akers

### Home Club

Corpus Christi

Chandigarh

Midtown

## Proposed Members

### New Member:

Hayden Padgett

### Proposed by:

Daniel Askari

### Classification:

Technology

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