



FALL
Weekly

Reader

Volume 174, Issue 240, October 20th, 2016

The Plano Rotary Club

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Oct 20
Greg Pappas
Hendrick Scholarship Foundation

Oct 27
NO MEETING
Hendrick Golf Tournament

Noc 03
Ogie Shaw
What To Do About American & Childhood Obesity



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

John Caldwell	Oct 06
Justin Roche	Oct 07
Rick Horne	Oct 08
Jan Sullivan	Oct 10
Dennis Hogg	Oct 16
Janis Allman	Oct 18
Robert Botts	Oct 20
Debbie Watson	Oct 25
Jessica Jackson	Oct 26
J. Marc Lewis	Oct 27
Casey Stewart	Oct 31



RYLA UNLEASHED

Sainted Editor's spending November in India with his blushing bride of 30 years. (She didn't want to go, but he bribed her with tigers.) So the edi-



torship falls to **Hubert Aaron** and **John Caldwell**. Sainted Editor expects you to give them at least as much studious attention as you lavish upon him.

King David solicited attention at 12:16, calling upon **Jim Cooper** for the Invocation and **Herb Hoxie** for the Pledge. He credited **Judge Johnny** with Greeting and summoned **SERGEANT KRAMER** to an exceptionally light duty: zero guests and only one visiting Rotarian, **Sam Zarro**, 5810's Youth Exchange guru.



Maria Mott stood in for herself (as she had not done last week) and delivered her 3 *Minutes of Fame*. She's been 30 years in the Metroplex, most of it in Plano, watching amazing growth. Coming from the Dominican Republic, she attended *UT Austin* where she captivated her future husband's heart. They've been married 37 years now.

The **BLACK JELLY BEAN** fell to **Randy Wright**, not only present this day, but also the substitute photographer.

King David noted a "belated service recognition" to bestow upon **Chief Greif** for 1 year of perfect attendance. "Seems longer," Sam quipped; David responded, "Time flies when you're havin' fun." (Sainted Editor heard it as "Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana." Think about it.)



Nancy Humphrey implored us to take our "Big Fundraiser," the **SCRAMBLE FOR SCHOLARSHIPS** on 27 October, more seriously, and purchase raffle tickets she (fortuitously) carried. We could put them toward five prizes including Southwest airfare, a case of wine, multiple rounds of golf, or a Dine-Around at three locations in Plano. She also pleaded for Hole-in-One spotters and additional foursomes.

King David testified to the possibility of capturing the prizes. He had previously won a weekend at the *Four Seasons*.

As if to show us how it's done, **Randy Wright** and **Jason Rice** rose



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to auction off a pair of tickets to the opening performance of **Rover Dramawerk's** production of an **Ayn Rand** play! The tickets included partying with Randy and Jason, but **King David** bid \$90 bucks on it anyway. Randy accepted an even \$100 for the fine bucket.

David called out attention to flyers on our tables listing food items sought by **MINNIE'S FOOD PANTRY**. He said that all five Plano Rotaries are cooperating to gather 5,000 lbs of such items before Thanksgiving. Since we're the largest club (notwithstanding recent defections), it'll be easier for us to stock up. David will tell us where and when later. Ca\$h i\$, of cour\$e, a \$ati\$factory \$ub\$titute.

While the Board voted to spawn the *Plano East Rotary Club*, the *Plano East Rotary Club* chooses to be sponsored elsewhere. (It's seems there's sufficient angst to go around. Why can't such things be amicable, like other divorces?)

Jason Kramer returned to the podium to speak about **RYLA**, Rotary Youth Leadership Award. (Jason is the new **Rick Horne**.) He told us we've sent several rising seniors to Rotary's Leadership Camp. He outlined the process whereby the scholars are chosen. First we deliver information on the program to schools. Then student leaders apply. Judging from their applications, *"I don't think these students ever sleep."* One confirmed 4-5 hours a night. From the ~50 applicants, the review committee wanted to send ~50 scholars! They were that good; every one *"nailed the interview."* So we get an embarrassment of riches every time. Jason turned the mic over to PSHS Principal **Sarah Watkins** to introduce the Fabulous 4.

She first thanked the Club for sponsoring these exemplary students. Then she introduced them all at once; **Sainted Editor** will take the license to move each introduction to their comments instead.

First up was **Rodney Belcher**. He wants to be a Computer Science major. He is in the Robotics and Math Clubs, and while he'd like to continue playing basketball, a torn ACL has sidelined him. He still is instrumental on the team as a sort of student coach.

Rodney described RYLA as *"phenomenal."* When they arrived, they were told *"we are going to run the camp."* And they did. The most important thing he learned at RYLA is *"Friends Don't Doubt."* That meme has *"reshaped the way I interact with people."* It

means that you support your friends in whatever goals they have chosen for themselves.

Next was our Four-Way Test Speech Contest Winner, **Kelly Graham**. Kelly leans toward either Bioengineering or Biochemistry at *Rice University*. While obviously a leader in Debate, she's also in Band, Student Congress, and instrumental in the resurrection of Interact at PSHS.

Kelly explained that the cabins aren't coed. So she made 22 new best girlfriends while at RYLA. She was amazed to discover the obstacles each had to overcome. But, being best friends, she's *"willing to do anything I can"* to help and support them.

The third speaker was **Joseph Basdeo**. Joey is interested in aerospace engineering and robotics. He's in ROTC and one of the (re-)founders of Interact. In his *"free time,"* he plays mandolin (!) and tutors students in Pre-Calculus. His mother is the Principal at *Academy High*, the business magnet school in PISD.

Joey appreciated the daily lectures by Rotarians, teaching values. He internalized *"What you say to yourself, sets you for the day."* As an example, he told us of the Ragdoll Race where contestants are bound by the ankle to a racing partner. His partner was a young lady who had twisted her ankle and said, *"I'm hurting too bad; I can't do it."* Joey began chanting a mantra: ***"I am strong. I am powerful. I am confident."*** She took it up as did teams around them. She persevered and won the game!

Joey admitted to suffering from a *"large empathy problem"* prior to RYLA. Now, however, he seeks to improve himself as a first step to improving the community.

Tanner Cedrone is the Rifle Team Commander in ROTC. He's headed to either the Air Force or Naval Academies. Tanner is the President of PSHS's Interact. He wants to study politics (the Art of the Insult).

He said that immediately upon arrival, participants *"were thrown into the fire."* Inculcated in Tanner was the principle of *"servant leadership. Always put others before yourself."* Team building exercises involved CIRCLE leadership and ROW leadership. Tanner had been to leadership camps before but RYLA *"was so much more. On behalf of all of us, I thank you!"*

With that, the floor was open for question, the first of which betrayed knowledge of RYLA's inner workings: was there a Talent Show? Kelly considered speech, of course,





but she chose to learn something new: swing dancing! It was an ideal opportunity to get out of her comfort zone with the entire camp watching!

Rodney chimed in with the story of **Lyndon C. Johnson**, a cellist and a one-man talent show. For Rodney, the Talent Show was an opportunity “to be yourself, showing the support community what you’re about.”

John Caldwell asked about the camp population and was told there were 186 students. **Alex Johnson** asked how these students were advertising RYLA to their peers. Kelly told him that a goal of the renovated Interact Club is to interest freshmen and sophomores. Alex asked how PRC could help. Tanner told him the Interact died because they hadn’t passed on the torch to a younger generation. So they must bring sophomores and juniors up as leaders of the group. Plano Rotary Club could become involved again with Interact to ensure its future and RYLA’s. He set the *Hillcrest* Interact Club up as a model. So we could provide opportunities to serve the community.

UTDallas has a Rotoract Club.

Alex said that “we really want to help you” but “we’re old and not in school.” Kelly suggested that we “ask your grandchildren for help,” then, after the thunderous laughter, amended it to “tell the Vines kids about our

club. If an adult tells a kid about becoming a leader,” it carries more gravitas than if it comes from a peer.

Sam Zarro mentioned the Youth Exchange as another avenue for promotion. He said that the deadline is approaching next month. He explained that the program matches American kids with a foreign family; their kids come to live with the American family. The cost to the family is only \$1,800.

King David surmised that organization was the top priority of the college-bound, so he presented each of them with our coveted, non-perpetual desk organizer. There was a commotion in the ranks, and Nancy Humphrey asked, “Was that an Ooooo or a Boooo?” Well, it is near to *Hallowe’en*.

David then mentioned that **Ray Huffines** offers the transport to and from RYLA each year without expectation of honors. Herb Hoxie mentioned that a grandson of his enjoyed RYLA so much that he returned as a counselor.

David led us in the Four-Way Test and closed the meeting at 12:55.



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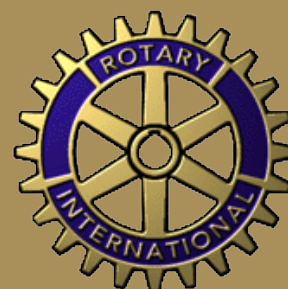
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Thank you Kenny Wilson

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None

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