



Summer Weekly

Reader

Volume 129, Issue 189, September 17, 2015 Volume 128

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

Glory to PISD

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Sep 17

Introducing Dr. Matkin
(Collin College President)
to Plano

Sep 24

Rick Horne -
Annual Camp RYLA
Program

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Ean H. Sullivan	Sep 04
Rick Boyer	Sep 06
Satinder Baweja	Sep 16
Hubert Aaron	Sep 17



By the time this newsletter reaches you, gentle reader, our *Sainted Editor peregrinabundus* **Chris Parr** should be back among us with Rotary club flags in Ukrainian and Turkish. Your next Reader will again be produced by the varsity team.

The audio mixer was returned from its vacation today, with Jim Cooper expertly setting it up. **President Paperweight** Kelly Palmer was absent today, providing David McWhorter with his first opportunity to play first string. He tentatively tapped the bell promptly at 12:15 with no immediate effect, but several experienced Rotarians in the audience gradually achieved order. **Jim Cooper**, having already established himself up front as sound technician de jour, was called upon to invoke the blessings of God on our food, Rotary projects and PISD. Then Jim and David entertained us with their efforts to adjust the speaker volume.

Anthony Miller led us in the pledge of allegiance.

David would have thanked our greeter at this point if anyone had thought to deputize a greeter.

Nathan Barbera returned as Sgt. at Arms today after an extended absence. He called upon past president and PDG **Ean Sullivan** to introduce two friends and visiting Rotarians from Petropolis, Brazil, Elisio and Isabel Joffe. They conducted an impressive exchange of club banners commemorating their long journey to visit.



Karla Oliver introduced her guests, Lesley Range-Stanton, Brittnea Ussery, and Jeanine

Alpert. **Maria Mott** introduced Joanne Kozlowski and Joe Camarena.

The strolling interview by the Sgt. at Arms which we had so greatly missed during Nathan's absence was restored with **Carolyn Moebius** as victim. She admitted to birth and upbringing in Houston where she attended

(shudder) Robert E. Lee High School.

Her father worked for IBM. She was bor- ingly well-behaved as a youth, singing in the school choir. She continued her education at Trinity University and the University of St. Thomas. If she were doing something else she would like to be an opera singer in New York. Her favorite band (or show?) is Chicago. Most admired athlete is Earl Campbell. A VW bus was her first car. She hates soft drinks, so she did not vote in the Coke or Pepsi contest that Nathan is conducting. She has been a member of Rotary for six years, sponsored by Skip Jenkins. Her favorite Rotary memories involve the Hendrick Scholarship activities (Nancy Humphrey presumably put her up to this.) Despite Nathan always bringing to mind the stage play Nathan the Wise by Gotthold Lessing, he missed the opportunity to dive into the mathematical discussion of the Moebius strip and other topics in Topology.

Mr. Wonderful Earnest Burke was called from retirement to remind us of the birthday challenge and lead us in song celebrating Ean, Rick, Satender, and Hubert. He declined to respond to a question from the audience about Hubert's age, but confidentially he pre- dates Pearl Harbor.

Perfect attendance awards came up for presentation today. **Rick Boyer** and **Dennis Hogg** 1 year. **Jim Cooper** and **David McWhorter** 4 years. David was stumped for a proper presentation to himself.

Lenny Schwartz had achieved 15 years, but



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he was quickly upstaged by **Patti Schwartz** with 18 years. Then **Earl Simpkins** eclipsed all of the others momentarily with 20 years. Finally, **Herb Hoxie** claimed the big award

with **52 years**.



John Caldwell was called upon for a report on the membership drive. He reported 5 prospects in the pipeline. He called our attention to the forms left on all the tables for referral of new member prospects. Our club has 107 active members at present, and our short-term goal is 115 members. We have open classifications for an exterminator, a community college president, a fire chief, an HVAC man, owner or managers of restaurant, groceries, and retail establishments, to name but a few.

David reported on our pending **relocation**. The executive committee approved a contract with Gleneagles Country Club prior to our meeting. It will next be submitted to the board of directors for approval next week. Assuming that approval to be forthcoming, the full membership will be asked to approve it at our September 17 meeting. Approval is required for a restructuring (increase) in dues to make possible the move to the more expensive and fattening food at Gleneagles. The first meeting at Gleneagles is expected to be October 1.

Nancy Humphrey took the microphone to introduce the speaker, but she could not resist the chance to put in a plug for sponsors, donors, golfers and volunteers for the Hendrick Academy

Golf Tournament scheduled for Thursday, October 29, at Stonebriar Country Club. Refocusing on the program, Nancy introduced the new Superintendent of Plano ISD, **Brian**

T. Binggeli. Dr. Binggeli holds a doctorate in educa-



tional leadership from Virginia Tech and a master's degree from Virginia State. His undergraduate degree is from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He began his career as a teacher in Elyria, Ohio in 1981 (he looks

30 but assured us he is much older) and served as a teacher, coach, assistant principal and principal in Virginia. He has been a principal at both the middle and high school level. He was Virginia's Middle School Principal of the Year. Dr. Binggeli has served as an adjunct professor in Virginia Tech's Educational Leadership and Policy Studies Doctoral program and in the University of Virginia's administrative licensure program. He became Superintendent for Brevard Public Schools in Florida on July 1, 2009. In that job, he was responsible for over 73,000 students, about 9000 school employees, 82 schools, 10 charter schools and 20 special centers in a county of 1,557 square miles. He started at a challenging time at BPS, dealing with decreasing state funding due to the economic recession. He reduced expenditures by \$63 million in his first four budget years while achieving BPS student scores well above their predicted level of performance.

Dr. Binggeli (rhymes with Ding-a-lee) was chosen from a field of 103 applicants in a nation-wide search. According to the Nancy, he is the best of the best. She also described him as a 6.5 foot Energizer Bunny because of his enthusiasm and energy. After 73,000 students in Florida, our 55,000 students should be a cakewalk.

Dr. Binggeli was hired as of 7-1-15, but he reported two weeks earlier to familiarize himself with the district. His first priority was listening and learning. He cited the rule "Don't tear down a fence until you know why it was built." He has visited 17 schools since this school year started.

He thanked the club for its support of Barron Elementary. He told us he decided to spare us a power point presentation (perhaps someone told him about past president Don Lummus' presentation), but then he immediately pointed out the printed handouts on the table and led us through numerous statistics demonstrating the glory of Plano ISD achievements compared to a local comparison group and to the State of Texas. PISD had 48.5% of students in advance of dual enrollment compared to 39.9% (comparison group) and 31.4% (state). We had 42.7% in Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) classes compared to 35.5% and 22.1% with 86.7% achieving at or above criterion compared to 74% and 50.9%.



78.2% of PISD students take ACT or SAT tests compared to 74.1% and 63.8%, and our SAT achievement average is 1689 versus 1422 for the state while our ACT average is 25.9 compared to 21 nationally. (The audience was spellbound.)

Plano achieves its results partly because its money goes into instruction. The instruction/expenditure ratio in Texas is 63.7, in the comparison group 67.8, and in PISD 69.3. The state average for administrative expenses is \$277 per student, and in PISD it is \$182 per student, which translates to \$5 million more for instruction.

In the area of Fine Arts, PISD student are rock stars.



Scores on Fine Arts AP Exams are the highest in the state.

In the area of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics), Plano is a state and national leader. PISD has high expectations for its students. Students are encouraged to think deeply. Its facilities and materials are good. PISD's use of technology is good. No new bonds have been sold since 2008, and a citizen's committee is studying the need of a bond issue.

Dr. Binggeli ended a high energy talk with an invitation for questions from the floor. He acknowledged that the east side had an achievement gap, and discussed his plans to close the gap. Texas is changing teacher evaluation methods, so that not every teacher is rated great, and that will be a challenge.

Texas has not taken on Common Core which would bring a more rigorous curriculum requiring deeper thought.

The audience listened until 1:03 p.m. with no-one departing. Interest in the PISD is high in our club.

Dr. Binggeli paused and McWhorter seized the opportunity to give him a paperweight on behalf of Kelly Palmer and lead us in the 4-way test.



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Guest	Guest of
Lesley Range-Stanton	Karla Oliver
Brittnea Ussery	Karla Oliver
Jeanine Alpert	Karla Oliver
Joanne Kozlowski	Marla Mott
Joe Camarena	Marla Mott

Visiting Rotarian	Home Club
Elisio Joffe	Petropolis Brazil
Isabel Joffe	Petropolis Brazil



2015 Best of Plano Awards

Best of Plano Gala Dinner
Thursday, October 1, 2015
6:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Hilton Dallas/Plano Granite Park Hotel
5805 Granite Parkway, Plano, Texas

Join us in congratulating recipients with ties to The Plano Rotary Club!

Olin Jaye of Olin Jaye & Associates - 2015 Citizen of the Year

The Haggard Family (Rutledge Haggard) Outstanding Philanthropist Award

Tammy McSwain (Daughter of member Larry Flannery), ARTA Travel - ATHENA Award

Tickets and reserved tables are available at www.planochamber.org.

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