



SUMMER Weekly

Reader

Volume 21, Issue 08, August 26th, 2021

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

August 26
DG Max Duplant
Dist 5810 & RI Update

September 2nd
Jasmine Green
CASA of Collin County

September 9th
Berk Smith
Hendrick Scholarship Foundation

September 16th
Britney Wynn
"Texas Legends"



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

LaNell Morold Aug 04
Jeff Beckley Aug 21



PRESS THE FLESH

Sainted Editor was castigated for bringing pizza but forgetting the beer! He begs forgiveness and will try to do better next time.

There being no babies to kiss (this is, after all, the *Geriatric Club of Plano*, and **Emma Smith** was absent), speaker **Rep. Van**



Taylor (R) shook hands and chatted up everyone around the table. He surely noticed that the crowd was considerably less crowded than prior to the pandemic, but he wisely kept that to himself.

The Right Honorable Joe Camarena summoned our attention at 12:10, calling upon **John Caldwell** for the Invocation and **Larry Bisno** for the Pledge. He then notified the gathering of pizza and cookies (**The Lunch of Champions!**) at the front table and water and coffee in the lobby outside.

SERGEANT HAYDEN PADGETT drew our attention to Visiting Rotarians **Carter House** and **Joey Myers**, asking each for the briefest of self-introductions. Carter is Rotary shopping, having moved here from Collierville, TN, where he was the youngest member of his Rotary Club. He works Real Estate for *Keller Williams*. Joey has returned to Plano, his



ancestral home, to work Commercial Lending for small and big businesses. Hayden then welcomed back nascent members **Denese McNair** and **Mike McCormack**. Pres. Joe noted that they and a 3rd candidate, **Kelly Marsalis**, will be inducted with them next week. The 5810 DG, **Max Duplant**, will also be here as our speaker.

John Caldwell noted the opening of *Olive Grove Village*, a shipping container housing development of *Habitat for Humanity*. See the weekly e-blast for your invitation. John said that conversion of a shipping container to a house is a "simple matter" of subtracting siding for doors and windows. **Rick Horne** opined that "it's a little more complex than that."

In **Robert Reed's** tardiness, Joe mentioned the **Beatle's Classical Mystery Tour** at the *Plano Symphony Orchestra*, for which there'll be a Rotarian discount code and a wine reception. And the faux Beatles playing on 9/25 are "good!," according to **Maria Mott**.

Janelle Twyford-Silvis noted that since the Delta Variant-fueled pandemic is scheduled (who dares to presume?) to peak the week of the **Plano Balloon Festival**, that event is canceled. While the virus doesn't frighten the foolish among us, the Festival's audience consists of half youngsters under the age of 12, who are not yet eligible for the vaccine. Apparently the Fun Run associated with the Festival is still a go. Let's hope they're 18' apart (Delta is a 3x > contagion).



Janis Allman said that **Plano International Festival's** Board met Monday evening to decide whether or not to cancel that event as well. She's not heard the results from President **Graciela Katzer**. If it's still a go (unlikely), the 3 Plano Clubs who've volunteered will staff a table at the Festival. Janis's son built a hand-powered water pump, and new citizens pointed it out to their children saying, "That's how we got our water." The children all looked for the faucet.

Joe said it's not too late to vote for **ROTARIAN OF THE MONTH** for October. (September's is chosen.)

LaNell Morold's Mother had an operation yesterday, and the comment card the Club sent was well-received. We are encouraged in our prayers for her Mom's recovery.

Johnny Lewis noted that RYLA will be a virtual one this year, condensing days into 8 hour online. We have four students involved.

Nancy Humphrey called our attention to **Rick Grady's** double knee surgery on 8/23. We should send him good wishes.



Joe spent the next several hours (it seemed) reading the résumé of US Rep Van Taylor. "A 7th generation Texan, Van Taylor is a family man, businessman, and decorated Iraq War Veteran. Growing up, Van earned his Eagle Scout from the future President George Bush... From April 2010 to January 2015, Van Taylor represented District 66 in the Texas House of Representatives. From January 13, 2015–January 3, 2019, Taylor served as a member of the Texas Senate, representing the 8th Senate District of Texas. On January 3, 2019,

Van Taylor was sworn in as a Member of the United States Congress, representing Texas Third Congressional District..."

Eschewing the mic as insufficiently folksy, Van greeted us with a "great to see y'all." He informed us that his family arrived in Texas just ahead of the law in 1826 when the population was only 10K. By the time it became a state, it boasted 213K. His grandfather owned the farm around Preston & Park, and a long-lost brother-in-law became some city's Mayor! (So much for background checks.)

He extolled Plano's virtues: great schools, safest city in TX (2019), a working city council! And Collin County Courthouse generated the 1st ZOOM trial in the U.S.

He declares himself a "conservative but reach[es] across the aisle" to author bipartisan legislation. His 1st bill was to enable military service personnel to vote electronically, improving their turnout by 150%. But bipartisanship is a rare commodity in Washington, which has seen 21 government shutdowns in 22 years!

He watched the Soviet Union leave Afghanistan with its tail between its legs and thought, "That'll never be us." Our exit happened with no plan. No one thought "the Taliban fights in the summers" and then hibernates; so winter would have been a good time to leave.

On the COVID resurgence, Van noted that 70% of the over-50 have been. (But that's insufficient; with 3x the transmissibility, Delta requires 90% for herd immunity. Although 50% of all Americans are vaccinated, that 3x implies a 150% 3rd spike in peak deaths. The current death rate will rise to 1.5x3000=4500/day at its peak in November. If hospitals are overwhelmed now at 1000 deaths/day, they'll become 3rd World facilities this winter. Prepare now. You can't say you weren't warned.)

On the Economy, Stupid, Van said the standard 75-day inventory of automobiles won't be recovered until Christmas 2022. The chip shortage has cut 40% off auto production. Realtors^{©™®} usually have 6 month inventories but now hold 21 days worth. We've the highest inflation in 20 years due to the \$3.2T already spent. The \$5T coming by Christmas will exacerbate that.



This community will handle these problems well. Collin County has the highest rate of vaccination for any Republican district in America. The vaccination hub in Allen is handling 2,500 a day. We've handed a greater percentage of the CARES funds than just about anywhere. *"Our local government is well-run. It can help people. You can be proud of that."*

But preparation is key; *"You must buy fire extinguishers before the fire."*

Joe C. asked about booster shots. Van told him *"later,"* we *"must have more guidance."* Fortunately, we are awash in vaccines (due to the presence of imbeciles). With the mRNA techniques, we had *"the fastest vaccine production in the world."* We must remember that the 3 successes came at the expense of *"20-30 failures."*

Randy Brodhead asked about election security. Van said there were irregularities in Texas, a precinct with 7600 voters registered 9100 votes. That election official has been fired. 95% of the votes in Texas are *"paper-backed."* Your

electronic selection results in a printed ballot with a QR code to be scanned. 100% the ballots in two districts were audited as well as 2% of all statewide ballots. None of the machines are connected to the internet.

Nancy H. asked Van about the Pro Act. He told her that it would eliminate Texas as a Right to Work state. Every worker would have his/her data sent to the Union. Other provisions would *"wipe out all franchises."*

John Priest asked about getting pro-American foreigners out of Afghanistan. Rep. Taylor's Veteran's Caucus is fighting for that very objective. There's hope because the Administration had no plans in place so no plan to defend.

President Joe (Camarena not **Biden**) said the challenges facing the U.S. are great but we will overcome them all. (Sounds like Biden!) That will be facilitated by Service Above Self. He thanked Rep. Taylor and requested the Board to stay after the meeting. Then he led us in the 5-Way Test and dismissed the gathering at 1:04.



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Guests

Guest	Guest of
Denese McNair	Nancy Humphrey
Joey Myers	Johnny Lewis

Guest & Visiting Rotarians

Visiting Rotarian	Home Club
Carter House	Collierville, TN
Mike McCormack	Edenton, NC

