



# SUMMER Weekly

# Reader

Volume 21, Issue 03, July 22nd, 2021

The Plano Rotary Club  
www.PlanoRotary.com

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- July 22th**  
**Jasmine Lee**  
*Addison Octoberfest*
- July 29th**  
**Jeff Smith**  
*Plano High School Football Coaches*
- August 5th**  
**Michael Garrett**  
*Trusted World*
- August 12th**  
**TBD**



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

Joe Camarena	July 01
Sara Akers	July 10
Emma Smith	July 11
Larry Bisno	July 16
Peggy Fenwick	July 19
Kathy Taylor	July 20
Matt Jackson	July 22
Jim Monroe	July 22
Maria Mott	July 23

## 80% Chance of Weatherman

**OUR** room appeared less crowded today. Fewer folk appeared to crowd it up. But one of the returnees was **Mike McCormack**, recently of the



*Edenton Rotary* by way of Travers City, MI, and Coos Bay, OR, who hadn't been frightened off by our playful banter and filled out the paperwork to join us!

The Right Honorable **Joe Camarena** called upon **Johnny Lewis** for the Prayer and **Janelle Twyford-Silvis** for the Pledge. **Paul Hernandez** fed his wife, **Sandy**.

**Kathy Taylor** was coaxed to admit admission into *Leadership Plano's* Class 38, "the best ever." There followed a



deafening chorus of dissenting voices all touting other LP classes as "the best ever." It's apparently a ritual of passage.

**Janis Allman** wanted a reference to an IT tech specializing in low signal strength. "West Texas has better cell reception than" her home.

In **Emma Smith's** absence, **Gary Garza** spoke up on behalf of the two *ReStores* benefiting *Habitat for Humanity*. He told us that Plano has one at Spring Creek & Custer, and the McKinney store is 2060 Couch Drive.

**Sara Akers** invited us all to a wine and cheese reception at 6:30 on Friday 7/23 before seeing the (Adults Only) showing of **The Little Mermaid**. (The "adults only" applies to the cast; Sara encouraged our great-grandchildren to attend. This is, after all, the *Geriatric Club of Plano*; ask Emma, who singlehandedly halved the average age. She must have a grandfather fetish.) It's at Sara's Willow Bend *North Texas Performing Arts* facility, and the discount code will be in our next email from **Karen**.

Not to be outdone, **Robert Reed** (top of pg. 2) touted the PSO's upcoming

(9/25) **BEATLES MYSTERY TOUR**. He'll arrange a Rotary get-together at the *Renaissance Hotel* adjacent to the concert's *Eisemann Theater*. He offered brochures of next season's program and assured us that your subscription would please Board VP **Chris**. He promised seats together at Group pricing.



Johnny Lewis related the History of the *Plano Children's Medical Clinic* and our involvement with same. It began in 1987-8 in a home acquired from a church on 14<sup>th</sup> Street. It was only open on Wednesday nights, and patrons stretched around the block to get their children treated. Such was the crowding that the building burned down. New offices were provided by **Rutledge Haggard**. PRC raised \$500K from all the then Rotaries in Plano and Richardson. Although recently demolished (to make way for a parking lot, **Joni**). It has been resurrected across the street from our current meeting place.

**John Caldwell** offered "no update" on his efforts with Johnny and Janelle for *ShelterBox*.



**Rick Horne** was tapped today for the Rotarian Moment. He IDed himself as "*Past President and everything else.*" Born in a Naval Hospital in VA, he's lived longest in Plano. **Rick Maucieri** cajoled him into *Balloon Festival*; "*it'll be fun.*" He served for 10 years on its Board. The PRC elf recommended he join PRC; "*it'll be fun.*" On his

own recognizance, he worked Parks & Rec and P&Z. He returns to his first love, mountaineering, this August. It'll be fun.

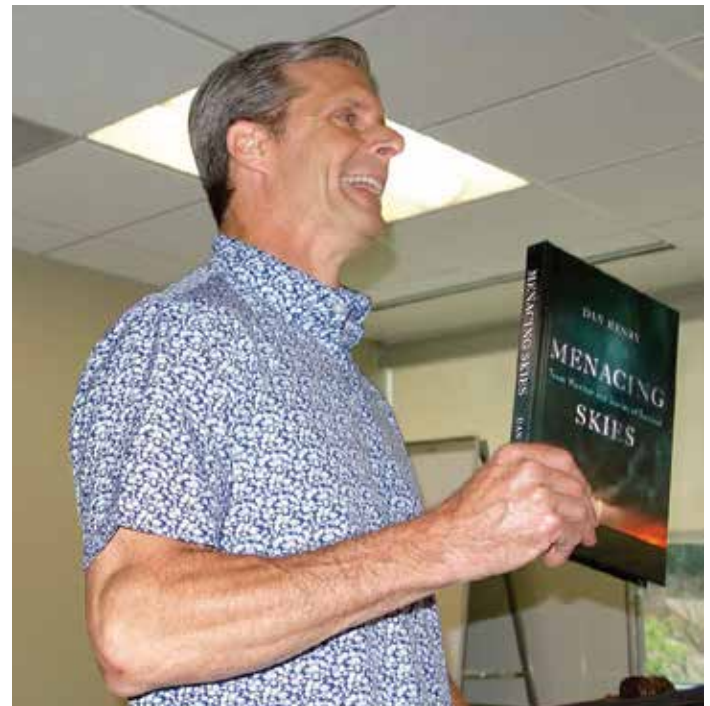


In **Bob Kehr's** absence, Janelle introduced **Dan Henry**, Chief Meteorologist for Fox 4 News. Whereas he should be studying meteors, it's the other kind of showers that he predicts with his team of 5 crack prognosticators.

KDFW is the largest broadcaster in Tornado Alley, so the Emmy winning (6, but who's counting) weatherman is kept busy both here and on location.

While Dan was here to tout *Menacing Skies*, his book (ranked 873<sup>rd</sup> in Atmospheric Sci. on Amazon), he deigned to offer anecdotes on his introduction

to weather casting. It began when his family moved from CA (with no weather to speak of) to the East Coast (with more weather than it can speak of). His grandparents lived on an ideal sledding hill. The Pennsylvania weatherman had predicted 3" of snow, prompting Dan to expect great sledding opportunities. The next morning, Dan's Dad had some bad news: **24"** had fallen instead, rendering the hill nonnegotiable. Dan wondered how the forecast could be so wrong; now he knows. That storm shut down entire states with 18-30" snowfall and drifts.



Which brought him to his book, produced in his down time during the pandemic, and without a mention of which would necessarily bring the **Evil Eye** from his agent, present today. It was produced in response to all the questions with which a weatherman is peppered. "*How do innocent-looking storms produce EF4 tornados?*" In addition, the book is a compilation of the stories of survivors of Nature's Wrath. One was **Richard Labor**, who, at ~10 years of age, accompanied his Dad on Delta 191 out of Fort Lauderdale to LA with a stopover at DFW.

Young Richard (now 45) failed to buckle in on his return from the rest room. In 1985, there was nothing to alert pilots of microbursts, dramatic downdrafts capable of crippling aircraft near the ground. On approach to DFW, the tower reported only 10 mph winds, but 191 encountered a **fatal** microburst that crashed the plane



into the (then) field near Hwy 114. The seats from row 33 forward were disintegrated. Richard and his Dad sat in row 34. His Dad died, but he was thrown through the fireball that had been the front of the craft. He nearly drowned from the water cascading from the tower the plane clipped on its descent. He was burned over his entire body, and he spent years battling PTSD. Then he married and had a girl child, who wasted away due to an autoimmune disorder. Richard invented a nutritious shake that brought her back to her family. He took the shake to market, got FDA approval, and now sells it from a multimillion dollar firm, *Kate Farms*.

Dan has peppered his book with **QR** codes, readable by cell phone cameras. They send readers to videos of tornados and the like. This one sends you to Dan's bio page on KDFW Fox 4 News.



He is an admitted history buff; D-Day was held up by 3 teams of meteorologists, 2 British and 1 Colonial. The Enigma Project had busted Nazi codes and intercepted German weather reports which suggested the Allies would not invade in such weather, but the American team forecast a short break in the weather, and **Eisenhower** took it and ran. The Germans, thinking an amphibious assault impossible, weren't at full strength, so the tenuous assault succeeded.

John Caldwell asked about computer modeling, and Dan said the European models are more accurate due to better data and computers. The ice storm that killed 151 Texans had been predicted but was too bizarre to be believed!

**Sainted Editor** asked about the Butterfly Effect (Chaos), and Dan told him of a model wherein a change of just a couple degrees and a few percentage points of humidity created a tornado.

Janis Allman related a story of a 1959 tornado that hit Plano, jumping over her house. Dan said that he screened a 16mm film of the tornado of '57 that looked as if it had been shot today. He recommended the app *Radarscope* for phones.

Joe said he'd donate *Menacing Skies* to a library, told us of PISD coaches next week, led us in the 5-Way Test, and dismissed class at 1:03.



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