



SUMMER Weekly

Reader

Volume 22, Issue 19, May 26th, 2022

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- May 26th**
Christopher Biane
Plano Police
"The Scams we were not prepared for"
- June 2nd**
Mimi Connor/LovePacs
Please bring a jar of peanut butter to donate to LovePacs
- June 9th**
Curtis Howard/CPS Board
Transitioning from Foster to College
- June 16th**
Colin Cahoon/Author
"Mended Wings"
- June 23rd**
TBD
- June 25 SATURDAY**
Rotary Social
Please read weekly email for details
- June 30**
NO NOON MEETING
HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

The Chosen Ones

RYLA scholars chowed down on pizzas provided by the Club. It fortified them for their **A** presentations to be compared with their **B** presentations after the **RYLA** camp. It's hard to imagine that we'll see night-and-day improvements in students already so mature, but that remains to be seen.

He Who Shall Be Named Joe belled us to order at 12:10, urging **Robert Reed** to offer the Invocation and **RYLA** student, **Braedon Bradley**, to lead us in the Pledge. The tardy Greeter today was **Nancy Humphrey**.

Joe, in his guise as second string **SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**, recognized Visiting Rotarian **Fred Bemenderfer**, the

RYLA chair for *Plano West*. Nancy arose to make a blind introduction of the Principal of *Plano Senior High*, **Jeff Banner** (no relation to Bruce, so he fit in the room). His ubiquity during the renovation of Shepton HS earned it the nickname, *Bannerville*. "**Dr. Hendricks** would be so pleased that you're the Principal of *Plano Senior High*." He "*builds community wherever he goes.*"

Jeff rose to aver all Nancy's praise, crediting the PSHS teachers with "*getting the students involved*" with UIL



athletics (**Amy Jacobs**) or **RYLA** ("rock star" **Giovanni James**).

Robert Reed introduced us to his replacement at the PSO, **Greg Patterson**, current Director of Development, whom he has informed "*has no choice but to join Rotary!*" Greg said that there wasn't a problem as he had been a Rotarian with Addison Rotary.



Joe asked to know more about him, and Greg obliged, admitting to not being a Texan but rather a Canadian. He's managed the *Water Tower Theatre*, which is "*the same size as the PSO.*" He has a ranch in Terrell. And he has "*a passion for the arts; how it changes lives.*" He mentioned **Mary Jo Dean** as a supporter of the PSO. "*I look forward to hosting you all at a concert!*"

Porcha Maten explained that her Interact Club now boasts seven members.

Joe read thank you letters from **Kathy Taylor's YMCA** and **Gary Garza's Habitat for Humanity**. The YMCA got \$2,500 while Habitat got \$5,000 from Plano Rotary Foundation.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- Ray Huffines May 01
- John Priest May 05
- Chris Parr May 06
- Howard Matson May 11
- Mary Jo Dean May 27



Not to be forgotten in all this largesse, the *Plano Symphony Orchestra* was awarded **\$1,500** in the standard Giant Check Ceremony. So heavy was the fungible asset that **Janelle Twyford-Silvis** was excused from hoisting it. In response to **Joe's** prodding, Robert said that it'd go for private music lessons for student scholars.

Joe then awarded **ROTARIAN OF THE MONTH** to one versed in Plano and Rotary history and not at all shy about sharing both, **Janis Allman**. She has encouraged all Plano Rotary clubs to participate in the *Plano International Festival*.



In response to a query about announcements, Program Chair Janelle asked us to bring Peanut Butter jars to our meeting of 2 June. And we should prepare for a Year End Party on 23 June. Robert Reed said that the Venue Committee meets next Thursday. And **Paul Hernandez** bragged on two grads in his household (for a \$5 "fine"). Bubba's Bucket garnered another "contribution" after **Sainted Editor's** phone interrupted the proceedings with a spam call.

Janelle introduced Plano West's **Fred Bemenderfer** as a **RYLA** expert.



Fred passed around his **RYLA** notebook, filled with biographies of counselors and assistant counselors who serve *pro bono*. He recognized other long-time **RYLA** assistants in the room: Mary Jo and **Mark Geller**. He credited past PISD Superintendent **Keith Sockwell** with starting **RYLA** and 5810 PDG **Bud McBrayer** with seeing it get on its feet. And **Ray Huffines** has provided complimentary vans each year except this one, when there are no vans on his lots.

He said that the camp "crams a month worth [of leadership training] into six days." He cited the success of several campers including **Dr. Stephanie Warner** and **Paul Murray** who has been a counselor ever since his days as a camper in 1991! He said, "**RYLA** looks great on college applications," making the case more for the students than the members. Continuing in the vein, "you'll find out more about yourself than you knew."



Fred praised school counselors as the reason for the program's success. And he called out more Rotarians for **RYLA** efforts: **Ric Kasmiskie**, **Randy Wright**, and **Jason Kramer**. Then he turned the program over to the **RYLA**rians themselves. Jeff Banner introduced them.

Ritwick Ganguly spoke of making it to State with his football prowess. He is currently a representative on Student Council and has an internship at *JP Morgan*. He's been invited to apply to *MIT*, but his "dream school" is *NYU*.

Kim Rabinowitz avocation is as *Planoette* where she's a Senior Lieutenant, but she's also been in Student Congress "since Middle School," where she's risen in the ranks to VP and President. She works at *Chipotle* while following a STEM curriculum. She hopes to study neurobiology at, perhaps, *UT*. She is grateful for the chance at **RYLA**.

Jordan Zeller came here from El Paso by way of Las Vegas. He suffered a concussion on the football field, but that hardly slowed him down. He's worked many positions at *El Norte Mexican Restaurant*, but it's only made him hunger for Law School after Community College and a Business Degree at a university.



Braedon Bradley wants to become a doctor. She too is on Student Council but also a church choir member. She is also on the Community Service Board. Academically, she wants to pursue a Biology degree, perhaps at *Pepperdine*.

Eddie Mbosowo, who was accompanied by a proud parent, has played basketball for 12 years, becoming Captain of his team. He too is in church service, being part of the Youth Ministry. He wants to major in Business Information Sys-

tems, and he wants us to know that he is grateful for this opportunity at **RYLA**.

Jeff Banner, acknowledging the hazards of speaking following the kids, thanked *Plano Rotary Club* and told the students how proud of them he was.

Mike McCormack, this day's photographer, organized the group for the obligatory photo-op above.

Joe led us in the Five-Way Test and dismissed the assemblage at 1:00 on the dot.



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Guests

Visiting Rotarians

Guest	Guest of
Jeff Banner	Nancy Humphrey
Andy Jacob	Nancy Humphrey
Greg Patterson	Robert Reed

Visiting Rotarian	Home Club
Fred Bemanderfer	Plano West

