



FALL  
Weekly

# Reader

Volume 21, Issue 19, November 11th, 2021

The Plano Rotary Club  
www.PlanoRotary.com

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

November 11th  
**Mike Mazur**  
*"Plano Arts Coalition"*

November 18  
**Sara Bonser**  
*PISD Teacher of the Year*

November 25th  
**NO NOON MEETING**



December 2  
**Jamee Jolly**  
*PISD Foundation Update*

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Martin Jackson    Nov 12



# Supply Chained

**BOB KEHR** was today's photographer since **Peggy Fenwick** was AWOL. **Joe Camarena** probably should refrain from congratulating Peggy on Bob's work, as he did last time. She'll develop a complex.

**He Who Shall Be Named, Joe Camarena**, opened the meeting at 12:13, convincing **Priest, John**, to give the Invocation and Bob Kehr to lead us in the Pledge. **John Caldwell** was cited as our Greeter.

The lone guest was **Patricia Storck**, *Sainted Editor's "Geriatric Baby Doll,"* and she has the nightgown to prove it. Chris had only a \$5 bill with which to sweeten the Kitty, so he was entitled to a blanket brag on his wife.



Joe sought approval for last week's Football-themed social. He marveled that he had "received no emails correcting my trivia answers!" John Caldwell was dismayed that no one "was smarter than an 8<sup>th</sup> grader" by virtue of not solv-

ing the 5 tangram square. We vowed to try harder the next time.



**Janelle Twyford-Silvis** solicited recipes for our **TEXAS BLUES & RED HOTS** BBQ Contest, as guest of the City of Plano. Send her a WORD document at

[jt7446@yahoo.com](mailto:jt7446@yahoo.com)

**Gary Garza** stumped for volunteers at ReStores to "help keep people in their homes as they age," thus "making a difference," but mostly for the \$1.6M budget it offers.

Joe did the miniscule birthday announcement; only **Martin Jackson**, unseen for years now, qualified.

Years of Service included, but were not limited to, **Larry Bisno** (9), **Mark Johnson** (29), and **Johnny Lewis** (34).

**Jeff Beckley** contributed **BRAG BUCKS** on behalf of his swimming 2.5 miles in the Brazos River as part of a **FULL IRON MAN** contest. (He surprised Police as the 1<sup>st</sup> live body pulled from the Brazos.)

Joe put \$1 in on behalf of **Karen Sheldon**, whose U Miami team won.

Joe cited the hazards of Presidential Greeting of his constituents. On encountering one member, **who shall remain nameless**, Joe asked, “How’re ya doin?” to which the surprised victim asked, “No, how’re **you doin?**” This went on for a couple of iterations after which Joe sought to get out of the endless loop with “On a scale of 9 to 10, how do you rate me as your President?” He got what he’d hoped for.



**Janis Allman** related a long shaggy dog story about the trip from which she returned the previous Tuesday. It was an odyssey to visit relatives, living and dead, in TN, AL, MS, and OK. She described the 3 week whirlwind trip as “**Awesome!**” Some might hold visiting the dead on a road trip to be a bit morbid, but even they must admit: October is the month for it!

Joe announced the Rotarian of the Month, the Chair of the Venue and Social committees, PSO Ex. Dir., **Robert Reed**. He secured the certificate, the obligatory gift, and the Rotary baseball cap, of which Bob Kehr entreated, “*Put your hat on!*”



Jeff Beckley put on his Foundation Chairman cap to explain the renaming of the Plano Rotary Foundation to the **Herb Hoxie** Foundation. As many of us were aware, Herb was a Club member who came to us from the FBI by way of Procter & Gamble. It was he who managed the crisis at Wounded Knee. He was also a PP of Plano Rotary and a PDG of 5810.

Jeff noted that \$50 of our dues generates \$11K annually but that pales in comparison to the \$38K we’ve been handing out of late. So we

must do some more effective fundraising. The BBQ Cookoff “*will help,*” but Plano Metro, for example, contributed \$150K to Minnie’s Food Pantry on the strength of its annual Casino Night. If we want to have that kind of impact on our community, we have to do better.



Of the funds we have, 34% is tied up in a Donor Advised Fund, while the remainder is in Cash. We’ve not done the Citizen of the Year for a while, due to the pandemic. But 13.2% of our funds went to Hendrick and 20% to ShelterBox.

We must decide whether we are a Club of many small donations or fewer large. Whichever way we go, PR must broadcast our good works to encourage further donations.

Janelle and **Maria Mott** both opted for spreading our largesse around.

**Mike McCormack** asked about the City of the Year and was told it drew disadvantaged kids from 12 PISD schools to fête their citizenship.

Jeff said that we’ve contributed to the Fine Arts Center, Jack Carter Park, and many other local projects. **Kathy Taylor** preferred large projects from a PR standpoint. We are to submit our feedback on the issue to Jeff.

Program Chair Janelle introduced our speaker of the day and her husband, **Ron Silvis**. Ron has **50 years experience** with supply chains, transport, and distribution. He has taken **Barbies** from plants in China to shelves in Walmart. He has driven trucks, contracted ships, worked with railroads and customs officials to stock fulfillment houses. He has created systems for doing so efficiently. He even worked at Transcon coincidentally with John Priest! He was a Lt. in the Army and a graduate of Cal State Fullerton.



He now works for Master Halco, a fencing company, not the kind that leaves scars.

It is dealing with supplies from China and Mexico, two countries wherein shipping is “*unregulated.*” Driving regulations are non-existent. That has both “*good and bad*” aspects. (He didn’t elaborate.)

“Don’t be misled by the ‘chip shortage,’” he said. But starting at the beginning, Long Beach bay has 54 cargo ships waiting to dock. There are 544,000 containers with chips in them. The 200 vehicles waiting to whisk them away are far, far too few. But it’s compounded by having too few chips to manufacture more trucks and trailers. Catch-22.

And shipping costs have skyrocketed. Master Halco utilizes 18,000 containers per year. They used to cost \$5000, but now they command \$24,000! And the company doesn’t even use Long Beach or Los Angeles but rather Savannah.

The proposed 24/7 operations won’t solve the situation either due to the need for 170,000 more dockworkers in Long Beach. It calls for other solutions.

Secondly, each container needs to be loaded onto a chassis to hitch to a truck. The chassis are unavailable, leading to stacks upon stacks of containers. Thirdly, there’s a shortage of trucks and drivers, even though wages had inflated by 24% going to \$85,000 per year for drivers. And the pandemic shuttered driving schools.

US regulations forbid unregulated Mexican drivers from venturing far into the country, so there’s a backup at the border where rigs await US drivers. And refrigerated trucks with produce cannot wait.

Because cargo vessels lie dormant in harbors, they aren’t available for other loads. All of which has led Master Halco to switch from chain link to wooden fencing, decimating their product line.

One solution is to secure domestic vendors, if possible. Another is to go into the manufactur-

ing business yourself. Master Halco is doing just that by manufacturing metal pipe.

These problems are forecast to be with us “*through the third quarter*” of 2022.

Mike McCormack asked if foreign supply issues will encourage domestic manufacture; “yes.”

John Caldwell asked about Texas ports; he was told that requires transit of the Panama Canal, adding delays of its own. And Houston hasn’t the deep water ports required.

“*Draymen used to be independent operators.*” Now the DOT does drug screening on their hair, which has resulted in the loss of 70,000 drivers.

**Porcha Maten** asked about Mexican drivers with Green Cards. Ron told her that there are only 8 trucking companies approved via US regulators.

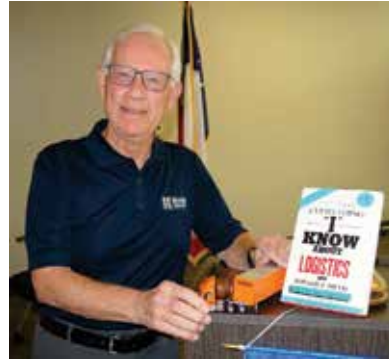
Ron warned us that UPS rates are rising. “*Black Friday should have been in August.*”

Janis Allman asked if more trailer chassis can be made. “*It takes a chip to build them.*”

Johnny Lewis defended unified regulations saying unregulated drivers threaten safety.

Ron took a moment to tout his book, which he said he couldn’t donate to the library for lack of paper supplies!

Joe led us in the Five-Way Test and released us onto a stunned world at 1:07 fueled by pizza and crisis stories.



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**Guests**

**Visiting Rotarians**

Guest	Guest of
Pat Storck	Dr Parr

Visiting Rotarian	Home Club
None	

