



FALL
Weekly

Reader

IMAGINE
ROTARY

Volume 22, Issue 35, October 6, 2022

The Plano Rotary Club
www.PlanoRotary.com

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Oct 6th

Nancy Humphrey

PISD Bond Updates

Oct 13th

Graciela Katzer

Executive Director – Plano International Festival

Oct 20

Jeff McKee

Did I Mean to Say That?

Oct 27

Duncan Webb

State of Affairs in Collin County

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

John Caldwell	Oct 06
Justin Roche	Oct 07
Rick Horne	Oct 08
Janis Allman	Oct 18
J. Marc Lewis	Oct 27
Casey Stewart	Oct 31

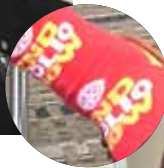


September 29, 2022 meeting At president **Janelle's** request, **Johnny Lewis** gave the invocation and asked that the students be given wisdom and thinking skills. **Jeff McKee** led the pledge. Sgt at Arms, **Mike McCormack** welcomed Past District Governor



John Moser, who reminded us that one of Rotary's missions is to eliminate polio.

Please note his socks.



Eleanore Knox saw her photo in the New Member Proposal



Joe Camarena bragged about the

3-1 Iowa Hawkeyes and **Peggy Fenwick** bragged about Arkansas beating Texas A&M.



Seven members were at the Plano Balloon Festival to help organize 100,000 visitors.

Remember Saturday, October 15, is the Plano International Festival. Friday, October 21 is the Plano Rotary Football Tailgate for All clubs. Go to Clark Stadium at 5pm to find a spot; the game begins at 7pm.

Our topic was the 2022 Rotary Camp RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) with 70+ counselors and 185 students; four students shared their experiences. None of the students had a cell phone!

All four had the same initial experience. The ride to the camp was very quiet because the students didn't know each other. Then they arrived at the camp to be greeted by happy bedlam! The counselors, and campers that had already arrived, loudly

greeted each new arrival as they got out of the vans and ran to their cabin. Every day there were contests among the cabins to teach them to work as teams. The cabins won or lost points depending on their relative performance. There were even points for dirtiest cabin (negative) and cleanest cabin (positive). Each cabin had to write and perform a short play at the end of the week. Also, all students learned to step outside their comfort zone. All students

praised their counselors. Each student had different experiences to share.



Ritwik Ganguly:

Ritwik learned to always be positive and to re-evaluate his life goals. Before Camp RYLA, he was planning a career in Finance. He realized he actually wanted to be a pilot. He is pursuing a private pilot's license and wants to be a

Naval Aviator. (Could 'Top Gun - Maverick' have also played a part?) Ritwik's cabin took the play seriously. They wrote the play before the last day and practiced. He forgot one of his lines, paused for dramatic effect, and then remembered. Their cabin won 1st prize! He is no longer afraid of public speaking and wants to be an assistant counselor next year.



Braeden Bradley:

Braeden attended the informational meeting before she applied. She was very skeptical and couldn't believe any camping experience could be that amazing. She was wrong. The first night, the cabin mates learned to talk

to strangers; then they became friends. One of the first team exercises was the 'log game'. The campers had to change positions on a horizontal log without touching each other. They figured out a shortcut.

Her cabin won 'dirtiest girl's cabin' the first day. Their counselor helped them get mad in a good way. They won 'cleanest cabin' the last two days. Braeden's play was not as complete as Ritwik's. The cabin wrote it in 15 minutes; it was about 1 minute long. In spite of the play, her cabin won 1st girl's prize at the end of the session. She now has 2 new, very close friends.



Jordan Zeller:

Jordan was also very skeptical and didn't believe that RYLA was a 'life changing opportunity'. When he arrived at his cabin, there was dead silence. Because of all the 1st day activities, they were friends by dinner. The 2nd

day was more fun because they got to meet their partnered girl's cabin. They were awarded 'dirtiest boy's cabin'. Even though they started working on their skit 5 minutes before it was due and many performers forgot their lines, they came in 2nd!

Jordan learned new leadership skills that he is already using. He regularly meets with his cabin mates at the Galleria Mall. RYLA was 'one of the most fun times' in his life.



Aaron Yoo:

Aaron went to the informational meeting and also couldn't understand how a few days could be so life changing. His cabin had mixed results with the Olympics and learned how to think like a cabin inspector to get high marks

for cleanliness. He learned that being a leader is not about controlling other people; it's about getting a group to work together. When they bond, work becomes fun.

A fifth student, Kim Rabinowitz, attended RYLA but was unable speak. She was busy preparing the Planoettes Friday half time show.



Summary of key ideas:

- ✓ True success is not reaching the destination, it's the journey.
- ✓ A committee of counselors plans the next year's activities, based on what worked and what didn't work.
- ✓ Better learners make better leaders.
- ✓ RYLA enhances your instincts.
- ✓ Servant leaders don't have to be loud, just skilled.

Here is a thank you note from an earlier camper:

"This year I was blessed to go to Camp RYLA. Rotary not only paid for me to learn, but also to make best friends for life. I learned that leadership is not about yelling, it's about working as a team, listening to others, and being positive. You not only selected leaders, but also people who were losing hope or had horrible things done to them. You taught us a new way of life. I will carry what I learned for the rest of my life, and I will teach it to my children."



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Guests

Visiting Rotarians

Guest	Guest of
Eleanore Knox	Johnny Lewis

Visiting Rotarian	Home Club
none	

