

ROTARY CLUB OF ABILENE

The Rotator

Service Above Self

THIS WEEK: July 13, 2018 - Staci Danford - Gratitude



Staci Danford is an Educational Neuroscientist and the owner and operator of Creative Gratitude- a consulting company using the neuroscience of gratitude to help individuals and companies increase their overall wellbeing.

She has been an educator for over 20 years and was voted as one of Fort Worth Magazine's Top 10 Teachers of 2016. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Education from Hardin Simmons

University, and her Master's Degree in Mind, Brain and Education from The University of Texas at Arlington where she was a part of a program offered at only three universities in the Nation. During her graduate studies, Staci focused specifically on the neuroscience behind gratitude and the chemical and electrical changes it causes in the human brain. She presented her scientific Capstone Research Study over gratitude's effect on wellbeing in May of 2018.

Staci and her husband Larry live in Azle, Texas. She is the mother of three incredible children: Brent- 29, Brooklyn- 25, and Brady-10.

Staci is a member of the International Mind, Brain and Education Society, and The Greater Good Science Center. She is very active in artistic philanthropy work throughout the city of Fort Worth and has created art programs at recreational centers, and churches. Staci and her students partnered with the Graffiti Abatement Program of Fort Worth to create the largest non-professional mural in the DFW Metroplex. She has a longstanding relationship with The Texas Oncology Center of Fort Worth creating artwork for their treatment centers. After more than 20 years in the field of education Staci's greatest desire remains... to nurture the greatness that lives inside each of us so that... together we can change the world.

LAST MEETING: June 29, 2018 - Changeover

ROTARIAN OF THE WEEK



KATE ALVAREZ

Our incoming president, Kate Alvarez, says, "I was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (it's all my parents fault. I only lived there for the first fourteen months of my life!)." Then her father opened The Madison Hotel in Morristown, New Jersey.

From age five until twelve the family lived in Connecticut, the towns of North Branford, New Britain and Canton. Then her folks headed back to their homeland, TEXAS, two years in Dallas, two in Austin. At age fourteen " we headed north and left the great state once again, for Santa Fe, New Mexico where I graduated high school from Desert Academy."

Outgoing president Paul Thomas receives the president's plaque for his outstanding service during his 2017-2018 Rotary year presidency. Presenting the plaque is incoming president Kate Alvarez.



We welcomed new and returning officers and board members during our last meeting. They are: new president, Kate Alvarez; president-elect, Shaun Martin; secretary, Mary Beth Kilgore; treasurer, Peter Agnell; sergeant-at-arms, Marty Pothier; and assistant sergeant-at-arms, Charlie Kitchell. New directors are Kevin Bradford, Chris Meeks and Becky Spargo. Returning to the board for their second year are Donna Albus, Keith Carroll (who is replaced Shaun Martin), and Myra Dean. Paul Thomas will remain on the board as the immediate past president. Departing board members are Dave Boyll, Jim McNiece and Shaun Martin (who has stepped off the board into the position of president-elect), and past president Richard Rolison.



One of the highlights of the meeting was the announcement of the 2018 Rotarian of the Year...Raymond Blasingame, right. Paul Thomas made the presentation as his last official act as president.

A Rotarian since 1979, Raymond's accomplishments throughout the years are too numerous to mention. For example, he served as our president 1999-2000, is a

Paul Harris Fellow +, has served as chairman of many of our club's activities, and for many years rang the Salvation Army bells at Christmas. A meeting seldom goes by where you can't find him at the registration table, saying the invocation, taking photos, and/or introducing guests. He always is willing to jump in to lend a hand to help our meetings run smoothly.

Way to go, Raymond!

NEXT WEEK: July 20, 2018 - Rafael Henao - AbiMar

Rafael is the Director of Business Development for AbiMar Foods Inc, a Cookies & Crackers manufacturing company in Abilene, TX, formerly known as Fehr Foods.

A Production Engineer, born and raised in Colombia, South America, Rafael has held different executive positions in R&D,

She received her BFA from Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri.

Kate met her husband, Randy Alvarez here in Abilene in 2002; he owned a bicycle shop, The Bicycle Source. He now is an owner of Genesis Combat Sports Promotions. They were married in January 2006 and welcomed Ella McLemore Alvarez (aka Ella Mac) in May 2007. Ella is a fifth grader at Jackson Elementary School.

Kate arrived in Abilene, "bright-eye and bushy-tailed" in 2001 to work for none other than Betty Hukill at Young Audiences as an Artist in Residence. There she had the honor of teaching after-school elementary and middle-school theatre workshops. Betty introduced her to Barry Smoot who allowed her to also work at the Paramount Theatre as a stage-hand for almost five years. While balancing these two jobs she took on bartending and banquet serving at the Embassy Suites. She hung on to the hotel through two name changes and countless job titles. In 2009, Kate went to work at the Abilene Woman's Club as their Club Manager. In 2013, she landed "(wink wink, nudge nudge)" at Abilene Regional Airport as the Marketing and Development Manager.

Kate sings in a big band Fanfare! "We were once the Dora Nell Finch Orchestra, but morphed due to retirements into Fanfare! where she is the official girl singer. She has been playing with the group for thirteen years.

Kate lived full-time in three different hotels. Thanks to that and her theatre background she's learned all the worlds a stage and we're just merely players. Service to others is in her DNA, so getting involved in Rotary was just another way to serve. as are serving on the Board of Habitat for Humanity and Hispanic Business Council.

"Since I had food and beverage service within my trunk of tricks, I

Marketing and International Business within the parent Company, Grupo Nutresa. One of the things he enjoys the most is not just being able to bring to market new concept-ideas and products but doing so with his work team throughout every stage of the development process. From evaluating new ingredients, to operating processes, to packaging and brand building. Besides this very satisfying accomplishment, he gets to travel abroad, meet international buyers and test new ideas in various export markets. For him, it is always a wonderful experience to visit different places and cultures and bring back some of those "Smiles".



UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 13, 2018 - Staci Danford, Gratitude
- July 13, 2018 - **Board Meeting**
- July 20, 2018 - Rafael Henao - AbiMar - Marketing
- July 27, 2018 - 100 Men Who Care
- Aug 3, 2018 - RYLA students - tentative
- Aug 10, 2018 - Ronica Coldiron, LMB Real Estate
- Aug 17, 2018 - Mark Conrad, Boy Scouts of America

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[GOLF, ANYONE?](#)

Golfers and non-golfers alike, here's an opportunity to volunteer an hour or as often as you like, wear something Rotary (blue volunteer t-shirt, perhaps), and get a make-up for your time. Another good opportunity to show the folks of Abilene how Rotary is helping out around the city.

The AJGA Folds of Honor Junior Championship hosted by Bob Estes begins at Diamondback Golf Club on Sunday, July 15 and Abilene Country Club from Monday, July 16 to Thursday, July 19. The tournament will feature 132 of the nation's best junior golfers. They are looking for volunteers to help in the following roles:
* Timing Stations, * Water Rover, and * Scorecard runner.

By using this link <https://www.volunteersignup.org/LHHBJ?classic> please select the dates, times, and volunteer roles that work best for you (Note: timing stations are the highest priority). Feel free to volunteer on multiple days and times. All volunteers will receive an AJGA hat, pin, and lunch.

[DUES](#)

Statements for July - December 2018 have been mailed. If you have any questions, please contact our treasurer, Peter Agnell. The statement includes a breakout of the \$130 dues

[NEW MEMBER LUNCH POLICY](#)

The Rotarian bringing a prospective new member to a meeting is responsible for paying for his/her lunch. The only free lunch from the club for the new member is on the day he/she is introduced as a new member.

[CLUB ATTENDANCE](#)

figured TOA was the best place for me to begin." She joined Rotary in July 2014 and began working on TOA 2015. She now serves as the co-chair for TOA and was the Club Service Director "which I thoroughly enjoyed."

Kate says, "I am honored and excited to serve as 2018-2019 President of the Rotary Club of Abilene."

MAKE-UPS

4TH OF JULY FLAG DETAIL

Shaun Martin - 2

eCLUB ONE

Shaun Martin = 2

SOUTHWEST ROTARY

Peter Fox
Richard Rolison

Send make-ups to

marybeth.kilgore@gmail.com

To complete a make-up online, contact one of the organizations below:

<http://www.oneworldrotary.org/>
<http://rotaryeclubone.org/>

CLUB SERVICE **June 29, 2018**

Registration:

Debbie Moot

Invocation:

Jim McNiece

Singing/Pledge:

Barbara Rollins

Introductions:

Dealing for Dollars:

Barbara Rollins

POLIO PLUS CONTRIBUTORS

for the 2018-2019 Rotary Year
All members are asked to contribute \$25 towards the 2018-2019 End Polio Now campaign. Those contributing thus far are listed below. Members

June 29, 2018 meeting
34 members out of 69 for an attendance rate of 49%.

DEALING FOR DOLLARS
Friday our pot will start out at \$239.00.

who have donated since last week are in bold.

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Kate Alvarez
President-Elect	Shaun Martin
Secretary	Mary Beth Kilgore
Treasurer	Peter Agnell
Directors	Donna Albus Kevin Bradford Myra Dean Keith Carroll Chris Meeks Becky Spargo
Sergeant at Arms	Marty Pothier Asst: Charlie Kitchell
Immediate Past President	Paul Thomas

EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR (EREY)

Congratulations to the following who have contributed to the 2018-2019 EREY program.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

This section highlights our Rotary members who are active in the community.

Please let Mary Beth or Barbara know when you are involved in activities outside Rotary, vacationing in exotic places, change jobs, etc.
