

# ROTARY CLUB OF ABILENE

## The Rotator

Service Above Self

THIS WEEK: Sept. 29, 2017 - Joey Light - Wylie ISD Superintendent



Joey Light has been the superintendent of schools for Wylie ISD since 2008. His entire career has been in education. He has been a teacher, coach, and administrator.

Light has had the opportunity to lead Wylie ISD during an exciting time of growth and success in academics, athletics, the arts, and agriculture.

He grew up in Abilene and graduated from Wylie High School in 1978 and McMurry University. After graduation from McMurry, Joey and his wife, Karen, were

married in 1982 and they now have six children and three grandchildren.

Light taught and coached at Midland Greenwood, Brackettville, Hamilton, and Hawley. He received his master's degree from ACU while he was at Hawley. During his last two years at Hawley, Light became the 7-12 principal. Also, while at Hawley, Light and his wife were house parents at Hendrick Home for Children.

In 1992, Light became the principal at Wylie Middle School and in 2000, he became the assistant superintendent of curriculum, instruction, and technology.

Light has been very active in the Abilene community having served on numerous boards including United Way, 211, Pastoral Care and Counseling, Texas Association of School Administrators, Big Country School Administrators and Sacred Heart Catholic Church Parish Council.

LAST MEETING: Sept. 22, 2017 - My Journey to Texas - Ali Esfandiary - Beehive Owner

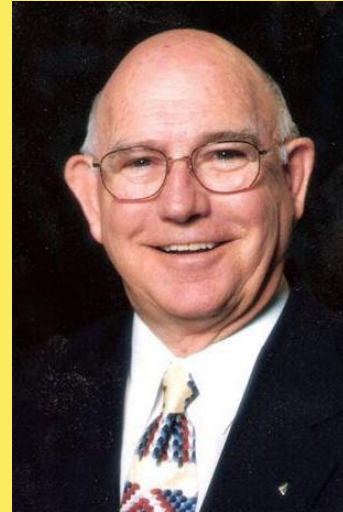
Too bad if you missed last week's presentation by Ali Esfandiary. What an interesting and entertaining presentation.

Ali and Nariman, co-owners of the Beehive Restaurant, are better known in the Big Country as "The Beehive" brothers, who have had quite a journey from immigrants to restaurateurs. Their story truly emulates the American dream.

Raised in Rasht, Iran, Ali and Nariman are two of four children born to Jamshid and Rosa Esfandiary. Rosa was a Polish prisoner of war who was sent from a POW camp in Siberia to Iran after World War II. Ali and Nariman's father, Jamshid, was a lieutenant in the Iranian Cavalry. Rosa and Jamshid collided when Jamshid was put in charge of the Polish refugees.

Over the years, Jamshid became a wealthy military man and had close family ties to Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. Jamshid knew things were not going in the Shah's favor. Becoming increasingly

## ROTARIAN OF THE WEEK



### JERRY STRADER

Robert Jerry Strader, D.D.S., M.S.D., F.A.C.D., was born in Fort Worth. He attended TCU graduating in 1955 with a Business Administration degree. In 1959 he received a Master's Degree in Dentistry from Baylor University Dental School in Dallas, followed by a Masters from Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine University School of Law in 2003. With his wife Patsy he has four children, seven

wary of the political unrest in Iran, Jamshid began looking for opportunities to escape. In 1968, when Ali was just 17, his father sent him to America with only \$600 in his pocket.

Ali stayed with family friends in San Jose, California and began attending college. At night he worked illegally in restaurants or hotels; in the US you are not permitted to work on a student visa. It wasn't long until immigration caught on. With the threat of being deported, Ali fled to Kansas City, Missouri. Again he attended school and worked as inconspicuously as possible. Meanwhile, back in Iran, Jamshid continued to move his family out of the country. Nariman was next. Then Ali's other brother, his sister, mother and finally his father. Jamshid fled Iran within a year of the Shah falling. The family settled in Kansas City and built a new life in America.



grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

Jerry had over forty years Army service, beginning as a tank driver in the 49th Armored Division of the Texas National Guard. In 1951 he entered the Regular Army as an enlisted man, going on to Officer Candidate School where he graduated in 1952 as a second lieutenant. He left the Army to complete his education in 1953, re-entering in 1961 as a Dental Officer at Fort Sam Houston. He received residency training in oral and maxillofacial surgery at Brooke General Hospital there. He was assigned as Chief, Dental Service in the 121 Evacuation Hospital in Korea, followed by assignment as Chief of the Dental Service and oral Surgeon at Irwin Army Hospital, Fort Riley, Kansas.

Returning to civilian life in 1970 he was in private practice of oral and maxillofacial surgery in Abilene, continuing military service in the Army Reserve. He has served in all the Individual Mobilization Augmentee positions within the Health Services Command. His last assignment was Deputy Assistant Surgeon General for Dental Services, Office of the Surgeon General. He was the only general officer in the Army Dental Reserve, retiring as brigadier general in 1991.

He is a member of the Boy Scouts of America, a Cub Scout to the rank of Lion, a Boy Scout to the rank of Eagle, and an Explorer Scout to the rank of Ranger. He helped start Boy Scout Troup #1 in Kiev, Ukraine and Boy Scout Troop #232 at Highland Church of Christ in Abilene. He attended World Jamborees in France in 1947 and in Holland in 1995. He was honored with the Distinguished Eagle Award in 1994 and the Silver Beaver in 2000. He was twice president of the Chisholm Trail council.

Most notable among Jerry's business enterprises was the

## NEXT WEEK: October 6, 2017 - Dr. Johnny Bliznak - Birds



Dr. John H Bliznak is a Diagnostic Radiology specialist. He is working as a Doctor of Diagnostic Radiology in Abilene with Radiology Associates.

Dr. John obtained its degree in Diagnostic Radiology from Tulane University School Of Medicine in the year 2003 with outstanding grades. He is currently practicing at [1900 Pine St](#) in Abilene. Doctor has been awarded more than once for outstanding work in Diagnostic Radiology field

He is an affiliated MD in Hendrick Medical Center and many other

hospitals. He accepts patients and appointments in the office under Radiology Associates Health organization.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept. 29, 2017 - Joey Light - Wylie ISD Superintendent
- Oct. 6, 2017 - Dr. Johnny Bliznak - Birds
- Oct. 7, 2017 - Disc golf work day - 9AM til noon
- Oct. 13, 2017 - Dokpe Ogunsanya - Motivational Speaker
- Oct. 19, 2017 - ASSLC Fall Festival
- Oct. 20, 2017 - Hannah Wiginton - New Horizons
- Oct. 21, 2017 - The Mayors Cup disc golf tournament. Will Hair Park on Ambler.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Enjoying lunch last Friday were from the left, Gayla Fullerton, Isra Logos, exchange student from Chile, Stacey Scaief from the Southwest club, and Klara Kozikova, exchange student from the Czech Republic.



## EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Members were given the opportunity last week to meet our two exchange students: (Isra) Israel Logos, Rotary Youth exchange student from San Bernado, Chile, and Klara Kozlikova from Pisel, Czech Republic. They each gave a one-minute talk on their impressions of Texas thus far. Friday was also

Klara's birthday which she got to celebrate with a birthday cake.

## FOUNDATION FESTIVAL

Rotary Districts 5790 & 5810 proudly present a FOUNDATION FESTIVAL on Nov. 18, 2017, at The Grand Hyatt DFW Hotel - Terminal "D" of DFW Airport.

Terminal "D" of DFW Airport.

Check-in begins at 5:30 PM. General Theater Seating Registration - \$80 per person. Premium Theater Seating - \$100 per person.

All ticket prices increase by \$10 after October 31, 2017.

Registration fees include: Gourmet Food Stations, Entertainment, Silent Auction, Open Bar (Beer & Wine) and Cash Bar (Mixed Drinks).



## EXTRA GROCERIES?

Are your kitchen cabinets stuffed? Why not bring your extra groceries to Rotary on Friday and donate to the First Methodist Food Pantry.

## PROGRAMS NEEDED

As we continue along our Rotary year, we are always looking for interesting and informative programs.

If you have an idea for a program in the next six months starting in July 2017, contact Myra Dean, 2017-2018 program chair.

As anyone who has served as a program chair knows, this is a time consuming job. We need everyone's help to continue having interesting and entertaining programs.

We (Barbara and Mary Beth) **need a bio and picture of your speaker no later than two weeks prior** to their presentation in order to get it in the *Rotator*. Also needed are their topic and a couple of sentences about their presentation..

Also, please check with them to see if they need a projector and/or screen. They will need to bring their own computer.

## 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

Sept. 22, 2017 meeting

42 members out of 73 for an attendance percentage of 58%.

## DEALING FOR DOLLARS

Friday our pot will start out at around \$291.00

establishment of the company Banyan International. He was the primary developer of Banyan's medical and dental emergency kit. Most airlines today carry Banyan emergency kits. Currently, Jerry is self-employed as a Mediator/Arbitrator. He is a member of FINRA (Financial Industry Regulatory Authority). He has mediated disputes involving neighborhoods, churches, and divorce/marriage.

Military honors include the Surgeon General's "A" designator (the Army's highest recognition of professional achievement in the Army Medical Department), Distinguished Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf, Army Commendation Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea) and more.

Civilian recognition includes a Diplomat of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, a Fellow of the American Reserve Officers (NATO), knighted a member of the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem and twice National Dental Dental Surgeon of the Reserve Officers Association.

## MAKE-UPS

### SOUTHWEST ROTARY

Peter Fox  
Marty Pothier  
Richard Rolison  
Becky Spargo

Send make-ups to [marybeth.kilgore@gmail.com](mailto:marybeth.kilgore@gmail.com)  
**To complete a make-up online, contact one of the organizations below:**

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

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**CLUB SERVICE**

## CLUB OFFICERS

President	Paul Thomas
President-Elect	Kate Alvarez
Secretary	Mary Beth Kilgore
Treasurer	Peter Agnell
Directors	Donna Albus Dave Boyll Myra Dean Carissa Gast Shaun Martin Jim McNiece
Sergeant at Arms	Marty Pothier Asst: Charlie Kitchell
Immediate Past President	Richard Rolison

## 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.

\*\*\*Congratulations to **MARTY POTHIER**. He took 1st place at a recent WTPS competition in the black and white open category with his photo of the Grand Canyon.

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Sept. 22, 2017

Registration:

Kate Alvarez

Invocation:

Chris Meeks

Singing/Pledge:

Morris Baker

Introductions:

Renee Gaskin

Dealing for Dollars:

Gayla Fullerton

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### **EVERY ROTARIAN EVERY YEAR (EREY)**

Congratulations to the following who have contributed to the 2017-2018 EREY program.

Ed Brokaw

Kent Brown

Kayla Christianson

Don Drennan

Paul Lenker

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### **POLIO PLUS CONTRIBUTORS for the 2017-2018 Rotary Year**

All members are asked to contribute \$30.00 towards the 2017-2018 End Polio Now campaign. Those contributing thus far are listed below. Members who have donated since last week are in **bold**.

Peter Agnell

Donna Albus

Morris Baker

David Boyll

Ed Brokaw

Kent Brown

Myra Dean

Frank Dlugas

Don Drennan

Peter Fox

Renee Gaskin

Craig Haterius

Betty Hukill

Mary Beth Kilgore

**PATTY KNIGHT**

Sidney Levesque

Bob McMillan

**PEGGY MANNING**

Mike Sadler

Mike Schweikhard

Barbara Rollins

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