



**SPECIAL  
GEORGE WASHINGTON'S  
BIRTHDAY EDITION**

**Feb 22, 2023**  
Chicago's Pizza, Wednesdays

**PRESIDENT – ROYCE CARTER**  
**PAST PRESIDENT – BRIAN CULP**  
**PRESIDENT ELECT – DANIEL KINNAMON**  
**VICE PRESIDENT – RYAN RASH**  
**SECRETARY – JOHN BAER**  
**TREASURER – JOE BENNETT**  
**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS – JAN BAER**  
**BOARD MEMBERS:**  
**DIANE BURKS BRAD DUBOIS MAX HANK**

# ROTARY CLUB OF PLAINFIELD

[www.plainfieldrotary.org](http://www.plainfieldrotary.org)

## Program Update - Feb 15, 2023

### Tyler Bless

#### Head Football Coach - Plainfield High School



Last week, Plainfield Rotarian and local school Superintendent Scott Olinger invited Plainfield High School's new head football coach to visit our club. Tyler Bless joined the high school football coaching staff this past season as Associate Head Coach and as head coach in waiting, taking over for long-time coach Brian Woodard for the 2023-2024 school year. Tyler also is the new director of the Plainfield Opportunity Academy.

Tyler comes from a long line of football coaches. His grandfather, Bill Bless, was the head football coach at the University of Indianapolis for many years. Tyler's father Mark Bless is the current head coach at Avon High School. His Uncle Tim is the head coach at Columbus North HS, while his Uncle Scott is the head coach at Bloomington North HS. Prior to his move to Plainfield, Tyler served for two years as the offensive coordinator at Columbus North, working for his Uncle Tim. He is a graduate of Franklin College, where he played quarterback and wide receiver. His first coaching jobs were actually at the small college level, starting at Defiance College in Ohio, followed by stints at UIndy, Butler, and Lindsey Wilson College in Kentucky. Tyler then made the move to the high school ranks, and now looks forward to being the head man on the sidelines.

Coach Bless shared that he currently has 90 kids on the football roster. Plainfield High School won its first football sectional in 20 years last season, so he has joined a program with a recent record of success. He looks forward to sustaining that success by emphasizing his 3 Pillars philosophy with his players and staff - Trust, Love, Commitment. Tyler's standards of behavior are "Do Right, Do Your Best, & Show people you Care" with humility, effort, and execution.

We wish Coach Bless well in his upcoming first season as Head Coach!

## Charlie's \$2 Worth

BY GEORGE WASHINGTON...

*"No People can be bound to acknowledge and adore the invisible hand, which conducts the Affairs of men more than the People of the United States. Every step, by which they have advanced to the character of an independent nation, seems to have been distinguished by some token of providential agency." - First Inaugural Address | Thursday, April 30, 1789*

*"Arbitrary power is most easily established on the ruins of liberty abused to licentiousness." - Circular to the States | Sunday, June 08, 1783*

*"At length my Dear Marquis I am become a private citizen on the banks of the Potomac, & under the shadow of my own Vine & my own Fig tree, free from the bustle of a camp & the busy scenes of public life, I am solacing myself with those tranquil enjoyments..."*

*- Letter to the Marquis de Lafayette | Sunday, February 01, 1784*

*"[T]he consideration that human happiness and moral duty are inseparably connected, will always continue to prompt me to promote the progress of the former, by inculcating the practice of the latter."*

*- Letter to the Protestant Episcopal Church | Wednesday, August 19, 1789*

*"By the all-powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected beyond all human probability and expectation; for I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, yet escaped unhurt, altho' death was levelling my companions on every side."*

*- Letter to his brother, John A. Washington | Friday, July 18, 1755*

*"Citizens by birth or choice, of a common country, that country has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of AMERICAN, which belongs to you, in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of Patriotism, more than any appellation derived from local discriminations."*

*- Farewell Address to the People | Monday, September 19, 1796*

## Upcoming Speakers/Events

- Feb 22 - Selina Lewis - Patrick Keller, the Prewitt
- Mar 1 - Ryan Rash
- Mar 8 - Board Meeting & Club Assembly
- Mar 15 - Brian Culp - Melissa Plunkett, League of Miracles (at Imagination Lab)
- Mar 22 - John Baer
- Mar 29 - Diane Burks
- Apr 5 - Joe Bennett
- Apr 12 - Board Meeting & Club Assembly
- Apr 19 - Sherry Sighting
- Apr 26 - Brad DuBois
- May 3 - Susan Ament (at Imagination Lab)

## Club Meeting Attendance

Plainfield (3417)

Monthly Attendance Detail

January 01, 2023 through January 31, 2023

Member Name	Jan 4 2023	Jan 11 2023	Jan 18 2023	%
Ament, Susan Beth	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Baer, Janet S	Yes	Yes	M	100
Baer, John M	Yes	Yes	M	100
Balzano, Candace				0
Bennett, Joseph D	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Booher, Tom				0
Burks, Diane Arnold	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Carter, Royce	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Culp, Brian N	Yes	M	Yes	100
DuBois, Brad	M	Yes		66.7
Emerson, Donnie	Yes			33.3
Hank, Max C	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Kinnamon, Daniel L	M	Yes		66.7
Klinger, Andrew				0
Lewis, Selina J	Yes			33.3
Olinger, Scott				0
Poray, Reann	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Rash, Ryan Allen	Yes			33.3
Sichting, Sherry D		Yes	Yes	66.7
Turner, Dean F Jr.	Yes	Yes	Yes	100

LEGEND: Y or Yes=Attended, X=Excused Absence, M=Make-Up



## UPCOMING SPEAKER ASSIGNMENTS

Please carefully examine the schedule below and let Max Hank know who you have obtained as a speaker for your date.

Jan 4 Donnie Emerson	Jun 21 Andrew Klinger
Jan 18 Max Hank	Jun 28 Selina Lewis
Jan 25 Daniel Kinnamon	Jul 5 Donnie Emerson
Feb 1 Andrew Klinger	Jul 19 Royce Carter
Feb 15 Selina Lewis	Jul 26 Scott Olinger
Feb 22 Scott Olinger	Aug 2 Ryan Rash
Mar 1 Ryan Rash	Aug 16 Sherry Sichting
Mar 15 Brian Culp	Aug 23 Diane Burks
Mar 22 John Baer	Aug 30 Brian Culp
Mar 29 Diane Burks	Sep 6 Brad DuBois
Apr 5 Joe Bennett	Sep 20 Reann Poray
Apr 19 Sherry Sichting	Sep 27 Rocky Turner
Apr 26 Brad DuBois	Oct 4 Susan Ament
May 3 Susan Ament	Oct 18 Candace Balzano
May 17 Rocky Turner	Oct 25 Max Hank
May 24 Reann Poray	Nov 1 John Baer
May 31 Candace Balzano	Nov 15 Joe Bennett
Jun 7 Jan Baer	Nov 29 Jan Baer

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY! FEBRUARY

**Pat Cooney - Feb 1**  
**Joe Bennett - Feb 25**

### Little Free Library Maintenance Schedule

Feb 22-28 - Reann Poray  
Mar 1 - 7 - Joe Bennett  
Mar 8-14 - Royce Carter  
Mar 15-21 - John & Jan Baer  
Mar 22-28 - Max Hank  
Mar 29-Apr 4 - Donnie Emerson  
Apr 5-11 - Max Hank  
Apr 12-18 - Joe Bennett  
Apr 19-25 - John & Jan Baer

Please check supply, refill as needed.  
Report any damage to Joe Bennett.  
Books are available at the Library.

SPEED BUMP



### Committees and Chairs

**Bulletin:** Max Hank

**Finance:** Joe Bennett

**Foundation:** John Baer

**Fundraising :** Selina Lewis

**Golf Outing:** John Baer, Brad Dubois

**Crew Car Wash:** Sherry Sichting

**Membership:** Daniel Kinnamon

**Orientation:** John Baer & Diane Burks

**Programs:** Daniel Kinnamon

**PR & Website:** John Baer

**Quaker Day Parade & Picnic:** TBD

**Service Committees:** Royce Carter

**Literacy/LFL:** Joe Bennett

**Teacher of the Year:** Max Hank

**Youth:** Diane Burks

**Interact and RYLA:** Diane Burks

**Scholarships:** Max Hank

**Straight-A Salute:** Sherry Sichting

**The Imagination & Idea Labs:** Diane Burks

## 4-Way Test

OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY AND DO

1. IS IT THE TRUTH?
2. IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?
3. WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?
- (5. IS IT FUN?)

# **George Washington**

## **February 22, 1732 - December 14, 1799**



George Washington - Farmer, Surveyor, Soldier, Father of our Country - we celebrate his birthday, his life, and his meaning to our country this week. But if we could go back in time and ask him as a boy “when were you born?” he would say February 11, 1731. At the time of his birth, England was still observing the old Julian calendar. In 1752, England and its colonies adopted the more common Gregorian calendar, moving George’s, and all British subjects, birthdates; hence we recognize his birth as having occurred on the date most of us memorized as school children—February 22, 1732.

What an incredible man he was. Twice in his life he voluntarily gave up power. After the United States had finally defeated the British at Yorktown in October, 1781 under Washington’s leadership, and ultimately concluded a peace treaty with them in 1783, General Washington resigned his commission, believing his duty to his country was finally finished. Many people on both sides of the Atlantic thought that he would retain the reigns of power to become the leader, or even king, of the now independent nation, as would likely have taken place most anywhere else in the world. In fact, when King George III of England was told that Washington was going to resign, the king said “If he does that, he will be the greatest man in the world.”

George Washington’s short speech to Congress at Annapolis, MD on December 23, 1783 resigning his commission, is considered one of the most important documents in American history. It is also an excellent example of the beautiful prose common of our founding generation, even from a man such as Washington who had no college training. This beautiful and touching document is below:

*“Mr. President: The great events on which my resignation depended having at length taken place; I have now the honor of offering my sincere Congratulations to Congress and of presenting myself before them to surrender into their hands the trust committed to me, and to claim the indulgence of retiring from the Service of my Country.*

*Happy in the confirmation of our Independence and Sovereignty, and pleased with the opportunity afforded the United States of becoming a respectable Nation, I resign with satisfaction the Appointment I accepted with diffidence. A diffidence in my abilities to accomplish so arduous a task, which however was superseded by a confidence in the rectitude of our Cause, the support of the supreme Power of the Union, and the patronage of Heaven.*

*The Successful termination of the War has verified the most sanguine expectations, and my gratitude for the interposition of Providence, and the assistance I have received from my Countrymen, increases with every review of the momentous Contest.*

*While I repeat my obligations to the Army in general, I should do injustice to my own feelings not to acknowledge in this place the peculiar Services and distinguished merits of the Gentlemen who have been attached to my person during the War. It was impossible the choice of confidential Officers to compose my family should have been more fortunate. Permit me Sir, to recommend in particular those, who have continued in Service to the present moment, as worthy of the favorable notice and patronage of Congress.*

*I consider it an indispensable duty to close this last solemn act of my Official life, by commending the Interests of our dearest Country to the protection of Almighty God, and those who have the superintendence of them, to his holy keeping.*

*Having now finished the work assigned to me, I retire from the great theatre of Action; and bidding an Affectionate farewell to this August body under whose orders I have so long acted, I here offer my Commission, and take my leave of all the employments of public life.”*

But the nation he helped create was not through with George Washington... He would be called back to serve his Country twice more - to preside over the Constitutional Convention in the Summer of 1787, and to become the first President of the United States from April 30, 1789 until March 4, 1797. Our Constitution at that time had no term limit for the Presidency, so Washington could have likely been re-elected until his death, but he once again voluntarily gave up his office. King George III was right - George Washington was the greatest man in the world. His last recorded words before his death on December 14, 1799 were “Tis well...” Perhaps unintentional, but a very modest yet apt description of his life and his service to his new country.