



Temple Founder Lions Club

Broadcaster

TFLC President

Boss Lion Lathe Owens



EVERYBODY CAN BE GREAT
BECAUSE
EVERYBODY CAN SERVE



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Editor, 2nd VP Ariane Secrest

www.templelionsclub.org

July 24, 2019

COMING UP...

Upcoming Programs:

7/31: Rod Henry-Temple Chamber of Commerce
8/07: Coach Fredenburg-UMHB Football Coach
8/14: Coach Stewart-Temple Wildcat Football
8/21: Tanisha Jones-Feed the Children
8/28: Bob Holloway-BCYC
9/04: Leticia Flores-Texas Home Health
9/11: Kris Radcliffe-KCEN News

Club Calendar:

7/26: Texas Lions Camp Cookout-Kerrville 4:00 pm
7/27: District 2-X3 Cabinet Mtg-Waco 8:00 am
7/31: Noon Meeting-OFF SITE!!!-New Temple Workforce Building Downtown
8/07: Noon Meeting-Gober-Caterer Gregory's
8/12: Board of Directors Meeting-Cotton Patch
8/14: Noon Meeting-Gober-Caterer Fat Boys
8/21: Noon Meeting-Gober-Caterer Big Hoss
8/28: Noon Meeting-Gober-Caterer Gregory's

Birthdays:

7/27: Kerri Meier
7/29: Lisa Adams
8/03: Joel Lowry

Upcoming Greeters:

7/31: Off-Site Meeting
8/07: Dennis Arwood & Lauren Ballard
8/14: George White & Mike Hamby
8/21: R. White & Bev S.

For our July 24th meeting, Gary Franke, the Vice President of Ticket Sales for Dell Diamond spoke to the club about the ballpark and the Round Rock Express. Gary is a native of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and earned a Master of Science degree from Western Illinois University. Gary now resides in Hutto with his wife Bobbi. They have two children, Tara and Jared, and five grandchildren. Gary started his career in sports as an athletic director and coach after graduating from college. After seven years, he left and became an assistant baseball coach at Western Illinois University in 1990. He then went to the University of Louisville from 1991-92 where he was an assistant marketing director. Gary came to Round Rock after spending ten years in the Texas Rangers front office.



As this is the 20th season at Dell Diamond, Gary wanted to reminisce with the club and share what he feels are the *Top 12 Highlights for the Round Rock Express and Dell Diamond* from the last 20 years. They are as follows: **#12** - The Express won the Texas League title during their first year in business. **#11** - In the first affiliation with Houston from 2000-2010, the Express went to the playoffs in 2000, 2001, 2004, won the American Southern Division Title in the Triple-A Pacific Coast League (PCL) in 2006, but lost to Tucson in the PCL finals that year. **#10** - During the affiliation with the Rangers from 2011-2018, the Express made the playoffs in 2011 and 2015, losing to Fresno in the PCL finals in 2015. **#9** - In 2005, the Express left the Double-A Texas League to join the Triple-A PCL, which means they are now only one step below the Major League. **#8** - On July 18, 2009, the remaining members of the 1959 Austin Senators celebrated the 50th anniversary of their Texas League Championship at Dell Diamond. They each threw out a ceremonial first pitch, and were awarded 1959 championship rings—rings they had never received and all were paid for by the existing Express players. **#7** - The Dell Diamond has been named one of the best ballparks in baseball several times since it was built in 2000. **#6** - Over the last 20 years, Dell Diamond has seen much more than baseball—from sports heroes, musicians, actors, and most recently, filming Season 4 of the hit TV series *Fear of the Walking Dead*! **#5** - The second perfect game pitched in PCL history took place at Dell Diamond in 2007 with Manny Parra pitching a perfect game for Nashville. The Express fans were on their feet cheering for Parra from the 5th inning to the end of the game, and even gave him a 10-minute standing ovation after the game was over! **#4** - During a rehab stint by Roger Clemmons, a record crowd of 13,475 fans attended the June 16, 2006 Express game at Dell Diamond. **#3** - Now in their first season back with the Astros, there has been more street talk and excitement about the Express than they've seen in years! One of the reasons is the exciting 22-year-old outfielder and designated hitter Yordan Alvarez who terrorized PCL pitchers with a .380 plus batting average including 23 homers and 73 RBIs through 56 games. He recently moved up to the Astros and is definitely leaving his mark there as well! **#2** - The Round Rock Express Hall of Fame was created 5 years ago and includes the following inductees: Jackie Moore, Morgan Ensberg, Roy Oswalt, Keith Ginter, and Brooks Conrad. Reid Ryan will be inducted this year on August 16th. **#1** - The Express have drawn over 12 million fans during their 20-year history! WOW! In closing, Gary emphasized that without the fans, there would be no Dell Diamond and no Round Rock Express. He expressed his gratitude to all those who support the ballpark and the team! **Thank you Gary for such an awesome program!**

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