



LA ROTACIÓN

Rotary Club of Palos Verdes Peninsula · October 17, 2008

If You Missed Us On October 10

HOLT ON GERRYMANDERING AND PROP 11

— by Derald Sidler

While the golfers lined up on the first tee to attack the course on a beautiful Southern California afternoon, greeters **Nancy Crawford** and **Derald Sidler** welcomed all in attendance. **President Bruce Attig** kicked off our meeting with his typical presidential wit. **David Johnsen** provided an inspirational invocation reminding us of a Rotarian's belief in helping others, particularly in these difficult financial times. **Chris Stillians** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and **Dian Ashley** guided us

through *God Bless America*.

Your humble scribe once again discovered the benefits of rotating tables from meeting to meeting. This week, while munching on the almond cookies, I discovered the secret society of women poker players that convenes the fourth Thursday of the month. While my masculinity limits my access to said meetings, their ribald tales of full houses, four aces, and royal flushes certainly proved as fascinating as discussions of the Angels annual collapse. *(continues on the following page)*

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

OCTOBER 17: **Harry Kitter** will present a program about the Rotary Foundation.

OCTOBER 24: The League of Women Voters will present a program about the Propositions.

CLUB CALENDAR

OCTOBER 18: Wine tasting @ **John Polen's**, 5 pm.

NOTE CHANGE OF DATE. RSVP by October 10. See page 3.

DECEMBER 7: Holiday Party.

PICTURED ABOVE: Speaker Gabriella Holt, right, and her sidekick.



PVP PENINSULA · ROTARY CLUB LEADERSHIP 2008-2009

District #5280
**ROTARY CLUB OF
 PALOS VERDES PENINSULA**
 Chartered March 26, 1962

ROTARY NEWS ON THE 'NET

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DISTRICT 5280:
 www.ROTARY5280LA.org

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL:
 www.rotary.org/

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 Dong Kurn Lee

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SUNSHINE COMMITTEE:

Please let one of these Rotarians know if you have news about a fellow member.

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Two staffers responsible for our lovely meal and pleasant ambience every Friday at the Palos Verdes Golf and County Club.

If You Missed Us Last Week, continues

President Bruce brought us back to the business at hand when he invited **Rita Bhatia** to introduce our visitors. **Marcia Haber** introduced her guest, Cheryl Trujillo, who is a professor at Cal State University Dominguez Hills; and **David Rowe** once again introduced former president and member-to-be, Tim Dickens. **Keith Deisenroth**, certainly no **Dian Ashley** when it comes to melodic talent, then led us in a rousing rendition of the *Welcome Song*.

Bruce announced that he was pleased to report that Marlowe Kepner was feeling better and back at home. **Hal Lazar** regretted to report that Cynthia Schrier would be entering the hospital next Monday. Our thoughts and prayers are with Cynthia and **Mel Schrier**.

Nancy Crawford announced that the first evening of the popular Rotary

in the Home is set for October 24. She encouraged everyone to sign up for one of these special evenings occurring through next June.

Next, **Debbie Deitch** announced that the ever-popular wine tasting would be held on October 18, at the home of **John Polen**. She reminded all that admission is one bottle of wine per guest. **Chris Stillians** joined in and announced a "mystery tasting contest" would occur that evening and encouraged all to participate early while the taste buds are still clean.

Sadly, there was no raffle as another event on premise prevented our obtaining the needed supplies.

In **Mel Schrier's** absence, **President Bruce** introduced our guest speaker, mother of four, nurse, accredited teacher, doctor in health law, and former member of the Palos Verdes
(continues on the following page)

PVP ROTARY CLUB NEWS

MEL SCHRIER'S WIFE, Cynthia, did not have surgery on Monday as planned due to the spread of the cancer. Please send cards to their home (32735 Seagate Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275) and all your prayers would be appreciated. If you know Mel well, any support would be helpful. ●

● **CLUB PINS FOR SALE.** Phyllis Pelezzare is now the **PIN LADY**, selling club pins for members to buy. **Phyllis**, also the sergeant-at-arms, has the pins available at each meeting at the sergeant-at-arms table, or members can contact **Phyllis** directly at pelezzare@yahoo.com or 310.377.9907. ●

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Unified School District Board, Gabriella Holt. Ms. Holt is also the Republican candidate for the 54th Assembly District.

Gabriella began her speech by revealing to us that “running for a State office has been quite a journey” and that through the experience she has gained far greater insight into the process of re-districting and Proposition 11. She explained that re-districting is not a juicy tinsel for the press and therefore very few people are aware of the issue and to many it’s the same as gerrymandering. Not true, we learned! Re-districting occurs every 10 years after the census is completed; ideally, it is based on the population, however, in reality it is based on partisanship.

(Incidentally, she explained, in 1812 Governor Alfred Gerry allowed for redrawing an ally’s district in the

shape of a salamander— thus “gerrymandering”). Ms. Holt sadly explained in the last statewide election only 1 of 450 state seats resulted in a shift of parties. She advocated the passage of Proposition 11, which calls for a non-partisan commission to draw the boundaries in the State of California; only then will we eliminate the partisan politics geared to maintaining the status quo.

Ms. Holt then opened the floor to questions and offered her personal opinions on subjects ranging from the State budget crisis, the growth of voters not registered to the two main parties, to Nicole Parra, Assemblywoman in central California.

President Bruce thanked Gabriella on behalf of Palos Verdes Peninsula Rotary for addressing us at lunch and presented her with a memento of the occasion. ●



*“They went left instead of right,” said **Greg Sparkman**, recounting experiences of some who drove in the Concours Road Rallye, an event Greg chaired and for which he continues to receive well-deserved kudos.*



*“Be sure to do the wine tasting when you first arrive at the party next Saturday,” advised **Chris Stillians**, who eagerly anticipates a good evening at **John Polen’s**.*