

# ROTARY CLUB of **Rotary** PALO ALTO...CALIF. **Pinion**

**PRESIDENT:** Le Levy. **PRESIDENT ELECT:** Bill Busse. **PAST PRESIDENT:** Sara Pantin. **DIRECTORS:** Lisa Akselrad, Pam Brandin, Annette Glanckopf, Dick Mansfield, Nick Nichols, Rick Tipton. **TREASURER:** Dick Carlson. **SECRETARIES:** Dick Freeman, Sandra Wallace, Bob McCowan. **MAIL:** P.O. Box 592, Palo Alto, CA 94302. **GENERAL E-MAIL:** parotary@aol.com. **CLUB RECORDS:** Joyce Cusick, parotaryrecords@aol.com. **WEB SITE:** <http://www.rotarypalalto.org/>

## MEETING of 19 AUGUST 2002

**Reporter: Rob Lancefield**

### TODAY AT ROTARY



While our illustrious Pres. and Pres.-elect were goofing off, our faithful **DICK FREEMAN** served as Pres.-for-a-Day. After just returning from a one-year sabbatical to France and Italy, **ELLEN FOURNIER** declared that it was nice to be back, and led us in the flag salute.

### OPENING REMARKS

**LISA AKSELRAD.** LISA told us how she developed a sudden and strong interest in golf when she learned that her new boss was an avid golfer. She was pleased to learn that even golf, with all its many rules, recognizes that some situations will not have an applicable rule. In that case, the situation is to be resolved "in accordance with equity" — the same spirit that is the basis of the Rotary 4-Way Test!

### VISITING ROTARIANS / GUESTS:

**BOB SMITHWICK** took the lead in introducing two visiting Rotarians: **Dr. B. DAMANY**, a past president of his club (Bombay-Sion), India, and



**ALAIN DE TAEVE** from Belgium, both of whom presented Pres. **DICK** with flags from their respective clubs. **SID AKSELRAD**



then introduced three guests, **FERN** and **DEAN LARSON**, and **ANNE BENNETT**, the parents and mother-in-law, respectively, of today's speaker.



### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

August 26 - **DUANE BAY**, mayor of East Palo Alto, will give us an update on happenings in that city.

September 2 - No meeting, in honor of Labor Day!

September 9- Our own **WALT HAYS** will give us an update on World Community Service.

September 16- Our own **MARY FRANCES CALLAN** will provide perspectives on the Palo Alto Unified School District

### ANNOUNCEMENTS



**HAL MICKELSON**, substituting for **BILL BUSSE**, led us through a 6-question pop quiz on the impressive accomplishments and future plans of the Wheelchair Foundation, whose motto is "Mobility...Hope... Freedom." [Seated at the table that did best on the quiz were: **KAREN BROSI**, **BILL BETHKE**, **RICK TIPTON**, **WAYNE**

**THOMAS**, **TONY CARRASCO**, **CYNTHIA CRITTENDEN**, **STEVE SCHAPER**, **NINA MOORE**, **DAVE PRICE** and **HAL**, until he took the podium to become Quiz-Meister! Surely, this is just an innocent coincidence.]

**ANNETTE GLANCKOPF** reminded us that **IRIS KOROL** will host a party on **SEPTEMBER 11**, a Wednesday, for the first in what may become a series of "Come Meet The New Member" parties. This first party will be at **IRIS's** home, 5:30ish, with plenty of wine and cheese.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

NINA MOORE reminded us to save Saturday, OCTOBER 12, for a Rotary tailgate party and the ensuing Washington State/Stanford football game. Tentative starting time: 11:30 a.m. (dining on Armadillo Willy's finest), and a price of \$40 per including a game ticket or something less if you already have a ticket.

WALT HAYS reported that 20 people have signed up for the "Hands On" Project in Guatemala during Jan. 17-23, 2003. In view of the strong interest shown in the project, WALT has extended the sign-up date to Nov. 1st. [Project members as of today are: WALT and KAY HAYS, DICK and PATRICIA CARLSON, PRES. LE LEVY and JUDY HUEY, BOB and JOAN McCOWAN, MIKE and JEAN COUCH, ART and MARGARET STAUFFER, RUTH SCHNEIDER, CAROL JANSEN, ANNETTE GLANCKOPF and TOM ASHTON, MARCIE COX and JIM FAULL, BOB WHITEHAIR, and JOYCE CUSICK.] See WALT for details.

SID AKSELRAD notified us later that Leslie Larson, the speaker on today's program, will be giving a presentation on Wildlife Reserve. The date of this event is Wednesday, October 9th at the Cupertino Public Library, 7:00 PM. She has also written a book about the Panama "Big Dig" (not exact title) which is available at bookstores.

## TODAY'S PROGRAM



SID AKSELRAD took the podium to introduce LESLIE LARSON, whose topic was "The Big Ditch: Panama and its Canal." LESLIE gave an articulate, comprehensive and engaging report on the history of the canal, and its former overwhelming military and economic importance to the United States. This importance is inexorably declining. [Naval warships and container ships are increasingly too large to transit the canal. The US

Navy maintains two fleets in the Atlantic and Pacific. Cargo in containers could be economically trans-shipped across Mexico.] The canal is the primary source of the nation's income—a source that will be competitive only 50 to 75 years—in a nation where 40% of the people live in extreme poverty! Panamanians have accomplished a lot since the transfer of the canal, but there is a lot still to do. Rotary projects such as our own "Hands On" project (in Guatemala) are needed in Panama, too

## NEARBY ROTARY CLUB MEETING PLACES

### TUESDAY

Los Altos Sunset: The Echo Restaurant, Los Altos, 7:15 p.m.  
Mountain View: Adobe House, Moffett & Central, Mountain View, 12:15 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY

Menlo Park: Menlo Park Recreation Center, Menlo Park, noon.  
Woodside/Portola: Woodside Village Church, Woodside, 7:30 a.m.

### THURSDAY

Los Altos: Garden House, Shoup Park, Los Altos, 12:15 p.m.  
Palo Alto Sunrise: Scott's Seafood Restaurant, Embarcadero and El Camino Real Palo Alto, 7:30 a.m.

### FRIDAY

Palo Alto University: Sheraton, El Camino, Palo Alto, 7:30 a.m.  
San Carlos: Salvatore's Restaurant, San Carlos, 12:15 p.m.



**Rotary Club of Palo Alto**

P.O. Box 592  
Palo Alto, CA 94302