



# Palo Alto Rotary Club PINION

August 30, 2004

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## HIGH PERFORMING CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### CURTAIN-RAISER

After the Pledge of Allegiance, the team of BRACKEN & HOYT honored the opening day of the Republican National Convention in N.Y.C. by leading the throng in two appropriate songs: "Give My Regards to Broadway" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

The latter melody, with words by Julia Ward Howe written in 1861, became the great marching song of the North.

### HEARING FROM VISITING DELEGATES

Two visiting Rotarians graced the club with their presence: Heather Langendorfer, Real Estate Commercial, Mtn. View club; and Toni Wise, Real Estate Law, San Jose Rotary;. Guests of members included: Len Ely III (ANNETTE GLANCKOPF); Luiz Edvardo (GUSTAVO HOLLOWAY); Vicki Hobel Schultz (DIANA DIAMOND); Dennis Sheehan (DICK FREEMAN); Chris Kenrick Chandler & Julia Chandler (AL KENRICK, father of Chris).

### MISCELANEOUS DELEGATES BUSINESS

SKIP HOYT reminded the club that the program of feeding the homeless has its next performance on Wednesday, September 1. (You are getting this information too late for that round, of course; but if you are interested in participating in this worthwhile community service project, see co-chairs SKIP, CYRILLE BETANT, or SY GREENSTONE and get on the list). Meals are served at First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto, and the effort involves preparing and serving the luncheon. A great experience for all concerned.....

STEVE PLAYER, auctioneer **par excellence**, needed all of his skills to unload the magnificent basket of goodies brought to the club by D.G. Ron Sekkel on August 23. BILL BUSSE was the purchaser of the basket; and, of course,



Rotary causes were the primary winner. Thanks, BILL and STEVE, with a nod also to MIKE TRAUOGOTT, who initiated the torrid bidding.

### WHAT'S NEXT

Sept. 6 No Meeting, Labor Day Holiday

Sept. 13 Ira Ruskin Hetch Hechy Renovation **Last year, the Committee for Regional Water Reliability worked with the State Legislature to pass three pieces of landmark legislation, including AB 1823, mandating the repair of the Hetch Hetchy regional water system.**

Sept. 20 Jeff Vamos\* Opportunity Center \* **Details will follow later**

Sept. 27 Jim Fruchterman, President, CEO, & Founder of Benetech - Tech incubator social/hum & **Schwab Social Entrepreneur of 2003. Benetech concentrates on developing technology tools for human rights groups and people with disabilities, including founding two of the foremost optical character recognition companies, and developing a successful line of reading machines for the blind.**

October 4 Jim Sweeney Gasoline Prices

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS ?



BOB SMITHWICK's opening remarks illustrated how it is a simple matter to talk a nation's way into a recession. The accumulation of references from "experts" can lead to an economics situation which is not consistent with real facts.

### CRAB FEED FOOTNOTE

BETSY BECHTEL reminded the club that she and LIZ KNISS enjoyed the auctioned "Dinner for Eight" for which they bid successfully. Dining at the home of LIZ, with spouses and four friends, they enjoyed a repast that Parisian chefs would applaud, prepared by ANNETTE GLANCKOPF, DIANA DIAMOND, RUTH SCHNEIDER, and remember: — You heard it here! — BERN BEECHAM.

## THE MAIN EVENT



**TERRY LACHENBRUCH** introduced Don Shalvey, Ed.D. CEO and co-founder of Aspire Public Schools, “a not-for-profit public school organization founded to reshape public school systems and enrich the lives of students by building 100 high performing charter public schools in California.” (see Pinion, August 16). Dr. Shalvey, an educator committed to public schools and past superintendent of elementary schools in San Carlos, introduced

his presentation with a dark picture of the dire straits of many public schools, with emphasis on schools in large cities. Los Angeles, for example, is 200,000 seats short of meeting students’ needs for mere presence in school. A power-point presentation showed in detail the many deficiencies in too many schools. Dr. Shalvey portrayed the dramatic story of the construction of Wilson Prep in Oakland, a charter school which hopes to profit from the well-founded idea that students’ early optimistic thoughts about attending college do indeed result in a favorable percentage of those young people actually attending schools of higher learning. Writ wide, with attention given to similar programs in scores of schools, California and the nation can do something about the discouraging fact that a mere 4 per cent of neighbors in the depressed areas have college degrees. Money is not the entire answer – although it is important. Wilson Prep receives about \$5800/student, which enables the school to have smaller classes with significantly better teachers. Dr. Shalvey’s presentation encouraged thinking about the problem. He can be reached at 510-251-1660, Ext. #114 for those seeking more information.

**AND A FINAL WORD FROM PPRESIDENT PAM:** Board meeting Wed., Sept. 8, at 5:00 p.m. in PAM’s office. All members, especially red badgers, welcome. Come see your Board in action.

WE’RE SORRY TO HEAR THIS, Jane, wife of indomitable member RALPH KELLER to whom she has been married 66 years, suffered a broken leg in a recent fall. Jane’s many friends join the Pinion in expressing our regret and sincere wishes for a speedy recovery .

## KAREN BROSI TAKE NOTE



**INGE ANGIETTA** paid half of a Presidents Club admission fee. She has volunteered to run a marathon for a worthy cause and will report back with the other half after the race, scheduled for October. Nice going,

**INGE – and good luck!** We’ll be waiting for the results of this continued story

## NEARBY ROTARY MEETING PLACES

### TUESDAY

Los Altos: Sunset: China Shuttle, 22382 Homestead Rd, Los Altos, 19:15

Mtn View: Adobe House, Moffett & Central Mtn View, 12:15

### WEDNESDAY

Menlo Park: Menlo Park Recreation Center, 12:00

East Palo Alto Bayshore: Boys & Girls Club, Pulgas & O’Connor, East Palo Alto, 12:15

Woodside/Portola: Woodside Village Church, 07:30

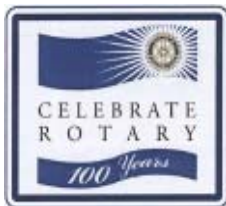
### THURSDAY

Los Altos: Garden House, 400 University Avenue, Los Altos 12:15

### FRIDAY

Palo Alto University: Sheraton, El Camino, Palo Alto, 07:15

San Carlos: Piacere Ristortante, 727 Laurel, San Carlos 12:15



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