



Palo Alto Rotary Club PINION



September 13, 2004

Reporter: David Negrin

Graphics: Lyle Connell

IT'S A RISK OF UP TO 60 DAYS WITHOUT WATER AND NEEDS FIXING

OPENERS



Prez Pam led us in the Pledge which was followed by a rousing rendition of "God Bless America" led by John Bracken, in memory and recognition of 9/11.

VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS



Introductions were made by Cyrille Betant.

Visiting Rotarians (Club) were: Ben Stolpa (San Carlos) and William Sauers (Ashland, OR), who was also introduced by Steve Player as his guest.



Other guests (Hosts) were Emily Thurber (Brian Steen),



Cabale



Bowman (Dick Freeman)

and Gloria Klopstein (Al Kenrick).

OPENING REMRKS



Opening remarks were delivered by Steve Emslie who reminded us of our dependency on our meager water supply. He cited a statistic which indicates that 65% of the state receives less than 20 inches of rainfall a year. Is California a big fraud, Steve asked

WHAT'S NEXT

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Prez Pam reminded us all to send notes of sympathy, encouragement and good wishes to Sid Akselrad and to Ralph Keller's wife Jane, both of whom are ill.

-Geoff Ziman recently returned from Florida on an American Red Cross mission, described vividly, the devastation caused by the serial hurricanes (it's not over yet by a long shot). Geoff and his wife Ann again performed their unselfish acts of assistance to the residents of the area where they served. They do us all an honor by these acts. On top of all that, Geoff joined the President's Club. (Ed.: I have a copy of Geoff's detailed report. Let me know if you'd like me to send you a copy.)



-Prez Pam asked members to consider making contributions to Rotary clubs in the area affected by the hurricanes in Florida. Money is desperately needed.



-Dick Mansfield announced his contribution to the Rotary Centennial Fund in appreciation of the wonderful German dinner he and his wife Ellie enjoyed just last night. It resulted from his successful bid at the last Crabfeed. Don't try to compete with Dick at the next event; it's a lost cause.

THE PROGRAM



Walt Hays introduce our guest speaker, Ira Ruskin, the current Chair of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA). Ira is a former council member and Mayor of Redwood City. He now heads the agency, which is co-chaired by our own Bern Beecham, that's responsible for the complete renovation

o f Hetch Hetchy, the water supply system that serves 2.4 million people in the Bay

area. He described the risks in the event of a major earthquake which could leave us all without fresh water for up to 90 days despite emergency plans being developed by each community. However, legislation is in effect mandating San Francisco to repair the system, including a funding authority and setting up BAWSCA to monitor progress. The number of questions highlighted the concerns local citizens had for this essential project.

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Prez Pam announced the availability of Rotary publication, "Century of Service" which describes our history, including the origin of our Rotary symbol

-If you're interested in a tailgate party before the Nov. 13 Stanford football game with Oregon State, contact Steve Emslie.

-Fortunately, the due date has been extended to apply for the group leader slot of the upcoming Group Study Exchange. Call Bruce Liedstrand ASAP if you'd like to take advantage of this great opportunity

Prez Pam wished all observers of the High Holy Days, a Happy New Year.

PALO ALTO ROTARY

. PRESIDENT: Pam Brandin. PRESIDENT-ELECT: Iris Korol. PAST-PRESIDENT: Bill Busse. DIRECTORS: Mike Couch, Marcie Cox, Judy Kleinberg, David Negrin, Art Stauffer, Steve Schaper. TREASURER: Dick Mansfield. SECRETARIES: Dick Freeman, Julie Jerome, Bob McCowan. CLUB RECORDS: Joyce Cusick, parotaryrecords@aol.com. WEB SITE: www.rotarypaloalto.org/.

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

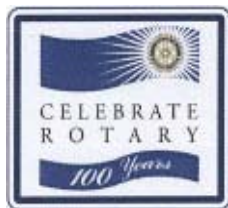
THURSDAY

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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