



# Palo Alto Rotary Club Pinion

October 10, 2005

Reporter: David Blitz

Editor: Lyle Connell



## SALUTE!

The Pledge and “California Here I Come,” by Maestro Le Levy, brought the crowd to their feet.

## OPENING REMARKS



Rick Tipton delivered his first Opening Remarks by honoring those brave souls who have delivered wit and moral message to the membership for decades. He also honored Columbus Day more than the man as representing courage, determination and exploration.

## VISITORS AND GUESTS

Rotarian Candace Roney joined us from the San Jose Club along with visitors: Charles Chang (Annette Glanckopf), Barbara Illowsky (Martha Kanter), Martha Losch (Paul Losch), Anita Moser (Andy Moser), Patricia Burbank (Vicky Ching), Donald Douglas (Nina Moore) and Barbara Mitchell (Walt Hays).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hersh Davis reminded those who have signed up for this Saturday’s Museum of American Heritage Project of their work schedules.

Bob Smithwick described the audio/visual challenges of our new meeting location with assurance of less static to come. Please turn off you cell phone in the meeting room to help clear the air.

Past President Pam Brandin gave us a history lesson on the development of the Paul Harris Fellowship program and requested that members invite their check books along to next weeks meeting.

President Iris Korol reminded us there is still time to sign up for the October 20<sup>th</sup> District Avenue of Service including the reintroduction of the Inner Wheel for spouses.

## OCTOBER PROGRAMS

October 17, 2001: Liz Kniss and Gloria Hom will provide background and some commentary on certain of the propositions that will be on California’s ballot on November 8, 2005

October 26, 2005: Michael Picchetti will present the District 5170 International Program: “Partners in Rotary Service.”

With the Partners in Rotary Service Program, District 5170 hopes to educate the Rotarians about the International Service Programs and permit them to see the good that the Rotary International Foundation does through Rotarian gifts through the Annual Giving Program. This program will permit those of us who cannot go to other countries to hear about the many good things that Rotary has been able to accomplish through the Rotary Foundation and the gifts from Rotarians.

Michael Picchetti is from Chile, and he will provide a first-hand description of the people whose lives have been changed for the better in his native country. Members of the Club will not only benefit from engaging Mr. Picchetti in conversation prior to and during the fellowship portion of the meeting, but he will gain from us a sense of being welcomed and appreciated for taking the time to come to this country to share some of his country’s story with us. The District has arranged for this program specifically to provide us a means to “live beyond our borders and to see the effect we have upon people far away that we have never met...until now.”



October 31, 2005: Tracy Gordon, Research Fellow at Public Policy Institute of California, will speak on “A Fourth Branch of Government?: California’s Experience with the State

Volunteers are needed one hour a week for 6 weeks to read to a class of 3 and 4 year olds at Ravenswood Child Development Center in East Palo Alto. The day can be Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 9:45. The actual reading time would be around 20 to 30 minutes. Contact Bob McCowan if you can participate

## TODAY'S PROGRAM



Skip Hoyt introduced Stephen Levy, the Director and Senior Economist of the Center for the Continuing Study of the California Economy ("CCSCE").

To paraphrase Mr. Levy, "If you are smiling when you finish reading this either it wasn't well explained or you aren't paying attention." In other

words, there are many gloomy economic factors in the forecast of California and the United States such as:

\*Gas price increases are the equivalent of a tax which is reducing spendable income for other goods and services. Natural gas is anticipated to increase in price by 40%.

\*There is a secondary impact of increased energy costs in surcharges for airlines, delivery charges and construction products.

\*Increased interest rates for variable rate loans or new loans.

\*The expected 'boom' in construction and jobs from Hurricane Katrina will hopefully break the economy even with the \$200 billion deficit it created.

\*Housing prices are predicted to go down. This could be a positive if a restructuring takes place that produces more badly needed affordable housing in the Bay Area.

The United States had the only physical capital from 1945-1965 which led to great prosperity and control. Today, Japan, China, India and the speed of the Internet challenge our leadership. We need to wake up from our 'sleepwalk' to invest in education and learn how to work together across philosophical lines in order to remain competitive. While many people seem to acknowledge the problems, no one seems to want to pay for the solutions.

## PALO ALTO ROTARY

PRESIDENT: Iris Korol. PRESIDENT-ELECT: Art Stauffer. PAST-PRESIDENT: Pam Brandin. DIRECTORS: Cyrille Betant, Trish Bubenik, Mike Couch, Marcie Cox, Hersh Davis, and Ellen Harrington. TREASURER: Dick Mansfield. SECRETARIES: Dick Freeman, Julie Jerome, Bob McCowan. CLUB RECORDS: Joyce Cusick, [parotaryrecords@aol.com](mailto:parotaryrecords@aol.com). WEB SITE: [www.rotarypaloalto.org/](http://www.rotarypaloalto.org/).

## OTHER ROTARY MEETING PLACES

### TUESDAY

Los Altos: China Shuttle, 22382 Homestead Road, 19:15

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

### WEDNESDAY

Menlo Park: Menlo Park Recreation Center, Menlo Park, 12:15

East Palo Alto Senior Center, 560 Bell Street, East Palo Alto, 12:15

Woodside/Portola: Woodside Village Church, Woodside, 07:30

### THURSDAY

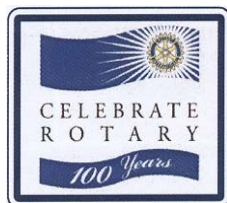
Los Altos: Garden House, 400 University Avenue, Los Altos 12:15

### FRIDAY

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

San Carlos: Piaceri's Restaurant, 727 Laurel St. (downtown San Carlos, in the second block South of San Carlos Ave., one block west of El Camino Real. 12:15

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**Rotary Club of Palo Alto**

P.O. Box 592

Palo Alto, CA 94302

[PARotaryRecords@aol.com](mailto:PARotaryRecords@aol.com)

Website <http://www.rotarypaloalto.org/>