



# Palo Alto Rotary Club Pinion



December 19, 2005    Reporter: Dick Mansfield    Editor: Lyle Connell

## A FESTIVE OCCASION

'Twas the season to be jolly" as Rotarians and their guests gathered at Ming's to salute the holiday season. The only thing missing from the festive occasion was the Chinese chicken salad. Maybe next time, but make a note: Next time won't be until January 9, and then we'll take another week off and meet for the second time in 2006 on January 23.

VIC ROSASCO led the pledge of allegiance, and SKIP HOYT accompanied a rousing stave of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer.

## WHO'S VISITING

JULIE JEROME introduced Visiting Rotarians and Rotarians with Guests. Among Rotarians from elsewhere we counted MARCELINO CHAVES from Portugal (who introduced his own guest, his son-in-law ERROL BUXTON), FRANK YIH from Shanghai who, with his wife NANCY, attended as guests of GLORIA HOM, GINNY LEAR from Los Altos, WALT McCULLOUGH from San Mateo and frequent and welcome guest KEVIN CURRIE from Minnesota. Many spouses were among the guests of members: SKIP HOYT's wife SUZIE, DICK FREEMAN's wife CORKIE, LAURIE LISTON's wife JOANNA, CHESLEY DOUGLAS's wife SHIRLEY, and DICK MANSFIELD's wife ELLIE. Other introductions: BERTA and MARTY KROP by JOYCE CUSICK, STEVE ROSS by VIC ROSASCO, and ELLEN SCHEETZ by her boss at Sempervirens Fund, BRIAN STEEN.

## GIFT GIVING



GLORIA HOM gave brief but spot-on opening remarks, making the point that in the season of gift-giving the best gift for one's offspring is often not the material gift itself but the time spent for and with the recipient. This season GLORIA's family suited the action to the thought by scheduling a "d  j   vu trip" together. Well said, GLORIA!

## WHAT'S GOING ON

HIG HIGGINS is having some surgery to improve his golf swing. We all wish him well and everyone signed a card.

## FUTURE PROGRAMS

**December 26, 2005: Dark**

**January 2, 2006: Dark**

**January 9, 2006: New Members Talks by George Newton, Roger Smith, and Janet Wells**

President IRIS pointed out that new telecommunications lists are in the folders – if you weren't there today, get 'em on January 9! – and once again urged everyone to Sign In at each meeting: We need your initials for attendance reports to District and International!

HAL MICKELSON auctioned off two tickets to a production of White Christmas in San Francisco, threw in drinks at intermission, and raised \$70 for the good of the order.

SY GREENSTONE urged everyone to sign up to feed the homeless at First Presbyterian on January 4. If you missed the signup sheets give SY a call.

President IRIS thanked those members who helped prepare books (purchased with our accumulated lunch surplus) for youngsters at Cesar Chavez Academy in East Palo Alto. Seen there (in addition to IRIS): DAVE CHARLESON, WALT HAYS, BERN BEECHAM, new member MIKE McMAHON, ART STAUFFER and NATASHA FRENCH.

Mark your social calendar! The new Four Seasons, in what the cognoscenti used to call Whiskey Gulch, will be our hosts at a cocktail party at 5 p.m. Friday, February 17.

LE LEVY called a meeting of the several members who will be journeying to India in early January to visit Rotary Clubs and tour service projects.

## JOINING THE PRESIDENTS CLUB



SHERRI SAGER joined the President's Club to honor her nieces who performed in the Nutcracker on Whidbey Island near Seattle

## NEW MEMBERS



Our newest members are B A R B MITCHELL and PAUL JENE, inducted today. JOHN RICHERS has earned a Blue Badge

but wasn't here to receive it. Humbug, JOHN!

## A JOYOUS HOLIDAY PROGRAM

TOM GRACON introduced the holiday program, a welcome return of performers from West Bay Opera. Opera production manager MICHELLE SULLIVAN-WILLIAMSON brought on the performers we so warmly recall from last year's program: Mezzo-soprano MARGARET LISI, baritone MICHAEL TAYLOR, and accompanist extraordinaire DMITRI COGAN.



They treated us to everything from opera (the Toreador song from Bizet's Carmen, with extras and chorus provided by the Rotary Club of Palo Alto and guests) to "Santa Baby" (the golden oldie we of a certain age associate with Eartha Kitt) and, between those bookends, show tunes (Lerner & Loewe's "I Remember It Well" from Gigi and the Gershwins' "Let's Call The Whole Thing Off" from Shall We Dance), holiday standards ("Silver Bells" and "Winter Wonderland"), and carols ("Deck The Halls" and, for a big finish, "Joy to the World" with a solo turn by HAL MICKELSON). Thanks for the wonderful show and please hurry back!

## 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/),

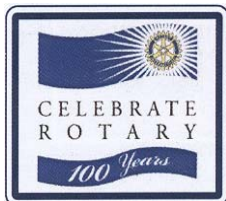


### SEE YOU IN 2006

President IRIS told us all she'd "See you in 2006." She and HAL will soon be off on their own trip to India, to return in time for the January 23 meeting.

Remember: Our next meeting will be on January 9!

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