



# Palo Alto Rotary Club Pinion



November 13, 2006

Reporter: Bill Busse

Editor: Lyle Connell

## IN HONOR OF VETERANS DAY

Our piano virtuoso, SKIPPER HOYT, led us in a low-key...piano that is...rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner." Later in the meeting BARB MITCHELL joined the PRESIDENT'S CLUB in honor of the 25 million American veterans. Way to go, Barb!

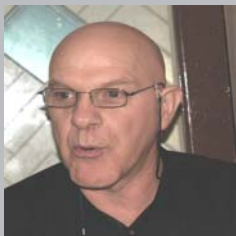
## VISITORS AND GUESTS

### A MESSAGE TO THE SIGN-IN GURUS

Please ask our guests, and especially the visiting Rotarians, TO SIGN IN CLEARLY. Both RACHEL MEYER and your scribe found most of them illegible. (All physicians perhaps.)

Suffice it to say we had at least five visiting Rotarians all the way from Toronto to Los Altos ...and places in between...plus at least eight guests. Welcome, one and all! One special guest/member/old friend was GUSTAVO HOLLOWAY. Gustavo is back on "active Palo Alto Rotary duty" as Carolina has returned to Stanford on a Post Doctoral fellowship. All the while Gustavo will be opening a branch of his new computer related business in Brazil. Welcome back, Holloways!

## PALO ALTO BUSINESS GOES GREEN



In his Opening Remarks MARK HEYER energetically reported on the need for this Nation to approach carbon based climate change with the same vigor needed to place a man on the moon. Palo Alto Green is a Chamber sponsored program designed to encourage local initiatives nationwide in an effort to head off a potential global warming catastrophe. Go green!

global warming catastrophe. Go green!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & SUCH

Socialite NINA MOORE reminded one and all to attend the JOINT ROTARY CLUB SOCIAL this coming Sunday. Gilbert & Sullivan's "The Sorcerer" will be performed by the Stanford Savoyards at Dinkelspiel Auditorium at 2:30 followed by a catered buffet dinner at Lucie Stern Community Center. Great entertainment...great food...and great fellowship! Don't miss it! Call Nina for late reservations.

### MAKE SOMEONE HAPPY!

RACHEL MEYER is heading up our effort to make Thanksgiving a special event for many homeless families in the local area. If you haven't already done so, sign up next week to provide a turkey or mashed potatoes or pumpkin pie or your favorite dish.

## HOLIDAY ANNOUNCEMENT FROM NINA MOORE

Our annual Holiday Party is December 6th at 6:00 p.m., again graciously hosted by LIZ KNISS at her home, 1985 Cowper Street, Palo Alto. Details will follow. [Palo Alto Rotary - Calendar of Events](#)

## EARLY WARNING from MIKE COUCH

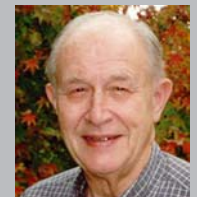
Save February 2 thru 5 for a revisit to the Yucatan Peninsula for a hands-on project at Chichalub. This is a great project that can include a visit to the nearby Mayan ruins.

## THE BIG GAME?

BILL BUSSE, in the absence of the guy who is usually given a bad time, the unflappable STEVE PLAYER, made an impassioned pitch to all Stanford fans to join in hosting the rabble from the Berkeley Club who will no doubt jovially descend in mass on our meeting of November 27th. It is anticipated by no one that they will reclaim the hallowed interclub axe, which goes to the loser. Say that again! Anyway, come early as VICKY CHING will open the back black bar for our bumbling and boozing Berkeley brothers.

## MICKELSON APPLIES HIS MAGIC

HAL, perhaps Stanford's only rooter at the Stanford/Washington football game, returned in "FINE" spirits thereby enhancing the President's Klub Koffers. LYLE CONNELL was coerced into coughing up 85 clams in honor of his coincidental birthday.



DAVID BLITZ and DICK MANSFIELD each volunteered to join The Club. David ran the New York marathon while Dick watched the runners, including his daughter, go flying by. Speaking of flying by, MARY



FRANCES CALLAN announced the birth of her 23rd nephew. Did I get that right, Mary Frances? Somehow it doesn't compute. Perhaps the most magnanimous contributor was our Fine Master himself. Once again a victim of self flagellation, our hero ponyed up a century note to commemorate



his Master of Ceremonies caper at the YMCA Red Triangle Dinner honoring volunteer extraordinaire MIKE COUCH. Hal was quoted as confessing, "I couldn't say anything about Mike without violating Rotary Rules, such as 'Is it the Truth!'"



## AND NOW...WHAT REALLY HAPPENED!



DAVID NEGRIN ably introduced our honor speaker, LARRY GERSTON. Dr. Gerston began by congratulating Palo Alto Green on their program to roll back carbon emissions, noting that it is a serious problem demanding immediate statewide action.

”What an election! And what does it mean? Perhaps oversight investigations, certainly new committee chairpersons, bills moving forward, vetoes, and probably gridlock. In any event, this will be a run up to the elections in 2008 with both sides making political statements. What did the exit polls show? Iraq was a major issue, but the economy was more of a factor. In spite of the rosy employment numbers, many of the employed were underpaid. A laid off GM worker who had been making \$40 an hour and is now making \$10 at Walmart would still show up as employed, but would not be a happy camper.”

Dr. Gerston also noted that the “corruption culture” brought about by being in power too long was a major factor in the election. That and the fact that after six years people get tired and think about a change. **Again, welcome to gridlock!**

The California election and propositions were reviewed. “Arnold won, in part, because he cut deals and listened to his wife.”

There were a number of excellent questions, including a request for his predictions for the 2008 presidential candidates. Anybody’s guess.

It was an outstanding presentation. Congratulations to the Program Committee!

**PRINTED BY JUNGLE DIGITAL**

## PALO ALTO ROTARY

**PRESIDENT:** Art Stauffer. **PRESIDENT-ELECT:** Rob Lancefield. **PAST-PRESIDENT:** Iris Korol. **DIRECTORS:** Cyrille Betant, Trish Bubenik, Mike Couch, Hersh Davis, Wayne Thomas, and Sherri Sager. **CLUB TREASURER:** Mike McMahon. **ANNUAL CHARITIES TREASURER:** Rob Lancefield. **ENDOWMENT FUND:** Vic Rosasco. **ENDOWMENT FUND TREASURER:** Todd Lewis. **SECRETARIES:** Ruth Schneider, Bob McCowan, Janet Wells. **CLUB RECORDS:** Joy Cusick, [PARotaryRecords@aol.com](mailto:PARotaryRecords@aol.com). **WEB SITE:** [www.rotarypaloalto.org](http://www.rotarypaloalto.org).

## NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

**November 20. Sven Strohband, Winning the 2005 DARPA Grand Challenge**

**November 27. Big Game Exchange with Berkeley Rotary - Sportswriter Ron Fimrite will be the featured speaker.**

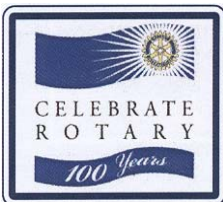
### ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS ANYONE?

Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells. Jingle all the way.  
Want a perfect Holiday gift?

A donation to Rotary plus lots of savings to whomever you say.

This is a WIN-WIN, if you get my drift.

By D.F. (Ed: I think it’s supposed to be a poem. In any event, buy one so you won’t jingle, jingle so much.)



**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/>