



# Palo Alto Rotary Club Pinion



November 27, 2006

Reporter: Brian Steen

Editor: Lyle Connell

## OPENING KICKOFF

President Art Stauffer convened the meeting, cordially welcoming our guests to the annual "Big Game" meeting and gained five yards on the play

## NEXT PLAY

Bill Busse set up the next play by welcoming visitors and guests: Rotarians with guests, including Dick Mansfield's, son Bob Mansfield; Karen Singer's husband, John Singer; Bob Smithwick's guest, Barbara Loebner, Dick Carlson's guest, Steve Madsen; Steve Player's guests, Bob Bowsby and Coach John Ralston; Brian Steen's guest, Jeffrey Leigh. Our esteemed guests advanced the ball 30 yards for PA Rotary.



Visiting Rotarians: Cupertino Rotarian Jim Triolo, who saw his first Big Game in 1924, and his wife, Elaine; Art Adams, Jim Burgard, and from Berkeley Rotary: Dick Ericson, Tom Olson, Ed Strong, Bruce Willock, Mary Alice Rathman, Gil Ferry, Terry Regan, John Shindo, Paul Hammond, Dick Connel, Al Frazer and Dave Cutter. Ten yards for Blue.

## THE FOLLOWING PLAY



Mary Alice Rathman, President of Berkeley Rotary thanked PA Rotary for our Big Game hospitality. "See you Saturday and GO BEARS! Another 5 yards gained.

## HALF TIME ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barb Mitchell called everyone's attention to the Green Oaks Academy Dictionary program. On 12/13 from 9-11AM, volunteers are needed to help present 210 dictionaries.



Carl King invited all to our Rotary Christmas Party on 12/6 at Liz Kniss's house.



Israel Zahavi proudly contributed the President's Club celebrating his 19th year as a Palo Alto resident.



## SECOND HALF - THE PROGRAM

Steve Player started the second half off by thanking Bill Busse for his expert remodeling of the Ax to high quality standards.



John Kidd was praised as a key member of the 1958 Stanford team. Steve shared a 1953 Big Game program showing a picture of Dick Mansfield as bon-fire master. Further intelligence has revealed Walt Hays was President of the 1953 Stanford freshman class. A historical touchdown play for our team.

Steve introduced Dick Erickson, a Cal player in 1946,47,48 and now Executive Director of the Cal Alumni Assoc. Dick reminisced a bit about those years at Cal and then introduced the next speaker. Five yards gained for Dick's clear memory



Former Cal, Chronicle and Sports Illustrated writer Ron Fimrite spoke about the tradition of the Cal-Berkeley Big Game going back to 1892. In this first match up the teams, transported to a San Francisco field in highly decorated carriages found themselves without a ball!

(Supposedly forgotten by Stanford football manager Herbert Hoover) A local merchant rode his horse at breakneck speed to his shop to get a ball and returned for the kickoff. Even though Cal was the favorite, Stanford won 14-10!. A big 25 yard gain for Berkeley thanks to Ron's great stories



## NEXT.....

For more Big Game history, <http://daily.stanford.edu/article/2004/11/19/BeatingTheBearsSince1892AHistoryOfBigGame>



The next play was led by Coach John Ralston, a 1951 Cal grad and Rose Bowl veteran who came to Stanford in 1963 and helped revive a sagging program. Over nine seasons, Ralston guided the team back to national respectability while building a mark of 55-36-3. In his last two seasons, 1970-71, Ralston's teams won two Pacific 8 titles and back-to-back with Rose Bowl victories over Ohio State and Michigan. Coach Ralston honored Joe Capp who could play all 22-field positions. John spoke highly of Stanford's new athletic director Bob Bowsby covering 45 yards with his compliments.

Then the highlight of the meeting, John Triolo, at the youthful age of 92, got up and led the crowd in rousing renditions of "OSKI" and the "AXE" cheers. A big touchdown!

Although the meeting ended in a tied game, both the Palo Alto and Berkeley Rotary teams enjoyed the various exchanges, by giving their Big Game Best!



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## PALO ALTO ROTARY

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

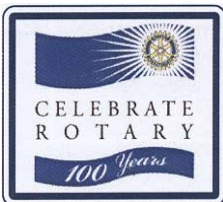


## DECEMBER PROGRAMS

**December 4: New Members Talks by Kevin Curry, Richard Delaney and Len Ely.**

**December 11: Bern Beecham will talk on the issues of the \$4 Billion Hetch Hetchy Water Project.**

**December 18, 2006: Members of West Bay Opera, who will sing (and possibly ask us to help out) on some popular opera arias and favorite holiday songs.**



**Rotary Club of Palo Alto**

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