



# Palo Alto Rotary Club Pinion



December 18, 2006

Reporter: Le Levy

Editor: Lyle Connell

President ART, dapper as always (well, almost always) called upon DIANA DIAMOND to lead the pledge of Allegiance. The pledge was recited correctly by 84.6% of those in attendance, a record.

## GUESTS FOR THE HOLIDAY PROGRAM



Fourteen Rotarians brought guests. CHESLEY DOUGLAS, in top hat, introduced each with elan and aplomb. GEORGE WHEATON's guest was his wife, Sarah; DAVE SMULLIN's wife, Sharon; PAM BRANDIN's daughter, Vanessa; JOYCE CUSICK's friends Martin & Berta Krop; BILL BETHKE's wife, Marlene; LAURIE LISTON and DUANE KALAR's high school acquaintances, Joanna and Ann; BILLY ALHOUSE's personal shopper, Barbara; JOHN O'KEEFE's wife, Patty; SY GREENSTONE's spouse of sixty-nine years, Bess; DICK FREEMAN's (long-suffering) wife, Corky; ART STAUFFER's wife, Peggy; CHESLEY DOUGLAS's wife Shirley; and JACK RIDDLE's friend, Suzanne, with whom he shares a relationship into which I wouldn't even dare to delve! Also LYLE CONNELLS's relative, Tom Thomas.

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## BETTER TO GIVE THAN RECEIVE



GEORGE FITZGERALD's opening remarks brought new immediacy to a phrase we've all heard often, -it is better to give than receive. Commenting on statistics indicating a record level of gifting this year, George concluded, we've received so much; how can we help but not give some of it back. A wonderful thought with which to conclude an outstanding Rotary year

and lead into a superb holiday program.

## ANNOUNCING

President-Elect-Elect MIKE COUCH reminded us of the Mexican International Hands-On trip February 2-8, to the Yucatan. Eight, including your scribe and his wife, are signed up to join members of the Los Altos Club on what should be an enjoyable and rewarding week in Southern Mexico.

## UPCOMING

**December 25: Dark (actually, bright, gleaming, and happy WITH HOLIDAY GOOD CHEER, but no meeting nevertheless)**

**January 1: Dark and have a HAPPY NEW YEAR**

MIKE McMAHON thanked BARB MITCHELL and PAUL JENE for Chairing our Dictionary Project. A large group of Rotarians gathered at East P.A.'s Green Oaks Academy last week to distribute the books to some very appreciative children. Rotarians included GLORIA HOM, GEORGE WHEATON, BARB MITCHELL, PAUL JENE, JOYCE CUSICK, President-Elect ROB LANCEFIELD, BERN BEECHAM, ART STAUFFER, LEN ELY, RACHEL MEYER, WALT HAYS, and MIKE, himself.



It was brought to our attention that two venerable members were having big time December birthdays. They were long time members BOB SMITHWICK and RALPH KELLER. They were not fined this month, it being the holiday season.

President ART also made a special presentation to JOY CUSICK in recognition of her significant contribution to the operations of Palo Alto Rotary. This includes extensive work on the Rotary Website



## AFTERNOON AT THE OPERA

**TOM GRACON**, former Board Chair of West Bay Opera, introduced Director, Jose Luis Moscovich who, in turn, introduced Robert Schwartz, a super pianist, Soprano, Marta Johansen, and Tenor, Adam Flowers.



Marta sang Cara Nome from Verdi's Rigoletto, and Vilja from The Merry Widow (aided by the famous Ming's Mixed Rotarian Chorus of Palo Alto!). Adam sang Quanto Bella by Donizetti (Eliser c Amore), and Vesti la Giubba from Leoncavalln's Pagliacci. Then, they joined in two delightful duets, O Soave Fanciula from La Bogème by Puccini, and Libiamo from Verdh's La Traviata.



West Bay Opera is the second oldest opera company in Northern California. They were simply terrific.

## 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](mailto:PARotaryRecords@aol.com). WEB SITE: [www.rotarypaloalto.org](http://www.rotarypaloalto.org)

## INTERESTING .....

### Ode to Nina Moore

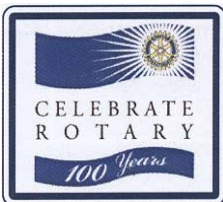
There is a young lady from the land of the Nile  
Whose parties give every Rotarian a smile  
Nina Moore, we owe you a lot  
Fun for all, a bad time there is not

The party's are so elegant and mellow  
Thank you, thank you for each gal and each fellow  
You stand heads and shoulders above the rest  
Nina, you and your parties follow the four way test

### Kofi Annan's Final UN Speech regarding RI involvement (along with others) in the worldwide fight against polio

"It has been one of my guiding principles as Secretary General to get them to help achieve UN aims - for instance through the Global Compact with international business, which I initiated in 1999, or in the worldwide fight against polio, which I hope is now in its final chapter, thanks to a wonderful partnership between the UN family, the US Centers for Disease Control and - crucially - Rotary International."

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