



Palo Alto Rotary Club Pinion



January 29, 2007

Reporter: Lyle Connell

Editor: Lyle Connell

President ART STAUFFER called the meeting to order by asking HIG HIGGINS to lead the Pledge of Allegiance

OUR GUESTS

SHARON WAGNER warmly welcomed guests as follows:
Rotarians with Guests: PLAYER, WOODSON/ Peter Steiner, BILL KIRK/ Grandson, JOYCE CUSICK/Richard Osborne

OPENING REMARKS



ARNE STOSCHEK told an interesting story, which depicted the resilience of the German people in rebuilding a magnificent church in his home town of Dresden. It all began many years ago when an itinerate carpenter started to walk and work his way to Italy because he was interested in architecture. He did not make it to Italy, but stopped in Dresden to

work on a run down church. This church turned out to be a magnificent building which was later badly damaged in the war. However, beginning in 1990 the people of Dresden with great effort restored the church to its former glory. To ARNE his story is not about architecture but symbolizing the new spirit of Germany.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DAN QUINN thanked the cheerful volunteers who did a great job working with Urban Ministries for "feed the homeless."

ANNETTE GLANCKOPF made a public service announcement regarding a Pandemic Influenza Briefing sponsored by Palo Alto Neighborhoods (PAN). Annette pointed out that an influenza pandemic could be a most serious facing the world's population. The event will be held on Thursday, February 1st at 7:00 PM in the Mitchell Park Community Center.

"39th" BIRTHDAY

Three members were celebrating their "39th" birthday this month. They were TRISH BUBENIK, BILL FOGARTY, and BOB WHITEHAIR.



UPCOMING

February 5: Professor James L. Sweeney - Energy Efficiency

February 12: Dr. Seth Shostak, SETI Institute Senior Astronomer - Looking for ET

February 19: No Meeting ~ President's Day observed

PRESIDENTS CLUB MEMBERS

As mentioned last week when PAUL JENE was absent, PAUL was joining the President's club in honor of the birth of their first child on January 15th, and a new position in forecasting at Genetic.



DON LANGENDORF joined because Stanford had a great weekend in basketball by beating UCLA.

BRUCE LIEDSTRAND likewise joined the President's Club because Stanford came from behind, and made it a great game in the second half.

DAN QUINN joined on honor of his grandchildren's visit.



PAUL HARRIS AWARDS

This year the contributions to the Rotary Fund set a new record with a total of \$21,717. It is this fund that pays for most of the Rotary projects around the world. PRESIDENT ART thanked IRIS KOROL who led the drive. Paul Harris awards were presented in recognition of the members who contributed to this fund. Those reaching the first award level were INGE ANGILETTA, LEANNAH HUNT, NANCY PETERS, CHARLES CHENG and PAUL JENE. The one Sapphire level awardees were WES GARDINER, LOU KAVANAU, CARL KING, GEORGE NEWTON, KAREN SINGER, and ISRAEL ZEHAVI. At the two Sapphire level were BOB BULMORE, VICKY CHING, LAURIE LISTON, ART STAUFFER, DICK FREEMAN, IRIS KOROL, and DAVID NEGRIN. Reaching the 3 Sapphire level were BILL BUSSE, and JIM POOLEY. At the vaunted 5 Sapphire position were WALT HAYS, SKIP HOYT, and BERT ROSE. Receiving the exalted Paul Harris Ruby Awards were MIKE COUCH (2) and RALPH ADAMS (3).

TODAY'S PROGRAM



NATASHA FRENCH introduced our speaker, Michael Zielenziger, former Tokyo bureau chief and business columnist for the *San Jose Mercury News* and the author of *Shutting Out the Sun: How Japan Created its own Lost Generation* recently published by Nan A. Talese/ Doubleday. **Michael Zielenziger** is a visiting scholar at the Institute of East Asian Studies, U. C. Berkeley.

Mr. Zielenziger gave us an incisive view of the conditions in Japan, and compared the economic progress of Japan with Silicon Valley. He described Silicon Valley as a “failure society”, which in this sense, it is failure that results in renewal and fuels innovation and change. Failure is analyzed not to repeat. However Japan in his view is a “deduction society”. The individual does not stand out like a nail to be pounded down. Japan was high flying 15 years ago but was reluctant to change, and has since been in a recession. On the other hand, Silicon Valley changed from hardware to software, used multiple platforms, a collaborative workplace, and had what he called “social trust”.

While Japan excelled at the auto industry, the other 90% was a domestic focus with little opportunity. Japan is seen to be lacking the important factor of “social trust”. It is a socially restrictive homogeneous country where woman want careers rather than family. There is reclusive social isolation, study restrictive, low creativity, and is rigid and brittle. Intensive debate is absent in Japan, but in the US it is this debate which makes us what we are.

Mr. Zielenziger indicated that Japan may have two choices. One is to gradually deregulate the system over a period of 10-15 years. The second is to feel they are still okay, and then manage a decline. They may be reluctant to get out of a warm bath.

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

OTHER ROTARY MEETING PLACES

TUESDAY

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

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

Sunnyvale, Ramada Inn, 1217 Wildwood Avenue, Sunnyvale, 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

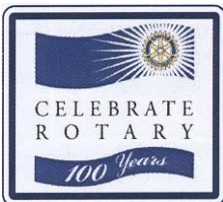
Los Altos: Garden House, 400 University Avenue, Los Altos 12:15

FRIDAY

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

San Carlos: Piaceri's Restaurant, 727 Laurel Street, San Carlos 12:15

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