



# Palo Alto Rotary Club Pinion



February 5, 2007

Reporter: Bill Busse

Editor: Lyle Connell

Buenos Dias, Pseudo Presidente Roberto!

## SOMETHING DIFFERENT



Our fill-in Preside and next year's President, ROB LANCEFIELD, made like Bob Newhart in the eyes of one wag. (Mr. Newhart, for you younger members, became famous with his one-sided telephone conversations.) Our act-alike did the same with a group of imaginary Rotarians assembled on a remote beach in the Yucatan. The assemblers presumably included our "real president," ART STAUFFER, along with MIKE COUCH, WALTHAYS, LE LEVY and JUDY HUEY, DAVE and SHARON SMULLIN, RACHEL MEYER and her daughter, DEVAN, the group leader Cindy Wilbur, and four members of the Los Altos Rotary Club. In any event, check our WEB SITE for photos of our intrepid hands-on-

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## ON BEING RIGHT



JOHN KIDD reviewed our human temptation to "Be the one who knows what is right" rather than always "Doing what is right." He recalled the Pope's change from "being right" in his views of the Muslim religion to "doing right" when he later acknowledge the value of their beliefs. By doing so he defused an unnecessary religious confrontation. John concluded by reminding us of Rotary's magnificent example of collectively "doing right." And we all agree that he's right about that!

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## MISCELLANY

The Rotary District 5170 Annual Conference is April 20-21. Look for an application in the mail...ROB: "SAM still has free talking rights when he returns from Hula land."...Thanks to MONICA DEVINCENZI for "graciously greeting" everyone...BILL BUSSE for "wryly writing" the Pinion and STEVE MADSEN for "handily handling" introductions...CASH ALAEE for ably leading "the pledge.

## UPCOMING



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

February 19: No Meeting ~ President's Day observed



February 26: Patricia Mercado Sánchez - Mexico, with a new government - the current situation in Mexico and the polarization of the country after the last Presidential election

## GUESTS AND SUCH

BOB McCOWAN...neighbor Steve Halprin: TOM GRACON...wife Helen and Larry Hambly: ANNETTE GLANCKOPF...husband Tom and PA activist Carroll Harrington: GEOFF ZIMAN...fellow Red Cross volunteer Lea Crisp: HERSH DAVIS...fellow realtor Joan Plastiras: JACK DORGAN...son John.

## 99 YEARS AND COUNTING

Our esteemed Past President GEORGE KNOLES (1962-63) will attain the venerable age of 100 years on February 20th. George was a much-loved Stanford history professor and an outstanding Rotarian. Before the days of "Opening Remarks" he would often enrich our meetings with historical perspectives on current events. George is still providing monthly articles for the Channing House Newsletter when he is not "making several circuits to the roof for his daily constitutional." A request from George today... "Send my Rotary greetings to all concerned!" Thanks to Hig Higgins for the birthday alert.

EVERY  
ROTARIAN  
EVERY  
YEAR

## TODAY'S PROGRAM WAS ELECTRIC



At least in part\*. TOM GRACON did a masterful job of introducing his neighbor, good friend, and fellow Rotarian, JIM SWEENEY. Jim is professor of Management Science and Engineering at Stanford and the Director of the Institute for Energy Efficiency.

After acknowledging that...fortunately...STEVE PLAYER's profile would not be in the way of his slide presentation, Jim asked where we thought Exxon ranked on the list of the world's largest oil companies. If you guessed 14th you were correct. Tied for first place? Saudi Arabian Oil and Iranian Oil. The current confrontation with Iran and the kingly governance of Saudi Arabia certainly makes one wonder about our petroleum future. Jim presented a slide show shedding light on the importance for this nation to have a well-conceived energy policy. He went on to discuss the elements of such a policy including:

- Environmental Protection
- Global climate change
- National security
- Economics.

Jim concluded his remarks by noting that California leads the way in conserving energy and developing innovative energy programs. His bottom line..."get personally involved in energy efficiency!"

Certainly an "illuminating" program. Thanks Tom! And congratulations to Rob for an outstanding pre-presidential presentation. No need to hurry back, Art!

..."The dead batteries were given out free of charge!"...

## 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)

## 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

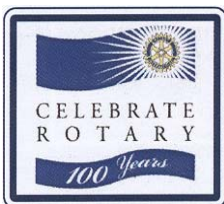
Los Altos: Garden House, 400 University Avenue, Los Altos 12:15

### 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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