



# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion



Weekly Newsletter

Date May 5, 2008

Bureau Editor: **LE Levy**

Editor: **LYLE CONNELL**

To: All important Palo Alto Rotarians.

Cc: All Palo Alto Rotarians not referenced above.

Subject: Line-up for Rotary meeting Monday May 5th

Prior to each Rotary meeting, PRESIDENT ROB sends an email giving the line-up and time allotted to each participant. Herewith we simply reprint ROB's email with notations as to what actually occurred.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: MARK HEYER (1/2 minute). On time

2. Rotarians and Rotarians with Guests: DAN QUINN (3 minutes).

Visitors: Peter Guentermann, Atlanta, GA Seth Manning, Los Altos

Guests: Stan Doten (Guest of DENNIS SHEEHAN)

Sherwin Shiek (Guest of CASH ALAEE)

(Actual time: 3 minutes; nice job, Dan.)

3. Opening Remarks: VICKY CHING (3 or 4 minutes). Vicky:

Make sure no one gets indigestion during your remarks.

"Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open."

"Everything is always okay in the end; if it's not, then it's not the end."

"Here is a test to find whether your mission of earth is finished: If you're alive, it isn't!"

(Actual time: 3 minutes 52 seconds; well done!)

4. Announcements: President ROB (1 minute).

Cashier, PIETER KARK; Greeters, ART STAUFFER, LINDSEY NORTH.

Get Well Cards for NINA and MONICA.

(Actual time: 1 minute 18 seconds; damn!)

5. Announcement: SCOTT GLISSMEYER (1 minute).

"Garden Social" Party at SHARON WAGNER's lovely home.

This Wednesday, May 7th

5:30 to 7:30

A-L - Appetizers.

M-Z - Wine (No Two-buck Chuck or Three-bob Rob, please.)

914 Matadero Court. Parking limited; Please park on Laguna or Matadero Road.

(Actual time: over 2 minutes; delete SCOTT from further announcements.)

6. Endowment Fund. First of 3 weekly announcements in

May: GLORIA HOM and TODD LEWIS (3 minutes).

Announced upcoming party for endowment donors of over \$2,000.

(Actual time: 2 minutes 12 seconds; GLORIA always keeps things short, metaphorically speaking.)

7. President's Club (3—4 minutes): PAM BRANDIN joined in honor of her daughters Vanessa, Executive Director of Gamble Gardens, and Alexandra, gaining her Ph.D. in Psychology. CASH ALAEE joined for turning 30, (WARREN THOITS turned thirty in 1952 just as Eisenhower was defeating Taft for the Republican nomination.) PAT BURT urged all to look positively on this Fall's library and school bond issues. And, JOHN KIDD joined in honor of ROB LANCEFIELD's excellent handling of this year's meetings (allow JOHN extra time),

(Actual time: (3 minutes 30 seconds not counting added remarks by SAM).

8. Introduce Program Speaker: WALT HAYS (up to 4 minutes starting at 12:56). WALT introduced Steven Dudley, Knight Fellow at Stanford. Steven, headquartered in Columbia and a reporter for the Miami Herald, was Bureau Chief for the Andean region of Latin America.

He spoke of Latin America's shift to the left led by Venezuela's charismatic president, Hugo Chavez. Born in a very poor rural family, Chavez came up through the military and, after a failed coup in 1992 and resulting time in jail, was elected President in a landslide in 1998 at the age of 44. His idol appears to be Cuba's Castro. Unlike Cuba, however, which required on-going economic help from the Soviet Union, Venezuela is self-sufficient from huge oil resources which enable Chavez to underwrite internal aid for health and education, as well as external funding designed to shape the policies of other countries like Bolivia, and Argentina.

Our speaker won President ROB's undying gratitude by leaving ample time for questions during which he made it clear that Hugo Chavez was a dedicated and capable counter to America's attempts to gain influence in South America.

Yesterday is history,

Tomorrow is a mystery,

Today is a gift.

That's why it's called: The Present.

Vicky Ching

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**May 12-Debate on the \$378 million School District bond - Measure A**

**May 19 - Dr. Bunzel - The Presidential Race in 2008: A Survey of the Political Landscape**

## OTHER ROTARY MEETING PLACES.

<http://www.rotarypaloalto.org/MeetingInfo.cfm>