

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

**Weekly Newsletter**

**Date:** January 5, 2009

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**Editor:** LYLE CONNELL

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**January 12 - LARRY DIAMOND, of the Hoover Institute on democratic institutions**

**January 19 - DARK in recognition of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.'s birthday**

**January 26 - BILL JOHNSON, of the Palo Alto Weekly on publishing the news in the local area.**

## **OPENERS:**

**PREZ MIKE** called on **BILL BUSSE** to lead us all in the Pledge,

**OPENING REMARKS:** **JULE JEROME** delivered Opening Remarks to an anxious group of Rotarians who already are looking forward to our next New Years Day. **JULIE** described how traditions among the world's cultures and ethnical groups varies in the celebration of this almost universal holiday.

## **VISITORS & GUESTS:**

Rotary visitors and guests were introduced by **DENNY BOYLE**. The visiting Rotarians (Clubs) were **NANCY VARNER** (Kahala Sunrise-Honolulu); **BOO BUC** (Los Altos); **JIM VARNWE** (Pearl Harbor); **KARLA KENT** (Fernley) and **PAT DWYER** (Our former local police chief) Gilroy.

Visitors (Hosts) were **JOHN RALSTON** (**JOHN KIDD**); **LEONARD ELY**, **GEORGE McKEE** and **GJORDIE McKEE** (**LEONARD ELY**); **DAVE THORNTON** (**SCOTT GLISSMEYER**) and **GENE SANTUCCI** (**VIC ROSASCO**)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**PREZ MIKE** welcomed three new members to our club. They were accompanied by their sponsors, as they officially received their red badges, to-do lists, and other stuff in preparation for an active participation in our congregation. They were **DENNIS BURNS**, sponsored by **IRIS KOROL**; **DAVE THORNTON**, sponsored by **SCOTT GLISSMEYER**, and **RICCARDO FORLEO**, introduced by **KELLY MORARIU** and sponsored by **PETER GUENTERMANN**.

**CASH ALAEE** thanked all the members of the Club who helped out during the recent holiday party. They were **BETSY BECHTEL**, **JOY CUSICK**, **LEN ELY III**, **DICK FREEMAN**, **WALT HAYS**, **STEVE MADSEN**, **MIKE McMAHON**, **NINA MOORE** and **LINDSEY NORTH**. Thanks guys and gals!! And a very special thanks to the hosts of the party, **LIZ** and **RICHARD KNISS** who opened their home to the happy chaos. (ED.: I know, I was there.)

**GLORIA HOM** reported receiving an E-mail from a Club in South Africa, inviting participation in a not-soon-to-be-forgotten Safari. It sounds great and is their primary fundraiser. Call **GLORIA** soon; this one fills up fast.

The March 21 Fundraiser is also coming up fast. Save your money and energy! We'll need it!

**HIG HIGGINS** announced the sad news of **JACK HENDRICK**'s passing on December 28 at Stanford Hospital. Services will be held at Christ Episcopal Church at 2:00 PM on Friday, January 9. The church is located at 1040 Border Rd. in Los Altos. Call **HIG** for details.

## **THE PROGRAM:**

Our guest speaker **JOHN RALSTON** was introduced by **JOHN KIDD**. (**COACH**) **JOHN**'s topic was Life and Football. **JOHN RALSTON** is a member of the College Football Hall of Fame. He currently serves as a special assistant to the Athletic Director at San Jose State University, and has responsibilities in fundraising, corporate affairs, and public relations. John lives here in the Villages of San Jose, a retirement community. John has 23 seasons as head coach at the college level. He has coached at Cal Berkeley, Stanford, Utah State, and San Jose State, to name a few. He described his rich experience as coach at Stanford and his relations with so many famous and admired personalities like **DON BUNCE**, **JOHNNY PROTHRO** and **JIM PLUNKETT**. He spoke about the dominance of **JIM STILLWAGON** and others in response to many questions from those attending. In response to one question, "Why did you quit coaching at Stanford?" he responded, "Because I was fired." **JOHN** brought back many memories of Stanford football, days that will one day return. Thank you **JOHN** for the profound vision! !

## **JOKE OF THE WEEK:**

The short fortuneteller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

## **NEARBY MEETING PLACES**

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)