



Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date February 23, 2009

Reporter: DAVID NEGRIN

Editor: NICK NICHOLS

We had an exciting, fully-packed meeting with an excellent attendance. SCOTT GLISSMEYER led the Pledge of Alliance.

OFFICIAL GREETER

The Official Greeter for today's meeting was ROB LANCEFIELD, Greeter Extraordinaire.

OPENERS

PREZ MIKE called on DENNIS BURNS (Interim cop) to lead us all in the Pledge, which, as usual, was enthusiastically rendered.

OPENING REMARKS

DENNIS BOYLE delivered the Opening Remarks today. His theme stressed the need to try new things, experiences, products (even the SF Giants). Life is an experiment, DENNIS reminded us, (Reporter's Note; Success has many fathers but failure is an orphan). He quoted Winston Churchill who stated that, "Enthusiasm must persist from failure to failure." A good message in these times. Thanks Dennis, we'll remember next time we sell some stock.

VISITORS & GUESTS

Rotary visitors and guests were introduced by VERA KALLMEYER. The visiting Rotarians (Clubs) were Erie Mills and Fred Hornbruch (both of the Palo Alto University Club). Guests (Hosts) were Genda Freedheim and Donald Freedheim along with Mario Glu, all introduced by TOM GRACON; Judy Miner (MARTHA KANTER); Eric Butler (BOB McCOWAN) and Bruce Gee (TODD LEWIS).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GEORGE FITZGERALD informed us that WALT HAYS is OK following his illness during the service trip to Oaxaca. He's at Stanford Hospital following successful surgery. No calls or visits right now; send E-mails.

ANNETTE GLANCKOPF updated us on other aspects of the trip to Oaxaca. It was a great service experience; the sister-city is planning to send some visitors to Palo Alto in the next few months.

NANCY PETERS announced that scholarship applications for students interested in cultural subjects, academic pursuits and multiyear scholarships all are now under review. Additional applications will be accepted for consideration until April 2. Spread the word.

HAL MICKELSON reminded us of the upcoming fund-raiser which promises to be a great event. Entertainment planned for the evening sounds exciting. Remember it's on Saturday, March 21. Invite your friends, in-laws, neighbors, even your enemies (for a price).

AXEL MERK's talk last Wednesday on the state of our economy was reported to be highly informative and interesting. Sorry if you missed it.

Two new President's Club members are TODD LEWIS and LYNDIA STEELE in recognition of significant personal events (ask them, you'll agree)

PROGRAM

TOM GRACON introduced today's speaker, Erie Mills, an opera singer by profession, who took us back stage regarding the developing career of her partners-in-joy. Following an exhaustive period of training, most singers proceed into a very selective process of applying for roles in opera, being selected for audition, and finally being chosen to perform. The odds are many hundreds-to-one. But as Erie informed us, the process is painful and correspondingly joyous if one succeeds. Erie described how those who do not achieve major recognition evolve into related careers, which are equally important, if not as totally gratifying. She cited the current General Manager of the Metropolitan Opera, namely David Glockney, who was at one time an aspiring singer, as a prime example. A most interesting talk, especially to a surprisingly large group of opera aficionados in the club. Thanks Erie!

JOKE OF THE WEEK

A military man who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran. (Editor's Note: Groan!)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

[Palo Alto Rotary - Speakers Schedule](#)

March 2 – Longtime member talk by MIKE McMAHON and new member talks by VERA KALLMEYER and ED DANGER.

March 9 – Jack Cleary – “Homicide Investigation Today, as Contrasted with Homicide Investigation Thirty Years Ago”

March 16 – Rod Diridon – “High Speed Rail: International, US, and California”

March 23 – Dr. Robert Negrin – “Cellular Therapy, a New Direction for Treating Tough Diseases”

March 30 – Kim Keene, Palo Alto City Manager

NEARBY MEETING PLACES:

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)