

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: March 2, 2009

Reporter: Bill Busse

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

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.

WHAT A FASCINATING MEETING!

We were treated to two inspiring life stories from new members VERA KALLMEYER and ED DANGLER along with the unusual story of the sinking of an American submarine during World War II. The submarine story was shared...with graphic slides...by MIKE McMAHON. Mike is the son of one of the officers who went down with the USS Grunion in 1942. (More later in this Pinion.)

FIRST THINGS FIRST!

Our Pledge Leader was none other than CYRILLE BETANT. Prez MIKE followed the pledge with an appropriate non-sequiter...*“The Stanford Women’s Basketball Team is now in first place in the Pac-10 Conference.”*

OUR GUEST INTRODUCER WAS LEANNAH HUNT

It went this way...A visiting Rotarian from the University Club...Tod Gregory

Guests of Rotarians...

BRIAN STEEN...Tim Arnett

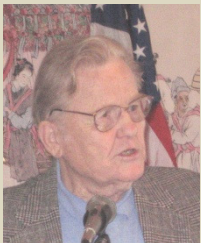
MIKE McMAHON...Henry Organ

TODD LEWIS...John Binkley

SAM WEBSTER...Bruce Gee

ROB LANCEFIELD...Jim Sutherland

HOW TO LIVE TO BE 100!



“Opening Remarker,” DICK FREEMAN, shared his *“wisdom of the ages,”* so to speak. **It went this way...** *“If you want to live to be 100 here are some clues...*

Sleep is important...at least six hours... Time logged in at Rotary Meetings doesn’t count!...Eat

right...Exercise...Don’t retire...Exercise...Floss twice a day...Be less neurotic in your life...Exercise...Stay

connected with others...(think Rotary)...Avoid stress...Keep moving and Eat colorful foods!”

Do as Dick recommends and we will see each other at Rotary for many years to come!

TWO PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS

...were announced by Prez COUCH....DAVID NEGRIN AND LIZ KNISS. CONGRATULATIONS new fellows!

IT WAS FOLLOWED BY AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM PREZ COUCH

...that the Annual Presidential Debunking would be canceled this year due to the economic crunch! HOWEVER, PAST PREZ ROB LANCEFIELD was quick to counter that our outgoing (In both senses) President was totally mistaken. It will in fact take place in June at a fabulous location that will be announced sometime before the event itself. PP ROB is recruiting a team of wits, songwriters, poets and scallywags to put on the affair. So for now...clear your calendar for the month of June!

ROB reported that PP WALT HAYS is on the mend after a long tough illness that started in Oaxaca, Mexico during our Rotary/Sister City expedition. At this time it is still an unknown malady. *“Welcome back to the land of the living, WALTER! We’ll look forward to an in depth report one day soon.”*

NEW PREZ CLUB MEMBER

TOM GRACON ponied up a century note in honor of a new granddaughter who came early, but survived the trauma. The membership was also a “thank you” to the medical profession for a job well done!

THE PARTY IS ON!

Our noted auctioneer, one STEVE PLAYER, made an impassioned pitch for all Rotarians, plus their many guests, to attend this year’s Fund Raiser/Dinner/Musical Review/Auction on March 21st at Sharon Height’s Country Club. The Live Auction items are spectacular! Look them over with your spouse (copies were handed out at the meeting and can be found in your e-mail in box) and plan to...in Steve’s words. *“Bid high and often.”* Remember this is our Rotary Club’s way to raise money for many local non-profits who can really use the help. Steve added, *“Your enthusiastic response will keep Party Chairman KEVIN CURRY from stressing out and will insure that he too lives to be 100.”*

Steve reported that past president GEORGE KNOLES had his birthday recently and is a spry 101 years old. See...it can be done!

THANK

...from Our Exalted Leader to Cashier RIKY FORLEO...Greeter ROB LANCEFIELD...Opening Remarker DICK FREEMAN and Pinion guy BILL BUSSE.

OUR FASCINATING PROGRAM

...was introduced by DENNIS SHEEHAN who kept it short so New Members VERA KALLMEYER and ED DANGLER, along with Non-New Member MIKE McMAHON would have time for their presentations. Thank you, Dennis!

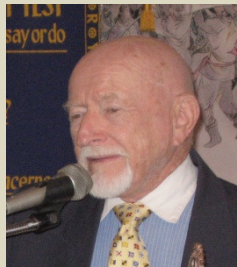
VERA led off with a life story that was hard to beat...although ED came very close. She was born in



Germany and raised in Bavaria. Aspired to be a neurosurgeon...her father hoped she would be a flight attendant...went to Harvard Medical School...back to Germany and then on to Stanford's Graduate School of Business...(*"Riding down Palm Drive changed my life!"*)...became an

investment banker...was CFO of a highly successful start-up...married and became pregnant...now in private investment...also for eight years she has been teaching innovation in neurosurgery. Sons 8 and 10 years old are living with grand parents in Berlin for four months. Fortunately Vera still has years for career changes before reaching 100. Hers was the first of our three "fascinating" stories.

Talk about Multiple Careers...how about ED



DANGLER's! The accent is pure New York City. Born there to immigrant parents...lots of thugs and gangsters in the neighborhood...a few others such as Colin Powell and himself...went to maritime academy...worked for shipping countries around the world...then to

the United States Navy...rose to rank of Captain...on retirement worked in industry...married a French girl...two offspring and a cute dog...went to law school for a short time...picked it up again 30 years later and focused on Admiralty Law.

Ed's epiphany came about as a response his father made to a 4th grade teacher's note of admonition. Papa Dangler showed up in class, pulled Ed's trousers down and laid on four mighty whacks in front of all of his classmates...he has never again acted up. Well, almost never!

It was 67 years ago that MIKE McMAHON's father was lost with the entire crew of SS 216, the USS Grunion.



The last message came on July 30, 1942 while the sub was patrolling off Kiska, one of the Aleutian Islands. With the aid of slides Mike showed a Japanese schematic diagram that helped pinpoint the location of the encounter between the Grunion and the Kano Maru. That along with the Kano

Maru's log describing the Grunion's unsuccessful torpedo attack allowed an expedition to recently locate the remains of the submarine. It was in 3,000 feet of water.

This...until then...unsolved mystery was unraveled by good luck, the Internet and cooperation between historians and researchers on both sides of the war in the Pacific. It was an amazing story brought to life by Annapolis Grad MIKE McMAHON. (As an aside, this could be material for a good book or an amazing story for television.) **Thanks for sharing it with us!**

NEARBY MEETING PLACES

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)