



Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date April 6, 2009

Reporter: DAVID BLITZ

Editor: NICK NICHOLS

OPENERS

E.J. HONG led the pledge.

Group Study Exchange (GSE) visitors from the Philippines treated us to singing the beautiful National Anthem of the Philippines.

VISITORS & GUESTS

ROGER SMITH introduced visiting Rotarians Bob Denebem, Dick & Barbara Trainer (East Palo Alto), Charles Cheng (Shanghai), Pat Fox (San Jose-Sunrise) & the leader of the GSE contingent, Chris Querbin (Business Management)

The GSE Group included Paul Aquino (Musician), Jessie Solidum (Business Development), Mel Encabo (Teacher), Niel Jamandre (Professor), and Van Brian Santos (Lawyer).

Guests were Wakako Mitsushege (Rotary Scholar & guest of NANCY PETERS), Ginny Lear, Chock Encaro, Ken Jamandre, and Je Canoy.

HONOREE

MARTHA KANTER was given a standing ovation for her nomination to become Under-Secretary of Education in the Obama Administration.

OPENING REMARKS

TONY CARRASCO recited BRUCE LIEDSTRAND's list of 10 objectives to develop a 'Livable City' including: promotion of single family neighborhoods, neighborhood convenience services, a vital downtown with mixed uses, housing choices, areas where seniors can retire without the need for a car, convenient & safe walking & biking, affordable public transportation, a sustainable environment, good connections between cars & trains & other cities, and development of El Camino Real as a new transportation route in the Bay Area.

ENTERTAINMENT BY THE GSE TEAM

We were treated to a sing-a-long by the GSE Team entitled "Heal the World" by Michael Jackson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRISH BUBENIK invited us to a benefit for the American Red Cross on April 30th at the MacArthur Park Restaurant Special Prix Fix Dinner. \$75 a person with \$35 going to the Red Cross. For information or to make a reservation, call 650-321-9996.

KEVIN CURRY reported on results from the annual fundraiser, which brought in approximately \$25,000.

THANK YOU! KEVIN for your hard work and to your many volunteers.

PROGRAM

Jesse Cool, Restaurant Owner of Flea Street Café in Menlo Park and Cool Café on the Stanford campus spoke on "The Farmer and the Cook – Who Are We in the Community?"

Jesse expressed her long held passion for 'the soil, the farmer, the fisherman, & the wine maker.' She believes that big and cheap is not a good combination when referring to food that we put into our bodies. Jesse believes we should pay more for healthy food, which is also local and represents a commitment to sustainability.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

[Palo Alto Rotary - Speakers Schedule](#)

April 13 – Babak Dehghanpisheh, Stanford Knight Fellow – "The Challenges of Reporting from the Middle East: Afghanistan, Iraq, and Iran"

April 20 – Jeffry Walker, Executive Director, Community School of Music and Arts – Title to be announced

April 27 – Trish Bubenik, Red Cross – "Be Red Cross Ready"

NEARBY MEETING PLACES:

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)