Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: April 27, 2009

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

<u>May 4</u> - Harold Luft, Director of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation Research Institute -

"Thinking Differently about Health Care Reform"

May 11 - Dr. Robert Sapolsky - "Stress and the Brain"

May 18 - Colonel Joe Felter - "The Origins of Terrorism and Insurgency"

The Official Greeters for today's meeting were ROB LANCEFIELD and TERRY FATEHI. TONY CARRASCO led us all in the Pledge.

OPENING REMARKS were offered by LINDA STEELEm who spoke on the changing significance of May 1, now considered the beginning of spring. At one time it was looked upon as a celebration of labor, which we now celebrate on Labor Day, the first Monday in September, but for some it retains the symbolism of its former role.

VISITORS & GUESTS were introduced by CASH ALAEE there were four visiting Rotarians, MARLENE COWAN, DAVID CASAS, ROY LAVE and MONA ARMISTEAQ (all of the Los Altos Club).

Guests (Hosts) were Audrey Rust (WALT HAYS), Matais Pouncil (PREZ MIKE), Bruce Gee (TODD LEWIS), Emily Negrin (of YCS/Interact), also Jillian Du and Vivian Shen (both of Gunn HS).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PREZ MIKE introduced Emily Negrin (granddaughter of DAVID) representing YCS, which has been merged with Interact, that is working successfully with students in the high schools and middle schools on several community wide projects. Emily, in turn, introduced the YCS/Interact Co-Presidents Vivian Shen and Jullian Du, both Gunn HS attendees, who briefly described some of their community projects.

GEORGE FITZERALD unfortunately, brought some bad news; SHARON WAGNER is now in hospice care, as a result of a progressive case of cancer. Please send her an E-mail and let her know we're thinking about her.

On a positive note, **SCOTT GLISSMEYER** joined the President's Club in recognition of the support he received from club members during his recovery from a serious illness.

TODD LEWIS, speaking for the Endowment Fund and our needs for supporting various club activities (scholarships, for example) asked that EACH MEMBER make a contribution to the Fund in May.

Matais Pouncil of Foothill College, was invited to describe the work of EOPS (Extended Opportunity Program and Services), which purchases textbooks for students in need. With textbook costs exceeding \$100 in some cases, this indeed is a worthy effort. Matais is thinking of joining a BB team in order to raise funds. He's by far big enough.

MARLENE COWAN of the Los Altos Club announced the expected opening of their annual juried Art Show, one week After Mother's Day. This has always been a popular event.

BRIAN STEEN reported that the Hands-On planting effort at the Alma St. entrance to Palo Alto was successfully executed last Saturday. Participants who together planted over a hundred plants were BETSY BECHTEL, ED DANGLER, KEVIN CURRY, CASH ALAEE, GUSTAVO HOLLOWAY, LE LEVY, DAVID NEGRIN and TOM GRACON. Take a look whenever you can.

Eileen Richardson, President and CEO of the Downtown Streets Team announced a successful completion of their scholarship awards program. Good work in these tough times, Fileen

SALLY TOMLINSON announces the successful completion of this year's Vocational Scholarship Program. Scholarships were awarded to qualified applicants who entered various fields like nursing, firefighting, computer related interests, etc. Committee participants were JULIE JEROME, DANA TOM, CALEB BOWMAN, BRUCE SWENSON, JACK DORGAN, DON LANGENDORFF, DAVID NEGRIN, JOYCE CUSICK and MIKE McMAHON. Thanks guys/gals!

LIZ KNISS spoke of the imminent dangers of the Swine Flu, which has drawn national attention. She assured the club that here in Palo Alto we're ready to handle what so far has been a minor public danger. However, LIZ said there are new strains coming out. Be cautious - wash your hands and wear a face mask when in doubt.

THE PROGRAM:

TRISH BUBENIK, speaking for the local chapter of the American Red Cross, needed no introduction. She spoke of the readiness of her organization to respond to a variety of public dangers and that WE'RE ALWAYS READY!

She urged us to attend the Benefit Dinner this Thursday night at MacArthur Park. The fee is \$75, of which \$35 goes directly to the ARC Silicon Valley Chapter.

TRISH introduced Robert Hamiliton, who provided a live, participatory demonstration of the means to dislodge choked food using various methods, including the Heimlich technique. Members paired up and tried to mutilate each other, but without success. The demonstration was practical and rewarding - we hope we'll never need to use it. Robert also described the actions to take after the stuck food has been dislodged. Thanks for a very important and useful instruction, Robert and TRISH.

CORRECTION: CASH ALAEE was inadvertently misquoted in last week's Pinion (of April 20). He should have been reported as saying the following: CASH ALAEE congratulated VICKY CHING, LINDA STEELE and HAL MICKELSON for winning Tall Tree awards. He also noted STEVE PLAYER for his involvement in recognition of HAL at the event. It was a memorable moment, especially in seeing so many Rotarians being honored.

NEARBY MEETING PLACES

Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information