

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

**Weekly Newsletter**

**Date:** July 27, 2009

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**Editor:** LYLE CONNELL

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**August 3 – Sharon Tennison, US and Russia Relations**

**August 10 – Managing General Partner, Bill Neukom, SF Giants**

**August 17 - Linda Craighead, Public Arts Commission - Visuals and Controversy**

**August 24 - Archaeologist, Mark Hylkema, Early Palo Alto - Ohlone Indians**

**August 31 - TBA**

### **OFFICIAL GREETER:**

The Official Greeter for today's meeting was MIKE COUCH, Greeter Extraordinaire.

### **OPENERS:**

PREZ RALPH called on LEN ELY to lead us all in the (modified) Pledge which was enthusiastically rendered by all, as usual.

### **OPENING REMARKS:**

PREZ RALPH called on BRIAN STEEN to deliver opening remarks. BRIAN spoke of his appreciation of and his dedication to Palo Alto, its richness, diversity and its opportunities. Silicon Valley is no chance occurrence in BRIAN's view. We're lucky to be here (Ed: even those of us from Menlo Park).

BRIAN followed these remarks by announcing his candidacy for the P.A. City Council to applause of many of the Club members. BRIAN also asked for those who might support him to sign a registration sheet after the meeting.

Oh! By the way, BRIAN also joined the President's Club.

### **VISITING ROTARIANS and GUESTS:**

Were introduced by DAVE THORNTON. There were two **visiting Rotarians**; Mark Stevenson of the San Francisco club, and Sara Pantin, two-time former president of Palo Alto Rotary and the Austin, Texas club.

**Guests** (Hosts) were today's speaker Gregg Rosston (TONY CARRASCO), Len Davis, (guest of Greg's), Melanie Kimbel (BRIAN STEEN) and Molly Kawahata (ROGER SMITH). Molly, completed her first year at Berkeley, and has been invited personally by President Obama to be a White House intern. Congratulations!

Molly, keep good notes and come back soon to tell us about your experience.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

MIKE COUCH announces the receipt of \$2,300 from the District in support of our Dictionary Distribution Project for next year.

JACK WOODSON joined the President's Club to celebrate the arrival of his second grandson.

LE LEVY joined the President's Club in recognition of the good local news in Palo Alto.

### **THE PROGRAM:**

Today's speaker, Greg Rosston, was introduced by TONY CARRASCO. Greg spoke on the Economic Policy of the Obama Administration. (Ed.: I looked up Greg on Google and was overwhelmed. Just a few items: National Credit Union Leader, Stanford Professor, Chief Economist with the FCC, etc.)

Greg related his various experiences in Washington, working on economic issues and other matters. He mentioned the toxicity review conducted with the National Credit Union Administration and the Cap and Trade idea related to energy policy. He mentioned that a tax would be simpler, but might not accomplish the objective of reducing CO2 emissions. When asked why the Stimulus Bill doesn't seem to have much of an effect, he informed us that little of the allocated money had yet been spent. The FCC'S transition to digital TV appears to be on schedule, although it affects only about 20% of the population. A very interesting series of topics was covered by Greg Rosston, giving us a graphic view of Washington Politics.

### **JOKE OF THE WEEK:**

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

**NEARBY MEETING PLACES** [Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)

### **PALO ALTO ROTARY**

**PRESIDENT** RALPH ADAMS, **PAST-PRESIDENT** MIKE COUCH, **PRESIDENT-ELECT:** MIKE McMAHON

**DIRECTORS:** KEVIN CURRY, STEVE EMSLIE, TOM GRACON, EJ HONG, KELLY MORARIU, BRIAN STEEN, JUDITH STEINER, **TREASURER:** TBD. **SECRETARIES:** SCOTT GLISSMEYER, BOB McCOWAN. **CLUB RECORDS:** JOYCE CUSICK @ PARotaryRecords@aol.com. **WEB SITE:** [www.rotarypaloalto.org](http://www.rotarypaloalto.org)