

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter **Date:** September 21, 2009 **Reporter:** LYLE CONNELL **Editor:** LYLE CONNELL

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

September 28 – New Member Talks

A SPIRITED OPENING

BILL BUSSE led us in both a crisp Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and a rousing song “America.”

WELCOMING VISITORS AND GUESTS

KATIE SEEDMAN was called upon to provide the introductions.

There were two visiting Rotarians, Mark Stevenson from San Francisco #2 and Fred Morse from Oakland #3.

The seven guests were Greg Sharpe (ANNETTE GLANCKOPF), Mike Love (BRIAN STEEN), Russ Hancock (ANDY COE), Leon Leong (GLORIA HOM), James Breitstein (KATIE SEEDMAN), Molly and Fred Morse.

OPENING REMARKS TO THINK ABOUT

Former Mayor YORIKO KISHIMOTO sounded an alarm, claiming that the younger generation of California is vastly different from our generation. They are less educated, which means that there may be difficulties in taking over from our generation. For example, one in four students in California fail to graduate from high school. California spends far less per pupil for education than other states. One forecast states that, in the years 20-2, 41% in California will need a college education, but it was estimated that only 35% will be available. The question remains, how are they going to take our place?



THINGS GOING ON

BRIAN STEEN announced that we have the opportunity to sign up for the next hands on project, which is the third planting project for the City of Palo Alto. It will be held on October 2nd at the Hoover Park at 2901 Cowper Street. Please come and help.

MIKE COUCH invited us to attend the next Rotaract-Rotary Social. The three Rotary clubs of Palo Alto are involved. It will be held on October 7th, 5-7 PM at the Borel Private Bank, 245 Lytton Ave in Palo Alto. Please come and get connected.

STEVE PLAYER says it's early, but not too early to think about the Big Game Exchange event. Since the game will be at Stanford this year, it is a travel to Berkley on November 18th. You can spend the day by the Bay.

TRISH BUBENIK again joined the Presidents Club. She did so in appreciation for all those checks sent to the Red Cross. She is sending in her check for the endowment fund one month early.

RALPH ADAMS stated that he now, more than ever, he appreciates the contribution by the previous presidents of the Palo Alto Rotary. The past presidents are invited to attend a breakfast at Scotts on October 23rd. This will be a “State of The Club” meeting.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Following an introduction by ANDY COE, we were treated to



an informative report on “The State of Silicon Valley” by Russ Hancock. He stated that Silicon Valley Joint Venture issues an annual index of about 60 indicators, which could be described as a “Physical Checkup.” The mission of the Joint Venture is to “Think Regionally” on a wide range of issues, including disaster, climate change, fiscal issues, and others.

Silicon Valley is considered to be a land of Paradox in four ways.

1-SV is the world's most prodigious economy and will continue to be so. However, it is an “Economy of Peril” with a boom and bust cycle. This involves difficult transitions as industries come and go. Institutions often appear to be: “Behind the Curve.”

2-Corporations thrive, but don't feel better off. The corporate model is changing to lean and flexible operations, emphasizing core competency, in order to be competitive on a global basis.

3- SV has the best “athletes,” but development in new fields is cost intensive, and as in the past, needs the support from Federal Government funding. However, California is losing out on funding to states like Alabama.

4-SV has been the land of extraordinary leaders. But all that has changed with globalization. Russ feels that SV may have lost that leadership, and efforts need to be made to regain that leadership.

For more information log on to www.jointventure.org

NEARBY MEETING PLACES

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](http://www.rotarypaloalto.org)
www.rotarypaloalto.org