

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

**Weekly Newsletter**    **Date:** September 28, 2009    **Reporter:** BRIAN STEEN    **Editor:** LYLE CONNELL

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**October 5 - Marcie Cox and Walt Hays report on PARC World Community Service Project in Oaxaca, Mexico**

**October 12 - Joseph Grundfest, Stanford Professor of Law and Business, "Financial Markets, Now What"**

**October 19 - Jim Baer, CEO Premier Properties & Chop Keenan, CEO of Keenan Land Company**

**Call to order:** Ralph Adams started the meeting at 12:15PM.

The pledge of allegiance was recited and guests were introduced.

## **OPENING REMARKS**

were provided by JOHN KIDD, who provided inspiring remarks about American values, and particularly the Rotary 4-Way test. Following is an excerpt with John's full text provided in a separate Email from RALPH ADAMS:

"What if the electorate is informed by the organizing principles of:  
Is it the TRUTH?  
Is it FAIR to all concerned?



Will it build GOODWILL,  
And, most important,  
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?  
If the organizing principles of the governed were informed by those four questions, then of course democracy would unquestionably be the perfect form of government..... bar none. So that seems to prescribe our assignment as Rotarians, our orders for the day, this day and every day. Do what we can to make sure the political dialogue around us comes from a place of asking the four questions that are the most important questions as we struggle to govern ourselves. Is it true? Is it fair? Does it come from and generate goodwill, AND will it be beneficial to all?

**RALPH** convened a successful round of President's Club donations with CASH ALAEE honoring TRISH BUBENIK, CYRILLE BETANT sharing his globetrotting travels, BRIAN STEEN celebrated his son's wedding in Carmel and BILL BUSSE celebrated recent reunions with Navy and high school friends. TRISH BUBENIK contributed and shared details about the Safe Ride Program. RALPH offered TRISH his personal contribution honoring her Red Cross work.

## **PROGRAM**

ROB LYMAN introduced our three "new" member presenters, CHARLES CHENG, JENNY LEAR, and JIM SUTHERLAND.

CHARLES CHENG shared his Rotary experiences in China where there are only two clubs:



Shanghai and Beijing. Community priorities there are literacy and clean drinking water. Charles also wanted to honor his daughter's birthday on Oct. 1. Charles has a special interest in orienteering using GPS.

JENNY LEAR introduced herself as a Star Wars fan, having visiting the Skywalker Ranch in 2003.



She moved to the Bay area in 1964 and married King Lear on July 4, 44 years ago. Jenny has worked for Kleiner Perkins, was president of the Los Altos Chamber of Commerce and has led many community organizations. She was president of

Los Altos Rotary 2000-2001. Martha Kanter sponsored Genny's membership with Palo Alto Rotary. Currently she is chair of the Santa Clara County League of Women Voters and Palo Alto Rotary's Membership Committee.



**JIM SUTHERLAND** introduced himself as an admitted choclahollic. He grew up in a military family on "both coasts" with most of his family serving with the Navy. He proudly recounted rebuilding a 1936 Chevrolet and a 1941 Ford. Jim pursued an Electrical Engineering degree with Stanford and first worked

at Lockheed's Blue Cube. He obtained his MBA from Stanford and then worked with National Semiconductor, including with their Europe operations. His hobbies include jogging, bicycling, rowing at Redwood City and genealogy.

Ralph thanked all three for great and informative talks and brought the meeting to a close with a ring of the bell.

[Meeting adjourned at 1:30PM.](#)

## **NEARBY MEETING PLACES**

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