



Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date NOVEMBER 16, 2009

Reporter: BILL BUSSE

Editor: NICK NICHOLS

PLEDGE

Following the Pledge of Allegiance led by new member, MICHAEL LOVE, President RALPH asked that we join him in a moment of silence to honor all veterans and current service men and women.

DON'T DELAY!

The Entertainment Books will not be available after November 30th. What that means is that there are two meetings left in which to purchase this "bargain of all bargains" from DICK "This is the perfect gift at the perfect time" FREEMAN. Save bundles of cash on Hotels, Meals, Air Fares, Car Rentals, and Ice Cream Cones. Such a deal! Take a look at the sample book next week and be prepared to be amazed! The book is \$30 and the Club gets a 20% cut.

VISITOR(S) & GUESTS

Yes, we had only one visiting Rotarian... Hedge Fund Manager Jochen Kleinknecht from the University Club...

But we had multiple Guests of Rotarians...to wit:

MIKE COUCH...Dick Bush

GINNY LEAR...Roseanne Fairty & Michael Repka

BOB SMITHWICK...Christina Cienfuegos

BRUCE SWENSON...Don Morgan

WALT HAYS...Jocelyn Villruz

BRIAN & SANDY STEEN WILL BE OUR HOSTS!

At CASH ALLEE'S suggestion BILL BUSSE inappropriately announced that his birthday will coincide this year with **OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY!!!** Always a grand event, so mark December 15th at 6 pm on your calendar! (*You have the option of a birthday celebration with Bill and Barbara if you'd like. Their party will be in Maui this year!*)

A POLITICAL CONFESSION

Only this one is not tainted by scandal. Our ILLUSTRIOUS LEADER joined his own President's Club apparently to assuage his guilt feelings. This is a big one folks...PRESIDENT RALPH admitted to taking his name badge home last week and leaving it there! Since he is already a Prez Club member, the sawbuck went to the Club's Endowment Fund. If HIS EXCELLENCY's memory continues to falter, there may be another contribution next week.

OTHER PRESIDENTIAL CLUB CONTRIBUTORS

JEFF ZIMAN in honor of his daughters' seventh grandchild...which appears to make Jeff a "great" seven times over!

ISRAEL ZEHAVI, (as announced by STEVE EMSLIE) joined in honor of concluding his Diamonds of Palo Alto business after 21 successful years...the good news. The not so good news is that Israel is dealing with early Parkinson's. Our best wishes, Israel!

Another contributor, with what he referred to as a "self-serving membership", was AXEL MERK promoting his book, "*Sustainable Wealth: Achieve Financial Security in a Volatile World of Debt and Consumption.*" Sounds like a tome we should all take home.

THE LARGE GAME REVISITED

Stanford Grad and Past President PAM BRANDIN gave a historical overview of the Cal/Stanford football rivalry. A few of the highlights included:

It all began in 1882

The BG was played in SF until 1905 when it was first played in PA

Sadly Cal won the first game in the new Stanford Stadium in 1921

From 1906 to 1913 the game played was rugby because football was "too rough"

The Stanford Indian appeared in 1923...Oski in 1941 replacing a live bear!

The Stanford Band was organized in 1893 (One wag asked if it was ever organized)

HAL MICKELSON was "The voice of the Stanford Band" during its halcyon days.

Thanks PAM for a timely and interesting bit of Cal/Stanford football "verbal memorabilia"... or words to that effect.

THE AXE RETURNS TO ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE...HOPEFULLY

There are two Big Game Axes as all Palo Alto Rotarians know...the trophy between the schools, which goes to the winner, and the Rotary ax, which goes to the loser. Our visit to Berkeley Wednesday is to let them know the trophy will be returning. If you get this Pinion in time join the caravan to His Lordship's Restaurant in Berkeley...we'll be leaving from Ming's parking lot about 10:30. Look for BRUCE GEE's map to Bezerkley on our web site.

As you may know, the visiting Club provides the program. Steve has enlisted "the one and only" HAL MICKELSON to provide a historical sketch of the Stanford band, along with wide receiver DeRonnie Pitts, Stanford's fabulous wide receiver on the 1998 team, and Council of Chiefs MC, Jim Rutter, a human encyclopedia of Stanford football trivia and not so trivial trivia. We can also expect a visit from the Cal Straw Hat Band!

In addition to the above announcement, STEVE PLAYER auctioned off two Big Game tickets donated to the Club by DARYL SAVAGE. The successful bidder at \$250 was one of our guests...a banker who may have received a federal bail out. Well, it's possible!

..."A PIECE OF HOPE!"... AN INSPIRING PROGRAM!

Following a gracious introduction by AUDREY JACOB, we were treated to a visual trip through Pakistan by Sara Abbasi of the non-profit organization, Developments in Literacy. DIL was founded by a concerned group of Los Angeles women 12 years ago. Since that time they have funded and had constructed 150 village schools for girls in Pakistan. (Their efforts somewhat parallel those of Greg Mortenson whose book, *Three Cups of Tea*, has been near the top of the New York Times best seller list for the past three years.)

Sara's presentation was outstanding and did, in fact, provide a "Piece of Hope" for this troubled part of the world. Our heartfelt thanks to AUDREY and the Program Committee for yet another superb program.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

[Palo Alto Rotary - Speakers Schedule](#)

November 18 - Big Game Exchange with Berkeley Rotary Club in Berkeley at His Lordship's Restaurant, 199 Seawall Drive, Berkeley, CA 94710-1610

November 23 - Heather Owen, Assistant Coach, Stanford Women's Basketball

November 30 - Colburn Wilbur, Climate Change

NEARBY MEETING PLACES:

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)