



Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date NOVEMBER 23, 2009

Reporter: DAVID NEGRIN

Editor: NICK NICHOLS

THIS DATE WAS BLACK MONDAY. If you don't know why, ask STEVE PLAYER.

CALL TO ORDER

PREZ RALPH called the meeting to order at 12:17 PM. All were present and unaccounted for.

OFFICIAL GREETERS

The Official Greeters for today's meeting were MIKE COUCH and Company, Greeters Extraordinaire.

PLEDGE

PREZ RALPH called on LIZ KNISS to lead in the Pledge which was, as usual, enthusiastically rendered by all.

OPENING REMARKS

Opening remarks were delivered by KATIE SEEDMAN who spoke on our good fortune during this week of remembrance. Thanksgiving is a powerful reminder of how lucky we are as we relive its historic origin. Thanksgiving was first celebrated by fifty Native Americans and ninety Pilgrims almost three hundred years ago; and it lasted for three days.

VISITOR(S) & GUESTS

Visiting Rotarians and guests were introduced by DENNIS BOYLE

The Visiting Rotarian (Club) was Steve Marley (Sunnyvale), currently a candidate for District Governor.

Guests (Hosts) were: Michael Revka (LE LEVY), Cristina Chenfluelos (BOB SMITHWICK), Don Morgan (BRUCE SWENSON) and Rosanne Fairtys (EJ HONG). All were welcomed with enthusiasm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MIKE COUCH announced that dictionaries will be distributed to students at Green Oaks Academy from 10:30 AM till 12:00 Noon on December 10. Rotarians are encouraged to attend and witness the expected enthusiasm to be expressed by the student recipients.

AUDREY RUST introduced STEVE EMSLIE, who will be collecting items for the Live Auction for the Spring Fundraiser; and MIKE McMAHON, who'll be performing a similar function for the Silent Auction. Call STEVE or MIKE to pick up your Picassos and Rembrandts.

STEVE PLAYER introduced PETER GUENTERMANN, the recent winner of the 46th Rotary World Golf Tournament, which was played in Austria. Thirty-three players representing thirty countries participated. PETER ran a short film which highlighted some of its aspects, and then passed around the sterling silver trophy which he had won. Gosh, it was heavy.

PREZ RALPH was (self) reminded about his missing badge at last week's meeting. He apologetically contributed \$300 to the Endowment Fund.

THE PROGRAM

Today's speaker, Heather Owens, was introduced by STEVE PLAYER with an impressive brief-bio. Heather is now the sports recruiting coordinator at Stanford University. She devoted her talk to the Women's Basketball program. She has extensive experience in the sport, having played at the collegiate and professional levels, the latter with teams in the WPBA Conference. Much of her talk, including her responses to questions from the audience, centered on the academic demands placed on college athletes and the supportive efforts by both the coaching staffs and faculty members. Her remarks were all the more pertinent because Stanford is now 4/0, and is facing up to a grueling rivalry with UCONN for the number one slot in the country. Good luck, Heather!

JOKE OF THE WEEK

A guy who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now considered a seasoned veteran. Let's save him for Thanksgiving.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:29 PM.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

[Palo Alto Rotary - Speakers Schedule](#)

November 30 - Colburn Wilbur, Climate Change

December 7 - New Member Talks by DENNIS BURNS, BRUCE GEE, and AUDREY RUST.

December 14 - West Bay Opera's (terrific!) Holiday Celebration.

NEARBY MEETING PLACES:

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)